

Medical and Financial Assistant Programs

In our search for financial assistance for traveling to see a specialist for Periodic Paralysis (PP): Andersen-Tawil Syndrome (ATS) in another state and for being part of study for ATS, we came across an organization, National Organization for Rare Diseases (NORD), that sent me a list of medical and financial assistance programs.

We are posting this list for those who need to travel great distances to see specialists or attend MDA Clinics and/or for those of you do not have insurance or are underinsured and/or for those who cannot pay for their medications or may need a wheelchair, etc. The list below assists with:

- *Locating health insurance in all 50 states*
- *Subsidizing the cost of health insurance premiums*
- *Providing pharmacy and treatment co-payment assistance*
- *Assisting with Medicare Part D Co-insurance*
- *Helping with advocacy for Social Security Disability*
- *Housing while traveling for medical reasons*
- *Assistance with basic living needs during a medical crisis*
- *Assistance with out-of-pocket care costs*
- *Assistance for parents caring for their special-needs children*
- *Assistance for medical devices such as wheelchairs and scooters*
- *Assistance with respiratory services*
- *And much more*

Financial Assistance Programs

Below are some links regarding medical/financial assistance programs. I hope you find them helpful.

(Please don't forget to first try contacting your local social services department and/or charitable organizations in your area.)

Medication Assistance Programs from NORD:

Website: <http://www.rarediseases.org/patients-and-families/patient-assistance>

203-744-0100 x224

Other Financial Assistance Programs:

Patient Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 5930, Midlothian, VA 23112, 1-800-366-7741, Email:

uneeedpsi@uneeedpsi.org, Website:

<https://www.patientservicesinc.org/>

Patient Services, Inc. (PSI) is the "ground breaking" 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization of its kind. Two decades ago, we recognized the importance of providing a "safety net" for patients with chronic illnesses who were struggling to keep up with expensive premiums and co-payments. Since 1989 we have led the charge to provide much needed patient assistance, soliciting donations to fund thousands of patients and their families in a myriad of disease areas. Today we're flattered by our emulators (other similar foundations) who demonstrate just how critical the need continues to be.

Patient Services continues to provide peace of mind to patients living with specific chronic illnesses by:

- *Locating health insurance in all 50 states*
- *Subsidizing the cost of health insurance premiums*
- *Providing pharmacy and treatment co-payment assistance*
- *Assisting with Medicare Part D Co-insurance*
- *Helping with advocacy for Social Security Disability*

Needy Meds

Website: <http://www.needymeds.com/>
Phone #: 215-625-9609

The mission of NeedyMeds is to make information about assistance programs available to low-income patients and their advocates at no cost. The NeedyMeds website is the face of the organization. Databases such as Patient Assistance Programs, Disease-Based Assistance, Free and Low- Clinics, government programs and other types of assistance programs are the crux of the free information offered online. NeedyMeds is funded by small grants, donations, sponsorships, subscriptions to PAPTracker, and syndication of various database information. NeedyMeds also works with the patient assistance programs of several pharmaceutical distributors.

Patient Access Network Foundation

Website: <https://www.panfoundation.org>
866-316-7263

The Patient Access Network Foundation is an independent, national 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to providing underinsured patients with co-payment assistance through 31 disease-specific funds that give them access to the treatments they need.

Human Connexus Foundation (HCF)

1177 Branham Lane, #325, San Jose, CA 95118, Website:
http://www.humanconnexus.org/?page_id=2
Email: info@humanconnexus.org

Human Connexus Foundation supports individuals or families by providing financial assistance to help those in need with basic living needs (i.e. rent, car

payment, utilities, phone, etc). The hope is that within a short period of time, the recipient and/or family will be back to living a “normal life”.

Caring Voice Coalition

8249 Meadowbridge Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116, Tel: (804) 427-6468, Toll-free: (888) 267-1440, <http://www.caringvoice.org>

RX Assist Patient Assistance Program Center

<http://www.rxassist.org/default.cfm>

[http://www.nami.org/Content/ContentGroups/Helpline1/Prescription Drug Patient Assistance Programs.htm](http://www.nami.org/Content/ContentGroups/Helpline1/Prescription_Drug_Patient_Assistance_Programs.htm)

(Mental Health Medications)

<http://www.edhayes.com/indigent.html>

<http://www.medicationsfoundation.com/>

<http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/hospital/meds.htm>

Also, try contacting the manufacturer of the drug for possible program opportunities/financial assistance with the medication you are taking.

