

COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR SOMERS RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY COVID-19

Prepared by the Town of Somers's Department of Social Services

*This is not an exhaustive list nor is it an endorsement of programs/services. *

The Town of Somers Department of Social Services continues to provide remote services to residents Monday through Wednesday from 8:00am-5:00pm, Thursday 8:00-6:30. If you or someone you know is in need of support please contact Social Services at (860) 265-7551 or amaynard@somersct.gov.

Where to access State resources and assistance

You can call 211 which is available 24/7 and can provide referral information. Additionally you can visit <https://portal.ct.gov/cornoavirus> for more information.

Health Insurance

If you are currently uninsured, Access Health has opened a special enrollment period from March 19th - April 2nd where qualified, uninsured residents can enroll in health insurance starting April 1st. Learn more by calling 1-855-365-2428.

Mental Health

If you or someone you know is having a mental health crisis:

- CT information hotline 211 or go to www.211ct.org for mobile crisis support for individuals and/or children.
- NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health): If you need to talk to someone, text NAMI to 741741 or call the NAMI Helpline at 1-800-950-NAMI (6264).
- For non-emergency situations, call the Department of Social Services at (860) 265-7551 or email amaynard@somersct.gov for referral to appropriate resources.

Taxes

The deadline to file taxes has been extended until July 15th. Please check the IRS and state of CT websites for more details.

Small business owner

CT Department of Economic and Community Development has a small business hotline: (860) 500-2333.

The US Small Business Administration is working to provide low interest targeted loans to assist small businesses and nonprofits severely impacted by COVID-19. CDC recommended strategies for employers and businesses to reduce exposure and provide guidance to their employees will be updated as needed. <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Pages/Business-Resources>

Unemployment Benefits

For workers and employers, please see Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding COVID-19 to determine if you eligible for benefits including Unemployment Insurance (UI), Paid Sick Leave (PSL), Wages and Hours, Family Medical Leave (FML). <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/DOLCOVIDFAQ.PDF>

Laid off and furloughed workers are likely eligible for unemployment benefits. Visit www.filectui.com for more information.

Renters

The Attorney General has suspended all evictions for the next 30 days.

Food Assistance

- Grocery stores have set up special hours for seniors and some are offering curbside pick-up.
- Use local delivery services and/or grab-n-go situations when possible (Local grocery stores are offering deliveries and/or try insta-cart or Amazon Prime.)
- The Mobile Food Pantry will be at 599 Main Street between 1:00-1:30 on April 1, 15 and 29. This services is provided to any resident, no documentation required.
- Champs Place Food Pantry is available to residents every Monday from 10-12. Please contact them at (860)763-4021.
- Somers Meals on Wheels program continues to operate. To sign up for meal delivery please contact Social Services at (860) 265-76551.
- Somers Public Schools are also providing take-and-go meals for students.

Emergency Financial Assistance

If financial or access issues exist for food, fuel, and/or emergency expenses, Somers residents can call the Department of Social Services at (860) 265-7551 to determine if you are eligible for one-time emergency financial assistance and/or to explore other options. Documentation will be required of newly established clients.

Utility Assistance

Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) has ordered a moratorium on all utility shut-offs (electric, gas, and water) for the next 30 days, or as long as the Public Health and Civil Preparedness

Emergency is in effect. Residential customers are strongly encouraged to continue paying their bills, as they will ultimately be responsible for accrued services. This ruling applies to all residential customers and is therefore unlike the Winter Protection Program where income eligible households are protected from a shut off through May 1.