

2018 HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN TOMPKINS COUNTY

Program Components

*PLEASE NOTE: For all current resources available to residents of Tompkins and Cortland Counties, go to www.hsctc.org/services or dial 211 to reach **211 Tompkins Cortland**, a program of the Human Services Coalition of Tompkins County.*

Details

Hours

Location

Contact Info

Eligibility notes

Emergency Housing

Rescue Mission	Emergency Shelter	Walk-in shelter for homeless. For emergency shelter: FIRST call or visit Department of Social Services (DSS) Special Services Unit during business hours. (8:30 am -4:30 pm). Eligible individuals will be referred directly to the shelter from DSS. After 4:40 pm, individuals must call IPD and have them connect them with DSS Special Services on-call staff. Cold weather: If the temperature is below 32 degrees F, individuals needing shelter, even if they have children and/or are ineligible for DSS services, should come to the shelter, or call 607-273-9177.	Staffed 24/7 (though phones may not be staffed) Office: 9-4	618 W. State St. Ithaca	Main: 273-9177	Men, women and children. DSS Special Services approval required to stay, unless there is extra room (usually isn't). Families with children are prioritized and may be put up in a motel if available.
Advocacy Center	Safe house shelter	Housing for domestic violence and sexual violence victims, and their children.	Hotline 24/7 Office: M-TH: 9-5 F: 9-3	Confidential	24 hr hotline 277-5000 Office: 277-3203	Domestic violence or sexual violence victims seeking confidential, safe, emergency housing.
DSS - Department of Social Services, Tompkins County	Special Services	Assistance to persons with emergency need for housing and/or food or are victims of domestic violence. Determines eligibility and refers those eligible to appropriate services.	M-F: 8:30-4:30	320 W. MLK Jr./State St. Ithaca	Main: 274-5030 After hours emergencies: 272-2444	Individuals/families with an emergency need for housing/food/temporary assistance.

Non-Emergency Housing Assistance

Rescue Mission	Court Street Place	Permanent housing for 10 formerly homeless men in structured, homelike, shared apartment setting. Men work toward eventual independence and receive support from staff members during their stay, usually six to 24 months.	M-F: 8-5	717 W. Court St. Ithaca	Mike Foster: 273-6684 ext. 5676	Males, ages 18+, homeless or at-risk of homelessness, agree to residence rules. Application process and generally a waitlist. 6 month - 2 year allowable stay.
	Single Room Occupancy - State St. Location	Single adult men and women (15 total).		618 W. State St. Ithaca		Typically transition qualified individuals from the shelter to the SRO program when able. Outside referrals usually come from DSS.
Ithaca Housing Authority	Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) & Public Housing Programs	Rental programs for low-income families HCV/Sec. 8: rent subsidy; public housing: 1 BR apartments in Titus Towers for low- to very low- income elderly and near elderly. 2-5 BR apts in at Northside, Southview and Overlook Terrace for low- to very low-income families.	M-F: 8:00-4:30	800 South Plain St. Ithaca	Viki McDonald Housing Choice Voucher: 273-1244 Public Housing: 273-8629	Local preference (live or work in Tompkins County) offered assistance before non-local applicants, for both vouchers and public housing. Elderly, disabled and families with dependents are offered vouchers before single applicants; Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers provided with referrals from DSS (when vouchers are available). PH preferences: Local Preference (live or work in Tompkins County) offered assistance before Non-Local applicants.
TCAction - Tompkins Community Action	STEHP (Solutions to End Homelessness Program): Prevention	Assists those at risk of homelessness in securing/maintaining housing that otherwise might be unaffordable.	M-F: 9-4:30	701 Spencer Rd. Ithaca	Jenee Kautzer: 273-8816	Short term rental assistance are provided to individuals and families who are at risk of homelessness; able to increase household income; at 30% of area median income AND facing a court ordered eviction. Section 8 participants are not eligible for this program.
	Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP)	Rent subsidy program for income-eligible individuals and households. Participants generally pay between 30-40% of monthly adjusted income towards housing cost; balance paid directly to the landlord. Housing units are inspected for health and safety before rental assistance begins and at least once per year after.	M-F: 9-4:30	701 Spencer Rd. Ithaca	273-8816	Applicants are ranked based on their application date and time. Current estimated wait list time is 24 to 36 months. Proof of residency documents are needed at time of application.

