

South Carolina

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 MDF. 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.

Caregivers

Family Caregiver Support Program: FCSP services for family caregivers are provided through local area agencies on aging (AAAs) and include: information, assistance, individual counseling, support groups and caregiver training, respite care, limited supplemental services, such as transportation and home modifications.

<https://www.caregiver.org/family-caregiver-support-program-fcsp-34>

South Carolina Caregiver Support Program: Administered locally by the ten Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), each AAA has a full-time Family Caregiver Advocate who works directly with family caregivers, providing: information and assistance in accessing existing community services, support and counseling, and caregiver training.

<https://aging.sc.gov/programs-initiatives/family-caregiver-support>

South Carolina Respite Coalition: The mission of the SC Respite Coalition is to expand quality respite opportunities in South Carolina throughout the lifespan for South Carolina families who have a member with special needs.

<http://www.screspitecoalition.org/default.htm>

Employment

Back to Work: The Back to Work program targets individuals who have barriers to employment. This program is an intensive employment boot camp that provides guidance and soft skills to maintain gainful employment and self-sufficiency to establish lifelong independence. <https://scworks.org/jobseeker/jobseeker-programs/back-to-work>

SC Works: If you are looking for a job, you'll find a wealth of information - starting with thousands of positions listed by employers all over the state - to help in your job search. <https://jobs.scworks.org/vosnet/Default.aspx>

Ticket to Work: The Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work program is a free and voluntary service that is available to help people with disabilities connect with employment services that may help them gain financial independence. <https://choosework.ssa.gov/index.html>

Vocational Rehabilitation: The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department prepares and assists eligible South Carolinians with disabilities to achieve and maintain competitive employment. <https://scvrd.net/>

Financial Resources

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP): LIHEAP provides home energy assistance to help eligible low-income households meet their home heating and/or cooling needs. <http://oeo.sc.gov/liheap.html>

South Carolina Family Independence: The South Carolina Family Independence (FI) program is designed to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency. <https://www.benefits.gov/benefit/1677>

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: TANF, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, is also known as Family Independence (FI) in South Carolina. The primary focus of TANF is to help low-income families meet basic needs by providing cash assistance, supportive services, training, and employment opportunities. <https://scthrive.org/family-independence/>

Weatherization Assistance Program: The Weatherization Assistance Program provides home weatherization assistance to improve the quality of life for low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities and children by improving the energy efficiency of their homes while ensuring their health and safety.

<http://oeo.sc.gov/weatherization.html>

Food/Nutrition

Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) gives thousands of low-income individuals access to healthy food.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/csfp/commodity-supplemental-food-program>

Child and Adult Care Food Program: The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded program that gives meal reimbursements to child care centers and adult day care centers for serving nutritious meals.

<https://www.scchildcare.org/departments/child-and-adult-care-food-program.aspx>

The Emergency Food Assistance Program: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: SNAP provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of needy families so they can purchase healthy food and move towards self-sufficiency. <https://dss.sc.gov/assistance-programs/snap/>

Housing

Housing Counseling: Housing counseling agencies offer guidance on home buying, renting, reverse mortgages and default and foreclosure prevention.

<https://apps.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm?webListAction=search&searchstate=sc>

Public Housing and Housing Choice Vouchers: To apply for either type of help, visit your local Public Housing Agency (PHA). Find the nearest one:

https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/PHA>Contact_Report_SC.pdf

SC Housing Homebuyer Program: SC Housing’s Homebuyer Program can put you in a loan you can live with – one that’s affordable and consistent over the long term.

<https://www.schousing.com/Home/HomebuyerProgram>

Subsidized Apartments: HUD helps apartment owners offer reduced rents to low-income tenants. To apply, contact or visit the management office of each apartment building that interests you. <https://resources.hud.gov/#>

Living with a Disability/Elderly

Day Services: Day Activity Services are supports and services provided in therapeutic settings to enable participants to achieve, maintain, improve, or decelerate the loss of personal care, social or adaptive skills. <https://ddsn.sc.gov/about-us/divisions/intellectual-disability-and-related-disabilities/day-services>

Long Term Care Ombudsman: Long Term Care Ombudsmen (LTCO) help to resolve complaints made by or for residents of long term care facilities.

<https://aging.sc.gov/programs-initiatives/long-term-care-ombudsman>

Residential Habilitation Services: Residential Habilitation Services include the care, skills training and supervision provided to individuals in a non-institutional setting. The degree and type of care, supervision, skills training and support of individuals will be based on the plan and the person’s needs. <https://ddsn.sc.gov/about-us/divisions/intellectual-disability-and-related-disabilities/residential-habilitation>

Senior Centers: The multipurpose senior center should be a resource hub for activity, services, and programs for all active older adults in the community, with a specific focus on improving health and wellness, education, and socialization. Find the one closest to you: <https://www.getcaresc.com/>

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP): SCSEP is the only federal job training program focused exclusively on helping low-income seniors. The program promotes personal dignity and self-sufficiency through work.

<https://aging.sc.gov/programs-initiatives/senior-community-service-employment-program-scsep>

Medical/Health-Related

Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS): DHEC's Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS) provides financial assistance to families of children under age 18 with one or more of a wide array of chronic illnesses and disabling conditions. <https://scdhec.gov/health/child-teen-health/services-children-special-health-care-needs/childrens-rehabilitative>

Family Connection of South Carolina: This organization provides educational and support services for parents and caregivers of children with special health care needs. <https://www.familyconnectionsc.org/>

Healthy Connections: Healthy Connections is South Carolina's Medicaid program. It is a medical assistance program that helps pay for some or all medical bills for many people who cannot afford medical care. <https://www.scdhhs.gov/Getting-Started>

Patient Services Inc.: Patient Services Inc. provides information about help with insurance coverage and medical co-payments. <https://www.patientservicesinc.org/>

Pro-Parents: PRO-Parents offers information about school services for children with special health care needs. <http://www.proparents.org/>

Additional Resources

Muscular Dystrophy Association South Carolina Clinics: <https://www.mda.org/care/care-center-list?province=SC>

Resources for Your Home & Community (COVID-19): Find resources from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. <https://scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/resources-community-covid-19>