



Carroll County Senior and Community Center's Newsletter

Located in Carroll County Maryland

BOAD Phone: (410) 386-3800

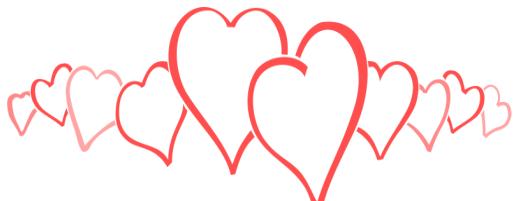
Click on link to visit the Senior Center Website

Click on link for the Division of Aging & Disabilities Mission



February 2026

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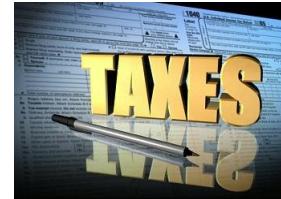
Carroll County
Senior Centers will be
Closed

Monday
February 16th

AARP TAX APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

Mt. Airy Senior Center
South Carroll Senior Center
Westminster Senior Center

More Information on Page 4





Aging and Disabilities Services

<https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/aging-and-disabilities>

Click on the services listed below to find out more information.

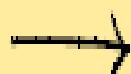
- Adult Public Guardianship Program of Carroll County
- Carroll County Aging & Disabilities Resource Guide
- Carroll County Commission on Aging and Disabilities Mission
- Dental Programs
- Energy Assistance
- Food Supplement Programs (FSP)
- Home and Community Based Services & Supports
- Homeowners' Tax Credit
- Information and Assistance
- Legal Aid
- Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
- Maryland Access Point— Information and Assistance
- Medical Equipment Lending Closets
- National Family Caregiver Support Program in Carroll County
- QMB/SLMB
- Renters' Tax Credit
- Senior Assisted Living Subsidy Program
- Senior Centers
- Senior Medicare Patrol
- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- Veterans Services
- Virtual Transitioning to Medicare

Inclement Weather Policy for Carroll County Senior Centers

Senior and Community Centers are OPEN at 8:00 am in inclement weather UNLESS:

The Carroll County Government Offices are closed then the Carroll County Senior Centers are closed.

The Carroll County Government opens late or closes early then the Carroll County Senior Centers open late or close early.



- Modified meals may be served
- Call your Senior Center to see if programs/classes have been cancelled
- Carroll Transit System (CTS) may run on a modified schedule. Please call them to confirm or cancel your ride.

CTS: 410-386-5550

*Please note: decisions regarding the operating schedules of the Carroll County Senior Centers are based only on the Carroll County Government. The Senior Centers do not follow the Carroll County Public School System operating schedules.

For info on closures and delays listen to local radio or TV stations, visit the Carroll County Government website or call your Senior Center.

Trailblazer Shuttle Riders- Please follow the postings specific to Carroll Transit System delays and closings.

**Free Income Tax Assistance
at
Carroll County Senior and Community Centers**
(Provided through the AARP TaxAide Program)



- Appointments must be made in advance by calling the center where you wish to have your taxes done. Appointments will be taken on a first come, first serve basis, with special attention to those age 60 and over.
- Tax returns with partnerships or rentals will not be prepared through this program.
- Please bring the following items with you to have your returns completed:

(Note – Married couples should both be present for signatures.)

1. Picture ID and Social Security Card
2. Last year's tax return
3. All W-2 forms
4. All 1099 forms (including any SSA 1099's)
5. Any estimated tax payments
6. Social security cards for all dependents
7. Dependent care provider information (name, employer, ID, social security number)
8. Purchase dates and purchase cost for all stock sales occurring in the tax year

Tax returns cannot be completed unless all paperwork requested has been brought to the appointment.

SIGN UP AT ONE OF THE SENIOR CENTERS LISTED

Mt. Airy Senior Center

703 Ridge Ave
Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771
410-386-3960

South Carroll Senior Center

5928 Mineral Hill Road
Eldersburg, Maryland 21784
410-386-3700

Westminster Senior Center

125 Stoner Ave
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-386-3950



Food, and Community Resources Throughout Carroll County

Department of Citizen Services
10 Distillery Drive
Westminster, Md 21157

Carroll County Public Schools

- **Free & Reduced Meals (FaRM)**
 - ❖ FaRM is **not** affected by the Federal shutdown
 - ❖ Available at all Carroll County Public Schools. A government sponsored program that provides free or low-cost meals to children in school, based on federal income eligibility guidelines. **Applications are being accepted. Contact students' school for information**

Resources for Women, Infants and Children

- **Women, Infant, and Children Program (WIC)**
 - ❖ **WIC not affected by the Federal shutdown**
 - ❖ A government sponsored program providing nutritious food to pregnant and postpartum women, their infants and children up to age five. To apply, **call 410-876-4898** or visit in person at Carroll County Health Department, 290 Center St, Westminster, MD 21157

Supplemental Food Resources

- **Westminster Rescue Mission**
 - ❖ [Free Food Resource Guide](#)
- **The Shepard's Staff**
 - ❖ Provides emergency food relief, coats and personal care essentials
 - ❖ Hours of operation: Mon, Tues, Fri 10am-2pm & Thurs 1pm-5pm. Call 410-857-5944 to schedule an appointment

- **211 Maryland**
 - ❖ Community Resource Database — Free searchable database of food pantries, produce boxes, soup kitchens and more. Refer to the [211 Maryland](#) website for more information.
- **Maryland Food Bank**
 - ❖ Provides online tool to "Find Food" based on your location.
 - ❖ <https://mdfoodbank.org/>

Unable to Travel?

