

Housing Services In Centre County



CENTRE COUNTY
Affordable Housing Coalition

A Guide to Emergency, Transitional and Permanent Affordable Housing

3rd Edition
2016

Need Help Fast? Read Me First!

In Imminent Danger? Call: 911.

If you believe you or someone else is in imminent danger of death or serious injury, call 911 right away. It is better to be safe than sorry. Responders will include police and emergency medical technicians.

For any Information or Referral Needs: Call Community Help Centre at 1-800-494-2500 OR (814) 237-5855

If you are homeless or being evicted and you need immediate housing: Call Housing Transitions (814) 237-5508

If you are homeless youth under the age of 18 and/or have nowhere to go: Call Centre County Youth Service Bureau (814) 234-2100

If you are fleeing a domestic violence household: Call Centre County Women's Resource Center at (814) 234-5050

If you are being threatened with eviction and you need short term rental assistance: Call Interfaith Human Services at (814) 234-7731

If your landlord will not fix something and it is dangerous or urgent (ie. Black mold): Call Centre Region Code Enforcement (814) 231-3056 or the Code Officer of your local municipality.

If your landlord violates the terms of your lease: Call MidPenn Legal Services (800) 326-9177 or a Private Attorney

If you believe you are a victim of Housing Discrimination: Call MidPenn Legal Services (800) 326-9177. Or Housing and Urban Development at 1 (888) 799-2085. Or Centre County Planning and Community Development Office at (814)355-6791. In the State College Borough call the Planning Department at (814) 234-7109.

If you are in need of long term rental housing assistance: Call the Housing Authority of Centre County at (814) 355-6750 or stop in at 121 Beaver Farm Lane, Bellefonte PA 16823

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INTRODUCTION

Housing is a basic need we all have. Housing can be the stability that is needed too often when we most need help, the hardest thing is to find out where and how to get it.

In Centre County, we are fortunate to have many agencies, organizations, and individuals available to offer advice and resources in assisting you with this basic need. This handbook will introduce you to these people and organizations and tell you how to get in touch with them. While the need is great and not every situation can easily be resolved, we hope this book provides a foundation for you to find your own solutions.

This handbook primarily focuses on services available to those seeking rental housing in Centre County. The beginning contains a glossary of terms. The first section contains information on emergency housing. The second section contains information on transitional housing. The third section contains information on permanent housing. The remainder of the book provides

community resources and information available in the community to meet your basic needs.

For those seeking housing information, confidentiality is important to all agencies involved in assisting your needs. Laws and restrictions pertaining to confidentiality are outlined by each agency and will be reviewed with you. Your confidentiality will be respected.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

Affordable Housing: Housing in which the total monthly costs do not exceed 30% of the household's total monthly income. (Source: HUD)

Assisted Housing: Housing that is subsidized with public funds to reduce the cost of development or to make the rent or mortgage more affordable to the tenants or buyers. (Source: Diana T. Myers and Associates, Inc.)

Area Median Income (AMI): The median divides the income distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median income and one-half above the median. (Source: Wikipedia) HUD uses the median income for households to calculate income limits for eligibility in a variety of housing programs.

Bridge/Transitional Housing: Short-term housing with access to appropriate supportive services such as health care, social services, education and job training to enable homeless households to achieve self-sufficiency. (Source: PA Dept. of Human Services)

Department of Human Services: Our mission is to promote, improve and sustain the quality of family life; break the cycle of dependency; promote respect for employees; protect and serve Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens; and manage our resources effectively. DHS administers funding that promotes affordable housing programs. (Source: PA DHS)

Disability/Disabled: Federal laws define a person with a disability as "Any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; has a record of such impairment; or is regarded as having such impairment."
(Source: HUD)

Emergency Shelter: A facility with overnight sleeping accommodations, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless. (Source: HUD)

Fair Housing Act: Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as amended, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing-related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and disability. (Source: HUD)

Fair Market Rent: indicates the amount of money that a given property would command, if it were open for leasing at the moment. Fair market rent is an important concept both in the Housing and Urban Development's ability to determine how much of the rent is covered by the government for those tenants who are part of Section 8, as well as by other governmental institutions.^[1] U.S. HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) publishes Fair Market Rents and Income Limits (respectively, the basis for how much program administrators will subsidize housing units, and the maximum incomes that tenants may not exceed in order to qualify for subsidized housing) on an annual basis.
(Source: Wikipedia)

Federal Poverty Rates: The HHS poverty guidelines are used as an eligibility criterion by a number of federal programs. (Source: United States Census)

Homeless: A person is considered homeless when he/she resides in one of the following: places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings; an emergency shelter; or transitional housing for homeless persons and who originally came from the streets or emergency shelter. (Source: HUD)

Housing and Urban Development (HUD): Federal Government Agency that provides housing funding throughout the country.

Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8): A Federal rental assistance program for low- and very-low income households typically administered by public housing authorities. Under this program, HUD pays the landlord the difference between 30% of the family's adjusted gross income and the HUD approved or fair market rent for that area. There are two types of Section 8 subsidies:

1. Vouchers -A family is approved, and select from the open market a property inspected and approved as meeting basic habitability requirements. If the family chooses a unit that rents for more than the FMR, certain Housing Authorities allow the family to make up the difference between the FMR and the rent charged in addition to their 30% of income rent contribution.

2. Project-based - Some or all of the units in a housing development are approved for Section 8 subsidies. Occupants of those units must meet the income requirements. Property owners receive rental assistance payments for specific units designated for households qualifying for Section 8 assistance.

