RedbankValley.org

Jefferson County Assistance Guide

Utility, housing, emergency help and related local resources

19 published resources serving Jefferson County

This guide includes all current published directory resources whose stated coverage includes this county, including multi-county programs. It is not limited by website search filters.

A courtesy directory, not a guarantee of funding, eligibility or placement. Programs, hours, deadlines and waiting lists change. Confirm details directly with the provider. For additional referrals call 211. In immediate danger, call 911.

Generated date is not a new verification date. Each entry retains its own information-review date; a website/link check does not verify funding or contact accuracy.

1. Community Action, Inc. - Housing and Utilities

Utilities and heating | Housing and rent | Emergency help

Help with rent, deposits, shut-off notices, housing searches and case management for households facing homelessness.

Clarion office: +1-814-226-4785

Jefferson office: 814-938-3302

Homeless emergency after hours: +1-800-598-3998

Email: contact@jccap.org

Location: Clarion: 22868 Route 68, Suite 1, Clarion, PA 16214. Jefferson: 105 Grace Way, Punxsutawney, PA 15767.

Who may qualify: County residence, homelessness risk and eviction or shut-off documentation affect eligibility. The provider explicitly lists both counties.

Availability and next steps: Shelter or payment assistance depends on screening and availability.

Provider website: https://www.jccap.org/programs

Official source: https://www.jccap.org/contacts-locations

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

2. Community Action, Inc. - Regional Veterans Services

Housing and rent | Emergency help | Benefits and financial help

Short-term housing assistance and case management for veterans and their families facing homelessness.

Office / program: 814-938-3302

Email: contact@jccap.org

Location: 105 Grace Way, Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Who may qualify: Veteran status, homelessness risk and household income criteria apply.

Availability and next steps: Staff determine eligibility and available support; help is not guaranteed.

Provider website: https://www.jccap.org/programs

Application / next steps: https://www.jccap.org/contacts-locations

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

3. Community Action, Inc. - Weatherization

Utilities and heating

Home energy and safety assessment with eligible efficiency improvements to reduce household energy use.

Weatherization program: +1-814-938-3302

Email: contact@jccap.org

Who may qualify: Application and home assessment determine eligibility. The program page explicitly lists both counties.

Availability and next steps: A waiting list may apply; not an immediate utility-bill payment.

Provider website: https://www.jccap.org/programs

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

4. Dollar Energy Fund - Pennsylvania Utility Assistance

Utilities and heating

Utility hardship grants and other assistance for customers of participating companies, with an online application and local agency finder.

Utility assistance: +1-888-282-6816

Who may qualify: Income, utility, balance, prior-payment and service-status rules vary. Supply the utility bill and household income documentation. Delivered fuels such as oil, propane, coal and wood are not covered by Dollar Energy Fund. Conditional coverage: a resident must be a customer of an eligible participating utility. The program finder must confirm the actual utility and address.

Availability and next steps: The official 2026-27 opening announcement is current, but individual program dates and funding differ. Contact the utility or program before relying on a grant.

Provider website: https://www.dollarenergy.org/programs/

Application / next steps: https://www.dollarenergy.org/resources/

Official source: https://www.dollarenergy.org/news/dollar-energy-fund-opens-2026-2027-program-year/

Official source: https://www.dollarenergy.org/contact-us/

Official source: https://www.dollarenergy.org/faq/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

5. Jefferson County Assistance Office

Utilities and heating | Benefits and financial help

Local assistance-office staff help residents apply for and renew Pennsylvania benefit programs.

Office / program: 814-938-2990

Toll-free: 800-242-8214

Jefferson LIHEAP: 814-938-1329

Location: 100 Prushnok Drive, P.O. Box 720, Punxsutawney, PA 15767-0720

Who may qualify: Eligibility and supporting documents depend on the program requested.

Availability and next steps: Office hours listed by DHS are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; confirm holiday or service changes.

Provider website: https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/contact/cao-information

Continued: Jefferson County Assistance Office

Application / next steps: https://www.compass.dhs.pa.gov/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

6. Jefferson County Housing Authority

Housing and rent

Public housing and Housing Choice Voucher applications for eligible households.

Office / program: 814-938-7140

Toll-free: 800-585-5303

Email: ph1@jeffcoha.com

Location: 201 North Jefferson Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Who may qualify: Income, household documentation and program admission requirements apply.

Availability and next steps: Official application page states waiting lists reopened July 27, 2026. Applying does not guarantee prompt placement. Older income and rent tables on that page should be confirmed with staff.

