

Additional Housing Resources in York County

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Next Door

Bell Socialization Services opened its Next Door program in 2017 to offer **support services and rental assistance to homeless, near homeless, and low-income individuals and families in York City and York County.**

At this time, the office is closed to the public, but staff can be reached by calling the office, 717-356-2957.

Next Door operates at 16 W. King Street in York City, and is open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (additional hours available by appointment) phone **717-356-2957**.

The Next Door team is dedicated to helping people connect to resources and services to secure sustainable housing situations. "It's not about handing out money, it's about helping people set goals and develop workable plans to get them to a place where they can be more self-reliant."

What Services are Offered?

- Rental Assistance for homeless and renters facing eviction
- Connections to Information & Resources
- Professional One-on-One Guidance for homeless, renters facing eviction, and under-housed
- Step-by-Step Success Planning
- Advocacy

Who is Eligible?

- Age 18 or older
- York City and County residents
- individuals and families who are homeless, renters facing eviction, and under-housed
- Head of household
- In need of emergency and/or long-term housing

Next Door services are funded in part by the Human Services Development Fund (HSDF), York County Homeless Assistance Program (HAP), Continuum of Care program (CoC), Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) and Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) funds.

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The Coalition is charged with the planning to end homelessness in York County, managing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), managing the Pathways to Home (Coordinated Assessment/Entry process), and coordinating and applying for funding for projects to end homelessness. Participants range from those who work in homeless housing or service projects to healthcare, government, and other interested parties, including those who are homeless or formerly homeless. **The following is a listing of important information for our York County community assisting homeless individuals and families at this difficult time. Information is changing daily, so for the most up to date resources, connect with coronavirus pages at www.cdc.gov. For York County updates, contact yorkcounycoh@ycpc.org.**

Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in **Homes and Residential Communities**:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html#precautions>.

Interim guidance for **homeless service providers** to plan and respond to coronavirus disease 2019:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html>

Interim Guidance for Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) among **People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness**: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html>

CDC Printable Resources: Please use this link to see the most up-to-date printable resources from the CDC to utilize at your facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/factsheets.html>

Sanitation stations in York City: The Coalition, with the support of the City of York, is also working to provide portable toilets and hand sanitation stations in several locations in York City for the next **two weeks**. These units are being “adopted” by groups of volunteers willing to disinfect them twice per day, every day. Lifepath York has graciously taken ownership of having these units placed and helping with disinfectant and materials. Current locations:

- Cherry Lane (first block of Market Street)
- Voni Grimes Gym (125 East College Avenue)
- Grace UMC (37 North Broad Street)
- LifePath Christian Ministries (363 West Market Street)

If you or your organization is interested in assisting, contact yorkcounycoh@ycpc.org. Materials and a training video will be provided. Also, funding to maintain the sanitation stations beyond April 6th will be welcome.

Want updates? Want to help? Contact: yorkcounycoh@ycpc.org

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YORK COUNTY AND YORK CITY HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The **Home Improvement Program (HIP)** provides financial and technical assistance to income-eligible resident homeowners in York County and York City who need to make necessary home repairs. **At this time, the office is closed to the public, but staff can be reached by calling the York County Planning Commission office, 717-771-9870.**

There are **grant funds and loan funds** available for County residents. In the City, only loan funds are available.

- Grants do not have to be repaid.
- Loans have to be repaid, but not right away - they are 0% interest and deferred. A mortgage in the amount of the loan is filed against the property for security. The deed to your property remains in your name and is not transferred to the County or the City.
- As long as the program participant remains the occupant and owner of the property, no repayment is required and no interest is charged.
- When the property is sold or transferred in any way *or* it ceases to be residence of the program participant, the full balance on the loan becomes due and payable to the County of York or the City of York.

Eligible housing repairs include correcting substandard conditions, handicapped accessibility improvements, and connections and hookup fees for new sanitary sewer and water systems. The goal of the Home Improvement Program is to help you bring your home into standard condition.

Eligible homeowners must have annual household incomes at or below limits set by the Federal government. To see the income limits, check out www.ycpc.org/328/Home-Improvement-Program [Home Improvement Program \(HIP\) Brochure \(PDF\)](#). Or, call the York County Planning Commission at 717-771-9870.

YORK COUNTY AND CITY WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

The **Weatherization Program** helps low-income renters and homeowners to reduce heating and cooling costs in their homes. **No repayment** is required for the services provided and no liens are filed on the property. **At this time, the office is closed to the public, but staff can be reached by calling the York County Planning Commission office, 717-771-9870 and selecting Option 1 Weatherization.**

Eligible housing repairs include improvements to the energy efficiency of the apartment or home, and help to ensure health and safety. Priority is given to the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children.

Eligible participant in the program have annual incomes at or below limits set by the program.

See www.ycpc.org/196/Weatherization-Assistance [Weatherization Assistance Program FAQ \(PDF\)](#) for more information on the program and the low-income limits.



