

From: **David Roth** <droth@dupagefederation.org>

Date: Thu, Nov 19, 2020 at 6:19 PM

Subject: 4 Recovery Items - Human Services - Information Sharing - COVID-19

To: David Roth <droth@dupagefederation.org>

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for all that you are doing to persevere so that all our neighbors can be safe and healthy. Here four (4) COVID-19 recovery items for human services providers:

- 1. Coronavirus Relief Funds are available to eligible DuPage County Residents to avoid eviction, foreclosure, or homelessness.** From Lisa Snipes (lisa.snipes@dupageco.org)

Eligible households must meet income guidelines and demonstrate a housing crisis resulting from an adverse COVID19 impact. Services offered may include: Rent; Association Fees; Security deposit; Mortgage. Requests for assistance are being accepted starting Wed., 11/18 through Wed., 11/25 or until maximum capacity has been reached. Households requesting assistance will need to complete a full application via a network of community agencies to be considered for assistance. Apply online at:

- English: household-assistance-due-to-covid-dupage.hub.arcgis.com
- Español: household-assistance-due-to-covid-dupage.hub.arcgis.com/pages/household-assistance-due-to-covid-esp

- 2. Illinois Eviction Moratorium: What Social Service Providers Need to Know.** From Marisa Wiesman (MWiesman@pslegal.org) - Prairie State Legal Services is presenting a webinar Nov 23, 2020 at 3:00 PM CST.

[Register now!](#)

The Illinois eviction moratorium has changed! Social service partners in DuPage, Kane, Kendall, and DeKalb Counties are invited to join Prairie State Legal Services to learn more about the new Illinois eviction moratorium that began on November 13, 2020. We will also share information about Prairie State's legal help to tenants. This program is intended for social service partners who work with tenants in DuPage, Kane, Kendall, and DeKalb Counties. It is not intended for landlords or tenants.

- 3. ACA Open Enrollment: Helping our neighbors get the best health care possible in an affordable way is an essential component for a full and fair recovery from the illness and economic damage brought by COVID-19.**

Thousands of individuals and families have lost jobs and income in 2020 and are eligible for health insurance subsidies through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). An individual with a projected annual income of \$51,040 or less is eligible; for a family of three, income of \$86,880 or less is eligible. The annual open enrollment period to apply for the ACA subsidy and select a plan is open now and through December 15. A Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for COVID-19-related loss of employer-sponsored health insurance is also open.

- Individuals and families unfamiliar with ACA enrollment should engage with an assister, certified application counselor, or navigator to help them understand their options. In DuPage, call DuPage County Health Department for a virtual appointment at 630.682.7400 select option 2, then option 7.
See <https://www.dupagehealth.org/580/Open-Enrollment-2021---Get-DuPage-Covered>. Find the client-friendly English and Spanish language flyer at that site.
- If you are outside of DuPage, find a local assister here: <https://widget.getcoveredamerica.org/?original=/IL/>
- In Illinois, Get Covered Illinois (GCI) at www.getcoveredillinois.gov is the official ACA Health Insurance Marketplace for the state of Illinois, helping you shop for health insurance to fit your needs and budget
- Individuals and families who prefer to make application on their own may do so at <https://www.healthcare.gov/>.
- Enrollment in ACA Marketplace Insurance is not considered a public charge impacting individuals seeking change in immigration status.

Individuals and families with very low projected annual income (for instance, \$17,608 or less for individuals, \$29,974 or less for a family of three) may be eligible for Medicaid, a government program that helps pay medical costs. Children and seniors qualify at different income levels, so it's best to review eligibility guidelines.

- Individuals and families unfamiliar with seeking Medicaid should engage with an assister, certified application counselor, or navigator to help them understand all their health coverage options. In DuPage, call DuPage County Health Department for a virtual appointment at 630.682.7400 select option 2, then option 7.
See <https://www.dupagehealth.org/505/Health-Insurance-and-Other-Benefit-Resou>
- If you are outside of DuPage, find a local assister here: <https://widget.getcoveredamerica.org/?original=/IL/>
- Applicants are welcome to make application directly and on their own <https://abe.illinois.gov/abe/access/>
- Beginning in December 2020 (with retroactive coverage to September 2020) immigrant seniors age 65+ with income under 100% FPL may qualify for special Illinois funded Medicaid coverage.

Individuals and families who are not eligible for ACA or Medicaid because of immigration status may be eligible for other help through local programs and clinics.

- Find a federally qualified health clinic here: <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/> The FQHCs in DuPage County include Access Community Health Network, VNA Health Care, Hamdard Healthcare, and Pillars Community Health.
- In Illinois, visit <https://www.illinoisfreeclinics.org/clinic-search/clinic-directory/> to identify free or low-cost service near you.
- In DuPage, Access DuPage coordinated comprehensive health services including primary care, specialty care, medication access and hospital services. For more information visits www.accessdupage.org or call (630)510-8720 to enroll or be connected to an enrollment site.

4. Human services as trusted educators regarding appropriate vaccination for COVID-19.

Our next meeting for *Human Services Information Sharing Regarding COVID-19* will be 3:30-4:30pm, Thursday, December 10. Please save the date. Registration and zoom link details will be coming. Over the coming months, COVID-19 vaccine will be arriving. Human services providers are trusted voices to constituents, and able to improve access, demand, and infrastructure for appropriate vaccination. In this meeting, masters level students from Benedictine University will (1.) Do an overview of evidence regarding populations that may be most hesitant to or be misinformed about getting the vaccine (and the historical reasons as to why), what the trust issues are, etc., and (2.) Share some reliable, concrete resources, tips, and/or pathways regarding how to encourage these communities to get vaccinated in a culturally sensitive, efficacious, and effective way which acknowledges and addresses their potential hesitancies/mistrust. We are grateful to Dr. Krishna Bhagat and her students for offering this resource to human service providers.

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