

Pennsylvania

When a family or individual is faced with a progressive condition such as DM1 or DM2 they are often presented with additional financial expenses as well as loss of a steady income. This section attempts to gather financial resources that are available on a state level for persons living in the United States. By no means is this section complete; we invite you to share with us any resources you've identified.

This is an on-going project. We will add more resources as we gather them; please send us resources you know of that are not currently listed.

Please be advised that each organization has its own eligibility and application requirements. None of these organizations are affiliated with the Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation. We hope you will share your experiences with us – let us know if you are successful in finding a good resource to help your family.

Financial Resources

COMPASS: Compass is an online resource that allows you to apply for and navigate different resources, including health, education, housing, and more. It will help you to determine what benefits you qualify for and how to take advantage of them.

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/public/cmphome>

Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council: The Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council is a group of people with disabilities, family members, advocates, and state department representatives who work to create favorable conditions for people with developmental disabilities and their families in the Commonwealth. Their resources include grants and scholarships for financial help, events, information, and more. <http://www.paddc.org/>

PCA: Disability Advocacy Program: Administered by the PA Department of Human Services, the Disability Advocacy Program assists those 65 and under in receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

http://www.pcacares.org/service_provider/disability-advocacy-program/

United Way Pennsylvania, 211 East: This organization provides information and referrals for a broad range of services including child care, after-school programs, food banks, elder care, basic needs, health services and more. They currently service the residents of Berks, Carbon, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill Counties. <http://pa211east.org/Home>

Employment

Works for Me: Works for me is a resource that can direct you to agencies and programs that help people with disabilities in Pennsylvania who want to work, and improve their financial security. They will review your specific situation and guide you to resources that will help you

find a job, obtain training, keep health insurance, get assistive technology, or find other support you may need. <http://www.worksforme-pa.org/index.php>

Housing

Liberty Resources: Liberty Resources is a non-profit organization that advocates and promotes independent living for all persons with disabilities. As a Center for Independent Living (CIL), Liberty Resources advocates with disabled people, individually and collectively to ensure equal access to all aspects of life in the community. They provide five core services: Advocacy, Information and Referral, Peer Support, Skills Training, and Transitioning/Youth Services. <http://www.libertyresources.org/index.html>

Scholarships and Education

John Lepping Memorial Scholarship: provides scholarship to disabled students seeking a higher education (college, etc.) Must live in NY, NJ, or PA (tri-state area). <http://www.lepfoundation.org/applications>

Miscellaneous

Canine Partners for Life: The mission of Canine Partners for Life is to increase the independence and quality of life of individuals with physical, developmental, and cognitive disabilities or who are in other situations of need. <http://k94life.org/>

Resource Fair: Held annually, the disability resource fair hosts over 120 organizations related to disabilities and mental health care. They feature themes such as “Support Services Resource Fairs” and an “Employment and Transition Resource Fair” on the different days of the fair. <http://www.disabilitysummit.com/resource-fairs/>