

## Making Assistance Referrals in Champaign County, Illinois

Ask *all* of these questions before you proceed, in this order:

1) What is your current address?

--If they live **outside of Champaign Township but within Champaign County**, proceed to question #2 and consult this list under the appropriate headings.

--If they live **outside of Champaign County**, suggest that they visit the PATH (Providing Access to Help) website: <https://www.pathcrisis.org/> or they can call 2-1-1, or visit the Red Cross Resource Directory: <https://resources.redcross.org/>

2) Which of the following **types of assistance** do you need?

- For multiple needs-- see pp. 1-2
- Housing needs--see pp. 3-8
- utilities assistance—see p. 7
- food—see pp. 9-10
- clothing—see p. 11
- job assistance—see p. 8-9
- mental health issues —see p. 11-12
- addiction treatment—see p. 13-14

3) Do you have minor children (under age 18)? See pp. 4-5.

4) Are you a veteran? See pp. 14-15.

5) Are you a senior, or do you have one in your household? See p. 12-13.

Note: in Illinois, a senior is defined as 60+ by Illinois Department on Aging and Adult Protective Services. But for Medicaid Eligibility, Senior Homestead Exemptions and Senior Licenses, and a Free State of Illinois Photo ID Card, you must be 65+.

6) Have you recently been released from prison? See p. 15

### Assistance by Category

#### HELP WITH MULTIPLE NEEDS

#### Department of Human Services Family Community Resource Center

206 W Anthony Drive

Champaign, IL 61822

Phone: (217) 278-5605

TTY: (866) 451-5784

Fax: (217) 278-5661

"One-stop" centers for cash, medical assistance, food stamps, and job services, including TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program).

### **Salvation Army Pathway of Hope Program**

Social Services Center  
2212 N. Market St., Champaign  
217.373.7825

They provide shelter, food, education, transportation, health services, childcare, legal services, job training and spiritual guidance. There is a faith-based component.

### **Restoration Urban Ministries**

1213 Parkland Ct.  
Champaign, IL 61821  
217.255.2662

Short term housing program providing families and individuals with meals, counseling, childcare, training. Requirements: submit to a background check, and provide a marriage license. There is a faith-based component.

### **Lutheran Social Services of Illinois**

1809 Woodfield Dr.  
Savoy, IL 61874  
Phone: 217.398.3011  
Fax: 217.398.3176

<https://www.lssi.org/>

### **Catholic Charities Diocese of Peoria**

1825 NE Adams St.  
Peoria, IL 61603  
309.671.1550

[Cdop.org/catholic-charities](http://Cdop.org/catholic-charities)

1. Addiction services
2. Adoption services
3. Basic needs services
4. Case management services
5. Community services
6. Counseling and behavioral health services
7. Food distribution services
8. Information and/or referrals

9. Migrant services
10. Parish social ministry services
11. Pregnancy and parenting services
12. Prepared food services
13. Residential treatment services
14. Senior Services

**Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation**

503 E. John St.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
217.367.9872  
cujf@shalomcu.org

Offers humanitarian aid, human services and Jewish burial services.

**LIFT Champaign** (Leading Individuals and Families to Transformation)

<https://www.champaignschools.org/page/lift>  
217.352.4376  
Support Line: 217.714.8353

A partnership between the Champaign Unit 4 School District and the City of Champaign for African American youth K-12 and their families--“trauma-informed care through intensive wraparound support and connections to both school-based and community resources.

**HOUSING**

If they are **currently Homeless:**

Champaign County Regional Planning Commission  
Continuum of Care (homeless services)

Katie Harmon  
Continuum of Care Coordinator  
kharmon@ccrpc.org  
217.239.5942

They are the umbrella organization for homeless services in the county.