Furthermore, for clinical trials and investigative therapies, which are free, go to <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov> 1-800-411-1222

The HealthWell Foundation

P.O. Box 4133, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, (800) 675-8416, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Monday through Friday Eastern Time, For shorter hold times, please call
Wednesday, Thursday or Friday mornings
Fax: (800) 282-7692, <http://www.healthwellfoundation.org/>

The HealthWell Foundation[®] is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization established in 2003 to address the needs of individuals who cannot afford their insurance copayments, premiums, coinsurance, or other out-of-pocket health care costs. The HealthWell Foundation[®] assists with numerous disease states and medications:

M.O.R.G.A.N Project:

3830 S. Highway A1A, Suite C4, #153, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951 Telephone:
(321) 506-2707 E-mail: info@themorganproject.org, Website:
<http://www.themorganproject.org>, [http://themorganproject.org/2011-
New%20Resources-updated14Feb11.pdf](http://themorganproject.org/2011-New%20Resources-updated14Feb11.pdf)

The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project is a voluntary, non-profit organization whose mission is to work together to promote awareness and support of parents caring for their special-needs children, and to enhance the quality of life for these special families. The M.O.R.G.A.N. Project offers grants for the purchase of needed equipment for medically fragile children.

Link to Financial Assistance Information from Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center:

<http://www.genome.gov/11008842#insurance>

- **Phone:** (888) 205-2311
- **International Phone:** 1 (301) 251-4925
- **TTY:** (888) 205-3223

Department of Health and Human Services

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has information on assistance in paying for medical care for low-income families. Go to "Families & Children."

Contact DHHS directly:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
Telephone: 202-619-0257
Toll-free: 1-877-696-6775

Link to Financial Assistance for Families - National Relief Hotlines:
http://www.careconnectusa.org/our_products.asp

CareConnect USA

2019 Sandy Pond Lane, Waxhaw, NC 28173, Tel: (800) 291-1068, Email:
info@careconnectusa.org

We've assembled a free list of family relief hotlines for financial assistance in critical categories. Designed by counselors for counselors, they fit neatly into dayplanners of two popular sizes.

Patient Assistance Programs

AmeriCares

88 Hamilton Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902, (800) 486-HELP, (800) 486-4357,
<http://www.americares.org/wherewework/united-states/pap/>

AmeriCares [Patient Assistance Programs](#) serve uninsured and underinsured individuals by providing medications to unqualified, low-income individuals and families at no cost, through generous donations from AmeriCares pharmaceutical partners.

Medical Supplies

Wheelchairs

Free Wheelchair Mission

Toll-Free: 800-733-0858, Phone: 949-273-8470, Fax: 949-273-8471

<http://www.freewheelchairmission.org/site/c.fqLFIXOJKtF/b.4916275/k.BE91/Home.htm>

Founded in 2001, Free Wheelchair Mission is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to providing wheelchairs for the impoverished disabled in developing nations. Headquartered in Irvine, California, FWM works around the world in partnership with a vast network of humanitarian, faith-based and government organizations, sending wheelchairs to hundreds of thousands of disabled people, providing not only the gift of mobility, but of dignity, independence, and hope.

Wheelchair Foundation

3820 Blackhawk Road Danville, California 94506, USA Call Us Toll-Free: (877) 378-3839, North America: (925) 736-8234, FAX: (925) 648-0163,
<http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/>

The Wheelchair Foundation is a nonprofit organization leading an international effort to create awareness of the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities, to promote the joy of giving, create global friendship, and to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world who needs one, but cannot afford one. For these people, the Wheelchair Foundation delivers Hope, Mobility and Independence.

Soles for Soles Outreach

<http://barefootrunner.org/fwcm/fwcm.htm>

Transforming lives through the gift of mobility

Hoveround

<http://www.hoveround.com/landing/free-info-kit-1/?qclid=CMGrveKat5sCFRBM5QodLmy0BQ>

Call us toll free at 1-800-542-7236

Americare Respiratory Services, Inc.

(866) 344-2774

A personal Care Specialist is assigned to each new patient and submits all the required paperwork to help get your CPAP or BiPAP machine, mask, and supplies promptly. Our Care Specialist will give you ongoing support and unsurpassed service.

Under the direction of an On-Staff Respiratory Therapist our Care Specialists are trained to troubleshoot any problems that patients may have with CPAP machines or masks to help you Sleep Better Now...

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Under the direction of an On-Staff Respiratory Therapist our Care Specialists are trained to troubleshoot any problems that patients may have with CPAP machines or masks to help you Sleep Better Now...

