

# Help for Hard Times



*United Way's 2-1-1 has compiled this guide to help people in **Portage County** who are unemployed or struggling financially.*

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## ***Can an individual get services or funds from United Way?***

United Way refers people in need to organizations in the community that have the expertise to best meet those needs. These organizations determine eligibility and the amount of aid given, usually based on government guidelines or established policies. These guidelines exist to prevent people from taking advantage of the system and still serve as many people as possible. United Way works to bring people and resources together to improve lives in Portage County. We are committed to helping to establish a safety net to meet the needs of our community.

### **CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE**

#### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHILD CARE**

Portage County Health & Human Services  
888-445-1621 (Income Maintenance Call Center)  
715-345-5350 (Health & Human Services)  
Screening and Application also online at:  
<https://access.wisconsin.gov/>  
Child care assistance for income eligible families that are in work or work-related activities.

#### **REFERRALS TO CHILD CARE**

ChildCaring  
715-423-4114  
800-628-8534 (toll free)  
[www.childcaring.org](http://www.childcaring.org)  
Provides a list of regulated child care programs based on criteria selected by client, such as hours of operation, staff qualifications, facility type, and ages served.

### **ECONOMIC SUPPORT/ PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

Emergency Services  
715-344-7438  
Handles requests for emergency assistance and coordinates available resources to meet basic emergency needs such as food, shelter, and transportation.

Forward Service Corporation  
715-544-1562  
Emergency Assistance may be available when families with minor children in the household experience financial crisis beyond the caregiver's control, and an emergency of homelessness, impending homelessness, energy crisis, fire, flood or natural disaster.

Portage County Economic Support Program  
888-445-1621 (Income Maintenance Call Center)  
Screening and Application also online at:  
<https://access.wisconsin.gov/>

Public assistance programs available include **BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, Child Care Assistance, and FoodShare** (formerly Food Stamps) for eligible low-income families.

### **EDUCATION**

#### **COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

Mid-State Technical College  
715-344-3063  
[www.mstc.edu](http://www.mstc.edu)

U.W. – Stevens Point  
715-346-2441  
[www.uwsp.edu](http://www.uwsp.edu)

#### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Mid-State Technical College Continuing Education  
715-344-3063  
[www.mstc.edu](http://www.mstc.edu)  
MSTC has courses, certificates, and degree programs that teach new skills essential for getting ahead or learning a whole new career. Call or log on for complete course information.

U.W. – Stevens Point Continuing Education  
715-346-3838  
[www.uwsp.edu/conted](http://www.uwsp.edu/conted)  
UWSP Continuing Education provides credit classes, certificate programs, degree completion programs, non-credit workshops and seminars. Call or log on for complete course information.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY**

LINK  
715-342-3129  
[www.mstc.edu/student-resources/link](http://www.mstc.edu/student-resources/link)  
Provides tuition-free assistance with study skills, math, English, reading, science, career education, ESL, and GED/HSED preparation.

### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### **EMPLOYMENT TRAINING, PLACEMENT & SEARCH**

Services available at the Wisconsin Rapids Job Center:

- Dislocated Worker Office  
715-422-5000  
<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dislocatedworker>  
Counsels workers affected by closing or permanent layoffs.

- **Employment & Training TRA Act Program**  
715-422-5000  
Employment and training assistance for people eligible for Trade Readjustment/Trade Assistance due to foreign competition.
- **Job Service**  
715-422-5000  
Or find jobs on-line at:  
<https://JobCenterofWisconsin.com>  
Help job seekers find employment, identify and market their vocational skills, abilities and interests, and access appropriate educational and training programs as necessary. Offers computer access to allow job seekers to use the Internet in their job search, and printers to do résumés, cover letters, etc.
- **Veterans' Services**  
715-422-5000  
Job placement assistance and case management for at-risk veterans.
- **Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)**  
715-422-5000  
Provides a variety of services designed to help people with disabilities by providing individualized services that include vocational guidance and counseling, and assistive technology.
- **Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act - WIOA**  
715-544-1562  
Funds job-related programming for those who are training or re-training for employment. May also help pay for tuition, fees, books and supplies for qualifying students.

**FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET)**  
888-445-1621 (For Referral)  
715-345-5925 (Case Manager)  
FoodShare participants may receive job search assistance through the FoodShare Employment & Training Program, which is an employment program attached to the FoodShare Program. Services may include resume development, career exploration, and unpaid work experience. Gas money, bus fare, child care expenses for work search related activities may also be available, as well as help with work related expenses.