DSS - Department of Social Services, Tompkins County	Housing First/STEHP	Three to 12-month program with intensive case management to help homeless families or individuals reach financial independence and secure and maintain housing that otherwise might be unaffordable.	M-F: 8:30-4:30	320 W. MLK Jr/ State St. Ithaca	Examiner-Paulette Fischer: 274-5038	Must be able to contribute 20% of their housing costs. Individuals receiving public assistance can have their shelter allowance applied to their rent. Section 8 participants are NOT eligible. Applicants must be screened by 2-1-1 before referral to Special Services. Meet income guidelines, earning 30% of area median income.
	Special Services	Case-by-case assistance with emergency shelter or motel housing, temporary security deposit/rent assistance, or placement in permanent housing.	M-F: 8:30-4:30	320 W. State St. Ithaca	Main: 274-5030 After hours emergencies: 272-2444	Processes referrals from Rescue Mission to determine eligibility for staying in the shelter. Conducts home studies to determine eligibility for public assistance applicants under 18 living on their own. Administers Housing First, helping homeless families and individuals obtain housing that otherwise might be unaffordable. One-time furniture vouchers. If furniture is destroyed by fire, flood, etc., additional voucher can be obtained if individual applies and is determined income-eligible for DSS services.
Second Wind Cottages	Single occupancy cottages for men	Permanent housing for formerly homeless men.	24/7	1435 Elmira Road Newfield, NY 14867	Carmen Guidi 227-6268	Males over age 18. Homeless or at-risk homeless. No drugs or alcohol allowed on premises. A code of conduct (good neighbor policy) must be agreed to and signed before the resident moves into a cottage.
<i>Drug/Alcohol Recovery</i>						
TCAction - Tompkins Community Action	Magnolia House	Permanent supportive housing program for previously homeless women in recovery of substance dependence and a child, less than 5 yrs., at entry. Helps tenants develop and maintain independent living skills, foster family reunification, define personal needs and develop personal goal plans. 14 studio apartments.	7 days: 9-6	320 N. Meadow St. Ithaca	379-6107	Tenants must be experiencing homelessness immediately prior to move in, have 30 days sobriety with a local support system in place, must be eligible for Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program.
	Chartwell House	Permanent single room occupancy (SRO), subsidized supportive residence for previously homeless men in active recovery from alcohol and/or substance dependence. 12 SRO beds - free of alcohol & substances.	M-F: 9-4:30	322 N. Meadow St. Ithaca	277-1154	Tenants must be experiencing homelessness immediately prior to move in, have 30 days sobriety with a local support system in place, must be eligible for Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program.

<i>Mental Health</i>						
Lakeview Mental Services	Housing for clients with diagnosed severe, persistent mental illness	4 locations in Ithaca w/ varying levels of assistance/support.	M-F: 8-6 Sat, Sun: 9:30-5:30 with on-call services available to residents after hours.	3rd St., S. Albany St., Cascadilla St., & 38-room SRO Office Location: 114 South Geneva St.	Residential Coordinator: Julia Williammee 277-4768	Diagnosed severe, persistent mental illness & eligible for some level of Social Services assistance. Also subject to funding availability. The Single Room Occupancy program also has 8 units set aside for individuals who are homeless (on the street, in an emergency shelter, or in transitional housing for homeless persons). 18+ with primary diagnosis of psychiatric disability.
<i>Youth</i>						
TCAction - Tompkins Community Action	The Corn Street Apartments	Permanent supportive housing apartments for homeless pregnant or parenting young families with the head of household between the ages of 18 -25.	M-F: 9-4:30	309 S. Corn St. Ithaca	216-0457	Tenants must be experiencing homelessness immediately prior to move in and must be eligible for Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program.
	Transitional Supportive Housing for Families	Transitional supportive housing (maximum 24 months) for homeless pregnant or parenting young families with the head of household between the ages of 18-25 located throughout Tompkins County.	M-F: 9-4:30	309 S. Corn St. Ithaca NY	216-0457	Tenants must be experiencing homelessness immediately prior to move in.
Learning Web	Youth Outreach Independent Living Program	Program for homeless and transient youth, many of whom have dropped out of school, move from dependence to self-sufficiency. Can assist with finding housing & identifying financial assistance sources.	M-F: 9-5	330 W. MLK Jr./State St. Ithaca	272-8162	Homeless and transient individuals age 16-24. Must apply and be accepted into Independent Living Program (homeless but working, or in school).
Tompkins County Dept. of Youth Services	Youth and Family Services	Preventive and foster care services for Tompkins County adolescent youth and their families, such as: preventing out-of-home placement of an at-risk child; working with youth placed in foster care by Family Court because of PINS/JD behaviors; and managing detention placements for Tompkins County youth.	M-F: 8:30-4:30	320 W. MLK Jr./State St. Ithaca	Main Eligibility determinations: 274-5296	Call main eligibility determinations number.

