

Polish American Social Services "PASS"

State of Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

Real Estate Taxes/Rent Rebate Program for year 2005 is now being administered. New applications are available. Get back as much as \$500 on last year's real estate taxes or rent and put it towards this year's taxes or rent. Income limit is \$15,000 annually to qualify. It is important to know that only half of your Social Security or SSI counts toward the income guideline.



Four different age categories are eligible.

- 1) 65 years or older
- 2) living with a spouse who is 65 years old or older
- 3) a widow or widower between the ages of 50 to 64
- 4) 100% permanently disabled individual between the ages of 18 and 64

For more information contact:

Polish American Social Services "PASS"
(215) 923-1900 • PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

Polish American Social Services United Social Services Outreach Program

Main Office:

308 Walnut Street • Philadelphia, PA 19106
Open Monday to Friday • 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Telephone: (215) 923-1900
Outreach Services in and around the Philadelphia area

If you, a family member, or friend has a question concerning social services, call PASS and discuss your needs with a representative. All calls are CONFIDENTIAL, and PASS will either give you the information you need, handle your service directly, or refer you to the proper agency that can assist you.

Clients wishing to visit the main office at 308 Walnut Street, or one of the outreach sites, are asked to call in advance so that a Social Service Representative can tell you what documentation you will need to bring with you to process your request.

You can view an outline of several programs on the PASS Internet site, which are available to senior citizens and individuals of all ages. PolishAmericanSocialServices.com.

For additional information, call PASS, Monday through Friday, between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. at (215) 923-1900.

Still looking for a great prescription drug plan? Did you consider PACE or PACENET?



To qualify for the Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly program, seniors must be 65 years of age or older. For single seniors, last year's income must be \$14,500 or less and \$17,700 for a married couple.

Copays for meds are only \$6.00 for generic drugs and \$9.00 for brand name drugs. For PACENET, another tier of the PACE program, single seniors income must be \$23,500 or less and for married couples, \$31,500 or less. Copays are \$8.00 for generic drugs and \$15.00 for brand name drugs. With PACENET there is a \$40 per month deductible. For more information and assistance with an application, please call Polish American Social Services at (215) 923-1900.

Polish American Social Services "PASS" "Aging Well at Home" Outreach

Among PASS's many services for older people is their **Aging Well at Home Outreach** which helps clients understand and access programs and services available to older Pennsylvanians. This service helps clients sustain in-home self-sufficiency amid the rising cost of living.

PASS continues to expand this program and provides information in both the English and Polish language.

For information about the **Aging Well at Home Outreach** program for senior citizens you can call PASS, Monday - Friday, between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M., at (215) 923-1900.

Employment

People seeking employment often contact PASS. The staff will be pleased to alert you of **Job Openings** that have been reported.

If your place of employment is about to or has posted a position, kindly let "PASS" know about that opening. Call Monday through Friday between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. (215) 923-1900, or send the job opening information to:

Attn: Employment Information
Polish American Social Services
308 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Kindly include qualifications needed, starting salary and where to go for an application and interview.

Water Bill Assistance

PASS reminds senior citizens living in the city of Philadelphia that they can apply for the 25% water and sewer discount program.

To qualify, you or your spouse must be:

- * 65 years of age or older
- * have an annual household income of less than \$26,700, (approximately \$2,225 per month.)



Those who qualify will receive a 25% discount on every monthly water bill. There are many people still eligible who have not applied.

For more information or an application contact Polish American Social Services "PASS", Monday through Friday between 9 A.M. and 4 P.M. at (215) 923-1900.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA REAL ESTATE CONDITIONAL TAX FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

DEADLINE MAY 1, 2006

According to the City of Philadelphia, there are approximately 20,000 homes in Philadelphia that have not paid one or several years of real estate taxes since 1997. Because real estate taxes have steep interest and penalties added for unpaid bills, many people who fall behind on their tax bills quickly become overwhelmed and feel there is nothing they can do to catch up.

The City of Philadelphia announced a new program called the Conditional Tax Forgiveness Program which basically asks the homeowner to pay the back taxes owed without the high interest and penalties added. Furthermore, the homeowner can spread these payment out over a four year period. There may be some attorney fees and other costs involved, but it is no where near the cost of the interest and penalties that made repayment almost impossible. To be eligible for this forgiveness program, the household has to be at or below 250% of the Federal Income Poverty Guideline. This means that a family of four persons can have an income of \$48,375 and still qualify for this program.

This is a great opportunity for many people to catch up on their back real estate taxes. The deadline to file for this program is May 1, 2006 so there is not much time left. For more information, please call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

In Memory of

Casimir Stanislaus Bernas (1914-1963)
&
Matilda Mary Koma Bernas (1914-2001)

Offered by

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