**Wisconsin Works (W-2) Program**  
715-544-1562  
W-2 is Wisconsin's Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) program, which provides employment services and training to help eligible residents get and keep employment.

## **STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS**

**Cap Services Business Development**  
715-343-7141  
[www.capservices.org](http://www.capservices.org)  
Provides business financial planning, revolving loan funds, lease/purchase program for a new facility, and business incubators for new, small, or expanding businesses.

**Central Wisconsin SCORE**  
715-384-3454  
[www.centralwisconsinscore.org](http://www.centralwisconsinscore.org) (Marshfield)  
Working and retired executives and business owners donate their time and expertise to help current business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs, through both online and face-to-face counseling, advice, and mentoring.

**Portage County Business Council**  
715-344-1940  
[www.portagecountybiz.com](http://www.portagecountybiz.com)  
Offers services to Portage County residents including business development assistance, site selection assistance, and leadership training.

**Small Business Administration**  
800-827-5722 – National  
414-297-3941 – Milwaukee  
[www.sba.gov/wi](http://www.sba.gov/wi)  
Assists, counsels, and protects the interests of small businesses, including offering loans.

**U.W.-Stevens Point Small Business Development Center**  
715-346-3838  
[www.uwsp.edu/conted/sbdc](http://www.uwsp.edu/conted/sbdc)  
Offers management education and counseling for anyone interested in learning to start or operate a small business.

## **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**

**Unemployment Insurance**  
414-435-7069 (Claims Specialist)  
[www.dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben/](http://www.dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben/)  
Provides payments based on work in Wisconsin to eligible workers who are temporarily unemployed.

## FINANCIAL COUNSELING/BUDGETING

### Family Living Program

715-346-1321

[www.portage.uwex.edu](http://www.portage.uwex.edu)

Offers free instruction for family members to learn how to manage family finances, through U.W. – Extension.

### Financial Wellness Program of Portage County

715-346-1321

[www.portage.uwex.edu](http://www.portage.uwex.edu)

Volunteer counselors help determine family income/expenses, develop a spending plan, and address credit use and debt problems, through U.W. – Extension.

### Greenpath Financial Counseling

800-550-1961

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

Provides financial and budget counseling and credit report reviews at no cost. Bankruptcy counseling, housing counseling, student loan counseling, and debt management planning is also available for a fee.

### Saint Lawrence Community Services –Financial Counseling

715-849-3311

866-849-3311 (toll free)

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

Families and individuals may receive an evaluation of their financial situation, develop a plan, participate in budgeting classes, and financial and bankruptcy counseling, through Catholic Charities.

Local schools and colleges sometimes offer consumer finance courses. Call for current schedules and fees:

- Mid-State Technical College  
715-344-3063  
[www.mstc.edu](http://www.mstc.edu)
- U.W.-Stevens Point  
715-346-2441  
[www.uwsp.edu](http://www.uwsp.edu)

## FOOD

### COMMUNITY MEALS

#### Place of Peace

715-252-7860

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

1948 Church St., Stevens Point

Serves a community meal weekly on Thursdays at 5pm at Downtown Mission Church.

#### The Salvation Army

715-341-2437

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

1600 Briggs St., Stevens Point

The Hope Center provides 3 community meals daily: breakfast served 6:30-7:00am, lunch at Noon, and dinner at 5:30pm.

### FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

#### FoodShare (formerly Food Stamps)

888-445-1621 (Income Maintenance Call Center)

Screening and Application also online at:

<https://access.wisconsin.gov/>

Provides a debit card for eligible applicants to use in most grocery stores to purchase food.

#### WIC (Women, Infants & Children Nutrition Program)

715-345-5350

Food vouchers are issued for the purchase of food that meets the nutritional needs of young children and their mothers, through Portage County Health & Human Services.

### FOOD PANTRIES

#### Interfaith Food Pantry

715-347-2689

2810 Post Rd., Plover

Food pantry that serves individuals and families in Portage County. Distributes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month from 5-8pm.

#### New Hope Community Church Food Pantry

715-630-2612

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

117 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Junction City

Community food pantry opens the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, Noon-1pm for Junction City area residents.