(www.refugeehouse.org)

Housing Quality Standards (HQS) and Inspection: HQS defines “standard housing” and establishes the minimum criteria necessary for the health and safety of program participants at least annually. (Source: HUD)

Imminent Risk of Homeless: an individual or family who will imminently lose (within 14 days) their primary nighttime residence provided that no subsequent residence has been identified and the individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing. (Source: HUD)

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC): A dollar-for-dollar tax credit in the United States for affordable housing investments. It was created under the Tax Reform Act of 1986 (TRA86) that gives incentives for the utilization of private equity in the development of affordable housing aimed at low-income Americans. The LIHTC provides funding for the development costs of low-income housing by allowing an investor to take a federal tax credit equal to a percentage of the cost incurred for development of the low-income units in a rental housing project. (Source: Wikipedia)

Public Housing Agency/Authority (PHA): A government agency generally affiliated with a local government whose responsibility is the ownership and operation of subsidized housing and rental assistance programs. Centre County Housing Authority is our PHA.

Supportive Housing Program: A HUD-funded program that provides funding for the development of transitional and permanent supportive housing and services that help homeless persons transition from homelessness to living as independently as possible. (Source: HUD)

Rental Assistance Program (RAP): Funding provided by DHS. If an individual or family is in danger of being evicted from their apartment or home, your county may be able to assist you with payments for rent, mortgage, and/or security deposits. Assistance can also be used to move out of shelter into an affordable apartment. (Source: PA DHS)

Rental Subsidy: The PHA calculates the maximum amount of housing assistance allowable for Housing Choice Vouchers to pay for a family's rent. The maximum housing assistance is generally the lesser of the payment standard minus 30% of the family's monthly adjusted income or the gross rent for the unit minus 30% of monthly adjusted income. (Source: HUD)

EMERGENCY HOUSING SERVICES

Emergency housing services includes shelters that provide housing, food, and/or supportive services for a limited period of time for residents. Each shelter operates independently with its own rules and regulations.

Centre County Women's Resource Center

140 W. Nittany Ave., State College, 16801

24/7 rape/abuse hotline 234-5050 or 1-877-234-5050

Counselors available 24 hours a day.

www.ccwrc.org

Emergency housing is available at the Sylvia Stein Shelter for women and children fleeing abuse. WRC provides free and confidential services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in Centre County. Services include individual or group counseling, advocacy, civil legal representation, safe custody exchanges, supervised visitation and referrals. CCWRC provides assistance with housing searches, advocacy with landlords and relocation.

Centre County Youth Service Bureau

Program Name: Burrowes Street Youth Haven (BSYH)

334 S. Burrowes Street, State College, PA 16801

814-234-2100; Available 24/7

bsyh@ccysb.com

The BSYH is a six-bed facility in State College, PA. This voluntary shelter houses both males and females ages 12-17, for a maximum of 21 days. The youth that benefits from this service are homeless, runaways, or persons at risk for either of those conditions due to difficulties within their home. Youth are welcome to access this shelter whenever they need a safe place to stay, day or night. There are caring, professional counselors at the facility 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to offer their assistance for both residential or drop in care. All of the services offered to both youth and their families are free and confidential.

Housing Transitions

Program Name: Centre House Emergency Shelter

217 E. Nittany Ave., State College, PA 16801

814-237-5508; Staff available 24/7

www.housingtransitions.com

This program provides shelter and food to individuals and families in Centre County who are homeless or in crisis. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age unless they are accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or are legally emancipated. Persons convicted of or charged with a violent crime, a crime of a sexual nature, or a crime involving the sale/distribution of drugs do not qualify for residential services. All individuals must go through an interview process for determination of eligibility. The Centre House Case Manager works with each individual or family to set objectives for employment, child care services, and the like; to review progress; and to make and coordinate referrals to other community services. Each resident works with the Centre County Housing Case Manager to set objectives for their housing search. The shelter works with Centre County residents for up to 30 days (a person who is making progress but has substantial obstacles to overcome may be granted additional time to stay in order to become successful and stable) and with out-of-county residents for up to three days.

Out of the Cold Centre County

1-800-494-2500

The mission of OOTC³ is to provide the homeless in our community with a warm and safe overnight accommodation and nourishment within a welcoming atmosphere, as a supplemental option to locally established shelters through local churches. We are open seasonally during cold weather. No one under the age of 18 is permitted to sleep in the site. Guests arrive at the site between 9:00pm – 10:00 pm. No guests will be accepted into the site after 10:00 pm, unless Community Help Centre contacts the Host Coordinator for an emergency admission. Guests must sign the House Rules form every evening and take their personal belonging with them when they leave each morning. Men and women will be

assigned separate sleeping areas. A cot, blanket, snack and drink will be supplied to each guest each night. All guests must leave the site by 7:00 am each morning. Guests must be referred by the Community Help Centre: 1-800-494-2500 or 814-237-5855.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SERVICES

Transitional Housing Services are programs that work with residents, primarily those previously homeless, to establish a living environment, work on goals, and provide support during a restricted time period. Each program operates independently with its own rules and regulations to participate. Programs are limited in availability and have certain populations they serve. These programs are important to assist those looking for greater assistance before establishing a permanent home.

