

# Town of Ayer



## Housing Resources & Human Services

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### **Local Area Housing Providers**

#### Provider Name/Service

- **Ayer Housing Authority** 978-772-2771  
State aided elderly/special needs housing.

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

- **Massachusetts State Aided Public Housing**

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/a-guide-to-obtaining-housing-assistance>

"There are approximately 90,000 units of state and federally assisted public housing in Massachusetts. Public housing developments are apartments that are built and subsidized by either the state or federal government and are managed by local housing authorities. There are 253 local housing authorities in Massachusetts. " (from the DHCD website.)

- **CHAMP**: Common Housing Application for Massachusetts Public-Housing

<https://publichousingapplication.ocd.state.ma.us/>

- **Ayer Housing Rehabilitation Program**

The Ayer Housing Rehabilitation Program (the Program) provides 15-year, 0% interest, Deferred Payment Loans (DPLs) for general rehabilitation too Low to Moderate Income owners of single and multi-family residential properties in the Ayer. Please call the Ayer Office of Community and Economic Development for more details, 978-772-8220 ext.142.

- Link - Application for Ayer Housing Rehabilitation Program

## **Regional Providers (Ayer Eligible)**

### **RCAP Solutions, Inc.**

978-630-6615 Worcester Office

<http://www.rcapsolutions.org/housing-applications/>

1. HUD Section 8 Voucher Program – Federal Subsidized Housing Program
2. HMLP (Home Modification Loan Program from MRC)  
Home Modification Loan Program for elders, adults with disabilities so disabled and elders can stay in their homes. RCAP Solutions Gardner Office  
978-630-6754 [lcchislom@rcapsolutions.org](mailto:lcchislom@rcapsolutions.org)  
978-630-6755

### **• RAFT (Rental Assistance for Families in Transition)**

RAFT provides short-term financial assistance to low-income families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Eligible uses include:

- rent and utility arrears
- moving cost assistance
- rental stipends
- utility bills.
- helps families who must move but do not have enough money to pay a security deposit, utility startup costs, or first/last month's rent, and furniture (no more than \$1000 of the families allotment can be paid for furniture).
- Families cannot get more than \$4000 within a 12-month period.
- Families in Ayer can apply for RAFT through RCAP Solutions, Inc. & Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance Inc. through the following links:

**RCAP Solutions, Inc.** <http://www.rcapsolutions.org/housing-applications/>

## **Massachusetts Emergency Housing Assistance**

<https://www.mass.gov/emergency-housing-assistance-programs>

To apply for shelter services, please call **(866) 584-0653** and speak with a Homeless Coordinator

## **Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc.**

CMHA leads a collaborative response to homelessness that foster long-term housing stability through prevention, shelter & safety net. CMHA is administering the Emergency Rental & Mortgage Assistance Program for our area.

- **ERMA (Emergency Rental & Mortgage Assistance)**
- **Central Mass Housing Alliance Inc.** <https://www.cmhaonline.org/>
- Phone: 508-791-7265 ext. 172
- **Get The Lead Out**

“NewVue Communities is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating strong and healthy neighborhoods where residents choose to live, work, and invest.”

### **Get The Lead Out**

<https://newvuecommunities.org/home-ownership/maintain-your-home/lead-safe-home/>

Tel: 888-978-6261  
470 Main Street  
Fitchburg, MA

- **Massachusetts Emergency Housing Assistance Resource Contact**  
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/find-emergency-family-shelter>  
Phone: (866) 584-0653
- **North Star Family Services, Inc. (Family Shelter, Leominster, MA)**  
<https://northstarfs.org/agency-history/>  
Phone: 978-466-1704
- **Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless 781-595-7570**  
<https://www.mahomeless.org/>  
- Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)
- **Massachusetts 211**  
Mass 2-1-1 was created and is staffed by the United Way.  
Non-Emergency Assistance: <https://mass211.org/>  
Call - 211

- **HUD - VASH Voucher Program**

HUD-VASH targets the chronically homeless Veterans.

A key component of the program is VA's case management services.”