#### Portage County Mobile Pantry

715-341-9922

Delivers a supplemental supply of groceries to rural residents in need the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month.

#### Rosholt Food Pantry

715-570-3045

247 Depot St., Rosholt

Donated food distributed to Rosholt-area residents in need on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 3-5pm, at the Rosholt Clinic Building.

### St. Paul's Food Pantry

715-344-5660

[www.stpaulequips.com](http://www.stpaulequips.com)

1919 Wyatt Ave., Stevens Point

Pantry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church may provide assistance based on interview which shows an immediate need and plan for long term resolution. Please call ahead Tuesday and Thursday, 10am-2pm.

### St. Vinnie's Food Pantry

715-344-7395

[www.stvinniesthriftstore.com](http://www.stvinniesthriftstore.com)

2124 Rice St., Stevens Point

Distributes donated and TEFAP foods (formerly Government Commodities) each Tuesday, 10:30am-2:30pm. Low-income Portage County residents may be served twice/month.

### The Salvation Army

715-341-2437

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

1600 Briggs St., Stevens Point

The Hope Center provides food assistance on Saturdays, 10am-1pm.

### TRACK – Tomorrow River Area Communities Kitchen

715-824-5615

293 S. Main St., Amherst

Food pantry at Peace Lutheran Church for families in need who live in the Tomorrow River School District, Monday 8-10am and Thursday 5-7pm.

To learn if there are other FOOD RESOURCES in your area, contact United Way's 2-1-1:

- Dial 2-1-1, 715-848-2255, or 800-922-5590 24/7
- Text your zip code to 898-211 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- Online chat at [www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help](http://www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help) Monday-Friday 8am-12 Noon.
- Email [askus@unitedwaymc.org](mailto:askus@unitedwaymc.org). Email answered Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

## HEALTH SERVICES

### FITNESS & WELL-BEING

#### Stevens Point Area YMCA

715-342-2980

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

Offers fitness equipment and classes based on sliding fees for income-eligible families and free 30-day passes for local recently dislocated workers who have lost a full-time job.

## HEALTH SCREENINGS

### Blood Pressure Screening

715-346-1401

Volunteers provide blood pressure screening at the Lincoln Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 10am-Noon.

### Public Health Intake & Referral

715-345-5350 (leave a message for return call)

[www.co.portage.wi.us/hhsd/](http://www.co.portage.wi.us/hhsd/)

Public health nurses at Portage County Health & Human Services answer public health-related questions, make health assessments and referrals.

### Wisconsin Well Woman Program

715-345-5712 ext 6

[www.co.portage.wi.us/hhsd/](http://www.co.portage.wi.us/hhsd/)

Income-eligible women between the ages of 45 and 64 may have mammograms, pap tests, pelvic exams, and certain other health screenings.

## MEDICAL & DENTAL CARE

At Portage County Health & Human Services:

- **BadgerCare Plus Programs**  
888-445-1621 (Income Maintenance Call Center)  
Screening and Application also online at: <https://access.wisconsin.gov/>  
Public health care coverage for eligible Wisconsin residents.
- **Community Health Clinics**  
715-345-5350  
Provides public health services for all ages, including immunizations, school health services, prenatal/postnatal visits for high-risk mothers, and communicable disease control.
- **Wisconsin Well Woman Program**  
715-345-5712 ext 6  
Income-eligible women between the ages of 45 and 64 may have mammograms, pap tests, pelvic exams, and certain other health screenings.

### Ascension Dental Center

715-342-8060

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

Dental clinic provides general dentistry services for Forward Health/BadgerCare patients, by appointment. NOTE: There may be waiting lists.

Family Health/La Clinica  
920-787-5514 (Wautoma)  
800-942-5330 (toll free for patients)  
[www.famhealth.com](http://www.famhealth.com)  
A comprehensive Community and Migrant Health Center that provides bilingual (English/Spanish) medical and dental care for underserved people in Portage County at its [Wautoma](#) location.

Health Insurance Marketplace  
800-318-2596  
[www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)  
Provides information about health insurance options for individuals and families, as well as small businesses. Insurance plans available at a reduced cost for those who are income-eligible.

HealthFirst Network  
800-246-5743  
[www.healthfirstnetwork.org](http://www.healthfirstnetwork.org)  
Provides reproductive health care and education on a sliding-fee scale.