Bridge of Hope Centre County

P.O. Box 433 State College, PA 16804

814-237-HOPE (4673)

<http://centre.bridgeofhopeinc.org/>

The mission of Bridge of Hope is to end and prevent homelessness for women and children with the help of trained mentoring groups within congregations. Single mothers achieve permanent housing and financial stability through employment and attain stability and enhanced self-esteem through ongoing mentoring friendships. The goal is to exemplify Christ's love and to promote physical, emotional, social and spiritual wholeness. Provision of rental assistance is a foundational part of the Bridge of Hope program. Rental assistance is typically provided on a decreasing basis over a period of 12 to 18 months. The amount of rental assistance is based on each woman's individual circumstances and plans for financial stability and determined in consultation with the program staff implementing the Bridge of Hope model. Rental assistance enables women to pursue job training and education to increase earning potential, pay down back debts/fines, develop positive budgeting skills, and possibly even establish an emergency savings fund, all while meeting the basic needs of their families.

Centre County Women's Resource Center

Program: Bridge Housing Program

140 W. Nittany Ave., State College, PA 16801

814-234-5050 or 1-877-234-5050

www.ccwrc.org

In addition to shelter and other services, WRC provides a Bridge Housing Program. Eligible for this program are individuals and/or families who are survivors of domestic and sexual violence who are in need of supportive services in order to transition to increased safety and independence in permanent housing. Bridge Housing residents receive supportive services toward achieving their self-determined goals with the assistance of a case manager.

Centre County Youth Service Bureau

Program: Independent Living Program (ILP)

334 S. Burrowes St., State College, PA 16801

814-234-2632; Staff available 24/7.

steppingstone@ccysb.com

The Independent Living Program is a scattered apartment model program located within the Centre County area. The overall purpose of the Independent Living Program is to increase the safety, well-being, and self-sufficiency of runaway and homeless youth between the ages of 16-21 by providing youth with a safe and stable living situation where they are able to learn life skills, pursue their education, obtain employment, and build permanent connections. We will provide these services to RHY youth in our scattered apartment site model within the Centre County community. Aftercare services are provided to alumni of the program at any time following their discharge, regardless of the situation surrounding their exit. We will also provide non-residential services to youth that are homeless or have unstable housing. We provide services such as life skill meetings, weekly workshops, referral assistance, etc. to help them transition to independent living.

Housing Transitions

Program: Transitional Housing Programs

217 East Nittany Ave., State College, PA 16801

814-237-1944; 8am to 4pm M-F

www.housingtransitions.com

The Transitional Housing Programs are supportive goal-oriented programs intended to assist homeless individuals and families through case management in transitioning to self-sufficiency and permanent housing. Centre County adult individuals and families who are leaving shelter and need this assistance are eligible for this program. Bridge Housing is a one-year program and the Supportive Housing Program is a two-year program.

Community Residential Rehabilitation

A state-licensed program that provides psychiatric rehabilitation in a community setting designed to help residents live as independently as possible. Each individual works closely with a primary contact person, called a goal manager. Activities include individual goal-planning, help with personal care, medication management, attendance at offsite mental health programs, and volunteer work or paid employment. Providers include the following:

- **Community Services Group (CSG)**

614 Locust Ln., State College, 16801

814-861-0617

The CRR provides individuals with mental illness the opportunity to improve daily living skills and become more integrated into the community. Individuals learn to live more independently and staff is trained in assisting individuals to readjust to life in the community.

- **Strawberry Fields, Inc.**

3054 Enterprise Dr., State College, 16801

814-234-6023; M-F 8am to 4pm

www.sfionline.org

Our State College CRR program serves 11 individuals and is located in a cluster of town homes that have easy access

to public transportation, shopping, employment opportunities, YMCA, and treatment services. SFI also operates a three bed full-care CRR program in Bellefonte.

PERMANENT HOUSING SERVICES

Permanent Housing Services includes opportunities to maintain your residency for the length you chose as long as rules and regulations pertaining to the programs are abided by.

Centre County Assisted Rental Housing Inventory

Housing that is subsidized with public funds to reduce the cost of development or to make the rent or mortgage more affordable to the tenants or buyers. Elderly can be 60, 62 or 65 years old and can be verified by the property management. Small family includes 1-2 bedroom units. Large family includes 3 and larger bedroom units.

Bellefonte

Beaver Farms Apartments

121 Beaver Farm Lane

Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6750

Target Population: Family, small & large

Beaver Heights Apartments

200 Beaver Farm Lane

Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6830

Target Population: Family, small & large

Brockerhoff House

105 South Allegheny Street

Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6830

Target Population: Elderly

Crestside Terrace
602 East Howard Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-355-6750
Target Population: Elderly

Governor's Gate
405 Governor's Park Road
Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-355-3682
Target Population: Elderly, small family

Spring Brae
721 Blanchard Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-355-9774
Target Population: Individuals, small family

Terra Sylvan
101 Terra Sylvan Drive
Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-355-9774
Target Population: Family, small & large

Fox Hill Apartments
200 Wyndtree Court
Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-355-4090
Target Population: Elderly

Fox Hill II Apartments
200 Wyndtree Court
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Target Population: Elderly

Milesburg

Dublin Woods

137 Dublinwood Drive

Milesburg, PA 16853

814-355-2627

Target Population: Individuals, small family

Philipsburg

Philips Place

216 North Second Street

Philipsburg, PA 16866

814-342-4200

Target Population: Elderly

Philipsburg Court

103 North Second Street

Philipsburg, PA 16866

814-342-5659

Target Population: Family

Philipsburg Towers

300 Front Street

Philipsburg, PA 16866

814-342-6802

Target Population: Elderly

Westminster Place at Windy Hill

225 Dogwood Drive

Philipsburg, PA 16866

814-342-8456

Target Population: Elderly

Pleasant Gap

Lutheran Commons
400 Rhoads Drive
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823
814-359-2800
Target Population: Elderly

Pleasant Hills
155 North Danielle Drive
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823
814-359-4417
Target Population: Family, small & large

