



# TOWN OF HUNTINGTON Access Newsletter



Summer 2023 Edition



## CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE for People with Disabilities Established 1976

### MISSION STATEMENT

To advise the Town Board of concerns and needs of people with different disabilities.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Working with Town of Huntington department heads to meet the needs of the disabled at the following beaches: Gold Star, West Neck, and Centerport Beach.
- Changing disabled parking spaces at Panera's parking lot in Town so that the spaces are ADA compliant. This has allowed our disabled residents more space to enter and exit their vehicle.
- Assisted Town officials to offer HART bus service while the elevator at Huntington LIRR Station is out of service.
- Worked with Parks Department to create more disabled parking spaces and improve handicap accessibility at our Town Parks and Beaches.
- Suggested tools and instruments to assist disabled with dressing, and other tasks of daily living.
- Made suggestions for disabled parking at Chase Bank on Main street in Huntington Village.
- Beach buggies made available for disabled to use at Spray Parks.
- Beach mats have also been placed at several of our Town Beaches thanks to the CAC's recommendations.
- Programs for the disabled run by the Town : "Social Program Without Walls"
- Non-verbal signage has been installed at some of the Town parks.

For more information contact [humanservices@HuntingtonNY.gov](mailto:humanservices@HuntingtonNY.gov) or contact Carmen Kasper at (631) 351-3304 or [CKasper@huntingtonny.gov](mailto:CKasper@huntingtonny.gov)



**Edmund J. Smyth**  
Supervisor

Eugene Cook  
Councilman

Joan Cergol  
Councilwoman

Dr. Dave Bennardo  
Councilman

Salvatore Ferro  
Councilman



# Long Island Rail Road



## *Important Message*

### HUNTINGTON LIRR - NORTH ELEVATOR

This is an important notice to all Huntington Long Island Railroad riders. The North side elevator at the Huntington LIRR Station will be out of service for the foreseeable future.

The Town of Huntington has been notified by the elevator service company requesting the elevator be taken out of service. The Town is working with the elevator service company to resolve issues to get the elevator fully functioning as soon as possible. This sign has been placed in several locations in the LIRR station.

### SHUTTLE SERVICE AVAILABLE

To assist with the transfer of riders from one track to the other, the Town of Huntington will utilize HART Bus support vehicles to provide shuttle services on an as needed basis. ***Busses are handicap accessible.***

The shuttle will be available Monday through Saturday between the hours of 8am and 6 pm only to provide shuttle service for riders from one side of the LIRR tracks to the other. These services must be scheduled a minimum of **2 days in advance of the date service is requested.**

In order to request this service, riders should contact the HART Bus dispatch office phone number at (631) 427-8287. When requesting shuttle service, please alert the HART dispatchers which track you are transferring from - the north or south side of the tracks and **whether you need a handicap accessible bus.**

This service will be provided free of charge during the period of the elevator repairs.

**The Town will keep residents and riders updated as plans progress.**

**Thank you for your understanding and patience.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience.**

**HART Bus (631) 427-8287**

# Resources for Persons with Disabilities

## Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center: Long Island Events & Seminars

Phone: (631) 580-5100

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

## Disabled American Veterans Transportation Network at the Northport VA Medical Center

Phone: (631) 261-4400 ext. 7487

<http://suffolkcountyny.gov/veterans/transportation.aspx>

## Office of Disability Employment, U.S. Department of Labor

Phone: (866) 633-7365

<https://www.dol.gov/odep/>

## Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind

Phone: (631) 930-9000

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

## Long Island Alzheimer's Foundation (LIAF)

Phone: (516) 767-6856

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

## NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness

Phone: (631) 385-0754

<http://www.nami-huntington.org/>

## New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)

Phone: (866) 946-9733 Suffolk County: (631) 434-6100

<https://opwdd.ny.gov/>

## SILO - Suffolk Independent Living Organization

Phone: (631) 880-7929

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

## Special Olympics

Phone: (631) 254-1465

<http://specialolympics-ny.org/>

## Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities

Phone: (631) 853-8333

<http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/CountyExecutive/PeoplewithDisabilities.aspx>

## Town of Huntington Office for Persons With Disabilities

Phone: (631) 351-3726 or 631-351-3304

<http://www.huntingtonny.gov/content/13749/13861/16626/99666/16632/default.aspx>

## United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Suffolk, Inc.

Phone: (631) 232-0011

<http://ucp-li.org/>

## Huntington YMCA

Phone: (631) 421-4242

<https://ymcali.org/locations/huntington-ymca>

## The Social Security Administration Ticket to Work Program

(866) 968-7842 / (866) 833-2967 (TTY)

<https://www.ssa.gov/work/>

Anyone age 18 to 64 who receives Social Security Disability Insurance and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is eligible to participate in this program. Participation is voluntary and free. Services available through this program include career counseling, vocational rehabilitation and job placement and training.



**Check all these agencies out!  
They have lots of services for people with disabilities!**

# Resources for Persons with Disabilities

Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities (OPD)

Phone: (631) 853-8333

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Elected-Officials/County-Executive/People-With-Disabilities>

## Handicapped Hotline

OPD operates a Handicapped Hotline to answer questions on jobs, housing, education, transportation, health services, rehabilitation, etc.

## Information and Referral Programs

OPD acts as a one-stop information resource for disabled persons. Appropriate referrals will be made to public and private agencies.

## ID Card Program - (631) 853-8335

OPD has established the Suffolk County Handicapped Identification Card Program. Eligible permanently disabled county residents may apply for an ID card, which, when used with the Parks Department Green Key card gives free "weekday" admission to county parks and reduced rates at some recreational activities. It also provides reduced fares on county bus routes. For bus route schedule information, phone number (631) 852-5200 weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

## Advocacy Programs

OPD has an advocacy program to foster positive change in areas where problems exist for people with disabilities.

## Ombudsman Service

OPD contacts both public and private agencies for clients in an effort to cut red tape.

## Accessibility Program (631) 853-4405

Working in conjunction with other county departments, OPD fosters the removal of architectural barriers and provides technical assistance.

## Deaf Telephone Access Center

OPD operates a Text Telephone (TTY), a Deaf Message Relay Center for all county departments and agencies. Hearing and speech-impaired individuals who have their own TTY's can contact Suffolk County Government directly by telephone to conduct business.

## Employment Program

OPD coordinates the Section 55A employment program for people with disabilities under the State Civil Service Law. Suffolk County leads other New York State counties in employment of people with disabilities in this program.

## Handicapped Parking Enforcement Program (631) 853-4405

OPD, in conjunction with local Police Departments, has implemented a Handicap Parking Enforcement Program where volunteer agents patrol with Polaroid cameras to ticket violators. Parking areas are also checked for compliance with the handicapped parking requirements of the State Vehicle and Traffic Law. Violations in the Town of Huntington, please call (631) 351-3234.

## Paratransit Eligibility ID Card Program - (631) 738-1150

Under strict Americans with Disabilities Act Regulations, OPD certifies paratransit eligibility and issues Suffolk County Accessible Transit (SCAT) ID cards. In general, under federal regulations, curb-to-curb paratransit services are only for those who are unable to use the regular public bus system because of a physical or mental disability. All regular Suffolk County Transit buses are wheelchair lift-equipped. OPD reviews applications and issues SCAT paratransit ID cards.

