Community Resources during COVID-19

Access to internet

The Federal Communications Commission is seeking to increase access to free or discounted internet/ data during the COVID-19 period. The FCC's "Keep America Connected initiative pledges to suspend common penalties and expand internet access across the U.S.

Several internet and telecom service providers are committed to offering free access to the internet (via WiFi hotspot), discounted internet service and/or increased data allowances to ensure people can get online during this unprecedented time. To learn more, review offerings from the service providers below.

- AT&T <u>https://about.att.com/pages/COVID-19.html</u>
- Spectrum / Charter <u>https://www.spectrum.com/</u>
- T-Mobile <u>https://www.t-mobile.com/business/customers/ongoing-updates-co</u><u>vid-19</u>
- Verizon <u>https://www.verizonwireless.com/</u>
- Xfinity <u>https://www.xfinity.com/prepare</u>

If you have concerns about your housing or food security:

- You may be eligible for SNAP benefits you can find more information about eligibility and the application process here or by calling 877-82-363.
- Project Bread is running the MA Food Assistance Hotline and can be reached toll free at 1-800-645-8333. They will provide you with local resources and can assist with SNAP applications over the phone.
- Mass 2-1-1 dial 211 from any landline or cell phone and you will be connected with the United Way who will provide you with local social service programs, organizations, and resources.
- For more information about how to access the United Way see: <u>https://www.unitedway.org/recovery/covid19/luw-responses</u>
 - Also, please note that HAWC is helping to distribute United Way resources. <u>https://hawcdv.org/</u>

For assistance with health care resources and health insurance assistance:

• Health Care for All has compiled resources to help families in Massachusetts during the COVID outbreak. They also have information in many languages. See https://www.hcfama.org/