State College

Arnold Addison Court
120 East Beaver Avenue
State College, PA 16801
814-238-0400
Target Population: Elderly, non-elderly disabled

Atherton Place Apartments
1311 South Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801
814-278-7700

Bellaire Court
729 Bellaire Avenue
State College, PA 16801
814-234-7109
Target Population: Elderly

Ashworth Woods
Ashworth Lane
Boalsburg, PA 16827
814-466-9000
Target Population: Large Family

Centre Estates
Jack's Mill Drive
Boalsburg, PA 16827
814-466-7553
Target Population: Small Family

Huntingdon Park
102 Huntingdon Park Drive
Boalsburg, PA 16827
814-466-4662
Target Population: Family, small & large

Mt. Nittany Residence
301 Rolling Ridge Drive
State College, PA 16801
814-234-1323
Target Population: Elderly

Park Crest Terrace
1400 Martin Street
State College, PA 16803
814-231-9677

Limerock Court
234 Limerock Terrace
State College, PA 16801
814-278-7700

Stonebridge Senior Apartments
1680 Bristol Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Sylvan View
Blue Course Drive
State College, PA 16803
814-234-5244
Target Population: Family, small & large

Yorkshire Village
913 Southgate Drive
State College, PA 16801
814-867-8989
Target Population: Family, small & large

Waupelani Heights
460 Waupelani Drive
State College, PA 16801
814-867-8989
Target Population: Family, small & large

For information on additional affordable rental units and units that accept subsidies, please review the Housing Resources List at:

<http://www.housingtransitions.com>

Strawberry Fields, Inc.

Program: FAIRWEATHER LODGE

3054 Enterprise Dr., State College, 16801

814-234-6023; M-F 8am to 4pm

www.sfionline.org

The Fairweather Lodge is a residential program in the State College Area specifically for adults with a mental health diagnosis. Residents share in the expenses and the day-to-day experience of running a household with minimal staff assistance. Residents must be willing and able to work or volunteer. Certified Peer Support services are being provided by SFI through the Fairweather Lodge business.

Housing Authority of Centre County

121 Beaver Farm Ln., Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6750; 8am to 4pm M-F

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

Centre County residents can be eligible for a number of programs and housing units available through the Housing Authority of Centre County.

- ***Housing Choice Voucher:*** The Housing Choice Voucher Program is a tenant-based rental assistance program which requires participants to pay approximately 30% of their adjusted gross income or the minimum rent (\$50) towards the rent. The tenant based voucher stays with the tenant when he or she moves as long as all program requirements are met. Participants are selected through waiting list management, and must meet income and occupancy guidelines, along with tenant suitability standards.
- ***FUP Vouchers:*** The Family Unification Program is a form of subsidy available only through a referral from Children and Youth Services. The program is designed to prevent the separation of children from their parents because of inadequate housing. Program participants must complete an intake and be open with Children and Youth.

CENTRE COUNTY AFFORDABLE HOUSING COALITION

~ Housing Resource Flowchart ~

EMERGENCY Housing

Housing Transitions:

Centre House

Emergency shelter for
Centre County residents
(men, women, children)

814-237-4863

Youth Service Bureau:

Burrowes Street Youth Haven

Provides emergency & voluntary
shelter to males & females ages 12-18

814-234-2100

Centre County

Women's Resource Center

Emergency shelter for women &
children dealing with domestic and/or
sexual violence

1-877-234-5050

Out of the Cold Centre County

Provide the homeless in our community
with a warm, safe overnight accommodation.
Open during cold weather months. For ages
18 and up

1-800-494-2500

TRANSITIONAL Housing

Housing Transitions:

Bridge and Supportive Housing

units for one to two years for
homeless individuals leaving shelter

814-237-1944

Youth Service Bureau:

Independent Living Program

Provides a safe & stable living situation
in scattered apartments for
homeless youth, ages 16 – 21

814-234-2632

Centre County

Women's Resource Center

Bridge Housing Program for survivors of
domestic/sexual violence in need of
supportive services

814-234-5050

Community Residential Rehabilitation:

Community Services Group

A state-licensed program that provides
Psychiatric rehabilitation in a community
setting. **814-861-0617**

Strawberry Fields, Inc.

A cluster of town houses serving 11 individuals

814-234-6023

Bridge of Hope Centre County

For women and children to establish a living
environment, stability, & to work on goals

814-237-4673

PERMANENT Housing

Centre County Housing Authority:

Subsidized housing options, Housing
Choice Vouchers (S8). *FUP –Family
Unification Program* in collaboration with
Children & Youth Services

814-355-6750

Centre County Base Service Unit:

Shelter Plus Care -Coordination & case
management for MH/ID D&A individuals

814-355-6786

Strawberry Fields, Inc:

Fairweather Lodge

Residential program specifically for adults
with a mental health diagnosis

814-234-6023

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD – VASH)

Combines Housing Choice Vouchers with
case management and clinical services
provided by the Department of Veterans
Affairs for permanent housing

814-943-8164 ext. 7640

Housing Transitions:

Permanent Supportive Housing

Housing units for homeless individuals
who require mental health supportive services

814-237-4863

Updated Spring 2016

HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)

Department of Veterans Affairs

James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center

2907 Pleasant Valley Blvd.

Altoona, PA 16602-4377

814-943-8164 ext. 7640 – Homeless Programs

This program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics.

Housing Case Management

217 E. Nittany Ave., State College, PA 16801

814-237-1944; 8am – 4pm M-F

www.housingtransitions.com

Housing Case management is service for residents in Centre County seeking affordable, stable housing. Housing Case management provides support, resources, budgeting skills, and advocacy for those seeking affordable, stable housing. Housing Case management works with the homeless shelters, Housing Authority of Centre County, human service agencies, developers, landlords, county agencies, and faith based organizations all for the need to find housing.