### **PHYSICIAN REFERRALS**

Ascension Medical Group  
[www.ascension.org/wisconsin](http://www.ascension.org/wisconsin)

Aspirus Clinics  
800-847-4707  
[www.aspirus.org](http://www.aspirus.org)

Marshfield Clinic  
[www.marshfieldclinic.org/doctors](http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/doctors)

### **PRESCRIPTION DRUG ASSISTANCE**

Emergency Services  
715-344-7438  
Provides referrals for assistance for those who are unable to pay for needed prescriptions in an emergency situation.

FamilyWize Prescription Drug Discount Card  
800-222-2818  
[www.familywize.org](http://www.familywize.org)  
These cards are used to get immediate savings on prescription drugs at participating pharmacies for people who have no health insurance, during deductible periods, and for prescription medicine not covered by health insurance, Medicare, and other benefit plans.

NACo Prescription Discount Card Program  
877-321-2651  
[www.nacorx.org](http://www.nacorx.org)  
Portage County's discount card program helps residents regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage, with prescription drug costs that aren't covered by insurance.

NeedyMeds Website  
800-503-6897  
[www.needymeds.com](http://www.needymeds.com)  
NeedyMeds is a non-profit service that connects people with low incomes to pharmaceutical companies programs, help with paperwork, discount drug cards, and government programs.

Partnership for Prescription Assistance  
888-477-2669  
[www.PPARx.org](http://www.PPARx.org)  
Helps patients lacking prescription coverage get access to pharmaceutical patient assistance programs through a central navigation system.

## **HELP FOR ADDICTION**

### **ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS**

Al-Anon  
888-425-2666  
[www.area61afg.org](http://www.area61afg.org)  
12-step group meetings for relatives and friends to help them work through the effects of living with a relative's or friend's problem drinking.

Alcoholics Anonymous  
888-292-6677  
[www.aawidistrict04.org](http://www.aawidistrict04.org)  
Provides 12-step Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. Log on for current information about local 12-step Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

Ascension Saint Michael's Behavioral Health  
715-344-4611  
[www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)  
AODA services for chemically dependent people and their families, including mental health counseling, outpatient day treatment and continuing care support. A residential treatment center is also available.

Narcotics Anonymous  
866-590-2651  
[www.ncwana.org](http://www.ncwana.org)  
Offers recovery from the effects of addiction through working a 12-step program. Call or log on for current information about local meeting times and places.

### **GAMBLING**

Greater Stevens Point Gamblers Anonymous  
[www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org)  
Gamblers Anonymous (GA) meets weekly to provide self-help and support for people to overcome gambling. Check website for local meeting times.

Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling  
800-426-2535  
[www.wi-problemgamblers.org](http://www.wi-problemgamblers.org)  
Information and referral for compulsive gamblers and their loved ones.

### **SMOKING & TOBACCO USE**

First Breath  
715-342-7750  
[www.ascension.org/wisconsin](http://www.ascension.org/wisconsin)  
Prenatal care providers provide education and support services for pregnant women who desire to quit smoking.

Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line  
800-784-8669  
[www.ctri.wisc.edu/quit-line/](http://www.ctri.wisc.edu/quit-line/)  
Free telephone counseling and other information about quitting methods, medications, quit plans and tips.

## **HOUSING**

### **EMERGENCY SHELTER**

Community Warming Center  
715-252-7860  
[www.wisconsineci.org](http://www.wisconsineci.org)  
Provides a warm place for adults to sleep during the winter months only, November 1-April 30. Check in time is 8:30-9pm at Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Domestic Violence Shelter  
715-343-7125  
800-472-3377 (toll free)  
[www.capservices.org](http://www.capservices.org)  
Temporary shelter and other confidential services for those affected by domestic abuse, and their children.

The Salvation Army Hope Center  
715-341-2437  
[www.sastevenpoint.org](http://www.sastevenpoint.org)  
Short term shelter for people who have no other place to stay, as long as they are not under the influence of drugs or alcohol and do not have any sexual offenses.

### **FORECLOSURE ASSISTANCE**

Catholic Charities Mortgage Delinquency and Foreclosure Prevention  
715-849-3311  
Provides in-person or telephone counseling to homeowners who are at risk of losing their home to foreclosure.

Homeowner's HOPE™ Hotline  
888-995-4673  
[www.995hope.org](http://www.995hope.org)

Provides free telephone credit counseling to help homeowner's facing foreclosure.