<http://www.insurance4cpap.com/?gclid=CKDH55ies6oCFeJ65QodSzn08g>

Link to Disability Programs:

<http://www.ssa.gov/disability/>

<http://www.ssa.gov/d&s1.htm>

More on Social Security Disability Benefits:

<http://www.disabilitysecrets.com/resources/social-security-disability>

Transverse Myelitis Association

www.myelitis.org.)

Phone: +1 (614) 766-1806 (Eastern Time)

Email ssiegel@myelitis.org

Extra Help Program with Prescription Drug Costs for Medicare Recipients:

<http://www.ssa.gov/prescriptionhelp/>

1-800-772-1213

Financial resource directory (from Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Association website: <http://www.rsds.org/4/resources/index.html>)

[In Pain and Agonizing About the Bills](#)

This resource directory for People with RSD/CRPS covers government assistance programs; free medicines (for those who can't afford them); clinical trials, food stamps, and other ideas for those who suffer financially from the effects of RSD/CRPS.

[Navigating Medicare and Medicaid: A Resource Guide for People with Disabilities, Their Families, and Their Advocates](#)

[The Basics of Health Insurance and Appeals:](#)

http://www.rsds.org/4/resources/pdf/Basics_of_Insurance_Appeals.pdf

Catholic Charities/Health Care

Sixty-Six Canal Center Plaza, Suite 600, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, Phone: (703) 549-1390

Fax: (703) 549-1656, <http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/Page.aspx?pid=1300>

Association of Jewish Family & Children's Agencies

5750 Park Heights Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215, Phone: 800-634-7346, Fax: 410-664-0551, Email: ajfca@ajfca.org, <http://www.ajfca.org/>

United Way:

Call 2-1-1

Go to www.211.org and type in your zip code

<http://www.unitedway.org/ourwork/ci.cfm>

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children:

2222 Welborn Street, Dallas, Texas 75219, (214) 559-5000, (800) 421-1121

<http://www.tsrhc.org/default.asp?contentID=52>

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105, (901) 595-3300

<http://www.stjude.org/stjude/v/index.jsp?vgnextoid=f87d4c2a71fca210VgnVCM100001e0215acRCRD>

All patients accepted for treatment at St. Jude are treated without regard to the family's ability to pay.

Shriners Hospitals for Children

2900 Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, Fl 33607, Telephone: 813-281-0300

Patient Referral/Eligibility Information

E-mail: patientreferrals@shrinenet.org, Telephone: 800-237-5055 (in the U.S.)

Telephone: 800-361-7256 (in Canada), <http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/>

Admission is based solely on a child's medical needs, regardless of financial need. For patients at Shriners Hospitals, ability to pay or insurance coverage is never an issue. There is no charge for any care or services provided within Shriners Hospitals for Children facilities.

Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities (Part C of IDEA):

<http://www.nectac.org/partc/partc.asp>

Children's Organization For Rare Diseases (CORD)

Coping with the financial issues of rare diseases:

<http://www.crdnetwork.org/blog/tag/cord/>

Variety – The Children's Charity of the United States

4601 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 260, Los Angeles, CA 90010, Telephone: (323)

954-0820, Fax: (323) 954-8630, E-mail: info@usvariety.org, Website:

<http://www.usvariety.org>

Is a not-for-profit, philanthropic organization with locations throughout the United States. Variety Kids on the Go! aims to help kids with disabilities gain mobility, confidence, freedom, independence and the chance to join in the life of their community by providing funding for walkers, wheelchairs, specially-designed adaptive bikes, strollers, prosthetic limbs and other devices to families with the most need.

The MDS Myelodysplastic Syndromes Foundation

4573 South Broad St. Suite 150, Yardville, NJ 08620, Phone within the US: 1-800-MDS-0839,

Link to More Information re: Financial Assistance:

<http://www.mds-foundation.org/pdf/2011-InsReimbBooklet4thEdition4-7-11.pdf>

HRSA Information Center PO Box 2910, Merrifield, VA 22116, Telephone: (703) 442-9051, Fax: (703) 821-2098, Toll-free: (888) 275-4772, TTY: (877) 489-4772, E-mail: ask@hrsa.gov, Website: <http://www.ask.hrsa.gov/>

The HRSA Information Center distributes informational materials developed by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) or its grantees. HRSA is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse distribute informational materials developed by the Federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) or its grantees. MCHB is an agency within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The Clearinghouse also provides referrals to other organizations that offer information and support to affected mothers and children. The Clearinghouse provides publications, resources, and referrals on health care services for low-income, uninsured individuals and those with special health care needs. Most of the educational materials distributed by the Clearinghouse are written for professionals; however, it also distributes materials written for the public. The Clearinghouse responds to requests for information from health care professionals, program planners, educators, researchers, policy makers, and the general public. Most of the educational materials distributed by the Clearinghouse are written for professionals; however, it also distributes materials written for the public.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Waivers are state-run programs that use federal and state funds to pay for health care for individuals with certain health conditions. Each state has different Waivers with different eligibility requirements or services. Two Medicaid statutes are currently waived: 1915 and 1115.