**Paratransit Trip Reservations:** Rides are on a first-call, first-served basis. Once you have a SCAT paratransit ID card, to arrange for a ride call: **Suffolk Paratransit Dispatcher (631) 491-6500, Huntington Town Paratransit (631) 427-8287.**

# Local Emergency Agencies

American Red Cross  
Serving Suffolk and Nassau Counties  
195 Willis Avenue  
Mineola  
516-747-3500

Centerport Fire Department  
9 Park Circle  
Centerport  
Emergency: (631) 757-4444  
Non-emergency: (631) 261-5916

Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department  
2 Main Street  
Cold Spring Harbor  
Emergency: (631) 692-4747  
Non-emergency: (631) 692-6772

Commack Fire Department  
6309 Jericho Turnpike  
Commack  
Emergency: (631) 499-5777  
Non-Emergency: (631) 499-6690

Dix Hills Fire Department  
115 East Deer Park Road  
Dix Hills  
Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: (631) 499-8836

Eaton's Neck Fire Department  
55 Eaton's Neck Road  
Northport  
Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: (631) 757-8932

East Northport Fire Department  
1 9th Avenue  
East Northport  
Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: (631)261-1177

Greenlawn Fire Department  
23 Boulevard Avenue  
Greenlawn  
Emergency: (631) 261-1616  
Non-emergency: (631) 261-9106

Halesite Fire Department  
1 North New York Avenue  
Huntington  
Emergency: (631) 427-7250  
Non-emergency: (631) 427-1910

Huntington Fire Department  
1 Leverich Place  
Huntington  
Emergency: (631) 423-3131  
Non-emergency: (631) 427-3030

Huntington Manor Fire Department  
1650 New York Ave  
Huntington  
Emergency: (631) 385-3434  
Non-emergency: (631) 427-1629

Melville Fire Department  
531 Sweet Hollow Road  
Melville  
Emergency: (631) 547-4121  
Non-emergency: (631) 423-2635

Northport Fire Department  
204 Main Street  
Northport  
Emergency: (631) 757-1111  
Non-emergency: (631) 261-7504

Commack Volunteer Ambulance Corps  
P.O. Box 819  
Commack  
Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: (631) 499-9342

Huntington Community First Aid Squad  
2 Railroad Street  
Huntington Station  
Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: (631) 421-1263

Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue,  
and Emergency Services (FRES)  
P.O. Box 127—Yaphank Avenue  
Yaphank  
(631) 852-4900

# Who Has The CAC Met With?

## **Deputy Supervisor John McCarron and General Services Director William Musto**

The CAC met with Deputy Supervisor John McCarron and the Director of General Services William Musto, to discuss the elevator that needs to be repaired at Huntington Train station. The Town was able to put an expedited bid to acquire a new elevator system. In the meantime, the solution that has been offered is to use our Town of Huntington HART busses to transfer those who need to use the elevator from one side of the platform to the other. HART bus has successfully been able to transport Town residents to and from either side of the train station, while the elevator continues to be out of service. *Busses are handicap accessible.*

## **Councilman Salvatore Ferro and Laurie Argiriou Assistant Town Attorney**

Councilman Ferro joined the CAC in early 2023, along with Assistant Town Attorney Laurie Argiriou. The two joined the Committee in order to provide support, as well as being an ear for the concerns and opinions of handicap and disabled people within our Town. By having this Town cooperation, they are now able to swiftly address the concerns that residents of our Town, who are handicapped, are exposed to in their day-to-day life. Councilman Sal Ferro is an advocate for the CAC and will be the voice for them to help the Town Board further understand their needs, such as places within the Town that need to be fixed or change.

## **Garrett Chelius Deputy Director for Maritime Services**

Garret has been an invaluable resource to the CAC; he has made himself available to hear the concerns that the group has for our Town. In February, he met with the CAC to tour several Town of Huntington beaches. Throughout these tours, Garret and the CAC highlighted the key problem areas at each beach that was visited. After months of planning and advocacy from the CAC, we now have at least three beaches that have been restriped with proper ADA compliant parking spaces! Many more parks and beaches within the Township will soon follow suit in restriping, which will provide better accessibility for handicapped Town residents.

# Who Has The CAC Met With?

## **Halesite and Dix Hills Fire Department**

- Martin Mandelker and Len Urban from the CAC both took the time out of their schedule to meet with their local Fire Department. Through these meetings they were able to discuss the Smart 911 Program, which can be a real life saving program in case of an emergency.
- Smart 911 is a program that grants local rescue crews with necessary personal information, such as personal disabilities as well as any health complications one may have.
- Both Len and Martin were informed that in emergencies, people could truly benefit from the program and have peace of mind, especially those who are not able to care for themselves. First responders would be able to help them by having the necessary knowledge they need before an emergency presents itself.

## **Parks and Recreation: Director Todd Jamison and Deputy Director Walter Edwards**

- Had multiple meetings to discuss improvements that could be made to our local parks: Veterans Memorial Park, Harborfields Playground, Pickle Park, and Dix Hills Park. As a result these four parks have sensory pieces installed for special needs children to enjoy.
- Director Jamison has ordered more beach mats to allow for easier and safer access for disabled residents at our Town beaches. There has also been discussion of placement of the beach mats in accordance with the curb cuts from the parking lot entrance to the sidewalk. This is a tremendous improvement for handicapped residents who would like to enter and exit the beach without difficulty.

# What has the CAC been working on?

**Bathrooms:** Town Hall's main floor bathroom across from the Town Board room is not accessible to persons in wheelchairs. The bathroom's shape is rectangular; narrow and long, which is not appropriate to accommodate people in wheelchairs. The CAC has addressed this concern with both Councilman Ferro, and Deputy Supervisor John McCarron. Heckscher Park bathroom's door needs to be moved. It does not allow the entrance for a wheelchair. This park is the center of Town and therefore, the bathroom should be accessible to all.

**Parking:** The old Chase Bank parking for the disabled floods near the entrance when it rains, and is not usable. The spots for disabled should be relocated for better usage.

**Kiosk:** Maureen Donohue, CAC member, had an idea about markets having a small kiosk for carts designated for disabled only. These kiosks should be in close proximity to the store and disabled parking. She has reached out to Uncle Giuseppe's senior management, and is in the process of moving her idea forward with the shopping center chain.

**Beach Mats:** Marianne and Michelle communicated that beach mats have been very helpful. As a result, Mr. Jamison, Director of Parks and Recreation, has ordered more beach mats to allow for better access at the beaches.

**LIRR:** Bill Musto, Director of the General Services department, in collaboration with Scott Spittal Director of Transportation and Traffic Safety, has had a sign made to inform the public that a new elevator is on the way. The sign also provides Town residents with a phone number to call if HART Bus assistance is needed to transport to the other side of the tracks. Suggestions were made for additional signs with more information to be put up as well as adding an extra day for HART Bus transportation. *Busses are handicap accessible.*

**Smart 911:** This program provides the dispatcher and emergency services with the health information of the person who is enrolled in the Smart 911 program. Len stated that he has spoken with the Halesite Fire Department to discuss the way in which they use Smart 911, and the way in which Smart 911 helps them in their rescue missions. He plans to have further discussions with all the Fire Departments and their Chiefs in the future, to see how he can help expand the Smart 911 Program. Please see more details on next page.

**Sunflower Program:** Marianne explained that the Hidden disabilities Sunflower Program is a tool for people to voluntarily share their disability or condition that may not be immediately apparent. This tool informs the public that the person may need a helping hand, assistance, understanding, or more time in shops, at work, on transport, or in public spaces. They can choose to wear a sunflower lanyard, and it is a way for them to discreetly inform others that they have a disability. Since its launch in 2016 the Sunflower program has been adopted worldwide in over 200 airports, railway networks, and coach bus services. The Sunflower Program has also been adopted by many other public and private institutions to support people with disabilities.

For more information, visit the website [hdsunflower.com](http://hdsunflower.com)





# Smart 911

**Quote from a First Responder** *“One of the things we fail to think about is the fact that when a person is dialing 9-1-1, it can be a very chaotic environment and there could be a lot of panic involved. If they have preloaded a profile that automatically populates for our responders, we have useful information, even if the person cannot relay all needed information to us.”*

- Through the Smart 911 Program you can create a Safety Profile which provides first responders with information you have provided that will help Police, Fire, and EMS locate and help you in an emergency.