Permanent Supportive Housing

217 E Nittany Ave., State college, PA 16801

237-4863; 8am-4pm M-F

www.housingtransitions.com

Housing Transitions operates six (6) permanent, supportive housing units for individuals who have become homeless and require mental health supportive services. These units are meant to provide permanent, long term housing and supportive case management after becoming homeless and entering Centre House Emergency Shelter.

HOMEOWNERSHIP

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County

1155 Zion Road Bellefonte, PA 16823

(814) 353-2390

www.habitatgcc.org/

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County (HFHGCC) partners with working families and volunteers to build affordable, quality homes and to provide services that promote successful homeownership. To date, HFHGCC has built, renovated or repaired 60 homes.

HFHGCC maintains affordability for our partner families by selling houses with no-interest mortgages, securing financial support from individuals, businesses, and faith groups, and building houses with homeowners and volunteers.

- Houses are sold through a no-profit, no-interest mortgage.
- Individuals, corporations, faith groups and others provide vital financial support.
- Homeowners and volunteers build the houses themselves, under trained supervision.

Centre County Housing and Land Trust

1150 Zion Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823

Phone: (814) 571-1179 Email: info@cchlt.org

The Centre County Housing and Land Trust (CCHLT) strengthens communities through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable homes for people of low-to-moderate income in Centre County, PA. Serving income-qualified homebuyers (60-120% of the area median income), CCHLT provides affordable housing opportunities by holding the land in trust, which allows prospective homeowners to apply for a mortgage based only on the cost of the house.

<http://www.cchlt.org>

Centre County Planning and Community Development Office

Program: The First-Time Home Buyer Program is offered by the Centre County Commissioners and Participating Banks

420 Holmes Street Bellefonte PA 16823

(814)355-6791 M-F; 8:30am – 5:00pm

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

The Centre County First Time Home Buyer Program offers closing costs and down payment assistance to qualified home buyers in the form of a zero-percent, deferred loan. Provided through the Centre County Housing Trust Fund, the maximum amount of assistance available to home buyers is \$10,000 or 10% of the purchase price, whichever is less. The loan will be made payable when the house is resold, refinanced for more than the original purchase price, ceases to be a full-time residence or when the mortgage has been paid in full. Each participating lender will provide the mortgage financing.

State College Community Land Trust

420 West College Avenue State College, PA 16801 Phone & Fax:

(814) 867-0656 Office Hours: M - F: 10am-2pm

<http://scclandtrust.org/>

The State College Community Land Trust (SCCLT) is a non-profit housing assistance organization. The SCCLT helps income-qualified individuals and families purchase a home in the Borough of State College. The SCCLT helps to reduce the cost of buying a home by "splitting" the ownership of the property between the SCCLT and the individual homeowner. The SCCLT holds the land permanently in trust, which allows the prospective homeowner to apply for a mortgage based only on the cost of the house. This effectively reduces the cost of purchasing your first home by as much as 30%.

State College Borough

Program: State College Borough First Time Home Buyer Program

243 South Allen Street State College, PA 16801

814-234-7109; M-F 8:00am – 5:00pm

<http://www.statecollegepa.us>

The State College Borough FTHB program offers mortgage and closing cost assistance to both moderate and lower income families in the State College Borough; this typically translates into a home at a monthly cost equal to or lower than your current rent.

Central PA Community Action, Inc. (CPCA)

Program: **Assets for Independence (AFI)**

207 East Cherry Street, PO Box 792 Clearfield, PA 16830

814-765-1551 or 1-800-822-2610; Mon.-Fri. 8:00am to 4:00pm

Central PA Community Action offers the Assets for Independence (AFI). This program is offered through a grant with Northwestern Savings Bank and a matching grant from the Office of Community Services through the Department of Health and Human Services. AFI is a dollar for dollar match savings program for income-eligible residents of Centre and Clearfield Counties. Savers must choose to save toward Homeownership or Continuing Education. AFI is designed to assist first time homebuyers and families with continuing education expenses. During the course of the program, savers must attend at least four basic economic literacy workshops arranged by CPCA staff with two of the workshops being specific to their goals. Accounts will be opened on a first come, first serve basis as funds are available for distribution.

Central PA Community Action, Inc. (CPCA)

207 East Cherry Street, PO Box 792 Clearfield, PA 16830

814-765-1551 or 1-800-822-2610; M-F 8am to 4pm

Program: **Weatherization**

The Weatherization Assistance Program aims to reduce the energy costs of low income individuals and families – primarily high energy users as well as the elderly and disabled – by making energy efficient improvements to the home. Funding for the program comes from the Federal Government through the Department of Energy, Office of Building Technology, State and

Community Programs and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant. *Due to severe funding limitations, no new names will be taken for state weatherization until the current list becomes more manageable.

Program: Weatherization WARM Services

WARM is a free weatherization and energy education program for Penelec's residential customers in Pennsylvania. The objective of the program is to help customers save energy and money by reducing their energy consumption. This is done by installing energy conservation measures in the home and by educating family members on their use of energy. Penelec partners with community-based organizations and energy conservation contractors who perform energy-saving home improvements and energy education for customers. There are household income requirements and other program qualifications that must be met to benefit from this service.

