

Financial and Food Assistance

(Updated 1/28/13)

1. 211: Often times, people don't know where to go for help ... or that help is available. People don't know, for example, that emergency food and shelter assistance is available; child care is accessible for low and middle income families; after-school programs offer a safe place for youths; and more. 2-1-1 is your community solution. This three-digit number is easy-to-remember and provides a direct link to non-emergency help for health and human services. ***For emergency calls, people should still call 911.***
2. The Working Together Foundation is a non-profit foundation established in 1992 that awards grants to state employees and retirees for such things as unexpected injuries, accidents or death, uninsured medical emergencies, and other crises: 303-831-8645, or visit www.state.co.us/dhr/wt. Working Together Motto: "State Employees Helping State Employees!"
3. Food Bank of the Rockies' main programs are Fighting Hunger Feeding Hope, FBR's Nutrition Network, Denver's Table Food Rescue, and Government-Subsidized Food Programs : 303-371-9250 or 877-460-8504, or visit:
<http://www.foodbankrockies.org/site/PageServer?pagename=home>
4. Catholic Charities: 303-742-0828 or visit:
<http://www.catholiccharitiesdenver.org/about-us.aspx>.
5. The following link will take you to **GovBenefits.gov**, where you can search a public database of more than 1,000 government benefits, including the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and view customized benefit lists that include program contact information:
http://www.govbenefits.gov/govbenefits_en.portal?nfpb=true&pageLabel=gbcc_page_comadvresources&nfls=false

For additional information, email GovBenefits@dol.gov or call 1-800-FED-INFO (1-800-333-4636) Monday - Friday, 8:00am-8:00pm Eastern Time.

6. The Colorado State Employee Assistance Program (C-SEAP) is available statewide for free and confidential counseling, grocery store food cards, emergency financial assistance, and referrals to community resources: 303-866-4314 or 1-800-821-8154, or visit
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DPA-EO/DEO/1214905946179>. All state employees are eligible for C-SEAP assistance.
7. The Credit Union of Colorado offers members and their families unlimited access to free financial education and counseling services through Accel Members Financial Counseling. The Accel program provides unbiased information and assistance to help members find solutions to achieve their financial goals. The program assists with personal and family budgeting; credit report reviews; money management; debt repayment; and avoiding bankruptcy, foreclosure and repossession. To take advantage of this service, contact Credit Union of Colorado to establish your membership by opening a savings account with a minimum deposit of \$25.
8. Metro CareRing provides food, personal care items, utilities assistance, and other services: 303-860-7200, or visit: <http://www.metrocarering.org/services>.
9. According to statistics, only one in five Colorado ninth-graders will earn a college degree, so the state has developed initiatives to make college more accessible. Visit the CDHE's College Invest Division for expert advice, scholarship information, and planning tools: www.collegeinvest.org, 1-800-448-2424. Or, try College In Colorado: www.collegeincolorado.org, 720-264-8560.
10. National Foundation for Credit Counseling: www.nfcc.org or 1-800-388-2227
11. LEAP is a federally funded program administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and is designed to **assist** with your winter heating costs. The LEAP Program eligibility period runs from **November 1st through April 30th**: Call **HEAT HELP** at 1-866-432-8435, or visit
<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/LEAP/>.

12. Foreclosure Hotline has received more than 60,000 calls and assisted more than 10,000 homeowners reach a positive resolution. **To meet with a housing counselor for FREE, call 1-877-601-HOPE**, or visit <http://www.coloradoforeclosurehotline.org/>.
13. The goal of SHARE is to help families save about 50% on their groceries, while encouraging the building of relationships with their neighbors in the community. There are no qualifications...if you eat, you qualify. 1-800-933-7427 or visit <http://www.sharecolorado.com>.
14. Angel Food Ministries: With a heart to help others and a generous spirit, Joe and Linda Wingo founded Angel Food Ministries in 1994 to provide food for friends and neighbors who were struggling financially. Today the Angel Food program is helping provide food relief to more than 500,000 families each month: 1-877-FOOD-MINISTRY (1-877-366-3646) <http://www.angelfoodministries.com>
15. Child-Care Subsidy Hotline: When daycare costs are too high, there is help. The National Association of Child Care Resources is federally funded. They will help callers find all options for child care payment assistance programs. 1-800-424-2246
16. The Dollar Stretcher: Advice on fixing your credit score or reducing debt – this website is dedicated to helping people live better on the money they already have: www.stretcher.com .
17. Feed the Pig: as in feeding your piggy bank, this site is designed to help users think through spending and savings habits, and identify ways to start saving and make financial changes. www.feedthepig.org .
18. **Mortgage Relief**: For employees falling behind on mortgage payments, this national agency will work with their mortgage company to arrange a workout plan to catch up on missed payments. Housing counselors will discuss all options available to avoid foreclosure. This agency does not make loans or buy property.. 1-800-1-800-750-8956.
19. **Debt Relief Hotline**: For employees struggling with credit card debt (over \$10,000): relief is available. This national agency will contact a family's creditors, reduce payments, interest and even principal amounts owed and collection calls will stop. 1-800-291-1042
20. **Collection Complaints Hotline**: When you call the hotline, you'll connect with an expert on consumer rights regarding the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. 1-800-379-0688
21. Student Loan Relief Hotline: this agency works for students and graduates who wish to reduce their monthly payments by consolidating. Experts in all options available, counselors will evaluate current student debt load (must have more than \$10,000 and not be more than 150 days past due) seek ways to provide relief. 1-866-836-9168.
22. **Tax Relief Hotline**: National agency that works directly with IRS on behalf of citizens who owe over \$10,000 in back tax. Services include: offers to compromise, payment plans, innocent spouse relief, and garnishment relief. Free consultations.
23. Free Bankruptcy Advice: Rocky Mountain Legal Center is a Colorado Non Profit organization that offers free bankruptcy consultations and low cost legal services to any Colorado State employee. Check out their website at www.rmlegal.org or call their office directly at 720-242-8642 for more information.
24. **Discount Prescriptions**: Employees can save between 20%-40% on their prescription medications. No exam needed. Medications shipped to the home. 1-800-291-1206.

For additional information about these resources, please contact the Colorado State Employee Assistance Program (C-SEAP) at 303-866-4314 or 1-800-821-8154.

This list can also be accessed by going to the DPA website;
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DPA-EO/DEO/1214905946179>