## Extra Features of Smart 911

## CAC Members Research / Participation

- **Smart 911** also provides weather alerts and notifications to those who are registered with the Program.
- **Vulnerable Needs Registry** which Alerts emergency managers in your town that you need special assistance when a disaster strikes.
- **Smart 911** ensures that the details you would need to tell 9-1-1 are immediately available in the event you cannot verbally provide them.

Members from the Town's CAC Advisory Committee have met with local Fire Department Chiefs from Halesite Fire Department, as well as Dix Hills Fire Department. In each of these meetings the Fire Chiefs described to the members how they have implemented the program within the town, and how beneficial the program is to their rescue missions. Each time there is an emergency call from someone who is registered with the program they can quickly identify the needs, limitations, and health concerns / medical info that the individual calling has prior to emergency services arrival.

- **Smart 911 Mobile App** is available on the App store as well as Google Play.
- **Register Online at** <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/registration/registrationLanding.action>
- **Through Smart 911** You can add as much or as little information about your vehicles, pets, service animals, along with any special notes that you would want responders to know. Smart 911 allows citizens to provide the additional details that 9-1-1 call takers may need in order to assist them during an emergency. When you dial 9-1-1 today the information received by the 9-1-1 call center can be limited based on the type of phone you are calling on. With Smart911, anytime you make an emergency call from a phone registered with your Safety Profile, the 9-1-1 systems recognizes your phone number and automatically displays your profile on the screen of the call taker who receives your call.

# Programs Offered through the Town of Huntington for the Developmentally Disabled



## **Summer Employment Opportunities for People With Disabilities**

The summer is a great time to have a work experience for many young people. The Town of Huntington recognizes the importance of this experience and allocates funds annually to support this working initiative for young persons with disabilities.

Applications are available in the Personnel Office, Room 210 in Town Hall.

For more information, please contact the  
Department of Human Services  
**(631) 446-3726**

# Social Program Without Walls



## Social Program Without Walls:

The Social Program Without Walls is for adventuresome, independent adults with developmental disabilities, age 21 and above, who are interested in making friends and socializing with their peers. Participants visit local restaurants, recreation establishments, i.e. bowling alleys and movies, or go to shows, concerts, sporting events and museums both locally and in New York City. Members are expected to assist in selecting and organizing activities. Transportation is not provided. Most often participants meet directly at the program sites, public transportation is utilized for some meetings.

**LOCATION:** Various restaurants, recreation facilities and other venues in the Town of Huntington and elsewhere.

**DATES & TIMES:** Two weekend meetings per month from October through June, usually on Friday evenings and Sundays.

**REGISTRATION:** Participants who have attended in the past will receive a registration form in the mail. The registration form and payments may be mailed to the Parks & Recreation Department or brought to the first program on October 7, 2023. New participants interested in registering for this program should contact Mike Solimando, Program Coordinator for a screening in order to determine eligibility. Registration forms may be obtained from the Department of Parks & Recreation, Town Hall, 100 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743 Telephone (631) 351-3000. Preference is given to Town of Huntington residents.



# Resident Recreation I.D. Card



Resident Recreation I.D. Cards (and Golf I.D. Cards) are for residents only and offer discounts on Parks & Recreation Department programs, admission to the ice rink, swimming pool, Town of Huntington golf courses, and free entry into the spray park! Purchases and renewals can be now done online and by email. This new process allows residents to receive the benefits of obtaining one of these cards without the stress of visiting a Town facility. Online Purchase or Renewal: <https://huntingtonny.formstack.com/forms/recid>

Email Purchase or Renewal:

Use your smart phone to take a picture of your photo ID and utility or tax bill with your current address and name on it and email it to the Parks Department at [parksandrec@huntingtonny.gov](mailto:parksandrec@huntingtonny.gov).

Let them know what kind of card you would like to purchase:

- o 1-Year Adult Rec Card - \$25
- o 2-Year Adult Rec Card - \$40
- o 2-Year Teen / Senior / Disabled Rec Card - \$15
- o 1-Year Golf Card (all) - \$30
- o 2-Year Golf Card (all) - \$50

**The Parks Department will then follow up with you to help complete the transaction!**

When your payment is made, the card will be eligible to be used online immediately for admissions to the ice rink or to sign up for any Parks and Recreation Programs. We will also mail the physical card to your home.



## DISABILITY PARKING

New York State Department of Motor Vehicles parking permits for persons with disabilities, permanent or temporary in nature that affect mobility, are issued to Town residents through the **Town Clerk's Office**. An application (either downloaded from the Town's website or obtained from **Andrew Raia**, Town Clerk, 100 Main Street, Room 102, Huntington, New York 11743) must be completed by the applicant and the applicant's physician.



If you have any questions or concerns please call the Town Clerk's office at **(631) 351-3206** between 8:30am and 4:30pm. Or visit them online at:

<https://www.huntingtonny.gov/disability-permits>

# Where Are Dogs Allowed and Not Allowed?



After two trials were done throughout 2020 and the CAC working with Councilwoman Joan Cergol, it has been decided by the Town Board that leashed dogs will be allowed at Heckscher Park. New signages have been made and located throughout the park to remind residents of the new rules. Here are some things to keep in mind:

**On-Leash Dog Parks & Trails:** Dogs are allowed on-leash in most of the Town of Huntington's 140+ parks. Pet parents should keep in mind several rules to ensure enjoyment for all park visitors:

- Keep you dog leashed (6 ft or shorter)
- Pick up after your dog and place waste in the proper receptacles
- Never leave your dog unattended or off-leash
- Correct any aggressive behavior
- Yield to other park/trail users
- Keep your dog and yourself on the marked trails, if applicable
- Never leave your dog unattended, inside or outside of the car



## **Suggested Trail Walks with Dogs:**

- Jerome A. Ambro Memorial Wetland Preserve – Seaside Court in Northport
- Dix Hills Park Woodland Trail – Vanderbilt Parkway Dix Hills
- Sunshine Acres Park (upper paved paths) – Townline Road Commack
- Frazer Drive Park – Frazer Drive Greenlawn
- Phragmites Park – Ft. Salonga Road Centerport

## **Off-Leash Dog Run:**

- Well behaved dogs can go off-leash at the Town of Huntington Animal Shelter's dog run located on Deposit Road East Northport.

**Off Limits to Dogs:** It is unlawful for any person to allow a dog, leashed or unleashed, to be in any of the following properties or parts thereof:

- Betty Allen Nature Preserve
- Heckscher Park's Harry Chapin Rainbow Stage area during performances or events
- ALL playgrounds
- ALL picnic areas
- ALL park benches
- ALL active recreation areas including courts and sports fields
- ALL town camp or town-licensed education program areas
- ALL town beaches except for paved areas and boardwalks



# The Waterfront Center



## ZIGZAG: ADAPTIVE SAILING

The ZIGZAG program offers instruction and equipment that caters specifically to the needs of people with disabilities.

The ZIGZAG program is offered on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. between Memorial Day and Labor Day, Free of charge.

**The Waterfront Center** is open from 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and is located at 1 West End Avenue, Oyster Bay, NY 11771.

For more information please contact [info@thewaterfrontcenter.org](mailto:info@thewaterfrontcenter.org) at least two weeks in advance for scheduling. Or call (516) 922-7245.



# Helen Keller National Center

Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) is the only national program providing comprehensive vocational rehabilitation services to youth (16 and older), working-age adults and seniors (55 and better) with combined hearing and vision loss. We work together with people who are Deaf-blind to achieve their goals and aspirations.