**Strides Low Barrier Shelter (City of Champaign Township)**

70 E Washington, Champaign  
217-403-6150

Low-barrier emergency shelter services. Does not require sobriety, abstinence, or criminal background check to participate in services. Daytime services are available to assist with linking to community resources, on-site groups, laundry, and showers facilities. Capacity: 50 beds for male identifying guests; 14 beds for female identifying guests.

### **C-U at Home**

309 S Neil St., Champaign  
2147-819-4569

This is a Mid-Barrier program that provides 24/7 stability to assist people aged 18+ who are homeless. Clients must complete an intake which includes a client history and physical capabilities screening. Each client who participates in the program receives shelter in a non-congregate environment and intensive case management. C-U at Home houses eight women and 16 men in our entry level homes. The program can last up to 18 months.

### **The Salvation Army Red Shield Center on Market Street**

2212 N. Market St., Champaign

This facility serves as a daytime warming center on Mondays from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm and Tuesday-Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Capacity is limited due to space and staffing.

They also offer Stepping Stone, a transitional housing program which offers temporary housing for men, women and families who are employed full-time and can be housed in 60-90 days. Individuals must follow the program guidelines of maintaining employment while housed. Individuals needs to present as homeless and have homeless verification. If participant(s) meet the criteria for placement they must commit to working the program. Capacity is limited due to the availability of hotel space.

**Contact:** Call 217-373-7832 extension 230 before referring.

### **Homeless Veterans**

Homeless veterans needing shelter should call the pre-screen phone line shown below.

**Contact:** 217-278-9897

For other veterans' services, see the Veterans section, pp. 13-14.

### **Shelters for Families with Children**

### **Emergency Shelter for Families with Children**

To inquire about the Emergency Shelter for Families (ESF), please contact the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (see below). One or more parents (or legal guardian) age 18 or over with child(ren) under the age of 18 and Champaign County residents. Family household size is a maximum of six people. The head of the household needs to be biologically or legally related to the child(ren). Expecting women with no current children may be housed by program (must be in last trimester of pregnancy). Guests will be allowed weekly increments of stay, up to 30 days, as long as the guests are actively participating in case management services and working toward finding a more stable housing option.

**Contact:** Email [homeless-services@ccrcp.org](mailto:homeless-services@ccrcp.org). If you do not have access to email call 217-328-3313.

### **Families with Urbana School Children**

Cunningham Township runs an emergency shelter program for families with children enrolled in the Urbana School District or who have children staying overnight at Crisis Nursery who have no other place to stay. The program offers eight units which have a full kitchen and are fully furnished. Families are prioritized based on need and must be screened prior to placement. The program is designed to last between 30-90 days, but families can receive extra time if they are actively participating in case management services and working toward finding more stable housing option.

**Contact:** Ask your Urbana School Counselor or Crisis Nursery to make a referral.

### **Crisis Nursery**

Crisis Nursery is the only emergency-based child care facility open 24 hours, 365 days a year serving ages birth through six. It is open for the entire community with no fees or income eligibility. Besides safe shelter for children, they provide home visits, play groups, support groups, case management and parenting education to strengthen parent skills and confidence. In addition to the services listed above Crisis Nursery provides diapers, formula, clothing, etc. to any community members in need. Emergency transportation support to and from the Nursery is available for families. Crisis Nursery believes that asking for help is a sign of strength. Families who may be experiencing a crisis are welcome to call to begin the process of scheduling care for their child(ren).

**Contact:** Call 217-337-2730 or Text 217-636-4221

### **Community Resource Center at OSF Heart of Mary Medical Center**

Open 8:00 -5:00, "Call hours" 8:00 -8:00 pm.

### **Regional Office of Education**

Monday-Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

217.893/3219

Resources for homeless families with children and youth who are of school age. Pre-school aged children also receive services to ensure access to early childhood and preschool programs. Verification of school enrollment will be required. Services include providing school supplies, physical education clothing, transportation, alarm clocks, or special school fees such as those for field trips, pictures, and book clubs. In addition, funding is available for tutoring and to assist with the cost of educational summer programs.

