

SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISABILITY SERVICES

ABLEGRAM

March—April 2019

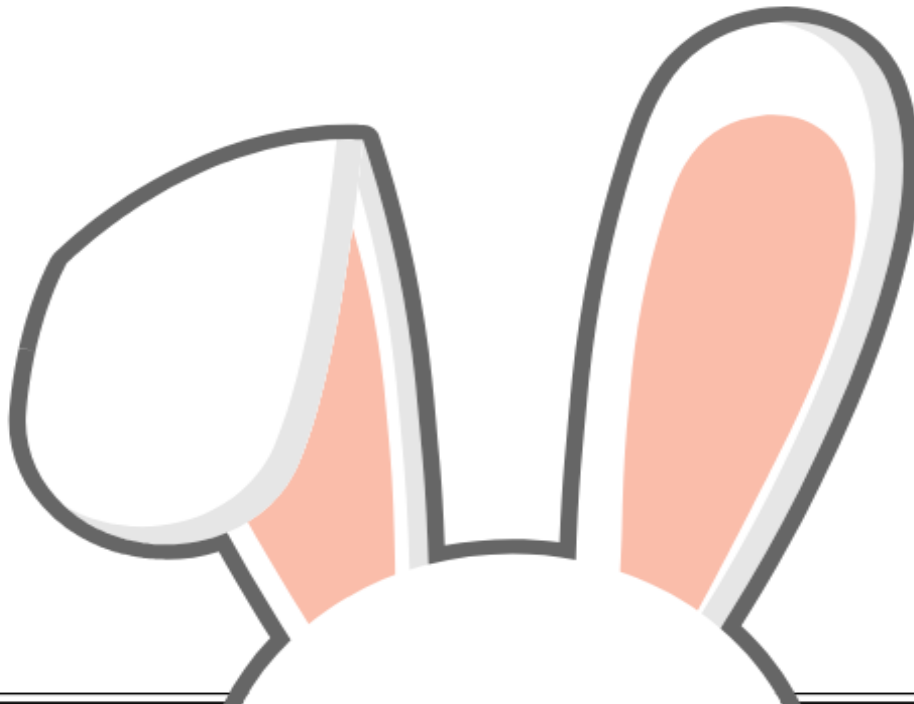
TOWNSHIP OF SCHAUMBURG PRESENTS:

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

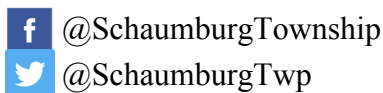
APRIL 6, 2019 | 9:30-11:30 AM

The Township of Schaumburg Disability Services Department invites children with disabilities and their families to meet the Easter Bunny at our building on April 6th, 2019. The FREE event is open to Township residents only and breakfast will be served. Come meet the Bunny without the wait!

Registration is required with the disability department at 847-884-0030. If a sign language interpreter is needed, three weeks' notice is required. Space is limited. Residents new to our events must complete a registration form to attend.



Schaumburgtownship.org



Phone 847.884.0030
Deaf Services Videophone 224.520.9763
One Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates

**2019 Transition Summit:
Focus on Housing
Saturday, April 13, 2019
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Hoffman Estates Village Hall**

Connect to Community, in partnership with the Village of Hoffman Estates Commission for People with Disabilities and the Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization (NSSEO), announces its fifth annual Transition Summit.

A variety of housing alternatives will be discussed including Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILAs), Supportive Housing options, and creative family-driven models. Things to think about and questions to ask yourself while developing your vision for housing will also be examined. Speakers include: Kelly Stumme, Director, Community Living Resources, Ray Graham Association; Julie Nelson, Senior Program Manager, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH); Jennifer Robinson, Supportive Housing Coordinator, Clearbrook Home Based Services; as well as fellow parents and young adults who will speak on their experiences finding or creating their own residential model.

Families, educators, service providers and community members are welcome. CEUs/PDs will be offered upon request. \$20 registration fee includes morning refreshments, lunch and seminar materials.

Online registration begins March 1 at <https://ctc2019summit.eventbrite.com>
For more information, contact Connect to Community at ConnectToCommunityInc@gmail.com

**ComEd Residential
Hardship Program**

Are you past-due on your electric bill and have a financial hardship due to job loss, illness, military, disability, or as a senior citizen? If so, you may be eligible for assistance through ComEd's Residential Hardship Program. Income-eligible customers can only apply once every two years for grants up to \$500 based on need and availability of program funds. The disability services department is accepting applications for this program. Please call 847-884-0030 for an appointment.