Consider the following options:

- **Carroll Transit System (CTS)**
 - ❖ CTS provides door-to-door transportation within the county to Carroll County residents. CTS also offers TrailBlazer, a fixed route service with 6 routes. Everyone can ride for any reason including grocery shopping. Click [here](#) for detailed information on routes/costs/scheduling a ride.
- **Caring Carroll**
 - ❖ Caring Carroll is a volunteer organization assisting with the non-medical needs of older, isolated adults, 60+ years of age in Carroll County, Md. Caring Carroll provides transportation to their clientele. Contact [Caring Carroll](#) by phone at **(410) 775-5596** before 2:00 pm, to inquire about pricing and eligibility for services.

Community Action Agency

- Human Services Programs of Carroll County (HSP) 410-857-2999
 - ❖ Call HSP or click [here](#) to inquire about:
 - ❖ Home energy program
 - ❖ Housing services
 - ❖ Employment program
 - ❖ Shelter Services
- Carroll County Senior and Community Centers Congregate Meal Programs
 - ❖ Lunch is served at 5 senior centers daily (click [here](#) for locations, menus, reservation guidelines, age requirements and times)
- Home Delivered Meal Program
 - ❖ The Division of Aging & Disabilities Home Delivered Meal Program is for people 60 years and older and their spouses of any age, who cannot shop for food or prepare meals because of illness and/or chronic physical disabilities. Click [here](#) for details

Carroll County Division of Aging and Disabilities (DOAD)

125 Stoner Ave. Westminster, Md

- Veteran Services
 - ❖ Click on the following links to inquire about specific services for Veterans
 - [Carroll County Veterans Services Programs](#)
 - [Carroll County Veterans Shuttle Transportation Program](#)
 - [Carroll County Veterans Independence Project \(CCVIP\)](#)

Resources for Older Adults

- MAP (Maryland Access Point),
 - ❖ Referrals and information provided through MAP (Maryland Access Point), information and assistance program.
 - ❖ Additional programs and resources are listed in the annual Resource Guide
- Emergency Meal Kits
 - ❖ Shelf stable emergency meal kits for adults aged 60 and older are available at the Division of Aging & Disabilities. Contact the Division to coordinate pick up: 410-386-3800/Maryland Relay Service 711/800-735-2258 125 Stoner Ave, Westminster, MD 21157

How Can You Help?

Review the list of local pantries or soup kitchens in the Carroll County Free Food Resource Guide and contact the food site directly to see how you can make the greatest impact.

CCG IS HIRING

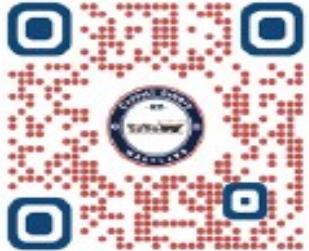


OUR VALUES

Committed | Inspired | Connected

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES AND APPLY ONLINE!

SIGN UP TO
RECEIVE EMAIL
NOTIFICATIONS



VISIT OUR
CAREER
CENTER

[HTTPS://JOBCENTER.CARROLLCOUNTYMD.GOV](https://jobcenter.carrollcountymd.gov)



Carroll County Veterans Services Program offers services to Veterans of any age, a widow or widower of a Veteran, a child of a deceased or disabled Veteran and parents who lost a son or daughter in military service.



VETERANS SERVICES PROVIDED

- Collaborate with the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs and Veterans Service Organizations in securing benefits for Veterans.
- Assist Veterans with obtaining their military discharge (DD214).
- Help with preparing and submitting compensation/pension claims to the Veterans Benefits Administration.
- Link veterans to the VA Healthcare system, advocate for Veterans and their families and connect Veterans to other community agencies, services and providers.
- Track claims and assist with additional development requests made by the Veterans Benefits Administration.
- Assist with denied claims by filing Notices of Disagreement or filing Appeals to reverse the negative decision.
- Veterans Assistance Program/Case Management Services