Making Home Affordable Website  
[www.makinghomeaffordable.gov](http://www.makinghomeaffordable.gov)  
Information about federal programs available to help avoid foreclosure.

### **RENT & MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE**

Catholic Charities – Saint Lawrence Community Services  
715- 849-3311 or 866- 849-3311  
[www.cclse.org](http://www.cclse.org)  
Program participants receive case management services that may lead to rent payment assistance.

Emergency Assistance Program  
715- 544-1562  
Needy families with a child, who have a current emergency of homelessness, impending homelessness, energy crisis, fire, flood or natural disaster, may apply to receive Emergency Assistance to help keep their home.

Emergency Services  
715- 344-7438  
Handles requests for emergency rent or mortgage assistance for low-income individuals and families makes referrals to other programs for assistance.

Rural Housing  
888-400-5974  
One time funding for rent or mortgage is available to low income individuals and families on a case by case basis.

## **LEGAL SERVICES**

### **FREE LEGAL AID**

Justiceworks, Ltd.  
715-344-3677  
[www.justiceworksltd.org](http://www.justiceworksltd.org)  
A volunteer network of Portage County residents coordinates services that help secure right relationships between victims, offenders, and their communities.

Portage County Legal Aid Society  
715-344-3677  
Legal aid office for low-income residents provides brief answers to legal questions and legal representation.

Wisconsin Judicare  
800-472-1638  
[www.judicare.org](http://www.judicare.org)  
Legal aid office in Wausau serves low-income Portage County residents in certain non-criminal cases.

### **LABOR LAWS & STANDARDS**

Employment Complaint Process  
715-261-8747  
Complaint Specialist at the Job Service in Wausau answers questions regarding employment issues & concerns, provides complaint forms, and processes employment-related complaints.

U. S. Department of Labor - Wage/Hour Division  
866-487-9243 (National Helpline)  
[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)  
Administers and enforces *Federal* labor laws, including minimum wage, overtime, Family and Medical Leave Act, and Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act.

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development - Equal Rights Division  
608-266-6860 (Madison)  
[www.dwd.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dwd.wisconsin.gov)  
Administers Wisconsin's Fair Employment Law, which prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of ancestry, color, creed, national origin, race, sex, disability, arrest or conviction record, age, marital status, sexual orientation, use of lawful products or membership in the military reserve. Also administers Wisconsin's Family and Medical Leave Act, and handles complaints for unpaid wages.

### **LAWYER REFERRAL**

Lawyer Referral & Information  
800-362-9082  
[www.wisbar.org](http://www.wisbar.org)  
Legal hotline offers general legal information and lawyer referral through the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Modest Means Referral Program  
888-529-7599  
[www.wisbar.org](http://www.wisbar.org)  
Individuals whose income is too high to qualify for free legal aid but too low to pay an attorney's regular fees can be referred to an attorney who has agreed to offer reduced fees.

## **MATERIAL RESOURCES**

### **PERSONAL NEEDS & HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

Emergency Services  
715-344-7438  
Screens applicants for referrals to programs that can help provide material goods such as furniture, appliances, and other household items, including clothing, diapers, and school supplies.

Kids Closet  
[smileforchristssake@yahoo.com](mailto:smileforchristssake@yahoo.com)  
1948 Church St., Stevens Point  
Provides clothing for infants and children at no charge each Thursday, 2-6pm at Downtown Mission Church. Baby bottles, crib sheets, diaper bags, etc. may also be available.

Portage County Dressed to Work Association  
715-572-1200  
Provides no-cost clothing, accessories, appropriate attire selection for lower income individuals who are interviewing and entering the workforce. Applicants should contact their caseworker or community agency worker for a referral.

Saint Vinnies Thrift Store  
715-344-7395  
Clothing is available to anyone in need by registering at the store. No voucher needed for clothing.

### **THRIFT SHOPS**

Dime and Dollar Thrift Store  
715-341-0562  
3268 Church St., Stevens Point

Goodwill Industries  
715-544-6637  
1017 Commons Circle, Plover

Goodwill Industries  
715-345-0311  
5373 Hwy 10 E., Stevens Point

Saint Vinnies Thrift Store  
715-344-7395  
2124 Rice St., Stevens Point

Consignment Stores also sell pre-owned items. They are listed in the Yellow Pages.