Program: LEAD Hazard Control Program

Central PA Community Action has joined the Northwest Regional Lead Hazard Control Grant in order to remove lead-based paint hazards from the homes of low-income families. Applicants must meet one of the following requirements: a child under the age of six living in the house or spending more than 60 hours per year in the home, a pregnant woman, or a woman 16-45 years of age. Income limits are set using the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County
1155 Zion Road Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814) 353-2390
www.habitatgcc.org/

HFHGCC also manages A Brush with Kindness, an exterior home preservation program that offers painting, landscaping and minor repair services to eligible homeowners so they can continue to live in safe, decent homes for years to come. Projects include painting, landscaping, weatherization and minor repairs.

- Habitat selects partner families based on income, need and willingness to partner.
- Habitat affiliates use volunteer labor and donated materials to keep costs low and take no profit for their services.
- A no-interest loan is made to the homeowner to cover the cost of the project. Payments are placed in a revolving fund to help A Brush with Kindness serve others in need.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Housing is often the first of many needs people may encounter during a difficult time. Food, utilities, medical care, legal services, etc. can often be needs that are addressed once a housing unit has been located. Or the housing is suffering because the other areas are the greater need. We acknowledge that other help may be needed for you to maintain your home. The resources listed below are a starting point for you to contact in hopes of finding resources to meet your needs.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Centre County Assistance Office (CAO)

2580 Park Center Blvd., State College, 16801

814- 863-6571; 1-800-355-6024; M-F 7:30am to 5pm

<http://www.state.pa.us>

www.compass.state.pa.us

Centre CAO determines eligibility for entitlement programs funded and administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Human

Services (DHS). An application, available at the office or mailed out upon request, must be filed. Eligibility is based on need as determined by income and resource guidelines. If eligible, benefits include cash assistance, medical assistance, food stamps, nursing home care, emergency shelter grants, special allowances monies for employment, medical transportation monies, and the energy assistance program. Centre CAO helps individuals seek, accept, and maintain employment. Applications also may be printed or, in some cases, filed on the Internet at

Centre County Children and Youth Services (CYS)

Willowbank Bldg., 420 Holmes St., Bellefonte, PA 16823
814- 355-6755; M-F 8:30am to 5:00pm; for emergencies when closed 1-800-479-0050

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

CYS identifies and resolves problems in the family when there is concern for the safety and well-being of a child. In cases of suspected abuse or neglect, CYS investigates and takes necessary steps to protect the child. A child may be placed outside the family if parents cannot or will not provide adequate care and there is no feasible alternative within the family.

Centre County Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention-Drug & Alcohol (MH/ID/EI-D&A)

Summit Park 3500 E College Ave, Suite 1200 State College, PA 16801

814-355-6786; M-F 8:30am-5:00pm

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

Centre County Mental Health (MH) identifies, evaluates, treats, and refers adults and children/adolescents with mental illness, behavioral health needs, or emotional disorders. Centre County Intellectual Disabilities and Early Intervention (ID & EI) identifies, evaluates, and refers infants, adults and children/adolescents with an intellectual, learning and/or developmental disorder. Centre County Drug and Alcohol provides identifies, evaluates, treats, and refers adults and children/adolescents with substance abuse disorders. The office also provides crisis intervention services. If you would like information, please call (814) 355-6786.

Centre County Office of Adult Services

Willowbank Bldg., 420 Holmes St., Bellefonte, PA 16823

814- 355-6768; M-F 8:30am to 5:00pm

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

The Centre County Office of Adult Services is an office of County Government. It is responsible for services to low-income adults, ages 18 through 59, including the disabled population and low-income families. The office works on behalf of individuals and families requiring assistance to meet their basic needs. Efforts are focused on improving their lives and protecting those at their highest vulnerability. The office strives to connect people to the available resources in our community. Services are provided throughout the county by a network of agencies that work together. Individual case management to homemaker services to food pantries, to basic needs assistance are all solutions to the needs of our residents in Centre County that we make every effort to meet.

Centre County Office of Aging

Willowbank Bldg., 420 Holmes St., Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6716 or 1-800-479-0050 (after hours); M-F 8:30am -5pm

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

The Office of Aging assists individuals age 60 or older to remain in the community or, if necessary, in a more protected environment. The Office of Aging is the designated agency to provide preadmission assessment for adults aged 18 and older who are seeking placement in a long-term care facility or who are seeking assistance through a Medicaid funded waiver. The agency provides protective services to older adults and may place an individual in a safer environment if a thorough investigation indicates need for protective services. The Office of Aging also provides health insurance counseling for persons with Medicare.

Centre County Veteran's Affairs

Willowbank Bldg. (Rm 333), 420 Holmes St., Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6812; M-F 8:30am – 5pm

<http://centrecountypa.gov/va>

The Centre County Veterans Affairs Office answers both specific and general questions by veterans, dependents, and the general public regarding matters related to veterans. In addition, this office discusses and submits applications for all related benefits to which veterans and their dependents may be entitled, such as: compensation and pension, hospitalization and out-patient care, education, home loans, insurance, special housing and automobile grants, and other benefits too numerous to mention that are provided by the VA or other federal, state, county, or local agencies or organizations.

This department also refers the County's veterans and dependents to other federal, state, county, or other agencies and organizations that might further assist them in solving their problems or answering their questions.

Centre County Office of Transportation

486 Old Curtin Rd., Milesburg PA 16853. Mailing address: 420

Holmes St., Bellefonte, PA 16823

814-355-6807; M-F 8:00am to 5:00pm

<http://centrecountypa.gov>

Provides door-to-door service to individuals of human service agencies, patrons who are Medical Assistance eligible, persons with disabilities, and the general public (for a fee) who are residents of Centre County. Reservations are required by 1:00pm at least one working day in advance (preferably as soon as possible). Persons needing accessible vehicles are encouraged to make reservations as soon as possible. This is a shared-ride service that primarily serves destinations in Centre County. Passengers (MA individuals) may be reimbursed for securing their own ride if the transportation office is unable to meet their needs, and out of county medical trips are available to these individuals through a third party. Also offers a home-delivered meal delivery to individuals who qualify.