[https://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash\\_eligibility.asp](https://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash_eligibility.asp)

- **One Mortgage – Offered by Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP)**

First time buyer Home mortgage program

<https://www.mhp.net/one-mortgage>

## **Local Social Services**

- **MOC**

**Montachusett Opportunity Council – Now – Making Opportunity Count**

- North Central WIC program

- **Head Start** early education services

- **Elderly Services** – Home Repair and Heating Services

- Emergency Food and Shelter

<https://www.mocinc.org/services>

Tel: **978-345-7040**

601 River Street

Fitchburg, MA 01420

- **Department of Transitional Assistance Office – DTA**

The Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) administers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and direct economic assistance (cash benefits) programs. Those served by the Department include children, elders, and people with disabilities.

978-665-8700

<https://massachusetts.networkofcare.org/>

Apply for aid:

<https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/>

- **Montachusett Home Care Corporation (Elderly)**

Aging Services Access Point (ASAP) for 21 towns in North Central Massachusetts

“Montachusett Home Care provides comprehensive information and quality services so that older people, individuals with disabilities and their families are empowered to make

personalized choices to ensure a life of dignity, safety and respect.”

Crossroads Office Park

680 Mechanic Street

Leominster, MA 01453

1-(978)-537-7411 1-(800)-734-7312 <http://montachusethomecare.org/>

- **Emergency Food Resources**  
**Loaves & Fishes**

<https://loavesfishespantry.org/need-help/>

234 Barnum Road,

Devens, MA 01432

978-772-4627

**Stone Soup Kitchen Ministries – Living Water Fellowship**

Food Pantry

Saturday 10:00am - Noon

41 Littleton Road

Ayer, MA 0143

- **Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)** 76 Summer Street, Room 330, Fitchburg, MA (978) 345-1713 <https://www.mass.gov/vocational-rehabilitation>  
**Vocational Rehabilitation**
  - Career Pathway and Career Connection Seminars
  - Job Driven Training Initiatives
  - Pre-Employment Training Services for Youth
  - Full-time Job Placement and Marketing Specialist

## **HUD Housing Rehabilitation Programs in Massachusetts**

<https://www.hud.gov/states/massachusetts/homeownership/homerepairs>

## **Massachusetts Legal Aid**

- **Statewide**  
**Free legal representation for low-income individuals**  
[Civil Legal Aid for Victims of Crime \(CLAVC\)](#)  
[Massachusetts Legal Resource Finder](#)

## **Metrowest area**

### **Free legal representation for low-income individuals**

- **Northeast Legal Aid**

Intake Phone Hours

Monday–Friday: 9am–1pm 978-458-1465

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

- **Community Legal Aid**

<https://communitylegal.org/>

(855) 255-5342

Toll-free: (800) 649-3718

TTY: (508) 755-3260

- **Massachusetts Attorney General’s Guide to Landlord and Tenant Rights**

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/the-attorney-generals-guide-to-landlord-and-tenant-rights>

## **Mental Health**

- **Massachusetts Department of Mental Health**

“The Department of Mental Health, as the State Mental Health Authority, assures and provides access to services and supports to meet the mental health needs of individuals of all ages; enabling them to live, work and participate in their communities.”

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-department-of-mental-health>

- **Massachusetts Association for Mental Health – MAMH**

617-742-7452

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

<https://www.mamh.org/referral-help>

**24/7 Emergency/Crisis Help 1-877-382-1609**

- **Project Interface Referral Service**

ASRSD is a subscriber to the William James College INTERFACE Referral Service, which provides families a lead counselor who will provide matches to the counseling services needed as well as provide information and resources about mental health and

wellness. This confidential referral service is free and available to all our families in Ayer and Shirley.

<https://interface.williamjames.edu/contact>

Phone #: 888-244-6843

## **Affordable Rental & Homeownership Opportunities**

- USDA Rural Development Multi-Family Housing Rentals

<https://rdmfhrentals.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

- **Housing Navigator** – Finding Housing in Massachusetts (This is an Affordable Housing Locator Site).

<https://search.housingnavigatorma.org/>

- Mass Housing Projects

<https://masshousing.com/en/renters/housing-list>

- Massachusetts Housing Registry

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

- CHAPA

<https://www.mymassmortgage.org/affordable-homeownership-opportunities>