

Services Available Through Action

Advocacy Program – Support, counseling, and referrals are provided for people who need help in emergencies and assistance with issues such as income maintenance, money management, help with public benefits, mental health issues, and financial assistance. Project Uplift provides clothing and gifts for children during the holidays. For low-income Cape Ann residents. *Call (978) 282-1000 for further information and an intake.*

Compass Youth Program – An education, training, and employment program for at-risk youth ages 14 – 21 designed to help young people develop appropriate skills and attitudes for the workplace. A variety of services are offered including alternative high school education, academic advising, career counseling, GED preparation, job search assistance, courses on job skills and life skills, etc. *Call (978) 281-9682 for further information and an intake.*

Employment and Training Programs – We offer a variety of programs aimed at helping people develop job skills and/or find a job. Our Job Developer is available to assist individuals with interview techniques, resume writing, counseling, placement, and retention services. We also provide information and referrals to other job training, educational, and social service programs. We have a variety of entry-level employment programs including:

- Adult Basic Education
- Career Readiness
- College Scholarships
- Computer Training
- English for Speakers of Other Languages
- Medical Assistant Training Certificate
- Medical Terminology
- Adult Diploma (qualified adults age 22 and older with proven life skills may have the opportunity to apply for a high school diploma).

Call (978) 281-7402 for information on other programs and eligibility requirements.

Energy Affordability Programs – We help you lower the high cost of your energy bills. *Call (978) 281-3900 for income guidelines. All other inquiries call (978) 283-2131.* You may be eligible for:

- Fuel assistance
- Discounts on your telephone, gas, and electric bills
- Repairs, cleanings, or replacement on your heating systems for homeowners
- Weatherization on your home or apartment
- If your refrigerator or freezer is a high energy guzzler, Mass. Electric may replace it for free. Our energy manager will bring energy saving light bulbs and water conservation devices.

- LASER provides case management, budgeting and links participants to other services in the community. *Call (978) 283-2131 for more information.*

Homecare – Assists elders with a variety of in-home services designed to allow elderly and disabled people to remain living in their homes. Services include personal care (bathing, toileting, dressing), meal preparation, housekeeping, laundry, medication reminders, shopping and errands, companionship, care-giver respite, and supportive housing. Private, fee-for-service homecare is also available. *Call (978) 283-2700 for further information.*

Housing Advocacy Program – We provide ongoing education and assistance to tenants including tenant’s rights, rent increases, lead paint, landlord harassment, etc. We offer legal advice and advocacy for evictions and housing authority appeals. We also provide financial assistance, when available, and/or referrals for tenants needing help with security deposits and first and last month’s rent. For low-income Cape Ann residents. *Call (978) 282-1000 for further information and an intake.*

MassHousing Loan Program - 0% Lead Paint Abatement – Second or third mortgage program to address lead paint issues. New windows, doors, siding, and cabinets. 0% deferred loan, no monthly payments. Please note, interest rates fluctuate. *Contact Stella Mae Seamans at (978) 282-1000 for further information.*

QUEST – Provides twenty units of affordable housing to low-income persons with HIV/AIDS in Essex County. The project targets individuals and families and offers supportive housing countywide in separate apartments with the housing connected to employment training, education and job placement. Residents are linked to special social and clinical services offered by over forty other agencies throughout Essex County. *Contact Ralph Johnson (978) 282-1000 for further information.*

Shelter – Our 20-bed emergency homeless shelter located at 370 Main Street in Gloucester is for homeless men and women, ages 18 and older. Hours of operation are 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. seven days a week, 365 days a year. Guests should arrive at the shelter at 5 p.m. to reserve a bed. *Contact Ralph Johnson at (978) 282-1000 for further information.*