

Resource Code Card

KIDS LEGAL &

The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital
www.kidslegal.org

This card is designed to assist practitioners in Maine in identifying environmental and social problems impacting children's health and in providing direct resource information to families regarding benefits and services.

To find a list of resources statewide see:
www.kidslegal.org

HOW TO REFER FAMILIES NEEDING SERVICES:

- Use this card as a screening tool to help identify problems facing the family and make referrals.
- Refer to social worker/case manager
- Call KIDS LEGAL: 1-866-624-7787; 774-8246

KIDS LEGAL

at Pine Tree Legal Assistance
774-8246; 1-866-624-7787; ME Relay 711
www.kidslegal.org

Free legal services to low-income* children and families in education, housing, public benefits, MaineCare and some family matters; trainings and consultations to providers serving low-income youth

*most children who qualify for MaineCare will qualify for KIDS LEGAL services.

GENERAL TIPS

- Suggest families apply for benefits:
 - Food Stamps
 - WIC
 - Welfare (TANF)
 - MaineCare
 - Fuel assistance
 - Earned Income Tax Credit
 - Social Security Disability/SSI
 - General Assistance
 - Subsidized Housing
- Encourage families to re-apply or request an appeal of services that they were denied. Due to deadlines, have families appeal first and refer to an attorney second.
- Document need for services in chart.
- Be willing to provide medical and other information to an attorney who is representing the family.

MEDICAL-LEGAL HEALTH ISSUES

Things To Look For:

- Little or no income
- Unable to purchase enough food/poor nutrition
- Exposure to unsafe living conditions
- Risk of eviction/homelessness
- School failure or exclusion
- Lack of or inappropriate special education services for children with disabilities
- Children not living with parent or guardian
- Immigration issues
- Abuse (victim or witness)

SAMPLE SCREENING QUESTIONS

- Are you making ends meet?
- Do you have enough food for your family?
- Have you applied for public benefits?
- Do you have health insurance or MaineCare?
- Have you applied for housing assistance?
- Is the home you're living in safe?
- Have you received any notices from your landlord?
- Is your child going to school? Is she passing?
- Do you need help with your immigration status?
- Are there fights in your home? Do they get physical? Do you have a safe place to go?

RESOURCES

CHILD ABUSE and TRAUMA

To Report: DHHS: 1-800-452-1999
Forensic Evaluation: Spurwink: 871-1235
National Hotlines:
Child Abuse: 1-800-422-4453
Stop It Now: 1-888-773-8368
Advocacy:
Guardian ad litem (GAL) appointed for child/children; court appoints attorney for low-income parents of children removed from the home by DHHS
Complaint about DHHS:
ME Children's Alliance: 1-866-621-0758

"CUSTODY" ISSUES

Please note: Maine refers to custody as
"parental rights & responsibilities"

Advocacy:
[Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org](http://www.ptla.org)
Volunteer Lawyers' Project: 1-800-442-4293
Child Support:
DHHS: Support Enforcement & Recovery:
1-800-371-3101

DISABILITY/DEVELOPMENT DELAY

Services:

Alpha One: 1-800-640-7200
Independent living/assistive technology
Aspergers Association of New Eng.: 1-617-393-3824
Autism Society of Maine: 1-800-273-5200
Behavioral & Developmental Health: 662-1622
Child Development Services: 781-8881 (Falmouth);
outside Falmouth, see www.kidslegal.org
Children's Behavioral Health Services: 624-7900
Iris Network: 1-800-715-0097 (visually impaired)
Maine Center for Community Inclusion: 1-800-203-6957
Maine Center on Deafness: 1-800-639-3884 (v/tty)
Maine Tourette Syndrome Assoc.: 1-877368-9800
Pine Tree Society: 443-3341 (v/tty)
Social Security/SSI (income): 1-800-772-1213
UCP of Maine: 1-877-603-0030
Bridges for Integrated Health: 467-8212
Advocacy:
KIDS LEGAL: 774-8246; 1-866-624-7787
Disability Rights Center: 1-800-452-1948 (v/tty)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