CHARITABLE AGENCIES & SERVICES

Charitable agencies, which are directly accessible, provide services often needed by people seeking to provide basic needs. Each agency has unique community connections so may be able to offer unique information, ideas, and referrals.

Catholic Charities

213 East Bishop Street, Bellefonte PA 16823
814-353-0502; M-F 9:00am – 4:00pm Evening hours by
appointment only

Catholic Charities can provide emergency financial assistance for basic needs including shelter and utilities. They offer counseling services (individual, martial, family) and pregnancy support. Services are for Centre County residents. Catholic Charities serve all who seek help without regard to religious affiliation.

Central PA Community Action

Bellefonte: 109 West Bishop Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814) 355-7501; Mon.- Fri. 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Assist with utilities using Dollar Energy and FEMA. Other programs provided are the First Time Home Buyers, PA WorkReady and PA WorkWear.

Penns Valley: 337 East Aaron Square, Aaronsburg, PA 16820
(814) 349-5850; Mon.-Thur. 7:30 am-4:30 pm. Closed for lunch from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm. Assist with utilities using Dollar Energy and FEMA. This office has a thrift store and a foodbank.

Philipsburg: 14 South Front Street, Philipsburg, PA16866
(814) 342-0404; Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am-4:30 pm. Closed for lunch from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm. Assist with utilities PCAP, UGI, Dollar Energy and FEMA. This office also has a foodbank. They also serve Clearfield County for a variety of programs.

All offices can be reached directly or by calling 1-800-822-2610
www.cpcaa.net

Centre County CAN HELP

132 The Meadows Dr., Centre Hall, PA 16828

Toll free 1-800-643-5432; Available 24/7

CAN HELP, a Crisis Intervention service provided by The Meadows Psychiatric Center/Universal Community Behavioral Health in collaboration with Centre County MH/ID/EI/D&A provides mental health crisis intervention, supportive counseling, referrals to other agencies, and mental health and drug & alcohol education. Services are accessible by telephone, walk-in assessment, or mobile crisis intervention in the community. Can Help Counselors are also available to offer brief grief support and crisis debriefings.

Centre Volunteers in Medicine (CVIM)

2520 Green Tech Drive, Ste. D, State College, PA 16803

814-231-4043; M-F 8:30am - 4:30pm by appointment

<http://www.cvim.net/>

CVIM is a nonprofit corporation whose primary mission is to serve the health and wellness needs of neighbors without insurance who live in Centre County. CVIM provides free primary and preventive medical and dental care to uninsured residents of Centre County. In addition, the organization may provide referrals to specialists and other social services. People who utilize services are treated with respect and dignity from the moment they enter the door to the end of their visit. Individuals may call to schedule an appointment to find out whether they qualify for services.

Veterans Multi-Service Center

233 Easterly Parkway, State College, PA 16801

Toll Free: 844-226-0368 | Fax: 814-862-9131

Office Hours: M – F 8:30am – 4:30pm

<http://www.vmccenter.org/index.php/services/ssvf-central-pa>

The Veterans Multi-Service Center, through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, provides comprehensive assistance to very low income Veterans and their families who are currently experiencing homelessness or are at risk

of becoming homeless. With the SSVF program, Veterans who have a discharge that is other than dishonorable, and have at least one day of active duty service time, are able to access a seamless, integrated and sustainable network of resources to include case management, outreach, housing counseling, employment/financial services, legal referrals and time-limited, temporary financial assistance. SSVF can also help Veterans access VA and local resources with the ultimate goal of supporting their permanent housing needs.

Community Help Centre

410 South Fraser Street, State College, PA 16801

Crisis calls and assistance 24/7: Crisis line 814-237-5855 or toll free 1-800-494-2500; Walk-in hours M-F 9am to 6pm

<http://www.communityhelpcentre.com/>

CHC provides information and referral services for anyone who isn't sure where to turn for help. The Community Help provides trained staff for emotional support and short-term crisis intervention counseling is offered 24/7, every day of the year. CHC also provides Basic Needs Case Management for those in need of assistance with rent, utility, medical needs, and meeting other basic needs. Other emergency services include: food bags when food banks and pantries are closed and referrals for emergency shelter. Drop-in hours are M - F from 9:00am - 6:00pm.

Interfaith Human Services (IHS)

2100C East College Ave., State College, PA 16801

814-234-7731; Office Hours: M-F 9am-4pm

<http://www.ihs-centrecounty.org/>

Interfaith Human Services, Inc. (IHS), a registered non-profit organization in Centre County, Pennsylvania, is a long-standing collaborative effort of faith communities whose purpose is to address many unmet social and economic needs for low-income residents. IHS offers several financial care services, including: money management, third party payee services, and budgeting classes. IHS also provides emergency assistance on behalf of

clients, coordinates the Rental Assistance Program, collects and distributes free furniture & appliances, and manages seasonal heating assistance through the Centre County Fuel Bank.

MidPenn Legal Services

3500 East College Avenue, Suite 1295, State College, PA 16801
1-800-326-9177; M-F 8:30am - 4:30pm
<http://midpennlegal.org/>

MidPenn provides free legal information, advice and/or representation in civil cases to income eligible residents of Centre County. The type of cases handled *may* include, but are not limited to: public benefits, domestic violence, eviction, mortgage foreclosure, custody, debt collection, employment, unemployment compensation, Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability.

