

West Virginia

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

Lighthouse Program: West Virginia's Lighthouse program is a non-Medicaid program that provides personal care, mobility, nutrition, and housekeeping supportive services. The program allows certain family members to be hired, trained, and compensated as a caregiver.

<http://www.wvseniorservices.gov/HelpatHome/Lighthouse/tabid/74/Default.aspx>

National Caregiver Alliance: National Alliance for Caregiving is a nonprofit organization that assists both professionals and informal caregivers who need help to improve the quality of life for families and care recipients. <https://www.caregiving.org/>

Respite Care: Respite care is short-term care and supervision provided when the primary caregiver is absent or in need of temporary relief. <https://www.remwestvirginia.com/our-services/respite-care>

West Virginia Caregivers: West Virginia Caregivers is an online resource that provides support, assistance and services to West Virginia caregivers and their families.

<http://www.wvcaregivers.org/>

Employment

CareerOneStop: This is a source for career exploration, training, and jobs, including online videos about each of the Career Clusters, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. <https://www.careeronestop.org/>

Job Accommodation Network: The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. <https://askjan.org/>

Ticket to Work: A Ticket is a voucher that lets you get employment, vocational rehabilitation and other support services from public and private providers if you receive Social Security Disability (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income. <https://www.drofwv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/ticket-to-work-v2.1.pdf>

WorkForce West Virginia: If you are interested in finding a better job or career, WorkForce West Virginia allows you to search for current job openings in your community, create multiple resumes to use to apply on-line for jobs, research careers that are expected to be in high demand, file for Unemployment Compensation, and find occupational training that meets your needs. <https://macc.workforcewv.org/Login.asp>

Financial Resources

Lifeline: Lifeline is a program of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that provides a discount on telephone and broadband service for qualifying low-income consumers. <http://www.psc.state.wv.us/LifeLine/>

Low Income Energy Assistance Program: LIEAP assists eligible households with the cost of home heating through direct cash payments or payments to utility companies on their behalf. <https://dhhr.wv.gov/bcf/Services/familyassistance/Pages/Utility-Assistance.aspx>

West Virginia Utility Assistance Program: Dollar Energy Fund's West Virginia Utility Assistance Program assists eligible utility customers with their gas, electric and water bills. Eligible customers receive a one-time grant applied directly to their utility bill. <https://www.dollarenergy.org/need-help/westvirginia/>

West Virginia WORKS: West Virginia's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program is WV WORKS. It is based on the goals of assisting economically dependent and at-risk families to become self-supporting, enhancing the well-being of children, and on assisting families near the poverty level to remain self-sufficient.

<https://dhhr.wv.gov/bcf/Services/familyassistance/Pages/WV-WORKS.aspx>

Food/Nutrition

Child and Adult Care Food Program: The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federal program that serves nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers. <https://wvde.state.wv.us/child-nutrition/cacfp/>

Summer Food Service Program: The Summer Food Service Program, also known as the Summer Meals Program, was established to ensure that children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: SNAP provides monthly benefits to help eligible households buy food. Eligibility to receive benefits is based on household size, income, assets and some household expenses as determined by the federal government. [https://dhhr.wv.gov/bcf/Services/familyassistance/Pages/Supplemental-Nutritional-Assistance-Program-\(Former-Food-Stamp-Program\).aspx](https://dhhr.wv.gov/bcf/Services/familyassistance/Pages/Supplemental-Nutritional-Assistance-Program-(Former-Food-Stamp-Program).aspx)

West Virginia Strong Food Assistance Map: Find food resources closest to you: <https://governor.wv.gov/summerfeeding/Pages/default.aspx>

Housing

Homeownership Program: The Homeownership Program makes home ownership more affordable for families and individuals. <https://www.wvhdf.com/home-buyers/homeownership-program>

Housing Counseling: Housing counseling agencies offer guidance on home buying, renting, reverse mortgages and default and foreclosure prevention. https://www.hud.gov/i_want_to/talk_to_a_housing_counselor

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_WV.pdf

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

Family and Community Support Program: The Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities (BBHFF) purpose for creating the Family and Community Support Program throughout West Virginia is to assist individuals to live at home and in the community by identifying resources and aligning processes aimed at supporting persons with disabilities in integrated settings, with emphasis on individualizing and maximizing community resources.

<https://dhr.wv.gov/bhhf/Sections/programs/ProgramsPartnerships/IDD/Documents/Family%20Community%20Support/FCSP%20info%20for%20BBHFF%20website%20112816.pdf>

Medicaid Personal Care Program: The Medicaid Personal Care Program includes hands-on, in-home services provided to those who are medically and financially eligible.

<http://www.wvseniorservices.gov/HelpatHome/MedicaidPersonalCare/tabid/78/Default.aspx>

Senior Community Service Employment Program: The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is a community service and work-based training program for persons age 55 or older with limited incomes.

<http://www.wvseniorservices.gov/GettingAnswers/OverviewofAgingProgramsInWestVirginia/SeniorCommunityServiceEmploymentProgram/tabid/105/Default.aspx>

West Virginia Advocates, Inc.: West Virginia Advocates, Inc. is a state designated protection and advocacy program for West Virginians with disabilities and their families.

<https://www.drofww.org/>

Medical/Health-Related

Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN): The CSHCN program advances the health and well-being of children and youth with certain chronic, debilitating conditions by providing specialized medical care and care coordination services to children under 21 years of age who meet financial and medical eligibility criteria.

<https://www.wvdhhr.org/cshcn/>

CHIP West Virginia: The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health coverage to eligible children, through both Medicaid and separate CHIP programs.

<https://chip.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Community Clinics and Medical Centers: Almost twenty percent of individuals in West Virginia use the services of community clinics in order to receive free or low cost medical care. https://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/west_virginia_free_community_c.html

West Virginia Medicaid: Medicaid in the United States is a federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources.

<https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/Pages/default.aspx>

Additional Resources

COVID-19 Resources: Resources from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR). <https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Muscular Dystrophy Association West Virginia Clinics: <https://www.mda.org/care/care-center-list?province=WV>