The HKNC Older Adult Program envisions a world where every older adult with combined hearing and vision loss has the opportunity to age in place with dignity and independence:

- by directly accessing education or services
- by interfacing with caregivers informed on combined hearing and vision loss
- by receiving services from a professional trained in combined hearing and vision loss
- HKNC offers specialized services to individuals who are experiencing a combined loss of hearing and vision, their families and the professionals that serve them.  
Our older adult specialist and 11 HKNC regional representatives are available to provide information about resources and training opportunities that are available to them locally and nationally.

## **Free Services for Youth and Adults with Vision and Hearing Loss**

Services from the Helen Keller National Center can include low vision and audiology screenings, adaptive equipment and training for safer independent living and travel, assistive technology training, and help with preparing for and finding employment. All services and equipment are funded by the New York State Commission for the Blind with no out of pocket costs for eligible individuals. For more information about eligibility and services, please contact **Debbie Fiderer** at 516-944-8900 x333 or [Debbie.Fiderer@hknc.org](mailto:Debbie.Fiderer@hknc.org)

# SILO SUFFOLK INDEPENDENT LIVING

## ORGANIZATION EDUCATION - ADVOCACY - EMPOWERMENT

### Independent Living Training

Individuals with disabilities are provided interactive, personalized workshops where they can improve their daily living skills, preparing them to run their own lives and manage their own care. Discussion topics include budgeting, travel training, social interaction and relationship skills, obtaining and coordinating personal assistance services.

*Call: (631) 880-7929 or Email: [info@siloinc.org](mailto:info@siloinc.org) for more information*

### Options Counseling

Options Counseling is an interactive, person-centered process whereby individuals are supported in making informed long-term support decisions based on their preferences, strengths, values, abilities and resources. It includes exploring options, assisting with accessing supports/services, following-up with the individual, and may result in the development of an action plan. If you are interested in Options Counseling please contact:

*Erick Dreher, LMSW (631) 730-3737 x120*

### Housing Information & Guidance

Individuals with disabilities are provided an opportunity to define their own needs and learn to advocate for themselves in securing and maintaining suitable housing that will allow them to live as independently as possible. We can assign you a specialist that provides information on housing rights and applying for available subsidized programs.

For more information, call **(631) 730-3737**

Housing Program Director

*Nicole Bunay*

*Email: [njohnson@siloinc.org](mailto:njohnson@siloinc.org) or call*

*631-880-7929 ext. 161*



## THE *Open Doors* PROGRAM


Helps people move from institutions, like nursing homes and intermediate care facilities, to a home in the community.

Our transition specialists will help you transition back into the community with the supports and services you need for successful independent living.



FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CALL 631-880-7929





Free, unbiased  
Information and Assistance!

# NY CONNECTS

## LONG ISLAND

**SILO** 

Suffolk Independent Living Organization  
education - advocacy - empowerment

*We can link you to long term supports and services  
to help you remain independent in the community!*

**Call us at 631-730-3737**

**INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, CAREGIVERS OR PROFESSIONALS,  
WE CAN HELP WITH:**

- Information about resources.
- Linkage to long term services and supports regardless of diagnosis, age or payor source.
- Coordination with other agencies to guide you through eligibility processes.
- Seamless linkages to any assessments you may need.
- Assistance with benefits enrollment.



**NY Connects**  
Your Link to Long Term  
Services and Supports



# TOWN OF HUNTINGTON SENIOR CENTER

## Hands on Huntington NNORC

Hands on Huntington, a Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Community program, is a program provided at no cost to seniors age 60 years and older.

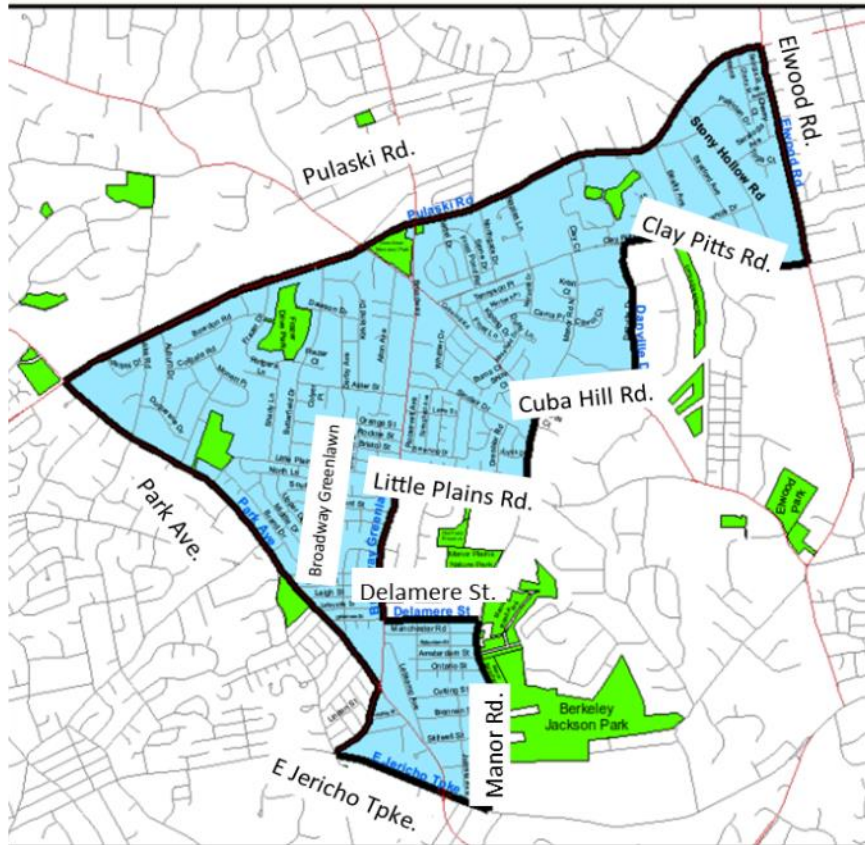
If you reside in their catchment area, including parts of Greenlawn, East Northport or Huntington, this program can assist you with at home access to a social worker for case management, a nurse for health assessments and educational programs. Services are geared to keeping seniors in their homes and community, living as independently as possible.



For information, please call: (631) 351-6610  
<https://huntingtonny.gov/hands-on-huntington>


Stephanie Laureano, LCSW, MBA; Bunny Karalitzky, RN MS;  
and Joyce Little, LMSW

You are eligible to participate in this program if you live anywhere in the area shaded in blue.



This project is grant funded by the New York State Office of the Aging (NYSOFA) and supported by the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center and the Town of Huntington.



 **Edmund J. Smyth**  
Supervisor

Eugene Cook  
Councilman

Joan Cergol  
Councilwoman

Dr. Dave Bennardo  
Councilman

Salvatore Ferro  
Councilman

## Suffolk County Accessible Transportation

### How do I know if I am eligible?

You are eligible to ride SCAT if you have permanent or temporary disabilities that prevent you from using regular Suffolk County Transit (SCT) public bus service. All SCT buses are wheelchair lift or ramp equipped. Eligible individuals are those with disabilities defined by federal regulation and who:

- Cannot use SCT buses without assistance; or
- Cannot use SCT buses because the route(s) they wish to use are not accessible; or
- Have a disability that, combined with environmental barriers or circumstances, prevent them from using the Suffolk County Transit.

Once registered with SCAT as an "ADA Eligible Rider," you will be issued an I.D. card and number which will allow you to use SCAT as well as other ADA paratransit services throughout the country.

### When using SCAT remember:

SCAT is a form of mass transit. It is a shared-ride service. Other SCAT users will be sharing the ride with you. The bus may be making stops for others before picking you up, and dropping other passengers off before reaching your stop. We ask all riders to be ready at their pickup time to minimize inconvenience and help the service keep on time. Please be ready to board the bus as soon as possible once it arrives. Remember it might be you waiting on the bus next time.