FREE VETERANS SHUTTLE

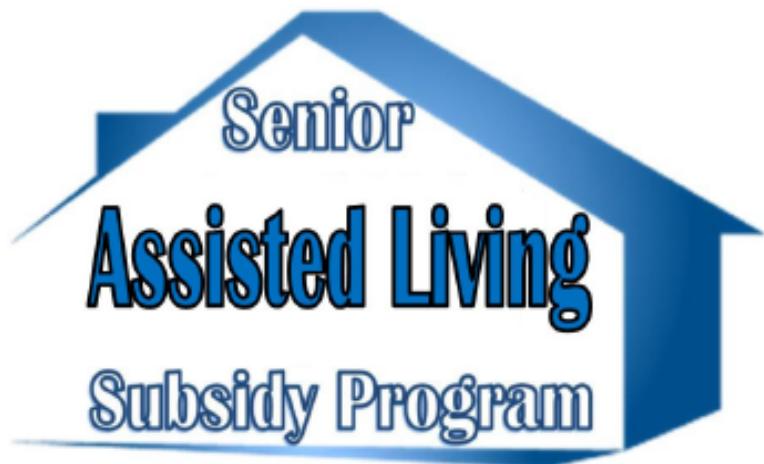
- Free Shuttle to transport Veterans to four VA medical facilities:
Baltimore, Loch Raven, Ft. Detrick and Martinsburg, WV
- Pick up at, convenient centralized locations
- Caregivers also ride for free

Located within the
Carroll County Division of Aging and Disabilities

125 Stoner Avenue
Westminster, MD 21157
410-386-3800

<https://carrollcountymd.gov/carrollveterans>





Access to Assisted Living for Qualifying Older Adults

Senior Assisted Living Subsidy (SALS)

The SALS Program provides subsidies on behalf of eligible senior residents of assisted living facilities which are enrolled in the program and licensed by the Maryland Department of Health.

THE MAXIMUM MONTHLY SUBSIDY IS \$1,000

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Asset Limitation: \$ 20,064 per individual
 \$ 26,400 per couple
2. Income Limitation: \$4,350* per month per individual
 (\$52,200.00 per year)
 *Income limitation does not include VA Aide & Attendance
3. Functional Assessment regarding Activities of Daily Living
4. 62 years of age or older

Please note there is a wait list for this program

For more information and / or an application,
contact

Carroll County Bureau of Aging & Disabilities

410-386-3800



The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

MAP Information & Assistance can connect individuals with services about....

- Housing options
- Caregiver resources
- Energy assistance
- Veteran services
- Homeowners/Renters tax credit
- Food resources
- Transportation
- Long term care options
- Home & Community Based Options Services

Call 410-386-3800 and ask to speak to someone in MAP Information & Assistance.....

Contact:

Nicole Ranoull MAP Information & Assistance Supervisor

Julie McGraw MAP Information & Assistance Program Specialist

Courtney Edwards MAP Information & Assistance Program Coordinator

***Call 410-386-3800
schedule an appointment**

Turning 65 or retiring soon and not sure what to do about Medicare??

Carroll County's State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is here to help!

We invite you to attend our free informational Transitioning to Medicare workshops to learn more.

We offer these two-part workshops monthly in collaboration with the Carroll County Public Library.



Please register for live sessions at:

<https://ccpl.librarymarket.com/events/month>

****Pre-Recorded sessions can also be accessed at any time using the links listed below.**



Transitioning to Medicare Part 1

All workshops start at 5:00pm!! Registration is required!!

Feb 11th, 2026-Webinar

March 11th, 2026-In person @ Exploration Commons (50 E Main St)

April 15th, 2026-In person @ Westminster Public Library (50 E Main St)

May 5th, 2026-In person @ North Carroll Public Library (2255 Hanover Pike)

May 13th, 2026-Webinar

June 17th, 2026-In person @ Westminster Public Library (50 E Main St)

****Pre-Recorded Session on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nliolxPweM>**

Original Medicare (Parts A, B, & D), Advantage Plans (Part C), Supplemental Plans (Medigap),
Fraud & Abuse, & Medicare Savings Programs.

Transitioning to Medicare Part 2

All workshops start at 5:00pm!! Registration is required!!

Feb 18th, 2026-Webinar

March 18th, 2026-In person @ Exploration Commons (50 E Main St)

April 22nd, 2026-In person @ Westminster Public Library (50 E Main St) May

12th, 2026-In person @ North Carroll Public Library (2255 Hanover Pike)

May 20th, 2026-Webinar

June 24th, 2026-In person @ Westminster Public Library (50 E Main St)

****Pre-Recorded Session on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVA4ivmmRQA>**

Take a closer look at Medicare Supplemental Plans and Advantage Plans.

Sponsored by: Carroll County Division of Aging & Disabilities: 125 Stoner Ave, Westminster, MD 21157

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Learn how to manage your ongoing Chronic Conditions



What is *Chronic Conditions Self-Management*?

This researched and proven program is designed to help you manage your health. With mutual support in weekly workshops, you can build confidence to set your own goals and put new problem-solving skills to work in your own life. Adults who have health problems and family members caring for loved ones with a chronic condition, are encouraged to attend!

These small group workshops are led by two trained facilitators and meet for 2½ hours once a week for six weeks. The workshop does not replace existing treatments but serves to complement a participant's current medical plan.