Hotlines: Any 800 number can be called collect

- Nat'l hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
- State DV hotline: 1-800-537-6066
- State sexual assault hotline: 1-800-871-7741

Shelters:

- Cumberland/Sagadahoc: 1-800-537-6066
- For statewide listing see www.kidslegal.org

EDUCATION

Maine Department of Education: 624-6600
Home School Resources: www.maine.gov/education/hs
Head Start: Cumberland County: 874-1140 (PROP);
other counties: local CAP/Head Start program
Community College System: 629-4000
Adult Education: contact local school district
GED Info: 624-6752
ME Assoc. for Charter Schools: 763-3576
www.mainecharterschools.org

Homeless:

Contact local school's homeless student liaison
State homeless student coordinator: 624-6637

Special Ed Support for Parents:

Maine Parent Federation: 1-800-870-7746
Southern Maine Parent Awareness: 1-800-564-9696
Learning Disabilities Association of Maine:
1-877-208-4029

Advocacy:

KIDS LEGAL: 774-8246; 1-866-624-7787
for special ed and non-special ed issues
Disability Rights Center: 1-800-452-1948
for special ed issues

FOOD and NUTRITION

Services:

Food Stamps: DHHS, 1-800-452-1926 or local office
Food Programs: Preble Street Resource Center,
Portland Area: 775-0026
Outside Portland see www.kidslegal.org
General Assistance: Apply at local town office
▪ financial assistance
School breakfast & lunch programs: apply at school
WIC: 1-800-437-9300

Advocacy:

[Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774- 8211; www.ptla.org](http://www.ptla.org)

HEAT and UTILITIES

Services:

Fuel Assistance – apply at local Community Action Prg;
Portland: PROP 1-800-698-4959 or 553-5800
▪ Low Income Home Energy Assist. Program
(LIHEAP & CHIP)
▪ Emergency fuel assistance (ECIP)
▪ Low-income assistance plan (LIAP)
General Assistance: Apply at local town office
Emergency Assistance: Contact local DHHS office
Lifeline: low-cost phone services & install. Call local CAP
agency or phone provider

MPUC: 1-800-452-4699 (electric/utility terminations)

CMP: 1-800-686-4044

Bangor Hydro: 1-800-499-6600

Advocacy:

[Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org](http://www.ptla.org)

HEALTH INSURANCE/ASSISTANCE

Services:

MaineCare Client Helpline: 1-800-977-6740
MaineCare Eligibility (DHHS): 1-800-321-5557
General Assistance: apply at local town office
Health Care for Homeless, Cumberland County:
874-8445

Children with Special Needs Program: 1-800-698-3624
Based on income & medical condition

Consumers for Affordable Health Care Helpline:
1-800-965-7476

Bureau of Insurance Consumer Div.: 1-800-300-5000

Advocacy:

KIDS LEGAL: 774-8246; 1-866-624-7787
[Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org](http://www.ptla.org)

GBLTQ

PRYSM (Community Counseling) Portland: 874-1030
Outright, Bangor: 1-877-990-3626, 990-3626
Out as I Want To Be, Rockland: 1-800-530-6997
Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, 1-800-455-4523
Equality Maine: 761-3732
Trevor Nat'l Hotline for Youth: 1-800-850-8078

HOMELESS

Homeless Intervention Program (VOA): 577-3236
Statewide Shelter Listing: see www.kidslegal.org
Oxford Street Shelter, Portland: 761-2072 (men)
Portland Family Shelter: 772-8339 (refer to General Assistance first)

Preble Street Center, Portland: 874-6560 (women)
York County Shelter: 324-1137

Advocacy:

Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org

HOUSING DEFINITIONS

Project Based Subsidized Housing:

Low-income families pay portion of income toward rent; subsidy pays the rest and stays with apt.