To find out your state's Waiver programs go to:

<https://www.cms.gov/ContactCMS/>

- Medicare Service Center: 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227)
- Medicare Service Center TTY: 877-486-2048

Medicaid State Waiver Program Demonstration Projects - General Information

https://www.cms.gov/MedicaidStWaivProgDemoPGI/08_WavMap.asp

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/kbp/>

Main Phone: (608) 261-6836

Fax: (608) 261-6752

Mailing Address: 1 W. Wilson St., Rm. 418; PO Box 7851; Madison, WI 53707-7851

KATIE BECKETT WAIVER PROGRAM:

Medicaid Waivers are state-run programs that use federal and state funds to pay for health care for people with certain health conditions.

This waiver is so named for Katie Beckett, a child (now an adult) who required the use of a ventilator. Her family's income made her ineligible for Medicaid coverage. Because of the extreme financial burden this placed on her family, they could not afford to sustain the level of care for their child to remain at home.

The Katie Beckett Waiver supports the family's privilege and choice to care for children at home with the necessary support. It is a more beneficial and cost-effective choice for states, in comparison to the exorbitant costs of hospital or nursing home care.

There are specific eligibility requirements:

- 1) The child must be under 19 years of age and disabled by standards set forth in the Social Security Act.*
- 2) The child must require a level of care at home that is typically provided in a hospital or nursing facility.*
- 3) The care can be provided safely and appropriately in the family home.*

The parents' income is not a consideration in determining a child's eligibility for this benefit.

There are other Medicaid Waiver programs that may of assistance. To obtain information and to find out your state's waiver programs, go to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidStWaivProgDemoPGI/MWDL/list.asp>

If your insurance company has denied your claim for treatment, the following sample letter can be used, edited to your specific condition/treatment/procedure, and sent to your state insurance commissioner.

*Send this letter certified mail.

You can find your State Commissioner Insurance Commission's address by going to http://www.naic.org/state_web_map.htm.

Sample Complaint Letter to State Insurance Commission:

Name of State Insurance Commission

Name of Your Insurance Company

Address of Insurance Company and Telephone Number

Dear Insurance Commissioner:

I have filed the attached insurance claim with _____(insert name of your insurance company) on _____(insert date[s]).

My physician has deemed this therapy/procedure/drug/etc. medically necessary for my medical condition. However, my insurance company has denied me access to the standard of care. I have had the following specific problems with this insurance company:

(List all of your problems, such as refusal to cover physician-prescribed therapy, claim has not been paid or has been denied, etc.)

Please accept this letter as a formal written complaint against _____(insert name of your insurance company).

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Address and telephone Number

CC: Medical Director, _____(insert name of your insurance company).

CC: Your physician

Alliance of Claims Assistance Professionals

www.claims.org

(888) 394-5163

capinfo@claims.org

The Alliance of Claims Assistance Professionals is a national, not-for-profit organization that is a national resource for patients and caregivers seeking help with health insurance claims. Claims Assistance Professionals serve as a patient's advocate and provide an array of services that patients can use to deal with health insurance firms.

These services include:

- *Challenge denials of claims by the insurance company*
- *Organize health insurance paperwork*
- *Audit hospital and provider charges*
- *Negotiate with providers on patient balances*
- *Review medical bills and determine proper payment*
- *File various types of insurance claims (medical, long term care, FSA, HSA)*
- *Track claims to ensure they are accurately processed*
- *Contact providers and insurance companies to resolve claim problems*
- *Assist in selecting Medicare Part D drug plans and Medicare supplement plans*
- *Assist with choices during employer open enrollment*
- *Provide education on benefits and options*
- *Negotiate providers' fees for uninsured patients or procedures*

Financial Aid Resources

Financial Aid Information Page

www.finaid.org

Provides and overview of financial aid options, bibliography of more than 400

books, and calculators allowing students to perform cost calculations. Also has a Q&A function where students can email questions to be answered by financial aid administrative volunteers.