Topics Include:

- What is Self-Management?
- Problem-Solving
- Setting Short-Term Goals
- Healthy Eating
- Pain Management
- Stress and Depression Management
- Using your Mind to Manage Symptoms
- Planning for the Future
- Relaxation Techniques
- Managing Difficult Emotions
- Partnering with your Health Provider
- Communication Skills
- Making Decisions
- Medication Usage

What's in it for me? *People who have taken the workshop show:*

- Better health and increased confidence in managing their symptoms
- Improvements in general health and wellbeing
- Increase in exercise and physical activity
- Better communication with physicians and family
- Fewer doctor and emergency room visits and fewer hospitalizations



FREE Virtual 6-Week Series

March 5 – April 9, 2026
Thursdays 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Technology assistance for the workshop series will be provided.

Participants will receive a "Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions" book and a "Relaxation for Mind and Body" CD.

REGISTER online at <https://carrollcountymd.gov/LivingHealthy>
or by calling 410-386-3818 or Email LivingHealthy@carrollcountymd.gov

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.





FREE! Increasing Your Capacity for Excellent Care Series

Essential insights & skills to help you on your care-giving journey. Learn from experts how to treat your loved ones with dignity and respect as they age.

Offered by *The Division of Aging & Disabilities* in partnership with Carroll Community College.

- Take one or take them all.
- All classes held at Carroll Community College.
- No cost but registration is required.

To register, visit carrollcc.edu/CareSeries or call 410-386-8100.



Hands on Skills for the Caregiver

Get hands-on expertise to ensure the well-being and safety of your care recipients. Topics include personal care assistance, medication management, mobility aid and recognizing emergencies.

Saturday, Feb. 7 / 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Preparing for the Big Decisions

Our experts will guide you in developing a plan for the legal and financial responsibilities that come with caregiving. Topics include advanced directives, power of attorney, acquiring documentation, liquidating assets and debt identification.

Saturday, April 11 / 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Caring for Yourself While Caring for Others

It's easy to neglect your own needs when caring for loved ones. This course emphasizes the importance of self-care to avoid "compassion fatigue" and maintain your health. Learn about the aging brain, understand the needs of your care recipients, and discover strategies to balance caregiving with self-care.

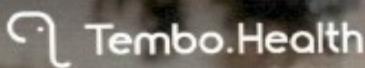
Saturday, June 27 / 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.



Complete Care - Building your Caregiving Blueprint

Combine the physical, cognitive, and emotional aspects of caregiving into a unified approach. Blend practical skills, thoughtful decision-making, and emotional resilience to develop a personalized care plan that promotes dignity, sustainability, and compassion. Practice applying what you've learned to real-life caregiving scenarios and prepare for the ongoing journey of caregiving with excellence.

Saturday, Aug. 1 / 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.



DEMENTIA CARE MADE SIMPLE

Why Tembo?

We Help You With:

Receive free advice from expert dementia care navigators, such as where to get a diagnosis, how to find local resources and how to receive financial support.



**\$2500 in
Caregiver Support**



**Diagnosis
and Care Plan**



**Personal
Caregiver Support**



**24/7
ER Doctor Hotline**

**3 Simple Steps
And It's FREE**

1

**Match With a
Care Navigator
for FREE**

2

**Enroll in GUIDE,
a Medicare
Program**

3

**Receive FREE
Benefits Through
Medicare**



Dionne, daughter of person living with dementia

The team conducts thorough research, explains things clearly, supporting me and my entire family. **Working with Tembo Health has been one of the best decisions I've made in supporting my mother on her journey.**



Katie, partner of person living with dementia

With the help of the Tembo care team, we have **clinicians and healthcare professionals who really understand my father's condition** and how to navigate the healthcare system.

Others That Loved Us

About Tembo Health

Tembo Health's mission is to make managing dementia easier. By partnering with your Primary Care Provider (PCP), we support families on their dementia journey through comprehensive dementia services, personalized treatment plans, access to specialists, and compassionate care.

What Is GUIDE?

GUIDE (Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience) is a new Medicare program that allows Tembo Health, alongside your Primary Care Provider, to provide added support and resources for people and families living with dementia at no cost to you.

Verify Eligibility



NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT PROGRAM

Carroll County

S U P P O R T G R O U P S

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

meets in a casual and welcoming environment, offering support to grandparents who are raising grandchildren. Grandparents have the opportunity to meet other caregivers, develop a network of support and receive information about services available. The support group is open to older adults raising grandchildren under 18 years of age.



Second Wednesday from 5:30PM—7:00PM

Bureau of Aging & Disabilities, 125 Stoner Ave, Westminster

Caregivers of Older Adults

is an ongoing support group that is designed to help caregivers cope with the challenges of caring for their relatives. Caregivers have the opportunity to share their experiences, participate in educational discussions and receive comfort and positive reinforcement to help guide them through what can be a difficult journey.



Second Tuesday from 4:30PM—6:00PM



To register please contact Denise Valentine at 410-386-3833 or davalentine@carrollcountymd.gov. Visit our website www.carrollcountymd.gov/aging-and-disabilities for more information about our programs.



