

CONNECTIONS DAY SCHOOL

NEEDY FAMILIES RESOURCE GUIDE

❖ **FAMILY RESOURCES**

PADS Lake County: PADS is the only non-restrictive overnight emergency shelter system in Lake County. They have 15 rotating shelter sites are open every night from 7:00 pm – 7:00 am, between October 1st and April 30th. From May 1st through September 30th, a single shelter site is open every night for a limited number of persons. Through this network, persons experiencing homelessness can have a safe, warm place to sleep 365 days a year.

Check this website for emergency shelter site locations and contact information:

<http://www.padslakecounty.org/shelter-site-locations>

Catholic Charities: Providing a variety of services for men, women, children, and families. Services include housing, emergency assistance, and an emergency shelter/motel voucher program. **Located at:** 671 South Lewis Avenue; Waukegan, IL 60085 | **Phone:** 847-782-4000

Shelter Inc.: is available 24 hours a day to assist children, adolescent and families in crisis and looking for housing, assistance or other community resources: 24-hour emergency housing services, 365 days a year; 24-hour referral services, 365 days a year; Professional staff supervision, 24 hours a day; Transportation to the child's own school whenever possible. Start the process by calling **847-255-8060** – 24-Hours a Day, 365 Days a Year. If we aren't able to provide assistance within our agency, we will be able to refer you to an agency that can assist you.

Youthbuild Lake County: Helping low-income young adults complete their education, learn the necessary skills to become gainfully employed, and build a hopeful future for themselves and their families. **Located at:** 3001 North Green Bay Road; Building 1, 3rd Floor; North Chicago, IL 60064 | **Phone:** 847-473-3483 | Fax: 847-473-1023

The **State of Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS)** has a multitude of supportive programs: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); Request for Cash Assistance; Emergency Food and Shelter; Request for Medical Assistance; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); etc. You can find further information about all of their programs (purpose of each program, what type of services are offered, who is eligible to receive services, and how to apply) here: <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29734>

To access any of these services, contact the **DHS Help Line** at: 800•843•6154 – **OR** – the **DHS Family Community Resource Center in Lake County** at: 847•336•5212

DHS also has a **Homeless Prevention Program** run by Catholic Charities in Waukegan. The program provides rental assistance, utility assistance and supportive services directly related to the prevention of homelessness to eligible individuals and families who are in danger of eviction, foreclosure or homelessness, or are currently homeless. To apply call: 847•782•4000

In addition, DHS has a **Homeless Youth Program** to help homeless young people transition to independent living and become self-sufficient. They provide immediate survival needs – food, clothing and shelter – for children under 20 years of age who can't return home and lack the skills to live independently. They also provide a drop-in/outreach center to assess needs.

❖ FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Start by contacting the **Lake County Community Action Partnership** at: 847•249•4330

Ask about **LIHEAP** (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

The program provided assistance for customers to pay their outstanding bills, reconnect their services and keep their home's energy on – even when they are struggling financially; eligibility is based on household size and income.

You can also apply for LIHEAP by visiting the website below:

<http://www.northshoregasdelivery.com/home/liheap.aspx>

Fresh Start: LIHEAP-approved space-heating customers may qualify in the Fresh Start Arrearage Reduction Program, which provides monthly credits of up to \$150 a month for qualifying customers who begin, and continue, to pay their electric bills on time. For more information, call ComEd at: 888•806•2273

Residential Hardship Fund: Variable grants of up to \$1,000 to offset rate increases for people with special circumstances and hardships. Families with household incomes up to 400 percent of the poverty level may be eligible if they identify a specific hardship issue, such as: medical expenses, military service, seniors requiring in-home care, grandparents raising minor grandchildren, or a person in the home with a disability. Verification of hardship will be required. Apply at your local LIHEAP administering agency.

The following are run by the **Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services** and are available by applying at the LIHEAP administering agency (when account balances are too high to be covered by LIHEAP, but less than \$3,000). For **Energy Bill Assistance for Low-Income Households:** Call 877-411-WARM (9276) and ask about the Good Samaritan Initiative