Family & Children's Service of Ithaca	Open Doors	For youth up to age 21 who have run away or are at risk of running away from home or being kicked out/no where to stay.	24/7 by phone. Program hours: M-TH: 8:30-6 F: 8:30-4	211 East Seneca St.	288-2348	Tompkins County residents to age 21 who have run away or at risk of running away or homelessness. Parental permission not required.
<i>Incarcerated/Released Inmates</i>						
OAR - Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources of Tompkins County	Advocacy & referral	Advocacy and referral center that can help with housing placement, applying for benefits, etc. Drop-in center with information, phones & computer available.	M-F: 9-3:30 (walk- ins); 3:30-5 by appointment only	910 West State/MLK St. Ithaca NY	272-7885 Val or Meghan	Tompkins County residents currently or previously incarcerated.
<i>Veterans</i>						
U.S. Dept. of Veteran's Affairs	National Call Center for Homeless Veterans	Provides referral to local VA medical center's homeless & housing coordinator, refer to local shelters, employment etc.	24/7	Closest coordinators: 800 Irving Avenue Syracuse NY, and 78 Veterans Ave. Bath NY	Homeless Hotline: 877-424-3838	Individuals who have served in US military.
Soldier On	Supportive Services For Homeless Veterans	Transitional housing and supportive services for homeless veterans, including permanent housing cooperative providing formerly homeless veterans with safe, sustainable, affordable housing. Helps Tompkins and Cortland County and Central New York veterans with rental payments and security deposits.	24/7 - leave msg if no answer, will get a call back within 24 hrs	Mobile - case worker will travel to the vet	Main, Toll Free: 866-406-8449	Discharge status other than dishonorable. Income level 50% less than the area median. Homeless or at risk of homelessness.
<i>Financial Assistance</i>						
DSS - Department of Social Services, Tompkins County	Emergency Public Assistance	Emergency assistance with food, temporary assistance.	M-F: 8:30-4:30	320 W. State St. Ithaca	Main: 274-5030 After hours emergencies: 272-2444	Individuals/families with an emergency need for housing/food/temporary assistance.

Catholic Charities	Samaritan Center	Limited emergency financial help with security deposits and utilities.	T-F: 9-12; 1-4	324 W. Buffalo St.	272-5062 x27 Samaritan Center Coordinator-Liddy Bargar	Tompkins County residents, based on family income.
Legal Assistance						
LawNY	Legal assistance to low-income individuals	Help with housing issues such as eviction and foreclosure, or problems with public or other subsidized housing including Section 8; issues with benefits like public assistance, food stamps, unemployment benefits, and SSI; and some re-entry issues, particularly related to employment.	M-F: 9-12:30; 1:30-5	902 Taber St, Suite 1 Ithaca NY	Main Ithaca Office: 273-3666 Foreclosure Services: 273-3667. Toll Free Ithaca Office: 800-724-4170	Low-income residents of Tompkins & Tioga Counties. Does not handle criminal cases, traffic violations, DUIs, security deposit returns, small claims court cases, family court issues and divorce.
Meals/Drop-in Services						
Rescue Mission	Friendship Center	Daytime drop-in center for individuals and families to have coffee and/or food, use telephones, fulfill emergency needs (clothing, blankets, feminine products, toiletries), consult housing lists, and take showers.	7 days/wk. 9-4. Community Pantry hours: M: 9-11am; T-Sat: 9-11 am & 2-4 pm	618 W. State St. Ithaca	273-6684	None - all are welcome.
Loaves & Fishes	Free meals	Free nutritious meals and advocacy services provided Monday through Friday throughout the year.	M,W, F: 12pm-1pm T, TH: 5:30pm-6:30pm	St. John's Episcopal Church 210 N. Cayuga St. Ithaca NY	272-5457	None - all are welcome.
OAR - Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources of Tompkins County	Drop-in center	Drop-in center with information, phones and computer available.	M-F: 9-3:30 (walk-ins); 3:30-5 by appointment only	910 West State St./West MLK St. Ithaca NY	272-7885	Tompkins County residents currently or previously incarcerated.
For additional FOOD resources: call 211 or visit www.hsctc.org for a detailed listing of pantries and meals						
For HEATING/UTILITY resources: see Energy Assistance chart at www.hsctc.org						
Copies of this Chart are available online for download at the Human Services Coalition Website (www.hsctc.org)						Revised 7/2018