The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.



CARROLL COUNTY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Presented by:

**Alzheimer's Association
Greater Maryland Chapter**

Third Thursday of the month

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Visiting Angels Office

6505 Ridenour Way E, Suite 1B,
Eldersburg 21784

Contact Facilitators to Join

Elyse Weckesser

443-340-3147

elysew@mdvisitingangels.com

Marjorie Cotterman

420-404-6804 (text preferred)

mcotterman@inspired-joy.com

Build a support system with people who understand.

Alzheimer's Association® support groups, conducted by trained facilitators, are a safe place for people living with dementia and their care partners to:

- Develop a support system.
- Exchange practical information on challenges and possible solutions.
- Talk through issues and ways of coping.
- Share feelings, needs and concerns.
- Learn about community resources.



Visit ALZ.ORG/MARYLAND to learn more about caregiver programs and resources. To further extend your network of support, visit ALZ Connected®, our online community, at alzconnected.org.





ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION ONLINE TOOLS

CAREGIVER CENTER

Caregivers may access information about early-stage caregiving, middle-stage caregiving, or late-stage caregiving. alz.org/care or click [here](#).

ALZCONNECTED®

Our online community to connect with other individuals living with early-stage Alzheimer's. You can share questions, experiences and practical tips via message boards or create private groups organized around specific topics. alzconnected.org or click [here](#).

ALZHEIMER'S NAVIGATOR®

An interactive online tool for people living with dementia and those who participate in providing care and making care-related decisions. This assessment tool evaluates needs, outlines action steps, and links the user to Alzheimer's Association chapter programs and local services. alzheimersnavigator.org or click [here](#).

COMMUNITY RESOURCE FINDER®

A comprehensive database of local programs and services, housing and care options, and legal experts all in one location, allowing you to quickly search, find and access support. communityresourcefinder.org or click [here](#).

LIVE WELL: ONLINE RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

A collection of free interactive tools that helps you navigate the personal and emotional challenges accompanying an Alzheimer's diagnosis and provides personalized steps for living well with the disease. alz.org/livewell or click [here](#).

VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Search the online catalog, view resources chosen by dementia experts and download topic sheets and reports. alz.org/library or click [here](#).

TRAINING AND EDUCATION CENTER

The Association offers a number of Alzheimer's and dementia courses available online, 24 hours a day. alz.org/training or click [here](#).

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION TRIALMATCH®

A free easy-to-use clinical study matching service that connects individuals with Alzheimer's disease, caregivers, healthy volunteers and physicians with current studies. The continuously updated database of 130+ Alzheimer's clinical trials includes pharmacological and non-pharmacological research. Studies are being conducted at 500 sites across the country and online. alz.org/trialmatch or click [here](#).

MARYLAND STATISTICS*

(2020)

110,000
people age 65 and older
with Alzheimer's

242,000
Number of Caregivers

371,000,000
Total Hours of Unpaid Care

\$6,810,000,000
Total Value of Unpaid Care

\$1,231,000,000
Medicaid costs of caring for
people with Alzheimer's

*Alzheimer's Association 2022 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, available at alz.org/facts



Scan QR code to view
the calendar online.

2026 JANUARY – MARCH

HEALTH & WELLNESS CALENDAR

All programs are free and do not require pre-registration unless noted. Call 410-871-7000 or visit lifebridgehealth.org/wellness to learn more.

PLANNING FOR PARENTHOOD

The Family Birthplace Open House & Tour
Register at:
familybirthplaceopenhouse.eventbrite.com

Baby360

- Labor and Birth
- Breastfeeding Basics
- Baby Care
- Baby Safety

To register for other Planning for Parenthood classes or for more information, visit lhb.pub/fbp

EDUCATION & SUPPORT GROUPS

- Breast Cancer
- Breastfeeding
- Gather & Connect (cancer support)
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Parkinson's Disease
- Perinatal Loss
- Postpartum
- Stroke Survivors

SPECIAL SERVICES

- Cancer Navigation Services
- Care Connect Health Navigation Services
- Heart Failure Clinic*
- Center for Breast Health*
- Diabetes Program*
- Genetic Counseling*
- Integrative Health Services (acupuncture, massage, reflexology and more)*
- Studio YOU (hair loss solutions, mastectomy bra and breast prosthetic fittings)*

*Cost associated with program

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

American Heart Association CPR

Hybrid learning and in-person classes are available for ACLS, BLS and PALS for healthcare professionals and professional rescuers. These classes support initial and renewal requirements and follow American Heart Association guidelines.

Prices vary; call 410-871-6841 for details.

Cooking for Wellness

Meet us at Exploration Commons for a cooking class! Join a registered dietitian to prepare healthy recipes and learn nutrition and health tips along the way.

Mondays, January 5, February 2, March 2
1:30 – 3 p.m.