Section 8 Voucher:

Low-income families receive rent voucher. Landlords agree to take voucher. Tenants keep voucher when they move. Rent is based on family's income.

RAC:

Rental Assistance Coupon for those trying to better their situation (job training, etc.). Expires after 18 mos.

BRAP:

Low-income mental health consumers receive rent voucher. Rent based on family income.

Shelter Plus Care:

Rent voucher for disabled homeless and their families that also provide social services. Rent based on family income.

HOUSING RESOURCES

Subsidized Housing Application:

Local Public Housing Authority
Local Community Action Program (CAP) Agency
Maine State Housing Authority: 1-800-452-4668
Statewide Apartment Search: www.kidslegal.org

Unsafe Conditions:

Town Code Enforcement Officer: call local town office
State Senior Electrical Inspector: 624-8640
State Mobile Home Park Inspector: 624-8612
Lead Poisoning Prevention: 1-800-452-1942
Health Officer: Call local town office

Financial Assistance:

General Assistance: apply at local town office
Property Tax Abatement: apply at local town office
Low-income mortgages: 1-800-452-4668
ME Homestead Exemption: apply at local town office
State Property Tax & Rent Refund: 626-8475
Emergency Assistance: Local DHHS office

Discrimination:

Maine Human Rights Commission: 624-6050

Advocacy/Eviction/Foreclosure Prevention:

Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org
Volunteer Lawyers Project: 1-800-442-4293

IMMIGRANT and REFUGEE ISSUES

Tips for Immigrant Families:

- Receipt of food stamps, WIC and MaineCare will not affect immigration status
- All people, regardless of immigration status, are eligible for emergency Medicaid, housing, WIC, disaster relief, public school food programs and public school public education for grades K-12
- An undocumented person in the same household can safely help a US citizen apply for public benefits

Refer to an immigration attorney if:

- Family wants to change immigration status
- Undocumented survivors of child abuse/domestic violence who want to change immigration status
- Non-eligible immigrants may be entitled to benefits

Legal Assistance for Immigrants and Refugees

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP):
1-800-497-8505

- For immigration status and related issues

Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org

- Assistance with benefits and housing for legal immigrants

General Resource & Referral Assistance

Refugee Collaborative, Portland: 775-7915

Refugee Resettlement Assistance

Catholic Charities of Maine Refugee & Immigrant Services: 871-7437

INCOME SUPPORT

Types:

Apply at local DHHS office:

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Welfare for low-income families w/minor children: 1-800-482-7520
- Food Stamps: 1-800-452-1926
- Emergency Assistance

Apply at Local Town Office

- General Assistance Assistance with housing, food, utilities, household, and medical expenses
 - Property Tax Abatement for homeowners
- Apply at local Community Action Program (CAP)
- fuel assistance
 - Section 8 housing vouchers

Earned Income Tax Credit: 1-800-829-1040

Social Security Administration (disabled/retired; surviving minor child): 1-800-772-1213

State Property Tax & Rent Refund: 626-8475

www.maine.gov/revenue

Advocacy:

Pine Tree Legal Assistance: 774-8211; www.ptla.org

Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic: 942-8241

LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

Hearing Impaired, Pine Tree Society: 885-0536 (tty/v)
Foreign Language: Language Access for New Americans: www.lanamaine.org

LITERACY

Adult Learning Opportunities Hotline: 1-800322-5455
Literacy Volunteers of Maine: www.lvmaine.org

MENTAL HEALTH

Crisis Services

Crisis Line: 774-HELP; 1-888-568-1112; 774-0700 (tty)
Suicide Prevention: 1-888-568-1112

Children's Case Management Services:

Children's Behavioral Health Services (Cumberland & York counties): 1-800-482-7520

Comm. Health & Counseling Svcs: 1-800-924-0366

Northeast Occupational Exchange: 1-866-616-1626

Pine Tree Society: 885-9215

Sweetser: 1-800-434-3000

Spurwink Institute: 1-866-688-4573 (statewide)