**Women's Safe House, Canaan Development Foundation** 217.367.2158 program provides a safe and drug free shelter for women suffering from drugs or alcohol abuse together with their dependents. Services offered include food, clothing, personal hygiene supplies, medical exam, health services and legal services for residents to recover from the use and abuse of drugs/alcohol so that they may re-enter society as responsible and fully functional citizens.

**Austin's Place at C-U at Home**

309 S. Neil St.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
217.819.4569  
<https://www.cuathome.us>

Austin's Place at C-U at Home is "next step" shelter living for women who are advancing out of congregate shelter living and yet still need a supportive living environment.

**Men's Safe House**

217. 344.7233  
213 N Central Ave, Urbana, IL 61801

**Currently Staying with Friends/Family, but Need Affordable Rental Housing**

**Housing Authority of Champaign County**

**217.378.7100**

Since 1943, HACC provided housing assistance to the residents of Champaign County utilizing traditional Public Housing and Section Housing Assistance funded by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**USDA Rural Development Multi-Family Housing Rentals Program**

The USDA PROVIDES project-based Rental Assistance for over 250,000 apartment units throughout the nation. Tenants receiving Rental Assistance pay no more than 30% of their adjusted income for rent. Eligibility is determined by income standards set at the state and county level.

Their properties in Champaign County:

Hillcrest Apts. 300 N. Dianne Ln., Mahomet  
Joe Allan Properties 217.359.3527 sarah.fritz@usda.gov

Village Apts. I and II 811 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., St. Joseph, IL 217. 469.2187 Village Management Co., Inc.  
217.469.2187 Kelly.Hobson@usda.gov

Ever April Trust #032-786-006 702-720 E. Main St., Tolono  
Otto Real Estate 217.268.3051

Tolono Manor Apartments 407 E. Main St., Tolono  
WDC Management, Inc.  
Sylvia.Rhinehart @usda.gov

### **Have Rental Housing but Need Help Paying Rent/Utilities**

#### **Champaign County Regional Planning Commission**

8:00-4:30 pm 217.328.3313

**Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):** Eligible income-qualified households may obtain utility bill assistance through their Local Administering Agencies.

**Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG):** Community Action Agencies across the State provide a variety of CSBG services, including but not limited to, assistance with Rental/Mortgage, Food, Water/Sewer Payment, Employment Training/Placement, Financial Management, and Temporary Shelter. Each agency delivers locally-designed programs and services based on the needs of its community. If a particular service is not directly provided by your local Community Action Agency, you will be referred to one of our partner entities for further assistance.

**Tenant-Based Rent Assistance Program**-Using City of Champaign HOME funds, is offering a limited number of slots for homeless or low-income households to enroll in a program to significantly improve household self-sufficiency within two years. For more information please call TBRA Intake at 217-239-3557

Homeless **Prevention** Rent Assistance—give out about one month’s rent. Joint program of the RPC, City of Champaign Township and Cunningham Township.

[https://www.ccrpc.org/divisions/community\\_services/homeless\\_prevention\\_rent\\_assistance.php](https://www.ccrpc.org/divisions/community_services/homeless_prevention_rent_assistance.php)

### **They Own a Home and Need Assistance with Maintenance**

City of Urbana, Grants Management Division

Provides Emergency repair and accessibility grants.  
217.384.6277

City of Champaign, Neighborhood Services Department

Offers Full Home Improvement, Minor Home Repair, Home Accessibility, and Residential Exterior Rehabilitation Programs

217-403-7070

271-403-7090 (fax)

[neighborhoodservices@champaignil.gov](mailto:neighborhoodservices@champaignil.gov)

## **UTILITIES**

**Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program** (Regional Planning Commission) 833.711.0374

**Salvation Army**—Emergency Utility Assistance Programs

<https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/usc/utilityassistance/>

### **Comcast Internet Essentials**

Offers reduced-cost internet service to certain vulnerable individuals. The monthly price applies to a single outlet and basic modem. All computers come with the software and hardware needed to get connected to the internet.