YORK HOUSING OPPORTUNITY CENTER

The York Housing Opportunity Center (YHOC), a branch of Lancaster Housing Opportunity Partnership (LHOP), offers the following services to residents of York County and York City. **At this time, the office is closed to the public, but staff can be reached by calling the York Housing Opportunity Center at 717-827-4334.**

Housing Counseling Services for individuals and families to obtain and maintain quality housing:

- Pre-Purchase One on One Counseling
- Pre-Closing Counseling for PHFA Loans- Face to Face Session
- Credit and Budget Counseling
- Rental Counseling
- Post Purchase One on One Counseling
- Default and Delinquency Face to Face Session

Homebuyer Education Classes For First Time Homebuyers. Prepares participants for the home buying process, and the responsibilities of homeownership. Eight hour classes are provided as a one-day class on Saturdays, or a three day class held in the evening during the week. Classes are offered at the YHOC center or at the Lancaster Housing Opportunities Partnership offices in Lancaster, PA.

A Course Certificate is issued to those completing the course and meeting the course standards. It can be used to qualify for the YHAP program (below) and a variety of local mortgage loan programs and FHA, PHFA, VA, USDA program offerings. Visit www.lhop.org/events to see the class schedule.

Homebuyer Down-Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program. The York Housing Assistance Program (YHAP) provides financial assistance to help pay down payment and closing costs.

Eligible first time homebuyers who are low-income, have completed Housing Education, and looking to purchase within York City or County, may qualify for financial assistance towards their down-payment and closing costs.

YHAP loan is in the form of a deferred payment, 0% interest, forgivable loan. This loan may be used towards down payment and/or closing cost fees in the City of York or York County. The maximum amount of the loan is 8% of the sale price, up to \$7,000.00 for City of York residents or \$5,000.00 for York County residents. Visit www.lhop.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/York-Eligibility-Requirements-2019-2020-1.pdf to see all of the program requirements and the income limits.

Fair Housing Training and Workshops. If you believe your Fair Housing rights have been violated, you can contact the LHOP Equity and Empowerment Institute Housing Rights Line at (717) 291-9945 ext. 109/110. An advisor will assist you in determining what action should be taken. If you are located in the City of York, your call will be forwarded to the York Human Relations Commission. Also, you may file a complaint with the Pennsylvania Human Relation Commission through the online Housing Discrimination Questionnaire. www.phrc.pa.gov/File-A-Complaint/ComplaintForms

Landlord – Tenant Rights In addition to fair housing rights, renters in Pennsylvania have rights under the Landlord-Tenant Act of 1951. To learn more about what the law says about tenants' and landlords' rights and responsibilities, take a look at the LHOP Landlord & Tenant Guide at: www.lhop.org/rent/tenants/tenant-rights.



Department of Human Services
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant.

Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants.

The cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$200 to \$1,000 based on household size, income, and fuel type. Remember: This is a **grant** and does not have to be repaid.

How to apply. There are three ways to apply for LIHEAP:

- **Online:** Apply for benefits online using [COMPASS](#), the online tool for Pennsylvanians to apply for health and human service programs and manage benefit information.
- **On Paper:** You can download a paper application, print it, fill it out, and return it to your [local county assistance office](#).
 - [HSEA 1-LIHEAP application — English](#)
 - [HSEA 1-LIHEAP application — Español](#)
- **In-person:** **At this time, the office is closed to the public**

Am I eligible?

- You must meet income guidelines
- You don't have to be on public assistance
- You don't need to have an unpaid heating bills
- You can rent or own your home

For more information visit <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHEAP.aspx> and see the LIHEAP Brochure, available in English or Espanol. Or, call the county assistance office in York at 717-771-1100, or the LIHEAP hotline at 1-866-857-7095.

COMMUNITY PROGRESS COUNCIL

The Housing Education and Counseling Department of Community Progress Council offers free services in the following areas:

- Renter Education & Counseling
- Financial Literacy Education & Counseling
- Homebuyer Education & Counseling
- Foreclosure Counseling

Our **housing and financial counselors** work with individuals of all income levels to help them meet their financial goals – whether it's securing an affordable rental, purchasing their first home or building a savings. Counselors often work with clients to avoid foreclosure, understand their rights as renters, or help them navigate the complex process of becoming a homeowner.

Counselors work one-on-one with individuals through counseling, as well as, host workshops monthly to educate consumers on renting, home ownership and financial literacy.

Our counselors are extensively trained, nationally certified and have several years of experience helping homeowners facing the threat of foreclosure.

We can help:

- If you want help determining how much you can afford for an apartment, how to work with a landlord, or just understanding a lease, contact CPC for **Renter Education or Counseling**.
- If you want help with improving your credit profile, creating and sticking to a budget, contact CPC for our ***Take Charge of Your Money* workshop or for Face to Face Counseling**.
- If you are behind on your mortgage payments and are facing foreclosure, contact CPC for **Foreclosure Counseling**.

Contact Community Progress Council at:

226 East College Avenue, York.

717-846-4600, x 221, 230, 223 (Español) or

<https://www.yorkcpc.org/programs/housing-counseling/>