Tri-County: 1-888-278-3521

WINGS: 1-800-823-2988 (5 northern counties)

Woodfords Family Services: 1-800-439-0314

Parent support group

GEAR: 1-800-264-9224

Assessment /Services, youth at risk of mental illness:
PIER Program, ages 12 to 25: 662-2004 (Portland)

Advocacy

KIDS LEGAL: 774-8246; 1-866-624-7787

NAMI Maine : 1-800-464-5767

Disability Rights Center: 1-800-452-1948 (v/tty)

OVERWEIGHT

www.healthymainepartnerships.org

www.healthymainewalks.org

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Planned Parenthood: 1-800-230-7526

Planned Parenthood of Maine: 1-877-326-2345

Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center: 324-5752

CDC STD/AIDS National Hotline: 1-800-342-2437

My Choice Pregnancy Support (MAPS): 1-800-773-9595

National Pregnancy Helpline: 1-800-395-HELP

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

AA central office: 774-3034

AlAnon/AlaTeen: 1-800-498-1844; www.maineafg.org

Day One: 874-1045

Maine Tobacco Helpline: 1-800-207-1230

Maine NarcAnon: 1-800-974-0062

Methadone Maintenance: 774-7111 (Portland);
973-6100; (Bangor); 872-7272 (Waterville)

Maine Resource/Helpline: 1-800-499-0027

ME Office of Substance Abuse: 1-800-499-0027

TEEN RESOURCES

National Runaway Hotline: 1-800-RUN-AWAY

Homeless Services

Preble Street Teen Center, Portland: 874-1197, day

Lighthouse Shelter, Portland: 774-3073, eve

New Beginnings Shelter, Lewiston: 795-4070

Shaw House Shelter, Bangor: 941-2874

Halcyon House, Skowhegan: 474-8574

Home Counselors, Inc., Youth Outreach: 596-0359

Homeless Youth Outreach, Rumford: 369-9439

Youth Alternatives/Ingraham Homeless Serv.: 874-1175

Youth/Family Serv. Outreach, Augusta: 1-877-258-7949

Emancipation: 16+ year olds

Apply at local District Court where parent lives; free attorney is appointed for teen

Dating Violence

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline. 1-866-331-9474

Juvenile Offenses/Court

Juveniles have a right to a lawyer. Court will appoint one free if juvenile and parents cannot afford one. Free lawyer of the day will be at Court to advise juvenile.

Health

MaineCare: DHHS, 1-800-321-5557

School-based health clinics: www.measbhc.org

Eating Disorders

New England Eating Disorders: Mercy Hospital, 879-3795; Westbrook 854-8464

Alternative Programs

Job Corps: Limestone, 328-4212; Bangor, 990-3000; National, 1-800-733-5627

Future Builders, Raymond: 655-1000

Youth Building Alternatives, Portland: 775-0105

REAL School, Windham/Mackworth Island: 892-4462

The Community School, Camden: 236-8404

The Carleton Project, Presque Isle: 768-9998

Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG): 620-7180

Advocacy

[KIDS LEGAL: 774-8246; 1-866-624-7787](http://www.kidslegal.org)

YOUNG PARENTS

Teen Parent School Program: 873-4253

Mainly Parents: 1-800-249-5506

Healthy Families: 859-1580

Parents as Teachers: 1-800-870-7746

Teen & Young Adult Health Program: 1-800-698-3624

Teen & Young Parent Program of Knox County, Rockland: 1-877-072-5804; 594-1980

Parent Resource Center, Springvale: 324-1371

Pregnancy & Single Mom Support, Lewiston: 777-3776

Shelters for Pregnant Teens

MAPS (18+): Portland, 772-7555; Bangor: 990-3005

St. Andre's (group homes): 771-5683

Stepping Stones, Houlton: 1-800-287-9358

Advocacy

[KIDS LEGAL: 774-8246; 1-866-624-7787](http://www.kidslegal.org)

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