

# Polish American Social Services "PASS"

## 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](http://PolishAmericanSocialServices.com).

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

## LIHEAP Fuel Rebate Program Now Open!



As in previous years, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), also known as the Fuel Rebate Program, will continue through March 21, 2008. Those who have applied in previous years should be receiving applications in the mail.

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	\$1,276	\$15,315
2	\$1,711	\$20,535
3	\$2,146	\$25,755
4	\$2,581	\$30,975
For each additional person add:	\$435	\$5,220

For more information on filing requirements or to get an application call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

## United Way and Combined Federal Campaigns

Thanks to all PASS supporters who have contributed through United Way or other Combined Campaigns.

Contributions provide vital support for PASS services in the greater Philadelphia area.

Sometimes listed as "United Polish American Social Services," the agency's local campaign numbers are:

United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania: 1869

City of Philadelphia Campaign: 11-01869

Combine Federal Campaign: 32788

Contributions can also be made directly through the agency by making payment to Polish American Social Services. Mail donations to: 308 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

For further information about the agency or making a contribution, call PASS at (215) 923-1900, or email [staff@polishamericansocialservices.com](mailto:staff@polishamericansocialservices.com)

## Medicare Update

Over the last few months there was a lot of advertising and hype over Medicare and especially Medicare Part D or the prescription drug part of Medicare. From November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2007, Medicare recipients or those entitled to Medicare were allowed to choose a new medical insurance plan or make changes to their existing plan. This enrollment period is now closed and different rules for making changes to Medicare insurances now apply. For more information, referral or assistance with Medicare issues, call PASS at (215) 923-1900.

In recognition of a contribution from

## The Wachovia Foundation

For Polish American Social Services programs

For more information about PASS Services  
Visit: [PolishAmericanSocialServices.com](http://PolishAmericanSocialServices.com)

## 2007 State of Pennsylvania Property Tax Rent Rebate Program

When will applications for the 2007 Property Tax Rent Rebate Program be available?

Applications will be mailed by the program to those who applied in previous years beginning in February. Applications should also be available to the general public in mid-February.



If it's 2008, why is the program called the 2007 Property Tax Rent Rebate Program?

This rebate program is a "look back" program. This means that to calculate a rebate, the program must look back at property taxes or rent the household paid out during 2007. Also to calculate the rebate, the program must look back at the income received during 2007 to calculate the amount of the rebate.

Who is eligible for a rebate?

There are many different individuals that may qualify for a rebate. They must fall into one of the categories below and meet certain income guidelines.

- A person or their spouse that is 65 years of age or older, or
- Widows or widowers 50 years of age or older, or
- Permanently DISABLED individuals 18 years of age or older.

What are the income guidelines and how much of a rebate is expected?

For Homeowners :		Income Range	Rebate Amount
\$ 0	-	\$8,000	\$650
\$8,001	-	\$15,000	\$500
\$15,001	-	\$18,000	\$300
\$18,001	-	\$35,000	\$250
For Renters:		Income Range	Rebate Amount
\$ 0	-	\$8,000	\$650
\$8,001	-	\$15,000	\$500

IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU DO NOT COUNT ONE- HALF OF SOCIAL SECURITY, SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME AND RAILROAD RETIREMENT TIER 1 BENEFITS WHEN CALCULATING ELIGIBILITY INCOME.

For example, if your gross Social Security income for 2006 was \$20,000, the Property Tax Rent Rebate Program would count only \$10,000 toward eligibility requirements. All other income such as salary, IRA payouts, pensions, dividends or interest is counted at 100%.

Do I ever have to repay this rebate or will a lien be placed on the property?

No. Absolutely NOT! No Lien is placed on the property nor does the rebate have to be repaid. Furthermore the rebate is not considered as income for any other program.

Who do I call if I have questions or how can I get an application?

For more information, to get an application or to get help completing the application call Polish American Social Services at (215) 923-1900.

## For the 2007 Income Tax Season Consider the EARNED INCOME CREDIT and the CHILD TAX CREDIT

Working people who earn low or moderate incomes (Approximately \$38,000) are urged to look into the **Earned Income Tax Credit (EIC)** and the **Child Tax Credit (CTC)** this tax season. In some instances these tax credits can be refunded to individuals even if they owe no income tax.

Take a moment to talk to your tax preparer about these credits and if you do not have the means to hire a preparer, there are places that will prepare your tax return free of charge.

It is important to note that **EIC and CTC refunds DO NOT count as income** when you apply for or renew benefits like food stamps, SSI, Medicaid, cash assistance and others.

To get more information about these tax credits, call **Polish American Social Services** at (215) 923-1900 and a free information packet will be sent to you.



"PASS" works closely with the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging to provide information and assistance to the elderly. For information regarding services available in Philadelphia and Southeastern Pennsylvania, call PCA's helpline number at (215) 765-9040 or PASS (215) 923-1900.

[www.PCACares.org](http://www.PCACares.org)