Provider website: https://www.jeffcoha.com/application.aspx

Official source: https://jeffcoha.org/contact.aspx

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

7. LIHEAP - Heating and Crisis Assistance

Utilities and heating | Emergency help

Income-based grants paid to heating providers, with crisis assistance for qualifying heating emergencies.

State LIHEAP hotline: 866-857-7095

Armstrong LIHEAP: 724-543-6076

Clarion LIHEAP: 814-226-1780

Jefferson LIHEAP: 814-938-1329

Who may qualify: Income rules apply. Renters and owners may qualify; enrollment in other public assistance is not required. Crisis grants have additional requirements. Statewide program administered locally by county assistance offices.

Availability and next steps: The previous LIHEAP season is closed. DHS has scheduled the 2026-27 season to open November 2, 2026. Check the official page or call your county office for current application and crisis-help information.

Provider website: https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/resources/liheap

Application / next steps: https://www.compass.dhs.pa.gov/

Official source: https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/contact/cao-information

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

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8. PA 211 - Local Assistance Referrals

Utilities and heating | Housing and rent | Emergency help | Food | Benefits and financial help

Free, confidential resource navigation connecting residents with local assistance programs. Available by phone, text and online search.

Dial for assistance referrals: 211

Who may qualify: Anyone may seek referrals. Each referred provider determines its own eligibility. Statewide referral network; search using the actual home ZIP code.

Availability and next steps: 211 is a referral service, not a promise of funding, shelter or benefits. Text your ZIP code to 898211 for resource referrals.

Provider website: https://www.pa211.org/

Application / next steps: https://search.pa211.org/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

9. Penelec - Customer Assistance and WARM

Utilities and heating | Housing and rent

PCAP payment assistance, hardship referrals and WARM home-energy improvements for eligible electric customers.

Office / program: 888-282-6816

WARM / FirstEnergy Human Services: 888-406-8074

Penelec customer service / CARES: 800-545-7741

Who may qualify: Program-specific income and account rules apply. WARM also has electricity-use criteria and requires landlord approval for renters. For eligible Penelec residential customers; verify the provider on the household's electric bill.

Availability and next steps: PCAP and WARM are listed year-round; benefits require approval.

Provider website: https://www.firstenergycorp.com/help/billingpayments/assistance_serviceprogram/penelec.html

Application / next steps: https://www.pabillassist.com/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

10. Pennsylvania DHS HelpLine / COMPASS Benefits Helpline

Benefits and financial help

Help navigating state benefits and COMPASS, including cash, food and medical-assistance programs.

Office / program: 800-692-7462

TTY/TDD: 800-451-5886

Who may qualify: Anyone may ask about benefits; each benefit program makes its own eligibility decision. Statewide Pennsylvania service.

Availability and next steps: A benefits-information helpline, not an unrestricted emergency cash fund.

Provider website: https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/contact/helpful-phone-numbers

Application / next steps: https://www.compass.dhs.pa.gov/intake/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Continued: Pennsylvania DHS HelpLine / COMPASS Benefits Helpline

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

11. Pennsylvania Emergency Shelter Allowance (ESA)

Housing and rent | Emergency help | Legal help

A limited emergency benefit that may help an eligible household prevent eviction or foreclosure, obtain housing, or find temporary shelter.

DHS benefit questions: 800-692-7462

Who may qualify: Income, resources, household and non-financial rules apply. DHS requires evidence of the emergency and that the allowance will resolve it. It is not a general rental subsidy; frequency and payment limits apply.

Availability and next steps: Contact your county assistance office for an interview and eligibility review. An application for benefits may be required.

Provider website: https://www.pa.gov/services/dhs/apply-for-the-emergency-shelter-allowance-esa

Official source: https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dhs/contact/helpful-phone-numbers

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

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12. Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

Housing and rent | Benefits and financial help

Rebates for qualifying Pennsylvania older adults and people with disabilities who paid eligible rent or property taxes.

Office / program: 888-222-9190

Who may qualify: Age/disability, income and proof-of-payment rules apply. This reimburses qualifying prior-year expenses; it is not immediate emergency rental assistance.

Availability and next steps: Applications for eligible 2025 expenses have a published December 31, 2026 deadline. Use the official page for online, paper and free in-person assistance options, and confirm the current deadline.

Provider website: https://www.pa.gov/agencies/revenue/ptrr

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

13. Pennsylvania Utility Assistance - CAP, CARES and Hardship Programs

Utilities and heating

The PUC explains utility customer-assistance programs, hardship funds, usage-reduction services and payment arrangements. Contact the utility named on your bill for programs it offers.

Office / program: 800-692-7380

Who may qualify: Programs differ by utility, household income and circumstances. The PUC information page is not an application or a guarantee of shutoff protection.