- All trip requests can be scheduled between 1 to 5 days in advance; you do not have to wait 5 days but you must schedule your trip at least one day in advance. Since SCAT buses don't follow daily routes, everyday is different. Calling at least a day ahead allows us to plan out the day's route to accommodate all trip requests as efficiently as we can.
- Allow extra time for reaching your destination/ appointment – We make every attempt to pick up and transport our riders when we say we will, but the times we give can only be approximations.



### How can I apply for SCAT service?

You can apply for SCAT service in any one of the following ways:

- Download and print the application (pdf file) at [www.sct-bus.org](http://www.sct-bus.org) and mail it in.
- To request an application, write to: Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities Building 158, William J. Lindsay Complex Veterans Memorial Highway PO Box 6100 Hauppauge, NY 11788
- By calling: 631.853.8337 (voice) or 631.853.5658 (TTY), weekdays, 9:00 AM - 4:30 P.M.

Once we have received your completed application, we will notify you of your eligibility status within 21 days. With your completed application, you will need to provide two (2) photos (must include size) for your I.D. card as proof of eligibility. To be considered all applications must be completed in their entirety. The Suffolk County Office of Handicapped Services is also available to answer your questions regarding the application and/or the SCAT program. The SCAT application is also available in Spanish or other formats upon request, for example, large print or audio cassette.

### What does it cost?

ADA Eligible Rider .....	\$4.00
Companions.....	\$4.00
Personal Care Attendants.....	Free
Children Under 5 Years of Age .....	Free

Please have your fare ready in cash, exact change only. Our drivers cannot make change.

### When Is SCAT service available?

SCAT service is available system-wide during normal service hours, Monday through Friday, 6:00 AM to 8:30 PM; Weekends, 7:00 AM to 8:30 PM.

# **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**



Local public transportation is available Monday through Saturday. The Town of Huntington's HART system (631) 427-8287 and Suffolk County Transit (631) 852-5200 operate a network of regularly scheduled bus routes that serve many of the places seniors might want to travel, including the Senior Center. Buses are handicap accessible. Senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, and Medicare cardholders are eligible to pay reduced fares.

Minibus service is also provided, at somewhat higher fares to persons who are prevented from using the regular buses because of a disability. This paratransit service is operated on a shared-ride, advance-request, curb-to-curb basis by HART (for rides entirely within the Town of Huntington) and Suffolk County's SCAT program (for rides within Suffolk but not entirely within the Town). Both agencies require prior enrollment by application. Personal travel assistance is limited. HART also extends paratransit service, with reduced priority, to non-disabled senior citizen residents who do not drive and do not have access to regular buses. Paratransit is not offered as a more convenient alternative to regularly scheduled buses.

**HART Paratransit is now accepting applications to provide service for Town residents who wish to go to the following Health Care Facilities along Commack Road in Commack: Memorial-Sloan Kettering, St. Catherine & St. Charles Health & Wellness Center, and Stony Brook Advanced Specialty Care.**

**For information call:**

**HART at (631) 427-8287 [TTY: (800) 662-1220]  
SCAT at (631) 738-1150 [TTY: (631).981.0104]  
Bus schedules are available at the Senior Center**

**Paratransit hours of operation are:  
Monday through Friday 6:55 am - 7 pm  
Saturday 9 am - 6:55 pm**

HART has enhanced cleaning and sanitizing routines of their buses and monitor what the neighboring transit agencies are doing in order to continue keeping the community safe.

## **MTA Long Island Rail Road:**

Approximately 85% of MTA Long Island Railroads are accessible via ramps and/or elevators. They are: Babylon, Rockville Centre, Seaford, Wantagh, Atlantic Terminal - Brooklyn, Jamaica, Penn Station, Woodside, Hempstead, Queens Village, Long Beach, Lynbrook, Patchogue, Hicksville, Huntington, Mineola, Northport, Port Jefferson, Flushing, Great Neck, Port Washington, Ronkonkoma, and Belmont Park. Elevator installation projects are underway or about to begin at Nostrand Avenue, Murray Hill and Floral Park stations.

The Long Island Railroad has also launched a new program called LIRR CARE, which helps individuals with special needs receive assistance with the bridge-plate to board the train. To ensure adequate time for assistance, it is recommended customers call (718) 547-7227 at least two hours before the desired departure time. The customer should provide the date, departure time, where they will be departing from and the destination.

People with disability parking permits can always park for free at metered spaces within Huntington Village and at the Huntington LIRR Train Station parking lot all year long, as long as the vehicle has handicap license plates or displays a valid disability parking permit.

There is never a fee for parking in one of the spaces in the parking lot in front of the Huntington LIRR Train Station dedicated for handicap parking next to the station house, as long as the vehicle has handicap license plates or displays a valid disability parking permit.

## *News from the Town of Huntington Senior Division...*

Seeing our seniors thriving: socializing, learning new skills, volunteering and receiving services, is a special gift. So many in our community continue to rally and donate time, services or goods to support our senior programs.

In addition, we are so grateful for our building expansion and renovated bathrooms, new enlarged parking lot, plantings and all enhancements to better serve our community.



**Senior Center Activities.** Entrance by red awning door and by the front sliding door, 423 Park Avenue, Huntington. Classes are Monday-Friday by reservation only. For all programs call (631) 446-3705 as early as the prior to Friday to make reservation(s) for the following week's programs. All activities are limited to registered seniors with current senior membership card. There are varied activities per day based on instructor's availability. Arrival is 15 minutes prior to activity start time. Sample programs: Tai Chi, Bingo, Exercise, Fitness, Zumba, Chair Yoga, Cardio-Drumming, Pool Playing, Bridge, etc.



## *News from the Town of Huntington Senior Division cont...*

**Senior Clubs** meet at various locations throughout the township for activities and socialization. To inquire, please call Senior Center (631) 351-3253.

**Senior Citizens Beach House** located at 239 Little Neck Road, Centerport Winter hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 10 am to 3:45 pm and Sunday 11 am to 3:45 pm. (631) 261-9186. Entrance at front door only, senior membership card required. The Beach House continues to be a beautiful haven for many.



**Senior Support Services** are available at the Senior Center. Social Worker and senior advocate are ready to assist. Please call the Senior Center (631) 351-3253 to inquire. Bereavement, caregiver and Veteran support groups available.

**The Adult Day Care Program** provides in-house services and continues to actively engage members (functionally impaired) and caregivers, with services and support. Our activities include interactive themed programs such as Jeopardy, Trivia, Bingo, etc. Dedicated staff provide musical entertainment, exercises and yoga. In addition, the program provides special presentations; seasonal and celebratory. We are adept at inspiring conversation on a variety of researched topics for the enjoyment of our members. Support services for caregivers are on-going.



## *News from the Town of Huntington Senior Division cont...*

**Nutrition** Hot meals are being served to hundreds of seniors Monday through Friday at the Senior Center dining room. These hot meals are prepared daily by our kitchen staff. The Dining Room is located at 423 Park Avenue. There is a suggested, voluntary, anonymous contribution of \$3.00 per meal both at the dining room and for home delivered meals. The Home Delivered Meals to home bound seniors continues and they have increased this year.

**Home Delivered Meal** deliveries include five frozen meals, delivered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to homebound senior residents who are registered for the Home Delivered Meals Program. For information regarding how to register, please call the Senior Center (631) 351-3253.

**The Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP)** continues to serve enrolled members, Monday-Friday as scheduled. For information, call the Senior Center (631) 351-3253.

**Residential Repair** program services our senior citizen population with minor home repairs on a safety first, priority driven basis. For information, call the Senior Center (631) 351-3253.



Additional Town of Huntington Senior programming is available online.  
Please visit: [www.HuntingtonNY.gov/Seniors](http://www.HuntingtonNY.gov/Seniors)

**Senior Center staff is on-site to assist/answer questions by phone  
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (631) 351-3253**

Funding provided by Town of Huntington, the Administration for Community Living through New York State Office for the Aging and Suffolk County Office for the Aging.