Bloomington, IL 61701 | [\(855\) 846-8376](tel:(855)846-8376)

### **T-Mobile, Project 10Million**

Provides free mobile hotspots and at-cost devices to help low-income students have internet access for school-related reasons. 100GB of internet per year for five years, Wi-Fi hotspot and basic laptops for computer work.

877.601.7336

## **JOB ASSISTANCE**

### **Illinois Department of Employment Services**

Helps with locating a job and unemployment benefits.

<https://ides.illinois.gov/>

### **Salt and Light**



1819 S. Philo Rd.  
Urbana, IL 61802  
217.355.5654

Their Technology Center offers assistance with completing job applications online.

**Strive**

Champaign County YWCA  
2403 W. Springfield Ave.  
Champaign  
217.344.0721

A workforce development program that helps adults who are seeking employment or trying to start new careers gain those essential skills.

**Ticket to Work**

U.S. Social Security Administration  
866.968.7842

Supports career development for Social Security disability beneficiaries age 18 through 64 who want to work. The Ticket program helps people with disabilities progress toward financial independence. Free.

**People Ready** (Formerly Labor Ready) Employment Agency

1717 W. Kirby Ave., #40, Champaign  
630.725.1618

**FOOD**

**Eastern Illinois Food Bank**

Their website lists the Food Finder <https://www.eifoodbank.org/map.html>, which gets you to places that give out free meals and food ingredients throughout the county. It also has a list of free food pantries located at schools and colleges throughout Champaign County.

**Salt and Light**—can work for food vouchers

**SNAP** (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and **WIC** (Women Infants and Children) programs provide cards that people can use at grocery stores just like a debit/credit card to pay for food.

Apply online <https://abe.illinois.gov/access/> or at the Dept. of Human Services Office at 206 W. Anthony Drive, Champaign.

For hot meals:

**Family Service of Champaign County--Meals on Wheels**

217.352.5100

info@familyservicecc.org  
famservcc.org/mealsonwheels

**Hours** Mon-Fri: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Eligibility- Adults with long-term needs due to physical or mental challenges that make it difficult or unsafe to shop or cook. Adults with short-term needs due to pregnancy, injury, vacation of a caregiver, etc. Provide a home-delivered hot lunch, with an option to add a cold sack supper. Meals can be personalized to accommodate special diets such as diabetic, low sodium, low cholesterol, mechanical soft, or gluten-free. Staff are available to assist those living in other parts of Champaign County in locating meal delivery options for their community. Extra meals may be ordered to cover weekends and holidays.

### **Daily Bread Soup Kitchen**

Hot meal served seven days a week, dine in or carry out, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.  
116 N. First St., Champaign  
217-356-7687  
[dailybreadsoupkitchen.com](http://dailybreadsoupkitchen.com)

### **Canteen Run**

The Canteen Run is a mobile truck that offers food, drinks, blankets, and human kindness to those on the streets on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Drivers are needed and require a background check. Training is provided on the spot.  
**Contact:** [cucanteenrun@gmail.com](mailto:cucanteenrun@gmail.com) or 217-369-9344  
[cucanteenrun.org](http://cucanteenrun.org)

### **The Jubilee Café**

Located in the basement of the Community United Church of Christ in Campustown, this volunteer-based café provides fresh, home-cooked takeaway meals every Monday from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm to college students and community members who struggle with food insecurity.  
**Location:** 805 S. Sixth St., Champaign

### **Holiday Baskets**

#### **Fraternal Order of Police Illini Lodge 17**

FOP provides holiday baskets to be delivered shortly before Christmas. Each food basket includes a ham for eligible clients.

1605 N. Willis Avenue | Champaign, IL 61821 | (217) 351-2120

Preferred referral through independent agency (Head Start, Crisis Nursery, Family Services, police, schools, churches, etc.) by mid-November.