Federal Student Aid Information 1-800-433-3243

Provides information on federal student financial aid. Has trained counselors available to answer student's questions.

Scholarship Research Network

www.srnexpress.com

1-301-670-1260

Student can search this free site for more than 8,000 scholarships. This site focuses on private scholarships that can be used at many different institutions.

FastWEB

www.fastweb.com

1-800-FASTWEB

Site has access to 275,000 scholarships. Updates on scholarship matches are sent via e-mail. This service is free.

The College Board

www.collegeboard.org

A not-for-profit organization that helps students with the transition between high school and college. Website has a free on-line scholarship search database.

HEATH

www.acenet.edu

1-800-544-3284

National clearinghouse that provides information for people with disabilities who are seeking education after high school. A small number of scholarships for those with learning disabilities are available on this site.

President's Committee of Employment of People with Disabilities

1-202-376-6200

This committee provides five to six scholarships from various businesses for people with verifiable disabilities every year.

Foundation Center

1-800-424-9836

This toll-free service line directs you to libraries that carry the Foundation Grants for Individuals listings.

Department of Education

www.ed.gov

Department of Education's website contains the Student Guide to Financial Aid. The application for federal student aid, the required form for anyone applying for college financial assistance, is also accessible from this site.

Hole in the Wall Camps

228 Saugatuck Avenue, Westport, Connecticut 06880, Tel: (203) 562-1203, Fax: (203) 341-8707

E-mail: info@holeinthewallcamps.org, www.holeinthewallcamps.org

Is the world's largest global family of camps for children with serious illnesses and life-threatening conditions. Children who are living with cancer, sickle cell anemia, HIV/AIDS, and many other medical conditions come to camp and experience the simple joys of childhood, without compromising any of their needs thanks to our high-quality medical care. To date, more than 119,000 children with serious illnesses from 40 countries including the United States have attended a Hole in the Wall Camp free of charge.

Financial Help for Treatment of Kidney Failure

http://www.kidneyurology.org/Library/Kidney_Health/Financial_Help_for_Treatment_of_Kidney_Failure.php

Kidney & Urology Foundation of America, Inc.

2 West 47th Street, Suite 401, New York NY 10036, 212.629.9770 or 1.800.633.6628, Fax 212.629.5652

If you have permanent kidney failure, you may be worried about paying for the expensive treatments you need. In 1972, Congress passed legislation making people of any age with permanent kidney failure eligible for Medicare, a program that helps people over 65 and people with disabilities pay for medical care, usually up to 80 percent. Other public and private resources can help with the remaining 20 percent. Your dialysis or transplant center has a social worker who can help you locate and apply for financial assistance.

Federal Site for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/liheap/>

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

HHS, Administration For Children and Families

Office of Community Services, Division of Energy Assistance (DEA)

Aerospace Building, 5th Floor West, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Washington, D.C.

20447 Phone Number: (202) 401-9351, Fax Number: (202) 401-5661

The mission of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is to assist low income households, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, primarily in meeting their immediate home energy needs.

National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped

1800 15th Street, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80202, Telephone: (303) 534-5360, Fax:

(303) 534-5290, E-mail: fleviton@nfdh.org, Website: <http://www.nfdh.org>

National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped (NFDH) is a national charitable organization solely dedicated to meeting the needs of citizens with physical, medical, and mental disabilities by providing dental care to disabled and aged people who cannot afford treatment and are not eligible for public aid. Our country's standard of dental care is one of the highest in the world, yet those Americans most desperately in need often go untreated. They may be children or adults who are mentally or physically disabled. They suffer from cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, mental illness, and many other disabilities. The foundation was established in 1974 and is an affiliate of the American Dental Association and state and local dental associations. Disabled, elderly, and mentally compromised patients are linked with dentists in their communities to receive free comprehensive dental treatment, including prosthetics. There is also a program to provide training to help parents and professionals caring for developmentally disabled persons to provide appropriate oral hygiene.

Patient Advocate Foundation

700 Thimble Shoals Boulevard, Suite 200, Newport News, VA 23606, Fax: (757)

873-8999, Toll-free: (800) 532-5274, E-mail: help@patientadvocate.org, Website:

<http://www.patientadvocate.org>

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) is a national 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which provides professional case management services to Americans with chronic, life threatening and debilitating illnesses. PAF case managers serve as active liaisons between the patient and their insurer, employer and/or creditors to resolve insurance, job retention and/or debt crisis matters as they relate to their diagnosis also assisted by doctors and healthcare attorneys. Patient Advocate

Foundation seeks to safeguard patients through effective mediation assuring access to care, maintenance of employment and preservation of their financial stability.