\$5 per person

To register, visit explorationcommons.carr.org

Diabetes Prevention Program

A free lifestyle change program designed to help decrease your risk of type 2 diabetes
Offered by the Carroll County Health Department

290 S. Center St., Westminster
Call 410-876-4819 for more information.

Jumpstart to Wellness

This 8-week virtual program will include weekly online classes featuring discussions about weight management, heart health, pre-diabetes/diabetes, stress management and how to eat well-balanced meals.

An 8-week membership to the Y in Westminster is included in the program; participants are expected to exercise at the Y at least three days a week.
Tuesdays, January 13 – March 3
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

\$70

To register, call 410-871-7000.

Living Healthy, Living Well

These evidence-based programs introduce information and skills that help people with chronic pain, diabetes, and physical and mental health conditions lead a healthy life. Small group workshops are led by two trained facilitators and meet once a week for 2½ hours over six weeks.

For more information or to register, visit carrollcountymd.gov/aging-and-disabilities, call 410-386-3800 or email livinghealthy@carrollcountymd.gov

Nutrition in Media

We get so much nutrition information through the media. What is fact and what is fiction? This program allows you to explore an individual topic each session with a registered dietitian.

Wednesday, February 25, 5 – 6 p.m.

Carroll Hospital East Pavilion

Virtual and in-person (hybrid)

To register, visit nutritioninmedia.eventbrite.com

GRIEF SUPPORT SERVICES

BridgingLife offers free grief support to families, friends and community members who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Skilled, caring and certified counselors lead the programs, assisted by volunteers trained in grief and loss. Call 410-871-8000 for more information or visit bridginglifecare.org

VOLUNTEER

with Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland, Inc.

Our Mission: To enable people to live independently at home through the provision of nutritious meals, personal contact and related services

Meals on Wheels of Central MD volunteers deliver more than a meal. They provide security and connections to the aging and disabled in Central Maryland.



The Benefits of Volunteering:

- Meet new people
- Satisfaction of impacting someone's life
- Decreased stress & improved health
- Feeling of involvement

Individual Opportunities:

Deliver meals to homebound seniors and disabled individuals:

- Monday-Friday, 11:00a.m.-1:30p.m.
- Once a week, once a month, or whenever your schedule permits

Grocery shop for a client in your area:

- Flexible Scheduling
- Twice a month

Deliver pet food through
Kibble Connection:

- Flexible Scheduling
- Quarterly

Become a Call Star:

- Flexible Scheduling
- 1-2 hours per month

Pack meals at our Main Office or Kosher Kitchen

- Packing shifts available 6 days a week at our main office in Baltimore
- Kosher Kitchen packing shifts available weekday mornings



A dedicated volunteer delivering nutritious meal

Group Opportunities:

Become a Lunch Bunch volunteer and 'adopt a route' for meal delivery with your colleagues from work.

Pack meals with your group during a weekday or weekend at our main office

Host a fundraiser to support Meals on Wheels of Central MD, such as a trivia night, a chili cook-off or a fun run.

Complete a team-building service project. Make cards, care packages or Mugs of Love for us to deliver to clients.



A Grocery Assistance Program volunteer shops for his client.



Call 443-573-0925 or E-mail volunteer@mowcm.org

Sign up today! mealsonwheelsmd.org/volunteer/
515 South Haven Street, Baltimore, MD 21224

MARYLANDERS ONLINE CALL CENTER



Marylanders Online is an initiative through the University of Maryland Extension (UME) and College of Information Studies (INFO) with state funding that aims to bridge the digital divide throughout the state of Maryland.

Marylanders Online Call center is here to provide FREE one-on-one tech support to all the Maryland residents and bring digital equity in Maryland.

It will provide:

- Tech support in English and Spanish
- Any device support including hardware and software
- Assistance in getting connected with internet
- ACP application assistance
- Connect to local organizations offering various digital skills classes, device program, and much more.

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, age, disability, affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

Let's connect!

Number: 301-405-9810
Toll Free: 1-866-206-8467
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Monday to Friday
Email: marylandersonline@umd.edu



AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

TWO STEPS TO ENROLL

- 1 Go to AffordableConnectivity.gov to submit an application or print a mail-in application
- 2 Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Some providers may have an alternative application that they will ask you to complete.

Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Participates in any of the following assistance programs: SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
- Participates in any of the following Tribal specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or Tribal Head Start (income based);
- Participated in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating broadband provider's existing low-income internet program.

LEARN MORE

Call 877-384-2575, or Visit fcc.gov/acp

Carroll County

Tablet Loaner Program

Bureau of Aging & Disabilities

The Carroll County Bureau of Aging & Disabilities is helping Carroll County's older adults get—and stay—connected through its Free Tablet Lending Library Program. Stay connected by participating in virtual Aging & Disabilities and Senior Center events, activities and meetings. No internet service is required as tablets are equipped with unlimited data.