### **Notify Me**

This program is an opportunity for residents to receive weekly electronic updates regarding a variety of pertinent town related topics. To register, please visit our website <https://www.huntingtonny.gov/content/13865/19050.aspx>



**TOWN OF HUNTINGTON**  
**ADULT DAY CARE CENTER**  
423 PARK AVENUE, HUNTINGTON, NY 11743  
(631) 351-3293  
Amy.Geist@HuntingtonNY.gov  
[HuntingtonNY.gov/ADC](http://HuntingtonNY.gov/ADC)

*Welcome ...*

to a caring and friendly place serving frail seniors with special needs.

*Caregiver respite*

*Low cost*

*Medicaid MLTC accepted*

*Transportation available*

**OPEN ENROLLMENT  
STOP IN FOR A TOUR  
TODAY!**



Baking Club  
Brain Gym  
Creative Arts  
Games  
Gentle Exercise/Yoga  
Hot Lunch & Snacks  
Intergenerational Activities  
Language Arts  
Large and Small Group Activities  
Music/Pitch Pipe Program  
Parties/Entertainment  
Themed Presentations  
Trips to Centerport Beach House  
... and so much more!



**Edmund J. Smyth**  
Supervisor

Eugene Cook  
Councilman

Joan Cergol  
Councilwoman

Dr. Dave Bennardo  
Councilman

Salvatore Ferro  
Councilman

Funding provided by Town of Huntington, the Administration for Community Living through New York State Office for the Aging and Suffolk County Office for the Aging.



# Individual Access Pass

The Access Pass permits residents of New York State with disabilities, as defined in the application, free or discounted use of state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities operated by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

To get your application visit: <https://parks.ny.gov/documents/admission/AccessPassApplication.pdf>

INCOMPLETE ACCESS PASS APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED

## PART ONE: Personal Information APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE SECTIONS A THROUGH D

### A. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Birth Date       Last 4 Digits of Social Security No.

Month Day Year

First Name

Street Address

Mailing Address (if different than street address)

Telephone Number

**Office Use Only**  
Disability Code \_\_\_\_\_ Certification Verification: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved By \_\_\_\_\_ 1 2 3 4 5  
Denial Code (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Denied By \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name

City or Town  State  Zip Code

City or Town  State  Zip Code

### B. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

Applicant must provide a copy of one of the following which must be in the name of the applicant or, in the case of a minor, in the name of the parent or legal guardian.

- A copy of a currently valid New York State Driver License or Non-Driver Identification card (do not send original).
- OR
- A New York State tax return (IT 201 or IT 150) for the current, or if not yet filed, the preceding tax year (financial information may be hidden).



### C. PHOTO (Only required for those under 18 years of age)

TAPE a current photo of the applicant; full-face view, passport size (2" x 2") with the name written on the back. Do NOT staple, glue, paperclip, or place tape on the front of the photo. Digital photos may be used but photocopies of photos cannot be accepted.

\*This photo will be affixed to your pass.

### D. AUTHORIZATION & CERTIFICATION

I authorize the release of any pertinent medical information needed to process this application. I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge and believe and understand that any person who knowingly files a statement containing any materially false information, or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent act. **ANY FALSE STATEMENT MADE HEREIN IS PUNISHABLE AS A CLASS "A" MISDEMEANOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 210.45 OF THE PENAL LAW.**

Applicant/Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Legal Guardian must sign for applicants under 18 years of age

## PART TWO: Certification APPLICANT MUST COMPLETE SECTION A OR PHYSICIAN MUST COMPLETE SECTION B

PLEASE NOTE: The following are **NOT** acceptable proofs of disability:

- New York State Handicapped Parking Permit
- Medicare or Medicaid Card
- Social Security Statement
- Veterans Administration medical treatment card

Certifications from the following are **NOT** acceptable proofs of disability:

- New York State Employees Retirement System
- New York State Workers Compensation Board
- Insurance Company

### A. ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATION: Attach certification of one of the following issued within ONE YEAR of this application's date.

- BL Person who is blind:** Certification from the New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped that the applicant has a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less or limitation in the field of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than twenty degrees in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens.
- VA Veteran who has a disability:** Certification from the United States Veterans Administration or the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs that the applicant is a veteran of the wars of the United States with a 40% or greater service connected disability as certified by the United States Veterans Administration, or who has at any time been awarded by the Federal

government an allowance towards the purchase of an automobile or who is eligible for such an award. \*Individual will receive Lifetime Liberty Access Pass.

- DD Person who has a developmental disability:** Certification from the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities that the applicant is eligible to receive services from a program they license, operate, certify or fund.

- MH Person who has a mental disability:** Certification from the New York State Office of Mental Health that the applicant is receiving services from a program they license, operate, certify or fund.

### B. PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION: To be completed by the physician only if the Organization Certification in Section A is not provided. **Physician must select** the applicable statement(s) and complete certification below within 6 months of the application date. A disabling condition is acceptable only if it causes one of the functional limitations listed below. \*Handwriting other or additional conditions will not be accepted.

**AM Person who has an amputated arm or leg:** has a fully or partially amputated or congenitally absent arm or leg, excluding the extremities of the hands (fingers) and feet (toes).

**DF Person who is deaf:** has profound hearing loss causing the person to primarily rely on visual communications (sign language, lip reading, gestures) and assistive technology.

**BL Person who is blind:** has a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less or limitation in the field of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than twenty degrees in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens.

**WC Person who is non-ambulatory:** has a permanent disability which prevents them from being able to walk and therefore requires the use of a wheelchair at all times.

### PHYSICIAN'S INFORMATION

First Name  Last Name  SUFFIX

Street Address  Telephone Number

City or Town  State  Zip Code  License Number

I certify the following: the applicant is disabled as indicated by my selection of the applicable qualification; I am currently licensed and practicing in New York State; the above information is true to the best of my knowledge; I believe and understand that any person who knowingly files a statement containing any materially false information, or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent act. **ANY FALSE STATEMENT MADE HEREIN IS PUNISHABLE AS A CLASS "A" MISDEMEANOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 210.45 OF THE PENAL LAW.**

Physician's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Physician's Stamp: \_\_\_\_\_

Email this application, enclosing all required materials to: [Accesspass@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Accesspass@parks.ny.gov) Or Mail to: Access Pass New York State Parks Albany, NY 12238 Please allow 2 - 4 weeks for processing of this application For questions contact our office during regular business hours. 518-474-2324 TTY/TDD through 711 Relay Service



To improve educational, training, and employment opportunities and outcomes for adults with disabilities who are unemployed, underemployed, and/or receiving Social Security disability benefits, the Department of Labor, Licensing & Consumer Affairs administers the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) Project.

Funded and administered by the United States Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration and the Office of Disability Employment Policy.

The Department of Labor, Licensing & Consumer Affairs provides seamless Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) services and accessibility for everyone served in the One-Stop Employment Center.

In addition the Disability Employment Initiative Project can provide guidance in the employment process and use of the One-Stop center resources for individuals with a disability whether or not they are an SSD/SSI beneficiary.

As a New York State certified Employment Network (EN), the Suffolk County One-Stop can guide job seekers through the Ticket to Work program.

Eligibility  
Benefits counseling  
Plan To Achieve Self-Support (PASS)  
Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE)  
Medicaid/Medicare information  
Trial Work Period  
Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE)  
Expedited Reinstatement  
Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA)

The goals of the Ticket to Work Program are to:

Offer beneficiaries with disabilities expanded choices when seeking service and supports to enter, re-enter, and/or maintain employment;

Increase the financial independence and self-sufficiency of beneficiaries with disabilities; and

Reduce and, whenever possible, eliminate reliance on disability benefits.

