

Social Services

Rhode Island Weatherization and Home Repair Referrals

Sherry Diaz

Comprehensive Community Action

Vice President, Social Services

Food Security Services Provided

- **CCAP Food Pantries**
- **CCAP Garden**
- **Gift Cards to Shaw's Nourishing Neighbors**
- **Food Drives**
- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)**

Housing Services Provided

- **City of Cranston CDBG Rental Funds**
- **RI Foundation Rental**
- **The HOME Ownership Program**
- **149 South Clarendon**

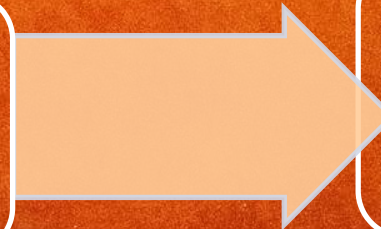
Financial Services

Financial Education
Budgeting
Credit Repair
Soft Employment Skills



**(SOS) Smart
Optimal Solutions
Program**

Federal Income Tax Filing
State Income Tax Filing
Earned Income Credit



**(VITA) Volunteer
Income Tax
Assistance Program**

Additional Services

- **Online Portal**
- **Backpack and School Supplies**
- **Diapers/Underwear/Socks**
- **Hygiene Products**
- **In the Social Service Department, you will find information regarding services available to folks statewide.**
- **CCAP's Clothing Closet**
- **RI Donation Exchange**

CCAP Energy Services

- **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**
- **Weatherization (WAP)**
- **Good Neighbor Energy Fund (GNEF)**
- **Heating System Repair & Replacement Program (HSRRP)**
- **Home Energy Appliance Rebate Program (HEAR)**

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

- Provides energy savings tools and services to make homes safe and more energy efficient.
- Eligible for low-income households receiving LIHEAP or having low-income rate A-60 through RI Energy.
- Services include insulation, heating system checks, and appliance replacements.
- Aims to reduce heating and cooling costs and eliminate household hazards.
- 127 households assisted last year.
- Funded by the Department of Energy, utility companies, and LIHEAP funds.
- Challenges include addressing issues beyond the program's scope and costly repairs like knob and tube wiring removal.

Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (HEAR)

- Replaces current appliances with Energy Star appliances and upgrades electrical systems.
- Eligible for homes enrolled in LIHEAP and/or WAP.
- Services include replacing stoves, dryers, electrical improvements, and upgrading electrical panels.
- Funded by the Department of Energy and the Office of Energy Resource.
- Barriers include appliance availability and replacement cost caps.

Heating System Repair and Replacement Program (HSRRP)

- Repairs or replaces inoperable heating systems with energy-efficient models.
- Must be eligible for LIHEAP and be owner-occupied.
- Provides a one-time service to increase heating efficiency.
- 36 gas/oil heating systems and 18 Air Source Heat Pumps were installed last year.
- Funded by HEAP and RI Energy.
- Faces funding limitations and a shift toward electrification.

RI Lead Safe Homes Program

- Tests home for Lead hazards
- Free program if owner stays in home for 5 years
- New windows and doors
- Exterior and Interior painting
- Siding and minor repairs
- Structural defects.
- Correct trip and fall hazards.
- Installs spot ventilation - exhaust fans

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Home Repair Grant Program

- Provides low-interest loans to income-eligible Cranston homeowners for repairs and code compliance.
- Services include roof replacement, window replacement, and handicapped accessible modifications.
- Funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and distributed through the City of Cranston.
- Challenges include exhausted funding for the current year.

Clean Heat Rhode Island

- Low-to-Moderate Income
- Heat Pump Incentive Program
- The home must be sufficiently weatherized.
- Existing primary heating uses propane, or oil
- Income verified via proof of active participation in SNAP, LIHEAP, RI Energy Discount Rate
- Must displace fossil fuel heating in zones served by the heat pump
- Partial displacement allowed (whole-home conversion not required)
- Must sign attestation confirming the heat pump is the primary heating in the zones it serves
- www.cleanheatri.com

RISE Engineering – Rhode Islanders Saving Energy

- Home Energy Assessment by an energy specialist
- Moderate Income households
- Instant Energy-Saving Upgrades – thermostats, smart power strips, low flow aerators and shower heads
- Customized Energy Plan - Recommends energy-efficiency measures as well as projected energy savings and payback period
- Installation Support -Coordinates installation by qualified contractors. Handles contractor payment and applies financial incentives
- Financial Incentives & Financing - Access to rebates, discounts, and 0% financing programs

USDA Rural Development aka Section 504 Home Repair Program

- Provides loans to very low-income homeowners for repairs, improvements, or modernization.
- Grants are available for Development elderly very low-income homeowners to remove health and safety hazards.
- Loans and grants can be combined for up to \$50,000 in assistance.
- Apply at the State Office in Warwick, RI.
- Serves Cranston, Scituate, Hope, and Foster.