To learn if there are other MATERIAL RESOURCES in your area, contact United Way's 2-1-1:

- Dial 2-1-1, 715-848-2255, or 800-922-5590 24/7
- Text your zip code to 898-211 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- Online chat at [www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help](http://www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help) Monday-Friday 8am-12 Noon.
- Email [askus@unitedwaymc.org](mailto:askus@unitedwaymc.org). Email answered Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY & MARRIAGE COUNSELING

(sliding fee available)

Ascension Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic  
715-344-4611

Child and Family Counseling (previously  
Children's Service Society)  
715-341-6672

New Life Therapy Center  
715-342-4180

### SUPPORT GROUPS

For information, call United Way's 2-1-1:

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### TELEPHONE COUNSELING & CRISIS INTERVENTION

Family Crisis Center Hotline  
(24 hours/day, 7 days/week)  
715-343-7125  
800-472-3377 (toll free)  
[www.capservices.org](http://www.capservices.org)  
This hotline, a program of CAP Services Family Crisis Center, provides telephone counseling for Portage County residents experiencing a domestic abuse crisis.

Hopeline – Text Crisis Line  
741741 – Text Short Code  
Confidential crisis text service dealing with problems such as: suicide, depression, family issues, and school problems.

Mental Health Navigation Program  
715-343-7104

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

This is a program of CAP Services that provides people experiencing mental health issues help with identifying providers and services, accessing community services, and advocacy.

Portage County Crisis Intervention Services  
(24 hours/day, 7 days/week)  
866-317-9362 (toll free)

[www.co.portage.wi.us/](http://www.co.portage.wi.us/)

Health & Human Services provides support services to individuals involved in emergency mental health situations.

*If you are in a mental health emergency, or need to talk to a counselor right away, call Portage County Crisis Intervention Services at 866-317-9362, 24 hours a day. If you are in a domestic violence crisis, call the Family Crisis Center Hotline at 715-343-7125, 24 hours a day; long distance callers may call toll-free 800-472-3377.*

## PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS

Portage County Public Library

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

Offers public computers for word processing, internet access, and electronic searching. Find out more from your local branch:

Almond	715-366-2151
Plover	715-341-4007
Rosholt	715-677-4512
Stevens Point	715-346-1544

The Job Center  
715-422-5000

Provides computers for job-seekers to work on résumés and cover letters, and to research job openings on the internet.

## SPECIAL POPULATIONS

### MILITARY FAMILIES

Armed Forces Emergency Services  
877-272-7337

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

The American Red Cross works with military aid societies to help meet emergency financial needs when an urgent personal or family crisis arises for persons on active duty in the military.

### Army Community Service

608-388-3505

[www.mccoy.armymwr.com](http://www.mccoy.armymwr.com)

Services at Fort McCoy for Army families include family advocacy, and information about deployment/mobilization, relocation, employment, and financial readiness.

### Family Assistance Center

800-292-9464 (Hotline)

[www.wisconsinmilitary.org/fac/](http://www.wisconsinmilitary.org/fac/)

Family Assistance Centers provide services such as legal information, crisis intervention, community information, and emergency financial services.

### Operation Homefront

877-264-3968

[www.operationhomefront.net](http://www.operationhomefront.net)

Provides emergency assistance to active military and the families they leave behind, and to wounded warriors when they return home. Includes help with auto repair, home & appliance repair, food assistance, vision care, and financial assistance.

### Stevens Point Area YMCA

715-342-2980

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

The YMCA offers free memberships for local families of deployed military.

### Wausau Vet Center

715-842-1724

[www.vetcenter.va.gov](http://www.vetcenter.va.gov)

Provides readjustment services for returning war veterans and their family members.

## VETERANS

### Disabled American Veterans Van

608-504-1313

Volunteer drivers transport veterans to medical appointments at V.A. facilities. Please call to schedule.

### Portage County Veterans Service Office

715-346-1310

[www.co.portage.wi.us/veterans](http://www.co.portage.wi.us/veterans)

Provides information, counseling, and assistance in obtaining state and federal veterans benefits and entitlements.

### Veterans Administration Clinics

608-372-3971 (Must call Tomah in advance to enroll)

Provides primary medical care for Portage County veterans at the Wausau and Wisconsin Rapids locations.