The beneficiary does not need a paper Ticket to participate. Under this program, eligible beneficiaries with disabilities who are receiving monthly cash benefit payments are entitled to participate by signing up with an approved service provider of their choice.

This can be an Employment Network or a State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency. The EN/State VR agency, if they accept the Ticket assignment, will coordinate and provide appropriate services to help the beneficiary find and maintain employment. These services may be training, career counseling, vocational rehabilitation, job placement, and ongoing support services necessary to achieve a work goal.

**Disability Resource Coordinators:**

Help job seekers with a disability access programs and services necessary to meet employment and asset development goals.

**Timothy Carew**

631-853-6634

[timothy.carew@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:timothy.carew@suffolkcountyny.gov)

**James Eddings**

631-853-2025

[james.eddings@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:james.eddings@suffolkcountyny.gov)

**Ken Klassert**

631-687-4860

[ken.klassert@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:ken.klassert@suffolkcountyny.gov)

# Local Food Pantries

Huntington Bethel A.M.E / True Ministries 291 Park Ave. Huntington Station, NY 11746 631-549-5014  
Thurs. 12pm - 2pm

Church of St. Patrick Parish Social Ministry 400 Main St. Huntington, NY 11743 631-385-3311 Mon./Tues./Weds./Thurs.  
10am - 2pm

Community Food Council 90 East 5th St. Huntington Station, NY 11746 631-351-1060 Weds. & Fri. 10am - 12pm

Helping Hands Rescue Mission 225 Broadway Huntington Station, NY 11746 631-351-6996 Tues. & Thurs. 10am - 1pm

Joseph's Storehouse @ Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran church 22 E. 18th St. Huntington Station, NY 11746 Thurs.  
9am - 11am & Sat. 10am - 12pm

Long Island Cares First Stop Pantry/Harry Chapin Humanitarian Center 220 Broadway Huntington Station, NY 11746  
631-824-6384 Mon./Weds./Fri. 9am - 3pm and Tues./Thurs. 9am - 5pm

St. Hugh of Lincoln 21 E. Ninth St. Huntington Station, NY 11746 631-271-8986 Mon./Weds./Fri. 10am-12pm and  
1pm - 3pm

Tri-CYA 5 Lowndes Ave. Huntington Station, NY 11746 631-673-0614 Call for appointment

WellLife Network 55 Horizon Dr. Huntington, NY 11743 631-920-8088 Monday 11am - 3pm



## GET YOUR FREE HOME ENERGY AUDIT TODAY!

Get a FREE energy audit & find the areas where your home is wasting energy

Fix problem areas with affordable energy upgrades

Save \$1,000 a year on your home energy bills

Make your home more comfortable year round

Long Island Green Homes makes energy efficiency simple and easy. Our knowledgeable Energy Navigators are ready to guide you every step of the way.



Regardless of income level, if you are a Long Island homeowner you can participate in Long Island Green Homes. Assistance of 10-50% is available for home energy improvements depending on your family's income and size.



New York State also provides low interest financing for approved energy efficiency measures. Home improvements can be made with little to no out-of-pocket expenses.



Join thousands of homeowners across the state who have lowered their energy bills and enjoy year-round comfort in their homes.

CALL US TODAY! 800-567-2850  
[longislandgreenhomes.org](http://longislandgreenhomes.org)





## New Resources to Connect Seniors and People with Disabilities to

### **The Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP)**

Seniors and people with disabilities who have no earned income and live in households where all adults are 60 and over and/or disabled can qualify for ESAP. Participants receiving SNAP under ESAP benefit from a simplified application, a longer certification period, and fewer recertification requirements. Interested, please go to:

<https://hungersolutionsny.org/federal-nutrition-programs>

or call: (518) 436-8757 / Toll Free: (800) 865-5542



### **NYS Nutrition Improvement Project (NYSNIP) and NYS Combined Application Project (NYSCAP)**

Seniors and people with disabilities who live alone and receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are automatically enrolled in NYSCAP. NYSCAP is replacing NYSNIP, a similar program that will phase out by 2023. For more detailed information, please go to:

<https://hungersolutionsny.org/federal-nutrition-programs>

or call: (518) 436-8757 / Toll Free: (800) 865-5542

Seniors who are ineligible for ESAP and NYSNIP/NYSCAP may still qualify for SNAP. SNAP rules include special provisions that expand access and maximize benefits for seniors and people with disabilities.

**ESAP****NYSNIP****NYSCAP****SNAP****Who can Participate**

All adults in household must be seniors or disabled with no earned income

Seniors or disabled who are on SSI and live alone

Seniors or disabled who are on SSI and live alone

Seniors or disabled who are ineligible for ESAP or NYSCAP may have earned income

**Application & enrollment**

Effective 12/01/2021: Eligible new applicants will be placed in ESAP. Current eligible SNAP recipients will be placed in ESAP at recertification

Effective 12/01/2021: NYSNIP is transitioning to participants will be placed in NYSNIP participants will recertification.

NYSCAP. New in NYSCAP. Current be placed in NYSCAP

Interview required?

Apply using the Simplified SNAP only Application for Seniors and People with Disabilities (LDSS-5166), my Benefits, or Access HRA

No application—participants are auto-enrolled

No application—participants are auto-enrolled

Apply using my Benefits, AccessHRA, or the SNAP-only Application (LDSS-4826)

Applicant screened for expedited service?

Yes

No

No

Yes

Yes

No

No

Yes

**Recertification**

- Every 36 months • No interview required • Non-mandatory interim report at 18 months

- Every 48 months Interview required
- Mandatory interim report at 24 months

- Every 36 months
- Interview required
- Mandatory interim report at 18 months

- Every 12 months Interview required
- Mandatory change report form at 6 months

**Benefits**

Individualized budget

Standardized budget

Individualized budget Participants must redeem benefits within 90 days of auto-enrollment

Individualized budget Senior/disabled households can maximize benefits with categorical eligibility, medical deductions and a higher resource test

**Documentation**

Computer matches for: • Unearned income • Date of birth • Social security number Self-declaration for: • Shelter expenses • SUA Participants must submit: • Residency • Medical deductions

Participants must submit Information Collection maximize benefits

the NYSCAP SNAP Case Sheet (LDSS-4841) to

See our SNAP Prescreening Guide for detailed information on SNAP documentation



# **RAPID TRANSITION** **HOUSING PROGRAM**

Rental Subsidy with Housing Specialists and Independent Living Specialists on staff to assist eligible individuals with RTHP enrollment, guidance on unit selection, service planning and linkage to community resources as needed.

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

**-HOMELESS OR UNSTABLY HOUSED**

**-ACTIVE MEDICAID**

**-HAVE 1 OR MORE DOCUMENTED CHRONIC PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND 2 OR MORE CHRONIC CONDITIONS**

**- MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- **2 OR MORE INPATIENT STAYS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS;**
- **5 OR MORE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS**
- **4 OR MORE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS AND 1 OR MORE INPATIENT STAY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS**
- **1 SKILLED NURSING/REHAB FACILITY STAY OF 30 DAYS OR LONGER IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.**



Suffolk Independent Living Organization  
education - advocacy - empowerment

Have your caseworker, social worker or other formal support  
call 631-880-7929 to place a referral

# Federal Disability Programs

**1. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)** is a Federal disability income program for adults who have worked and now find themselves unable to work due to a disability.

**A Child under Social Security's definition:** A child is considered disabled if the child's physical or mental impairment(s) is so severe that it results in marked and severe functional limitations. The impairment(s) must last or be expected to last for at least 12 months or result in the child's death.

**Social Security Benefits:** Social Security Disability Insurance pays benefits to you and certain members of your family if you are "insured," meaning that you worked long enough and paid Social Security taxes.