Resources used by East Bay

- East Providence utilizes the Home Improvement Dept. which uses CDBG money to help homeowners in EP with either low interest or no interest loans.
- Barrington has Spencer Trust which works in the same way.
- Bristol uses CDBG in an application process that opens twice per year.
- For the other towns, they use 211 resources as well as Habitat Providence Aging in Place Program.
- Some homeowners have been helped with the USDA loan process which works the same - low interest loans.

Resources used by Tri-County

- **North Office**
- USDA Rural Development - Only services customers that live in areas considered "rural" RI.
- The Oil Institute of Rhode Island - For those customers that need an oil tank replacement where the heating system is not also being replaced.
- CDBG When funds are available
- **South Office**
- USDA Rural Development
- The Oil Institute of Rhode Island
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors - Only services customers that live in the Washington County part of Tri-County (that they know of), only when funds are available and first come first serve.
- Habitat for Humanity - Only services customers living in the Washington County part of Tri-County (that we know of), only when funds are available and first come first serve.
- CDBG When funds are available

Resources used by Community Action Partnership of Providence County

- **Lead Safe Providence Program (LSPP)** Improvements.
 - a) New windows and doors
 - b) Exterior and Interior painting
 - c) Siding minor repairs
 - d) Structural defects.
 - e) Correct trip and fall hazards.
 - f) Removal of mold or moisture problems.
 - g) Removal of asbestos or other hazardous materials.
- **Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI)** - Performs a range of interventions home repairs and renovations.
 - a) Health & Safety Home Performance Assessment.
 - b) General Home Improvements
 - c) Home repairs and renovations
 - d) Pest Management
 - e) Mold Remediation
 - f) Radon Mitigation
 - g) Safety and injury Prevention
 - h) Carpentry

- **Habitat for Humanity - Aging in Place Program (HHPVD)** - Home repairs and modifications.
 - a) A Comprehensive Health, Safety, and home performance assessment.
 - b) Basic package of aging-in-place modifications and repairs.
 - c) Grab rails
 - d) Lighting
 - e) Light-touch painting
 - f) Cleaning, excessive debris and more
- **Providence Revolving Fund (PRF)** - Assist homeowners with essential repairs.
 - a) Essentials repairs that have code violations.
 - b) Roofing
 - c) Plumbing
 - d) Electrical work
 - e) Structural repairs

R I Weatherization & Home Repair Programs

Energy Efficiency and Assistance
Initiatives

Rhode Island Home Repair Program Info Administered through Providence Revolving Fund (Utilized by Community Action Partnership of Providence County) as Referral

- Provides forgivable loans up to \$50,000. For 1-2 units and \$75,000 for 3-4 and properties households to complete home repairs. In most cases the loan will be completely forgiven, and the assistance is free.
- Older Rhode islanders and those with disabilities as well as landlords who work with PHA's providing rental opportunities to LMI households.
- A majority (at least 1 out of 2, 2 out of 3, or 3 out of 4) of the property's households must have an annual gross income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income.
- Rhode Island Residents only.

Healthy Providence Healthy Homes Program – Asthma thru Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI)

- Offers families with asthmatic adults and children aged 2-17 living in Providence FREE asthma education, home assessments, and interventions to improve asthma control and address asthma triggers in the home or apartment.
- Funded by federal, state, and local sources, including grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Income eligible Providence County residents and families with low to moderate income.

Community Development through Da Vinci Center for Community Progress

- Program is designed to improve the quality of living in the North End of Providence and surrounding vicinities.
- Program does have eligibility criteria – low income, owners and renters
- Provides needs assessments and Housing repair and grants
- This is a free program.

Home Repair Program through Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence

- Provides affordable loans and repairs. Must be able to “put in sweat equity” with Habitat for Humanity.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen, low income and reside in Central Falls, North Providence, Pawtucket and Providence.
- Cost is based on sliding scale.
- Must have a need for the repairs.

Housing Assistance through Chico Rancheria Housing Corporation

- This program provides Owner-Occupied Home Rehabilitation Assistance
- Must be a Native American that is enrolled in a Federally or State recognized Tribe. Income must be at or below 80% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- This program covers residents of many states including Rhode Island
- Currently a wait list for this program

Additional Resources:

<https://www.findhelp.org/housing/maintenance-%26-repairs--pawtucket-ri>

<https://www.revolvingfund.org/resources>

THANK YOU!