

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.

Property Tax Rent Rebate Program Extended to December 31, 2011!

For seniors, widows and widowers, or disabled persons whose annual income is below \$15,000 for renters, and \$35,000 for homeowners, it's not too late to get a rebate on the real estate taxes or rent that you paid in 2010.



REMEMBER THAT ONLY HALF OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY OR SSI INCOME IS COUNTED FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PROGRAM!

Don't wait until the end of the year to apply. To find out if you qualify for this program, or if you need help in filling out the application or would like an application, please call PASS at (215) 923-1900. **You can get back as much as \$650.**

Look Out For LIHEAP Fuel Rebate Program About to Begin



As in previous years, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), also known as the Fuel Rebate Program, begins on **November 1, 2011** and is scheduled to end on **March 30, 2012**. 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	\$1,361	\$16,335
2	\$1,839	\$22,065
3	\$2,316	\$27,795
4	\$2,794	\$33,525
5	\$3,271	\$39,255
6.	\$3,749	\$44,985

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

Special Greetings from
Richard L. Krzyzanowski, Esq.
Krzyzanowski Foundation

In recognition of a contribution from
The Michael J. Kosloski Foundation
In loving Memory of Leo Kosloski
For Polish American Social Services programs



"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

Social Security and Medicare Updates Annual Enrollment Period

Medicare Updates

1) This year, between **October 15, 2011 and December 7, 2011**, Medicare beneficiaries can make changes to their medical and/or prescription drug plans for 2012. To get ready for this enrollment period, throughout the month of September, 2011, Medicare plans, both medical and prescription, will be publishing their prices and policies. Medicare beneficiaries should seek out the help of trusted family members and friends, or community groups to determine if their current plan will be offered next year, what changes to expect in the plan, and if it is still the best plan based on their needs.

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

2) For those needing help with Part D Prescription Drug Benefits, there is a program called "Extra Help". The 2011 income and resource limits are:

- Income: \$1,361.25** per month for an individual;
\$1,838.75/mo. for a couple
- Resources: \$12,640** individual ; \$25,260 couple

Social Security Updates

1) According to AARP and US News, Social Security Recipients will receive a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in their Social Security checks for 2012. There was no COLA in 2010 and 2011. The problem however, appears that any increase in the Social Security check will be off-set by an increase in Medicare premiums.

2) Effective August 15, 2011, Social Security field offices nationwide will close to the public 30 minutes early each day. For example, a field office that is usually open to the public, Monday through Friday, from 9:00AM to 4:00 PM, will close daily at 3:30PM. These reduced hours are caused due to Congressional budget cuts.

3) Anyone receiving Social Security, SSI, Veterans, Railroad or Black Lung benefits in the form of a paper check, which is sent to the home, will have to make arrangements to have their benefit received electronically by March 1, 2013. Although this seems like a long time away, recipients are encouraged to make changes now so benefits can be sent using the new system. Recipients will have three options of having the benefit sent. One way is to have the benefit sent to a savings or checking account at a local bank or if the recipient does not have a bank account, they can get an Electronic Transfer Account or ETA from a participating federally insured bank, savings and loan or credit union. Another way is to have a debit card called, Direct Express. To learn more about this process, check out the web site www.GoDirect.org or call 1-800-333-1795. You can also call Polish American Social Services at 215-923-1900.

PACE UPDATE

Because Social Security benefits may increase this year, the PACE and PACENET Program has announced that older Pennsylvanians receiving help with the costs of prescription drugs through the program will not lose coverage. A moratorium on COLA increases affecting PACE and PACENET income guidelines has been extended until December 31, 2013.

Attention Employers!

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

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

In recognition of a contribution from the
Barra Foundation
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