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) Co-Pay Relief Program

<http://www.copays.org/>

866-512-3861

The PAF Co-Pay Relief Program provides financial assistance to patients who meet certain qualifications to help them pay for the prescriptions and/or treatments they need. This assistance lets patients who have chronic, life threatening and/or debilitating illnesses afford the out-of-pocket costs for these items that their insurance companies require.

Advocacy for Patients with Chronic Illness, Inc.

18 Timberline Drive, Farmington, CT 06032, Telephone: (860) 674-1370, Fax: (860) 674-1378, E-mail: patient_advocate@sbcglobal.net, Website:

<http://www.advocacyforpatients.org>

Advocacy for Patients with Chronic Illness, Inc. is a voluntary organization that provides free information, advice and advocacy services to patients with chronic illnesses in areas including health and disability insurance, Social Security disability, employment discrimination, educational equity, and resource location.

Hill-Burton Free and Reduced Cost Health Care

Health Resources and Services Administration

1-800-638-0742 or 1-800-492-0359 in Maryland

<http://www.hrsa.gov/hillburton/>

In 1946, Congress passed a law that gave hospitals, nursing homes and other health facilities grants and loans for construction and modernization. In return, they agreed to provide a reasonable volume of services to persons unable to pay and to make their services available to all persons residing in the facility's area. The program stopped providing funds in 1997, but about 200 health care facilities nationwide are still obligated to provide free or reduced-cost care.

1. Find the Hill-Burton obligated facility nearest you from the [list of Hill-Burton obligated facilities](#).
2. Go to the facility's admissions or business office and ask for a copy of the Hill-Burton Individual Notice. The Individual Notice will tell you what income level makes you eligible for free or reduced-cost care, what services might be covered, and exactly where in the facility to apply.
3. Go to the office listed in the Individual Notice and say you want to apply for Hill-Burton free or reduced-cost care. You may need to fill out a form.
4. Gather any other required documents (such as a pay stub to prove income eligibility) and take or send them to the obligated facility.
5. If you are asked to apply for Medicaid, Medicare, or some other financial assistance program, you must do so.
6. When you return the completed application, ask for a Determination of Eligibility. Check the Individual Notice to see how much time the facility has before it must tell you whether or not you will receive free or reduced-cost care.

**RSDSA (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association):
"Finding a Free Clinic"**

http://www.rsd.org/4/resources/out_work/free_clinics.html

RSDSA

P.O. Box 502, Milford, CT 06460, Tel: 203.877.3790, Toll Free: 877.662.7737,

Fax: 203.882.8362

E-mail: info@rsds.org

If you need to see a doctor but cannot afford one, a free or low-cost clinic may be able to help you. Keep in mind that all free clinics have eligibility rules for patients: typically free clinics see only patients who have low income and who do not have insurance for the treatment needed. Depending upon their eligibility rules, not all clinics will be able to treat you. However, there may be some flexibility with the eligibility rules, so even if you think you do not qualify it may still be worth calling the clinic to ask about your situation. Sometimes the care at a free clinic is not completely free; there may be a small charge, depending upon any income you have. In addition, free clinics are not always able to provide care for complicated conditions like CRPS, but they still may be of at least some assistance.

Oley Foundation

214 Hun Memorial MC-28, Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY 12208-3478
Telephone: (518) 262-5079, Fax: (518) 262-5528, Toll-free: (800) 776-6539, E-mail: dahlr@mail.amc.edu, Website: <http://www.oley.org>

The Oley Foundation is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to donating tube-feeding supplies, providing educational and emotional support, outreach activities, and clinical outcome information for individuals who depend on home intravenous (parenteral) and tube (enteral) nutrition, their families, professionals, and others. Individuals who depend on such nutrition include those who cannot receive enough nutrients from the food they eat because of severe gastrointestinal disorders that may impair their swallowing or intestinal absorption. The foundation facilitates a national network of regional volunteers who provide emotional support and outreach at the local level. Comprised of individuals who are themselves users of home nutrition and their family members, the network offers services ranging from telephone support and hospital visitation to lectures and self-help get-togethers. The Oley Foundation also sponsors yearly conferences that bring together home nutrition users with experts in the field. Educational materials produced by the Oley Foundation include brochures, audio-visual aids, and information about travel, swimming, and other topics.

UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation

MN012-S286, PO BOX 41, Minneapolis, MN 55440-0041, (952) 992-4459

<http://www.uhccf.org/>

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity dedicated to facilitating access to medical-related services that have the potential to significantly enhance either the clinical condition or the quality of life of the child and that are not fully covered by the available commercial health benefit plan. This "support" is in the form of a medical grant to be used for medical services not covered or not completely covered by commercial health benefit plans.

Healing The Children Northeast, Inc.:

PO Box 129, 219 Kent Road, New Milford, CT 06776 Telephone: (860) 355-1828
Fax: (860) 350-6634 E-mail: htcne@htcne.org, Website: <http://www.htcne.org>

Healing The Children Northeast, Inc., (HTCNE) is an international, voluntary organization dedicated to providing medical and surgical treatment to children from impoverished backgrounds. Established in 1985 and currently consisting of approximately 2,000 members and 14 chapters, HTCNE assembles volunteer teams of medical and surgical health professionals to travel to host countries where children and young adults are treated free of charge. HTCNE's "Medical Missions Abroad" program serves over 3,000 children annually and provides over three million dollars in donated services. Healing The Children Northeast is committed

to expanding the Medical Missions Abroad program to meet the increasing needs of children worldwide. HTCNE provides referrals to appropriate healthcare agencies, maintains a database, and offers a variety of materials including brochures, pamphlets, booklets, reports, Spanish language materials, videos, and a quarterly newsletter entitled "Healing."

Freeclinics.us

1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 600, Alexandria, VA 22314, Phone 703-647-7427, Fax 866-875-3827, Email Info@freeclinics.us, <http://www.freeclinics.us/>

The National Association of Free Clinics (NAFC) is the only nonprofit 501c(3) organization whose mission is solely focused on the issues and needs of the more than 1,200 free clinics and the people they serve in the United States.

National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses, Inc.

44 Merrimon Avenue, Ashville, NC 28801, Telephone: (828) 253-1188, Fax: (828) 253-8082

Toll-free: (800) 542-9730, E-mail: helpinghomes@nahhh.org, Website: <http://www.nahhh.org>

The National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses (HHH), Inc., is a not-for-profit organization that promotes and assists other not-for-profit programs providing lodging and supportive services in a caring environment for families receiving medical care away from home. The association provides services and technical assistance to establishing and developing Hospital Hospitality Houses. Membership is available to hospitals, groups, and individuals interested in developing a program in their area, as well as to organizations supporting the goals of the association. Membership offers participation in an annual national conference designed for networking and education; a national referral directory listing Hospital Hospitality Houses and services; consultation services to newly developing programs; a resource center and clearinghouse to aid HHH programs, staff, and boards; and a newsletter and other publications.

Hospitality Homes

20 Overland St., Suite 204, Boston, MA 02215 Telephone: (617) 482-4338, Fax: (617) 582-7980, Toll-free: (888) 595-4678 E-mail: jscott@hosp.org, Website: <http://www.hosp.org>

Hospitality Homes is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that provides cost-free temporary housing in volunteer host homes for the families and friends of patients – as well as, when needed, the patients themselves – traveling to Boston for medical care. Hospitality Homes serves all families, regardless of income, nationality, or the patient's age, diagnosis, or treatment facility.

Travelers Aid International

1612 K St., NW, Suite 206, Washington, DC 20006, 202-546-1127,
<http://www.travelersaid.org/>

Travelers Aid International is the association for Travelers Aid agencies and programs in the United States (including Puerto Rico), Canada, and Australia. Travelers Aid served more than 6.5 million people last year in forty-eight communities, and at thirty-six transportation centers (airports, bus and train stations). Travelers Aid also provided casework services to 200,000 (including homeless persons, and individuals and families in crisis). Each member of the Network is independently managed and provides programs and services that meet the needs of its community.

Mercy Medical Airlift (MMA)

For more information, contact the National Patient Travel Helpline (Mercy Medical Airlift) 4620 Haygood Road, Suite 1, Virginia Beach, VA 23455 Telephone: (757) 318-9174, Fax: (757) 318-9107, Toll-free: (800) 296-1217, E-mail: mercymedical@aol.com, Website: <http://www.PatientTravel.org>

The charity that operates the National Patient Travel Center, operates the National Patient Travel Helpline. The Helpline is funded by many organizations dedicated to facilitating charitable medical transportation on a national level. Founded in 1992, it now serves more than 35,000 patients a year. The mission and purpose of the Helpline and the National Patient Travel Center are to ensure that no financially needy patient is denied access to distant specialized medical evaluation, diagnosis or treatment for lack of a means of air travel. Twenty-four hour service is available. Referrals are based on an evaluation of the patient's medical condition, type of transport required, and departure/destination locations. This service is staffed by people who take the time to explain all known appropriate options.