- Call 410-386-3800 for more information or to register
- Available for pick-up at any of the five senior and community centers
- Technical instruction available

Bureau of Aging & Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email ada@carrollcountymd.gov as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

Maryland Senior Call Check

PEACE OF MIND FOR THOSE HOME ALONE

 **DAILY AUTOMATED CHECK-IN CALLS**

 **FREE SERVICE**

 **MARYLANDERS AGED 65+**

 **YOUR CHOICE A MORNING OR AFTERNOON CALL**

Learn about the Maryland Senior Call Check and how to sign up. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkNDGbgHKZY>

Senior Call Check
1-866-50-CHECK

Sign up online or over the phone:
aging.maryland.gov 1 (866) 502-0560


MARYLAND
Department of Aging

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Rona E. Kramer
Secretary

If you're feeling anxious, depressed, or just need someone to talk to,

CALL 211

or dial 443-608-9182

2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Help.

United Way
United Way of Central Maryland



Connect with someone who can help.

Call the **211 Maryland United Way Helpline** and ask to be connected to the WARMLine. You'll talk with someone who will listen to your concerns and refer you to additional resources.

Mental health professionals are available weekdays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Follow these easy steps:

1. Dial 211 (or 443-608-9182) from any cell phone or landline.
2. Ask to be connected to the WARMLine.
3. Speak with <https://probонocounseling.org/> your needs.
4. You will be referred to any additional resources you may need.

United Way of Central Maryland has provided a grant to Pro Bono Counseling to support Marylanders who are experiencing mental health issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other reasons.

For more information, visit ProBonoCounseling.org.

**PRO BONO
COUNSELING
PROJECT**



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the lead federal agency, in partnership with the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Veterans Affairs, working to make the promise of 988 a reality for America. Moving to a 3-digit dialing code is a **once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** to strengthen and expand the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (the Lifeline).

Of course, 988 is more than just an easy-to-remember number—it is a direct connection to compassionate, accessible care and support for anyone experiencing mental health related distress – whether that is thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Preparing for full 988 implementation requires a bold vision for a **crisis care system that provides direct, life-saving services to all in need.**

SAMHSA sees 988 as a first step towards a transformed crisis care system in much the same way as emergency medical services have expanded in the US.



In pursuit of this bold yet achievable vision, SAMHSA is first focused on strengthening and expanding the existing Lifeline network, providing life-saving service to all who call, text or chat via 988. Longer term, SAMHSA recognizes that linking those in crisis to community-based providers—who can deliver a full range of crisis care services—is **essential to meeting crisis needs across the nation.**



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Lifeline and will 988 replace it?

The Lifeline is a national network of over 200 local, independent, and state-funded crisis centers equipped to help people in emotional distress or experiencing a suicidal crisis. **Moving to 988 will not replace the Lifeline**, rather it will be an easier way to access a strengthened and expanded network of crisis call centers. Beginning July 16, 2022, people can access the Lifeline via 988 or by the 10-digit number (which will not go away).

When will 988 go live nationally?

The 988 dialing code will be available nationally for call, text, or chat on July 16, 2022. Until then, those experiencing a mental health or suicide-related crisis, or those helping a loved one through crisis, should continue to reach the Lifeline at its current number, 1-800-273-8255.

How is 988 different from 911?

988 was established to improve access to crisis services in a way that meets our country's growing suicide and mental health related crisis care needs. 988 will provide easier access to the Lifeline network and related crisis resources, which are distinct from 911 (where the focus is on dispatching Emergency Medical Services, fire and police as needed).

How is 988 being funded?

Congress has provided the Department of Health and Human Services workforce funding through the American Rescue Plan, some of which will support the 988 workforce. At the state level, in addition to existing public/private sector funding streams, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 allows states to enact new state telecommunication fees to help support 988 operations.

Is 988 available for substance use crisis?

The Lifeline accepts calls from anyone who needs support for a suicidal, mental health and/or substance use crisis.

Urgent realities.



Too many Americans are experiencing suicide and mental health crises without the support and care they need. In 2020 alone, the US had one death by suicide about every 11 minutes – and for people aged 10-34 years, suicide is a leading cause of death.

Easier access.



Moving to an easy-to-remember, 3-digit dialing code will provide greater access to life-saving services.

There is hope.



Providing 24/7, free and confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress works! The Lifeline helps thousands of people overcome crisis situations every day.

Email 988 questions to:
988Team@samhsa.hhs.gov



**CARROLL COUNTY
DEPARTMENT
OF SOCIAL SERVICES**
1232 Tech Court
Westminster, MD 21157



FAMILY INVESTIGATION ADMINISTRATION

APPLY FOR BENEFITS ONLINE: mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us

DHS CUSTOMER SERVICES: 1-800-332-6347 / FAX: 410-386-3428

WEBSITE TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS: fia.carrollco@maryland.gov

APPLY FOR LONG TERM CARE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: mymdthink.maryland.gov
TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT: 443-821-5833 (M-F, 8-4:30)

CHILD SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION

APPLY ONLINE: www.dhr.state.md.us/csea

CUSTOMER SERVICE: 1-800-332-6347 / Carroll.CSA.DHS@maryland.gov

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT: 443-929-2908 (M-F, 8-4:30)

PAYMENT INFO: 1-800-723-9937

SERVICES UNITS

To report suspected abuse or neglect: 410-386-3434

FOSTER PARENT RECRUITMENT LINE: 410-386-3333





Maryland Legal Aid provides a full range of free civil legal services to financially eligible individuals from 12 office locations. Our legal work helps to protect peoples' basic needs and human rights. Get help now by calling 1-888-465-2468 or apply with [online in-take](#).

