

Polish American Social Services "PASS"

PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

Polish American Social Services "PASS" 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 have 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 available to senior citizens and individuals of all ages on the PASS Internet site at PolishAmericanSocialServices.com.

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

Programs & Benefits Check Up!

www.BenefitsCheckUp.com

For those who have access to a computer and the Internet, this web site has been created by the National Council on the Aging to allow seniors and their family and friends to learn about benefits available to them. After using this site, if you have further questions or need assistance, call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

Employment

Polish American Social Services is continuing its employment outreach program to Pennsylvania residents. For assistance in resume preparation or a job search, contact PASS at 215-923-1900 to schedule an appointment.

If your current place of employment has a job opening, contact PASS and provide a detailed job description and contact information.

Check out PASS's Employment Information link at PolishAmericanSocialServices.com.

Immigration News

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has announced that the test for naturalization was redesigned and the new test will be used for all applications received after October 1, 2008. For more information go to USCIS's website at www.uscis.gov or call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

Medical Services / Insurance

Philadelphia Health Centers - There are nine health centers located throughout Philadelphia. Services are free to Philadelphia residents. For a list of centers with hours of operation call PASS at 215-923-1900.

Health Link Medical Center in Upper Southampton will provide free medical and dental services for working individuals living in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. Income guidelines apply. Patients are seen **by appointment only. Call Health Link directly at (215) 364-4247.**

CHIP and Cover All Kids
The Children's Health Insurance Program and its now expanded guidelines under Cover all Kids, allows children and teens affordable comprehensive health care coverage. No family makes too much money to participate in this coverage. For more information call PASS (215) 923-1900.



Adult Basic and **Special Care** are special medical insurance programs for people who do not have medical insurance. The programs are offered in Philadelphia and surrounding counties. For more information call the Caring Foundation at 1-800-464-5437 or www.caringfoundation.com or PASS at (215) 923-1900.

In recognition of a contribution from the

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For Polish American Social Services programs

Medicare

For many seniors paying the \$96.40 Part B premium for Medicare can be difficult. There is a program called SLMB or QMB that could help with these costs. Seniors must meet certain income and asset limits. For more information call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

Open enrollment - November 15, 2008 till December 31, 2008. Seniors and those disabled individuals with Medicare, that would like to make changes in their medical or prescription drug plans for 2009, can make changes during "open enrollment." For more information and assistance in this procedure call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

Medications and Prescription Plans

PACE PLUS is a new name being used for the PACE / PACENET PROGRAMS, The Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly. The new name reflects how this program works with Medicare Part D. It can provide better coverage for those that have both PACE/NET and Medicare D. This program has two qualifying income categories that helps pay for prescription drugs. Seniors, age 65 or older with incomes as follows: for PACE, a single person \$14,500; a couple \$17,700. For PACENET, a single person between \$14,500 and \$23,500 or a couple between \$17,700 and \$31,500. For more info and to get an application call PASS (215) 923-1900.



The Pennsylvania Patient Assistance Program Clearinghouse

This program works with Pharma (Pharmaceutical Manufacturers) to get prescription drugs for those unable to pay. Income guidelines approximate \$20,000 for a single person, \$25,000 for a married couple and \$30,000 for an adult and two or more dependents. Call 1-800-955-0989.

Rent and Real Estate Tax Rebate

The Real Estate Tax/Rent Rebate Program for year 2007 is now being administered in 2008. The program has been extended till December 31, 2008. New applications are available. Homeowners can get back as much as \$650 on last year's real estate taxes while renters can get back up to \$500. The income limit is \$35,000 annually for homeowners and \$15,000 for renters to qualify. It is important to know that only half of your Social Security or SSI counts toward the income guideline. Age requirements are 65 or older, living with a spouse that is 65 or older, widow or widower between the ages of 50 to 64 or permanently disabled between the ages of 18 and 64. For more information call PASS at (215) 923-1900.



TV Going Digital

All television broadcasts are going "digital" on February 17, 2009. For those individuals that use "rabbit ear" antennas or antenna on the roof, they will need a converter box to watch TV. The last day to get coupons for converter boxes is December 31, 2008. For more information call 1-888-DTV-2009, go to www.DTV2009.gov or call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

Utility Assistance

There are several programs available to help seniors with the costs of utilities. Check out the following programs:

Philadelphia Water Revenue Bureau offers a 25% discount on each water bill for those 65 and older. Maximum income is \$29,800.



As in previous years, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), also known as the Fuel Grant Program, began on November 3, 2008 and is scheduled to end on March 31, 2009.

For those who are not familiar with the program, there is no age restriction to apply. The household income must be within the following guidelines:

Number in Household	Approximate Monthly Income	Annual Income
1	\$1,925	\$23,110
2	\$2,518	\$30,221
3	\$3,111	\$37,332
4	\$3,703	\$44,443

For an application or more info call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

Visit PASS at: PolishAmericanSocialServices.com