A number of local churches also deliver baskets. They are given the names of families from local social service agencies.

## **CLOTHING**

**Salt & Light**—can volunteer for clothing/household vouchers

**Empty Tomb**—301 N. Fourth St., Champaign

Clothing Room is open M-F 1:00-4:30 PM. Sat. 10 AM to 12:30 PM. We are open on the half hour, for up to 12 people. If more than 12 people are waiting at an opening, we draw numbers. Please note: People need to be 18 years or older to come to the Clothing Room, except for the Monday-Friday 4 PM opening. The 4 PM Monday through Friday Clothing Room opening is reserved only for parents who are with their children. Please call 217-356-2262 for updates about posted holiday and other closings.

**Champaign-Urbana Public Health District** (217)-352-7961 Location: 201 W. Kenyon Rd. Champaign, IL 61820. Hours of Operation: Tuesdays 9AM-3PM.

**McKinley Foundation**, campus--Scot Free Clothing Exchange (217)-344-0297 Location: McKinley Foundation 809 S. Fifth Street Champaign, IL 61820. Located in the basement of the McKinley Foundation. Hours of Operation: Tuesday and Friday 2PM-4PM. No fees. Available to anyone.

**Restoration Urban Ministries** (217)-355-2662 Website: [www.restorationurbanministries.net](http://www.restorationurbanministries.net) Location: 1213 Parkland Court Champaign, IL 61821 Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-3PM. No fees.

**Mahomet Helping Hands** (217)-586-3392 Location: 203 E. Adams Street Mahomet, IL 61853 Hours of Operation: 3rd Saturday of the month. 9AM-11:30AM. On the following Thursday 6PM-7PM. Residents of Mahomet Seymour School District.

### **Community Service Center of Northern Champaign County**

520 E. Wabash Avenue, Suite 1 Rantoul, IL 61866

(217)-893-1530

[www.cscrantoul.org](http://www.cscrantoul.org) Hours of Operation: Monday 7-8am, Wednesday 3PM-4:30PM by referrals only. If schools are closed, the Clothing Center is closed. Photo ID and proof of residency less than 30 days old for each member of the household.

## **MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES**

To reach a mental health professional free of charge.

Text TALK to 552020 (for English service) or text HABLAR to 552020 (for Spanish service)

## **Family Service**

405 S. State Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Phone: (217) 352-0099  
Fax: (217) 352-1910  
info@familyservicecc.org

Private, not for profit. Provides affordable individual, couple and family therapy. They have a support group directory.

**The Center for Youth and Family Solutions**

1315A Curt Drive Champaign, IL 61821  
217.352.5179

Private, not for profit. Provides affordable individual, couple and family therapy. They have a support group directory.

**Courage Connection**

Individuals or families fleeing domestic violence should contact Courage Connection's Domestic Violence hotline which is open 24/7. If you are in immediate danger call 911.

**Contact:** 1-877-384-4390

**Promise Health-Frances Nelson**

819 Bloomington Rd.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
217.600.7000

Health and dental care regardless of ability to pay.

**The Pavilion Behavioral Health System**

808 W. Church St.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
800.373.1700  
217.373.1700

Substance abuse and mental health services for all ages. Financial assistance program.

**SENIOR ASSISTANCE**

**Family Service Senior Resource Center**

Champaign County Office  
405 S. State Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
Phone: (217) 352-5100

Fax: (217) 352-1910  
src@familyservicecc.org

**AABD** (Aid to the Aged, Blind or Disabled)  
Services: Gap Group Income Maintenance Programs  
(217) 278-5605 Voice  
<https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=33698>

Provides medical and cash assistance for customers who are 65 years of age or older, blind, or disabled. Also includes the QMB (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary) program which provides payment of Medicare premiums and some Medicare co-payments.