Cancer Financial Support

Cancer Care

800-813-4673

“Cancer Care Assist”

<http://www.cancercare.org>

CancerCare offers a free guide on financial assistance resources for people with cancer. [A Helping Hand: The Resource Guide for People with Cancer – Financial Edition](#) includes detailed listings of more than 400 national and regional financial assistance organizations, and helpful tips for patients on taking control of their finances.

Lance Armstrong Foundation

<http://www.livestrong.org>

512-236-8820

The National Cancer Institute

800-422-6237

<http://www.cancer.gov>

[Financial Assistance and Other Resources for People With Cancer](#)

The American Cancer Society’s Road to Recovery Program

http://www.cancer.org/docroot/COM/content/div_OH/COM_1_1x_2007_Road_to_Recovery_Provides_Free_Transportation_for_Cancer_Patients.asp

1-800-227-2345, option # 1

Road to Recovery Provides Free Transportation for Cancer Patients. Cancer patients receiving treatment at a nearby hospital or medical facility can get free transportation to and from their treatment site. The American Cancer Society’s Road to Recovery program is a free service for cancer patients who lack transportation.

Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition (CFAC)

<http://www.cancerfac.org/>

contact@cancerfac.org

The Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition (CFAC) is a coalition of organizations that help cancer patients manage their financial challenges by educating them about existing resources. Patients or health care providers can search the CFAC database for organizations that help with specific cancer diagnoses or that provide a specific type of assistance or need. CFAC is a coalition of organizations and cannot respond to individual requests for financial assistance via e-mail or telephone.

Additional Resources:

Member Organizations

<http://www.cancerfac.org/members.php>

Cancer Legal Resource Center

Address: 919 Albany Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015, Phone: 213-736-1455, Toll Free: 1-866-843-2572, <http://www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org>, E-mail: CLRC@lils.edu

The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) is a joint program of the Disability Rights Legal Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and Loyola Law School, Los Angeles. The CLRC provides free and confidential information and resources on cancer-related legal issues to people with cancer, their families, friends, employers, health care professionals, and others coping with cancer. The CLRC has a national toll-free line where callers can receive information about relevant laws and resources for their particular situation. The CLRC volunteer panel of attorneys and other professionals provides more in-depth information and counsel to CLRC callers. Extensive resources are available on a broad range of cancer-related legal issues, including health insurance, employment, government benefits, estate planning, advance health care directives, family law, and consumer assistance. CLRC provides services in Spanish and has a bilingual staff who are able to assist people on the toll-free line. Some publications are also available in Spanish.

National Association of Attorneys General

8th Floor 2030 M Street, NW. Washington, DC 20036 Phone: 202-326-6000
<http://www.naag.org>, http://www.naag.org/attorneys_general.php

The National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) assists Attorneys General in the delivery of high quality legal services to the states and territorial jurisdictions. NAAG's members are the Attorneys General of the 50 states and the District of Columbia and the chief legal officers of the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico (Secretary of Justice) and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The Attorneys General provide consumer protection information and advice and track complaints filed against charitable organizations or other businesses. A consumer complaint may not be filed with NAAG but should be filed with the Attorney General's office in which the problem has occurred. Additional Resources: Contact Information for State Attorneys General

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DENTAL CARE:

National Foundation of Dentistry For the Handicapped

1800 15th Street, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80202, Telephone: (303) 534-5360, Fax: (303) 534-5290, E-mail: fleviton@nfdh.org, Website: <http://www.nfdh.org>

National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped (NFDH) is a national charitable organization solely dedicated to meeting the needs of citizens with physical, medical, and mental disabilities by providing dental care to disabled and aged people who cannot afford treatment and are not eligible for public aid. Our country's standard of dental care is one of the highest in the world, yet those Americans most desperately in need often go untreated. They may be children or adults who are mentally or physically disabled. They suffer from cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, mental illness, and many other disabilities. The foundation was established in 1974 and is an affiliate of the American Dental Association and state and local dental associations. Disabled, elderly, and mentally compromised patients are linked with dentists in their communities to receive free comprehensive dental treatment, including prosthetics. There is also a program to provide training to help parents and professionals caring for developmentally disabled persons to provide appropriate oral hygiene.