The Salvation Army State College Corps-Serving all of Centre County

2603 East College Ave, Suite G
State College, PA 16801
814-861-1785; M-F 9am-5pm
www.salvationarmystatecollege.org

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet needs in His name without discrimination.

Families and individuals in emergency/crisis situations are provided with basic human services, such as housing, heat and utility assistance, as well as food bank referrals. The Corps/church is a local agent for applications to low income programs for

Columbia Gas, West Penn Power, and Dollar Energy Fund. These programs enable residents to be more self-sufficient.

The Salvation Army also provides Sunday morning church services, Children's Troops program, Bible study, free music lessons to children, women and men's ministry, children's camping program, and Senior Citizen Getaway – Salvation Army Camp Ladore.

The Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA)

2081 W. Whitehall Road, State College, PA 16801

Customer Service Center: 108 E. Beaver Avenue, State College, PA 16801

814-238-CATA(2282)

www.catabus.com

CATABUS

CATA provides fixed-route community transportation through its **CATABUS** bus system. The 23 routes that comprise the system connect all of the Authority's participating municipalities with Downtown State College and the Penn State Campus, and are complemented by fare-free Downtown/Campus circulator LOOP and cross-Campus LINK services. The current cost per one-way trip is \$1.75 and a Half-Fare program is available to those who qualify. Persons age 65 and over with a Transit Identification Card and children less than 40 inches tall ride free. Schedule, route and pass information is available at www.catabus.com or by calling CATA's Customer Service Center.

CATARIDE

CATA provides curb-to-curb transportation, primarily for persons age 65 and over and persons whose disabilities prevent their use of the **CATABUS** system with its **CATARIDE** service. An application and certification are required for participation at reduced fare. Applications and scheduling and fare information are available at www.catabus.com or by calling CATA's office.

CATACOMMUTE

CATACOMMUTE is comprised of a family of transportation services that includes the Rideshare, Vanpool and Emergency Ride Home programs, and other services designed to provide long-distance commuters with easy and economical commute alternatives. Information on these services is available at www.catabus.com or by contacting CATA's Commuter Services Manager at (814) 238-CATA(2282) ext. 5134.

LOCAL COMMUNITY EFFORTS

Centre County Affordable Housing Coalition

(PO Box 499, Lemont, PA 16851)

Email: ccaffordablehousingcoalition@gmail.com

www.ccaffordablehousingcoalition.org

The Centre County Affordable Housing Coalition is a diversified group whose mission is to inform the community of the value, need, and availability of affordable housing for all residents. The vision of the Centre County Affordable Housing Coalition is to be a collective and coordinated voice providing leadership, education and information on affordable housing resources, and to promote housing opportunities within our local communities. If you are interested in more information, please contact the Coalition.

Meeting Information: The Affordable Housing Coalition meets the third Wednesday of each month at the Calvary Baptist Church in Boalsburg. Meetings last approximately 90 minutes.

Meeting Time: Third Wednesday of month, 2:30pm

Meeting Location: Calvary Baptist Church, 201 Harvest Fields Drive, Boalsburg, PA 16827

Centre County Council for Human Services, Inc.

The Centre County Council for Human Services is a collaboration of human service agencies, businesses, faith based organizations, policy makers, foundations and interested individuals working to create an integrated and efficient approach to solving the issues

facing the community. In addition to hosting monthly meetings and yearly trainings, the Council publishes the *Centre County Directory of Human Services*, a handbook of the services available from member organizations, and a monthly informational newsletter, the *Centre Exchange* which are available online at www.theccchs.org

Meeting Time: First Wednesday of month, 12:00pm, excluding July and August

Meeting Location: Calvary Baptist Church, 201 Harvest Fields Drive, Boalsburg, PA 16827

Community Safety Net of Centre County

The Community Safety Net (CSN) is a group of human service organizations that provides basic needs to Centre County residents, through a collaboration of services and a common desire to effectively respond to the urgent needs of the community.

Meeting Emergency Needs in Centre County in the following areas: Housing Assistance; Safety & Shelter; Supplemental Food; Metered Utility Assistance; Job Readiness; Life Skills Education; Heating & Weatherization Assistance.

We hope that you have found this booklet to be helpful. If your organization would like to be included in the next edition, please contact 814-355-6768.

We welcome new participants!

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS IN CENTRE COUNTY

CRISIS SERVICES (24 hours/7 days, unless noted)

Police Services	911
CAN HELP	1-800-643-5432
MNMC Hospital, ER.	814-234-6110
Community Help Centre	1-800-494-2500
Women’s Resource Center	814-234-5050
MH/ID/EI (M-F 8:30am to 5pm)	814-355-6786

AGENCIES

Catholic Charities.	814-353-0502
Central PA Community Action	1-800-822-2610
Centre County Assistance Office (CAO).	814-863-6571
Centre County Children and Youth Services	814-355-6755
Centre County Office of Adult Services	814-355-6768
Centre County Office of Aging	814-355-6716
Centre County Veteran’s Affairs.	814-355-6812
Centre County Office of Transportation	814-355-6807
Centre County Youth Service Bureau.	814-234-2100
Centre Volunteers in Medicine	814-231-4043
Housing Transitions.	814-237-5508
Interfaith Human Services	814-234-7731
MidPenn Legal Services.	1-800-326-9177
Salvation Army	814-861-1785

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Michael Pipe, Chair
Mark Higgins
Steven G. Dershem

Prepared by representatives of the Centre County Office of Adult
Services

420 Holmes Street, Room 351
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Adult Services: 814 355-6768
www.centrecountypa.gov

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