

Help paying your utility bills and rent or mortgage is available.

If you qualify*, one month of your utility bills and rent or mortgage may be paid by the federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program. Chester County residents who have become unemployed or had their work hours cut since October 2008 are especially encouraged to apply.

To find out if you qualify for assistance, please contact the agency nearest you:

Catholic Social Services: 610-344-7028 (Coatesville/Downingtown area)

Community, Youth and Women's Alliance: 610-384-9591 (Coatesville area)

Kennett Area Community Service: 610-925-3556 (Kennett Square area)

Oxford Area Neighborhood Services Center: 610-932-8557 (Oxford area)

Phoenixville Area Community Services: 610-933-1105 (Phoenixville area)

Open Hearth, Inc.: 610-792-2982 (Spring City/Pottstown area)

Salvation Army: 610-696-8746 (West Chester area)

Salvation Army Service Extension: 610-383-0868 (Other Areas in Chester County)



*Chester County residents only. To qualify, utilities, rent or mortgage payment must be in arrears or due within 5 days; all other resources must be used up; you must live in the residence and be responsible for paying for the utilities, rent or mortgage; assistance must guarantee 30 more days of utility service or continued stay in the residence. Utilities include electricity, oil, gas, coal, firewood, sewer and water. The maximum amount of each assistance payment is one month's utility usage, one minimum delivery of oil/coal/firewood, one month's rent or one mortgage payment. Effective until December 31, 2009.