Availability and next steps: Begin with your utility's assistance department. Programs and available funding vary. The PUC can help with unresolved utility issues.

Provider website: https://www.puc.pa.gov/about-the-puc/consumer-education/utility-assistance-programs/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

14. Pennsylvania Utility Law Project - Utility Hotline

Utilities and heating | Legal help

Potential free legal help with utility disconnection and related utility problems.

Office / program: 844-645-2500

Email: utilityhotline@pautilitylawproject.org

Who may qualify: Contact the local legal-services program first. PULP's hotline is for people who still need assistance after that step; eligibility screening applies. Statewide Pennsylvania service.

Availability and next steps: Legal assistance, not a utility-bill grant. Representation and outcomes are not guaranteed.

Provider website: https://www.pautilitylawproject.org/ineedhelp/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

15. Pennsylvania Weatherization Assistance Program

Utilities and heating | Housing and rent

Home energy assessments and eligible energy-saving improvements for qualifying low-income households, delivered through local agencies in all Pennsylvania counties.

Who may qualify: Income rules and priority categories apply. Work depends on the energy assessment and local program capacity; it is not cash for unrestricted repairs.

Availability and next steps: Contact the weatherization agency serving your county through the official provider directory. Armstrong residents may also ask ACCAP. A waiting list may apply.

Provider website: https://dced.pa.gov/housing-and-development/weatherization/

Official source: https://dced.pa.gov/programs/weatherization-assistance-program-wap/

Official source: https://www.armstrongcap.com/weatherization

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

Source changes or an unavailable link need review. Confirm current details with the provider.

16. PHFA - Homeowners' Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program

Housing and rent

Repayable mortgage-assistance loans for eligible Pennsylvania homeowners in hardship, applied for through designated housing counselors.

HEMAP program information: +1-800-342-2397

HEMAP office: +1-717-780-3940

Who may qualify: This is a loan, not a grant. Hardship, repayment prospects, residence, mortgage type and other rules apply. An Act 91 notice is generally required, with limited exceptions. Statewide program for eligible Pennsylvania primary residences.

Availability and next steps: Foreclosure notices have strict deadlines; contact an approved counselor promptly. A directory listing does not stop foreclosure or establish eligibility.

Provider website: https://www.phfa.org/counseling/hemap.aspx

Official source: https://www.phfa.org/about/contact/telephonedirectory.aspx

Continued: PHFA - Homeowners' Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program

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17. Salvation Army - Punxsutawney Worship & Service Center

Benefits and financial help

Local social-services intake and community support through the Punxsutawney center.

Office / program: 814-938-5530

Email: lisa.scalzitti@use.salvationarmy.org

Who may qualify: Ask local staff about the applicable program, location and household requirements. The official local page describes Jefferson County and surrounding communities; call to confirm service for a specific address.

Availability and next steps: Call for a social-services appointment and ask which programs are currently available. Specific cash, rent or utility payments are not guaranteed.

Provider website: https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/western-pennsylvania/punxsutawney/home/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

18. Summit Legal Aid - Clarion Office

Housing and rent | Legal help | Benefits and financial help

Civil legal advice and representation for qualifying residents, including housing issues and public-benefits denials or reductions.

Clarion intake office: +1-814-226-4340

General inquiries: +1-800-846-0871

Email: info@summitlegal.org

Location: 231 West Main Street, Clarion, PA, 16214

Who may qualify: Income and case screening apply. Free representation is not guaranteed for every matter. Clarion County is explicitly in the service area.

Availability and next steps: Email may take a day to receive a response; use the intake phone promptly for an urgent legal deadline. This is legal assistance, not a cash grant.

Provider website: https://summitlegal.org/contact-and-office-locations/

Official source: https://summitlegal.org/pathways-partner-network/partner-referrals/

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

19. USDA Section 504 - Rural Home Repair Loans and Grants

Housing and rent

Repair loans for eligible low-income homeowners and health-and-safety repair grants for qualifying older homeowners in eligible rural locations.

Who may qualify: The applicant must own and occupy the home, meet applicable income rules and be unable to obtain affordable credit elsewhere. Grants have additional age and income requirements. Not every address in these counties is eligible.

Availability and next steps: Applications are accepted year-round, subject to funding. Check rural property eligibility and contact a USDA Rural Development home-loan specialist.

Continued: USDA Section 504 - Rural Home Repair Loans and Grants

Provider website: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants-31

Official source: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/single-family-housing-programs/single-family-housing-repair-loans-grants-31?qt-initiatives=6

Information reviewed: October 18, 2026. Latest website/link check: November 11, 2026.

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