Attend a FREE legal clinic for in-person help!

*Check with one of the Senior Centers for dates and times for in person clinics.

Maryland Legal Aid's
Midwestern Maryland Office
22 South Market Street
Suite 11
Frederick, MD 21701
Telephone Intake: 301-694-7414
www.mdlab.org

Connect with us   

November 2022
Volume 48

Inside this issue:

Social Security and Scam Awareness 1
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Local Offices

Local Social Security offices are offering more in-person appointments and have resumed in-person service for people without an appointment. As we expand in-person service, we expect our offices to be very busy. We strongly encourage you to continue to go online, call us for help, and schedule appointments in advance. Learn more at ssa.gov/coronavirus/gethelp.

 **my Social Security**
Check out your Social Security Statement, change your address and manage your benefits online today. SSA.gov/myaccount

 **Online Services**
You can access many of our services online. SSA.gov/onlineervices

Social Security and Scam Awareness

Social Security imposter scams are widespread across the United States. Scammers use targeted, sophisticated tactics to deceive you into providing sensitive information or money.

Social Security's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has received reports of scammers creating fake versions of the identifiable badges most federal employees use to gain access to federal buildings. The scammers may text or email photos of the fake badges to convince potential victims of their legitimacy. These badges use government symbols, words, and even names and photos of real people, which are available on government websites or through internet searches.

If you receive a suspicious letter, text, email, or call, hang up or do not respond. We want you to know how to identify a scammer and avoid becoming victims.

We will NEVER:

- Text or email images of an employee's official government identification.
- Suspend your Social Security number.
- Threaten you with arrest or other legal action unless you immediately pay a fine or fee.
- Require payment by retail gift card, wire transfer, internet currency, or cash by mail.
- Promise a benefit increase or other assistance in exchange for payment.
- Send "official" letters or reports containing your personal information via email.

We only send text messages if you have opted in to receive texts from us and only in limited situations, including the following:

- When you have subscribed to receive updates and notifications by text.
- As part of our enhanced security when accessing your personal my Social Security account.

If you owe money to us, we will mail you a letter with payment options and appeal rights.

We encourage you to report suspected Social Security imposter scams — and other Social Security fraud — to the OIG's website at oig.ssa.gov/report. You may read our previous Social Security fraud advisories at oig.ssa.gov/news-releases. Please share this information with your friends and family to help spread awareness about Social Security imposter scams.

How to Get Help from Social Security

Social Security is here to help. We want you to know how to get the service you need and to be prepared so we can help you as quickly and safely as possible.



Go online to SSA.gov. Our website is the best way for most people to get help.



If you cannot use our website call our National 800 Number (1-800-772-1213) or your local Social Security office for help.



We will schedule an appointment for you, if necessary, to serve you by phone or in person.

What to Know if You Must Visit an Office:

- You must have an appointment to visit an office.
- Masks are required for all office visitors and employees, regardless of vaccination status.
- Visitor capacity is limited to follow physical distancing requirements. This means you may need to wait outside, so plan for cold or bad weather.
- We ask that you come alone unless you require help with your visit. If you require help, we can only permit one person to accompany you.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

 Securing today and tomorrow

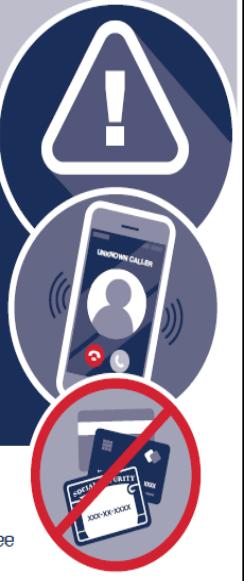

Social Security Administration
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Beware of Phone Scams

Social Security wants you to know about widespread phone scams where scammers pretend to be government employees. They may tell you about a Social Security-related problem to gain your trust and steal your money. We want you to hang up on scammers — help us "slam the scam"!

IF YOU RECEIVE A SUSPICIOUS CALL:

- 1 Hang up
- 2 Do not give money or personal information
- 3 Report the scam at oig.ssa.gov

Social Security may call you in some situations but we will never:

- Threaten to arrest you unless you pay a fine or fee
- Suspend your Social Security number
- Require immediate payment from you by cash, gift card, pre-paid debit card, or wire transfer
- Demand secrecy in dealing with a Social Security problem

Protect yourself, friends, and family: don't forget to "slam the scam"!

 Securing today and tomorrow

Social Security Administration | Publication No. 05-10597 | February 2021 | Produced at U.S. taxpayer expense 