**Eligibility:** Live in Illinois. Receive SSI, or denied SSI because of income. 65 years or older, blind, or disabled.

**Documents Needed:** Photo ID, birth certificate, proof of income, proof of residency, and Social Security card.

**Additional Information:** The online application is called "Application for Benefits Eligibility (ABE)." When applying, the state will determine the applicant's eligibility for this AABD, as well as SNAP and medical assistance (Medicaid).

**Contact/Referral Procedures:** By phone, walk-in, or online.

**Hours:** Mon-Fri: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

**Site Area Served:** Champaign and Ford counties.

### **Care Horizon**

304 N. Maple, Suite 202  
Urbana, IL 61802  
217.384.3360

### **OLDER ADULTS/DISABILITY SERVICES (Community Care Program (CCU))**

Helps senior citizens, who might otherwise need nursing home care, to remain in their own homes by providing in-home and community-based services. Services include:

- Comprehensive care coordination. - Adult day services. - In-home services

### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES**

**C-U Public Health District**—Wellness and Health Promotion, M-F 8:00-4:00 pm  
201 W. Kenyon Rd., Champaign  
217.531.5365

Narcan program—they distribute a medication to stop overdoses from opioids.

## Restoration Urban Ministries

**Salt and Light** hosts Narcotics Anonymous Meetings

## VETERANS

US Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment  
<https://www.va.gov/careers-employment/vocational-rehabilitation/apply-vre-form-28-1900/start>

800.827.1000

American Red Cross of Central Illinois (serves 26 counties including Champaign)

Services: Automotive Repair and Maintenance \* Families of Military Personnel/Veterans.

(309) 662-0500 Voice Office

(800) 733-2767 Toll-free 1-800-RED CROSS

Automotive Repair and Maintenance \* Veterans

(309) 662-0500 Voice Office

(800) 733-2767 Toll-free 1-800-RED CROSS

[redcross.org/illinois](http://redcross.org/illinois)

Hours: 24/7 by phone.

Eligibility varies, but generally, the following categories of individuals may apply for assistance to their respective military branch's aid society:

- Active duty military personnel and their eligible family members.
- Retired military personnel and their eligible family members.
- Widow(er)s and other eligible family members of deceased service members (active or retired).
- Reserve and National Guard activated under Title 10, U.S. Code and their eligible family members.
- Family members summoned by military authorities to the bedside of an ill or injured service member.

Families of military personnel can apply for financial assistance for a wide range of needs including but not limited to utilities, medical, and car repair. Red Cross also provides information and referral for other services for these families.

Red Cross workers use advanced communications technologies to link service members with their families. The Emergency Communications Center quickly and efficiently obtains the required information and sends emergency communication messages to service members of every branch of service wherever in the world they happen to be.

**Contact/Referral Procedures and Info (Phone/Email)** An application will be taken and submitted to the military processing center and an answer will generally be received within 24 hours, not including weekends.

**RISE** (Restoring Independence Supporting Empowerment)

<https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/specially-adapted-smart-homes>

Provides specially adapted smart homes mortgage free for post 9/11 defenders who were injured in combat operations or during training. Requirements: referral from a current recipient.

**Operation Finally Home**

<https://www.operationfinallyhome.org/>

Provides home to veterans and their widows.

**Wounded Hero Home Program** <https://helpingahero.org/application-for-home/>

## **HELP FOR THE RECENTLY INCARCERATED**

### **First Followers**

A workforce development program called **GoMAD (Make A Difference)**; a transition house for people coming home from prison, support groups for individuals impacted by violence and incarceration.

314 Cottage Court, Champaign, IL 61820

Drop-In Center hours: 1-5 p.m. Tues. & Thurs

217.607.1131

[firstfollowerscu@gmail.com](mailto:firstfollowerscu@gmail.com)

### **Re-Entry Employment Service Program (RESP)**

1307 N. Mattis Ave.

Champaign, IL 61821

800.244.5631

This is run by the Illinois Department of Employment Services. It helps with job placement and training.

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