- The amount of your monthly benefit is based on your lifetime average earnings covered by Social Security.
- Social Security Disability Insurance benefits are paid starting six months from the onset date of the disability, but no more than 12 months prior to application.
- A claimant receives monthly benefits deposited directly into their bank account or on a SSA Direct Express Card.

**2. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)** is Federal program for adults and children who meet the definition of disabled and have limited income and resources. It is designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income; and it provides cash to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter.

**Supplemental Security Income benefits:** Paid based on financial need.

- The amount of your monthly benefit is based on your income and resources.
- SSI benefits also are payable to people 65 and older without disabilities who meet the financial limits.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits may be paid from the month of application.
- A claimant receives monthly benefits deposited directly into their bank account or on a SSA Direct Express Card.

## Eligibility

Anyone who believes they meet Federal Disability requirements is eligible to apply. Your family members may also receive benefits if you can no longer work due to a medical condition.

You are considered disabled under Social Security rules if:

- You cannot work due to a medical condition;
- You cannot do work that you did before;
- We decide that you cannot adjust to other work because of your medical condition(s); **and**
- Your disability has lasted or is expected to last for at least one year or to result in death.
- People who have worked long enough may also be able to receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits as well as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

# How do I apply for SSI/ Social Security Disability?

**You can apply for Social Security Disability Insurance:**

**Online:**

[Social Security Administration \(SSA\) Online Services](#)

**By phone:**

Call SSA at 1-800-772-1213 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday.  
If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you can call SSA at TTY 1-800-325-0778.

**In person:**

Visit your local [Social Security office](#). (Call first to make an appointment.)

## **Social Security Huntington Office**

1121 Walt Whitman Rd  
Suite 201  
Melville, NY 11747

Phone: 1-800-772-1213

Hours: Monday - Friday

Email: [NY.DD.PC3.CORRES@ssa.gov](mailto:NY.DD.PC3.CORRES@ssa.gov)

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Fax: 1-833-950-2370

Closed: Saturday, and Sunday

After you submit your application to the Federal Social Security Administration (SSA) your claim will be sent to the NYS Division of Disability Determinations and a Disability Analyst will review your case and determine whether or not you meet the federal medical guidelines to qualify for Social Security Disability. SSA makes the final determination whether or not you will receive benefits.

For more information,  
visit the [SSI/Social Security Disability Benefits](#)  
page at the link below.

<https://otda.ny.gov/programs/disability-determinations/>



# Cooling Assistance Benefit

The 2022-2023 Cooling Assistance benefit opened May 1, 2023.

If you are eligible, you may receive one Cooling Assistance benefit per applicant household for the purchase and installation of an air conditioner or a fan to help your home stay cool. In circumstances where an air conditioner cannot be safely installed, a fan will be provided.

Only one air conditioner or fan, not to exceed \$800 with installation for a window, portable air conditioner, or fan and not to exceed \$1,000 for an existing wall sleeve unit, will be provided per applicant household. No additional HEAP cash benefits are available.

You may be eligible for a Cooling Assistance HEAP benefit if:

- Your household's gross monthly income is at or below the current income guidelines for your household size as posted in the following table, or
- you receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, or
- you receive Temporary Assistance (TA), or
- you receive Code A Supplemental Security Income (SSI Living Alone), or
- you received a Regular benefit greater than \$21 in the current program year or received a Regular benefit equal to \$21 during the current program year and reside in government subsidized housing with heat included in your rent, and
- your household contains at least one individual with a documented medical condition that is exacerbated by extreme heat, or
- your household contains a vulnerable member based on their age (elderly age 60 years or older, or young children under age 6) which meet all other component eligibility criteria, and
- a member of your household is a United States Citizen or qualified alien, and
- you currently do not have a working air conditioner or the air conditioner you have is five years old or older, and
- you did not receive a HEAP funded air conditioner within the past five years.

**Your household eligibility requirements include filing an application with your local department of social services, providing all necessary documentation, and the household must reside in an eligible living situation.**

# Cooling Assistance Benefit

If you are eligible, you may receive one Cooling Assistance benefit per applicant household for the purchase and installation of an air conditioner or a fan to help your home stay cool.

In circumstances where an air conditioner cannot be safely installed, a fan will be provided.

Only one air conditioner or fan, not to exceed \$800 with installation for a window, portable air conditioner, or fan and not to exceed \$1,000 for an existing wall sleeve unit, will be provided per applicant household. No additional HEAP cash benefits are available.



## Getting the air conditioner installed:

The participating Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) vendor list can be obtained by accessing the [HEAP Participating Vendor List](#). Select your county of residence, “Cooling” as the fuel type, and pressing “Go”. It will be your responsibility to maintain the air conditioner. This includes the responsibility to remove, cover, store, and/or reinstall the unit or the installation sleeve after vendor installation.

## Where to apply:

You may apply for the HEAP Cooling Assistance with **Suffolk County Department of Social Services** located at 2 South Second Street, Deer Park, NY 11729. [\(631\) 854-6600](tel:6318546600)

Hours: Monday -Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**New York City Residents** may also apply for the HEAP Cooling Assistance benefit online by visiting [ACCESS NYC](#).

# Town of Huntington Citizens Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities

*The Citizens Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities was founded in 1976. It is comprised of residents from the Town who are interested in issues related to disabilities. Carmen Kasper, Director of Human Services is the liaison to this Committee.*

*The Town of Huntington Citizens Advisory Committee meets the third Wednesday in the months of: January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October and November from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The meetings are open to all residents. For more information, please contact:*

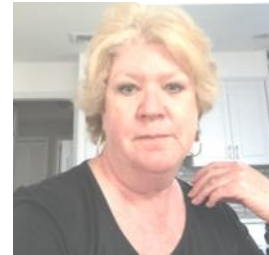
***[Humanservices@huntingtonny.gov](mailto:Humanservices@huntingtonny.gov) or call (631) 351-3304.***



Marianne Iannacone  
Chair



Carmen Kasper, Director  
Human Services



Michelle Schmitz  
Vice Chair



Maureen Donohue



Thomas Mangan



Tamar Sherman



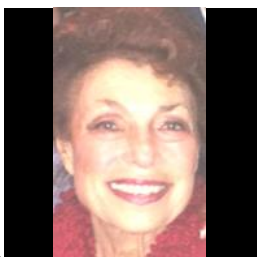
Leonard Urban



Jo-Ann Raia



Dr. Alfred Huberman



Trudy Exelbert



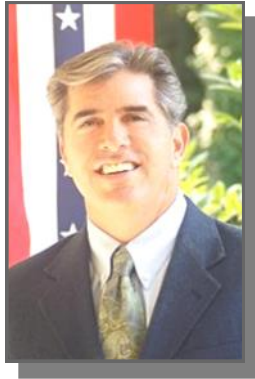
Martin Mandelker



Peter Ferolito



Pearl Levy



Councilman  
Eugene Cook



**Supervisor**  
**Edmund J.M. Smyth**



Councilman  
Dr. Dave Bernardo

**Upcoming Huntington Town Board Meetings**

Tuesday, July 11th @ 2pm

Tuesday, August 8th @ 2pm

Tuesday, September 12th @ 7pm

Tuesday, October 17th @ 2pm

Thursday, November 2nd @ 7pm

Thursday, November 16th @ 7pm

Tuesday, December 12th @ 2pm



Councilwoman  
Joan Cergol



Councilman  
Sal Ferro

Most all Town Board Meetings are held at Huntington Town Hall,  
100 Main Street, Huntington  
Meetings can also be viewed on the Town's public access channels  
18 on Optimum and 38 on Verizon.

**Carmen Kasper**

Director of Department of Human Services  
(631) 351-3304 CKasper@HuntingtonNY.gov

<https://www.huntingtonny.gov/content/13749/13861/16626/16628/default.aspx>