### Veterans' Services

715-422-5000

Job placement assistance and case management for veterans, at the Wisconsin Rapids Job Center.

### Wausau Vet Center

715-842-1724

[www.vetcenter.va.gov](http://www.vetcenter.va.gov)

Readjustment services for returning war veterans and their families.

## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

### Plover Shared-Ride Taxi

715-342-1313

Government funded, shared-ride taxi services for any trip that is within, ends, or originates within a 5 mile radius of the Village of Plover (includes Stevens Point).

### Point Plus Paratransit Service

715-341-4490

[www.stevenspoint.com/transit](http://www.stevenspoint.com/transit)

Pre-arranged door-to-door service for people living in the City of Stevens Point and the community of Whiting who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

### Stevens Point Transit

715-341-4490

[www.stevenspoint.com/transit](http://www.stevenspoint.com/transit)

City bus service in the Greater Stevens Point metro area (Stevens Point, Whiting, and Crossroads Commons in Plover).

To learn about other TRANSPORTATION SERVICES in your area, contact United Way's 2-1-1:

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- Online chat at [www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help](http://www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help) Monday-Friday 8am-12 Noon.
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## UTILITY & ENERGY ASSISTANCE

### UTILITY ASSISTANCE

#### Emergency Assistance Program

715-544-1562

Needy families with a child, who have an impending energy crisis, fire, flood or natural disaster, may apply to receive Emergency Assistance to help keep pay their past due utility bill.

### Emergency Services

715- 344-7438

Handles requests for emergency rent or mortgage assistance for low-income individuals and families and makes referrals to other programs for assistance.

### Energy Services of Portage County

715-344-5999

Financial assistance for gas, electric, or heating fuel bills for income-eligible Portage County residents. Provides a one-time energy grant per heating season, as well as crisis funding for those facing a disconnection.

### Public Benefits Program

715-677-2211

Central Wisconsin Electric Co-op customers who meet income eligibility criteria may be eligible for utility assistance. Income verification and statement of household size is required.

## **WEATHERIZATION**

### Focus on Energy

800-762-7077

[www.focusonenergy.com](http://www.focusonenergy.com)

Offers cash-back rewards for the purchase and installation of qualifying home heating equipment.

### Weatherization Program

715-343-7145

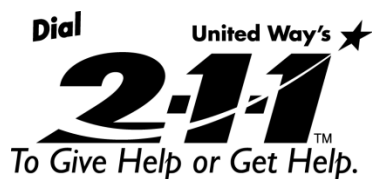
[www.capservices.org](http://www.capservices.org)

Weatherization services help reduce a household's heat bill by providing measures such as attic and wall insulation, reducing air leakage, water heater conservation measures, and heating system repair or replacement for qualified households, through CAP Services.

For information about weatherization assistance through Community Development Block Grants, contact United Way's 2-1-1:

- Dial 2-1-1, 715-848-2255, or 800-922-5590 24/7
- Text your zip code to 898-211 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- Online chat at [www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help](http://www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help) Monday-Friday 8am-12 Noon.
- Email [askus@unitedwaymc.org](mailto:askus@unitedwaymc.org). Email answered Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

**We're here any time you don't know where  
to turn for help.**



## **Get Help**

When you need information about community services, or are looking for help with a personal or family matter, United Way's 2-1-1 will answer your questions about what's available, who to contact for the details you want, and how to take the next step toward solving your problems or meeting your needs. Need Help?

- Dial 2-1-1, 715-848-2255, or 800-922-5590 24/7
- Text your zip code to 898-211 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- Online chat at [www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help](http://www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help) Monday-Friday 8am-12 Noon.
- Email [askus@unitedwaymc.org](mailto:askus@unitedwaymc.org). Email answered Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

## **Give Help**

Want to volunteer to serve a meal, support grieving families, or help out during a disaster? Want to donate items to a program that helps abused children or homeless families? Want to Give Help?

- Dial 2-1-1, 715-848-2255, or 800-922-5590 24/7
- Text your zip code to 898-211 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- Online chat at [www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help](http://www.unitedwaymc.org/get-help) Monday-Friday 8am-12 Noon.
- Email [askus@unitedwaymc.org](mailto:askus@unitedwaymc.org). Email answered Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.



**United Way  
of Marathon County**



Formally Updated October 18, 2018  
Last Modified October 18, 2018