**Change in Extra Help
Special Enrollment Period (SEP)**

Beginning in 2019, beneficiaries with Extra Help will no longer have a continuous SEP to enroll, disenroll, or change plans at any time during the year. Extra Help beneficiaries, including dual eligibles, **will be limited to using their Extra Help SEP to once per calendar quarter for the first nine months of the year (January to March, April to June, and July to September)**. An Extra Help Special Enrollment Period will not be available the last quarter of the year, as the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period (October 15 - December 7) can be used to make plan changes in the fourth quarter with a plan effective date of January 1st. Plan changes using the Extra Help SEP will still continue to take effect the first of the month following the month of the enrollment request. SEP is considered "used" in the month the enrollment request is made and not the plan effective date.

Please note—The change in the Extra Help SEP does NOT apply to individuals enrolled in the Medicare Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI) program. If an individual is eligible for the MMAI program, they will continue to have the option of enrolling/disenrolling from MMAI or switching MMAI plans at any time of the year.

(Age Options MMW Alert 12/21/18)

CEDA'S Department of Family Support and Community Engagement Services

Are you in need of assistance with any of the services below?

- Dental Care
- Auto Repair
- Vision Care
- Family Nutrition
- Trade Skills
- Employment
- Family Support and Case Management
- Youth Services

To receive FSACE services case management services you MUST be first determined eligible and will NEED the following:

- Current IL driver's license or State issued-ID, or passport, Consular ID card also accepted
- Social Security cards for each person in the household
- Proof of income for the previous 3 months prior to intake date for all household member 18 years and older
- Must be low-income (125% of the 2019 poverty level or lower)
- Lease or current utility bill as proof of residence if ID does not match
- Must live in Suburban Cook County

Contact CEDA FSACE Program Specialist Rosamaria Davila at 312-285-6446 to verify eligibility and schedule an appointment at the township on Tuesdays.

CEDA's Department of Family Support and Community Engagement (FSACE) offers a range of services to Suburban Cook County residents, which assist low-income people in attaining skills, knowledge and the resources to improve sustainability.



32nd Annual Paint-A-Thon

If the *exterior* of your home needs painting consider applying for the 32nd Annual Paint-A-Thon program. Contact the Senior and Disability Departments for more information and to be added to the interest list. As soon as applications are available (usually in early May), we will contact you. Applicants must be over the age of sixty *or* with a permanent disability *or* a veteran. There are income and other qualifying criteria, but all are encouraged to apply. There is no cost to the homeowner and volunteer groups complete all the work.

Call 847-884-0030 for more information and to be added to the list.

Champion of Community Award

The village of Hoffman Estates' Commission for People with Disabilities is seeking nominations for the Champion of Community award. The award recognizes an outstanding resident, employee, or student in Hoffman Estates. Nominees must have worked to overcome the challenges associated with their physical, mental and/or cognitive disability, thereby achieving excellence through academic work, community involvement or extracurricular activities.

To nominate an individual, forward a letter of support that highlights the aforementioned qualities of the individual, as well as his or her contact information. Entries can be sent to audra.marks@hoffmanestates.org or via U.S. mail to Dr. Audra Marks c/o Health and Human Services, 1900 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169. Nominations will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Monday, April 15. The Commission will review all applications and select a recipient based on the information submitted. Recipient will be honored at the June 3rd Village Board Meeting.

Free Presentation March 6: New Medicare –funded Doctor Visits: What You Need to Know

Dr. Courtney Snyder will be at the Township on Wednesday, March 6 at 10 a.m. to explain the difference between a Medicare wellness visit and a regular physical. With the changes to your Medicare, your annual wellness visit may look different. Learn how to get the most out of your upcoming doctor visits by attending this free event. Registration is required at 847-285-4551.

As always, Nurse Josie Gould is available at the Township on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m. for free blood pressure checks, low-cost A1C testing, free exercise guides, and medication set up.

New O’Hare Restroom More Accessible Than Any Other in US

City officials have convened a new committee to address accessibility for passengers with disabilities at O’Hare Airport. Their first order of business? A first-of-its-kind restroom that provides more accessibility than any other airport facility in the country, officials say. The new “Changing Places Restroom” in Terminal 2 opened last month. The 110-square-foot bathroom is equipped with an adjustable changing table for adults; a passenger lift system; an accessible, roll-in and transfer shower; and an accessible toilet and sink. The facility also features a motorized passenger lift with detachable sling and ample space for movement, allowing passengers who can’t stand or walk to comfortably use the restroom, officials said.

It was designed with input from the Airport Advisory Committee, a new group composed of 10 government and advocacy groups brought together by the Chicago Department of Aviation and Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s Office for People with Disabilities.

(<https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/New-OHare-restroom-more-accessible-than-any-other-in-US->)

Temporary Disability Parking Placards

The disability services department issues temporary 3 month parking placards. A physician must complete the form in order to receive a placard. Applications are also available in the disability department or on our website at:

<http://www.schaumburgtownship.org/departments/disability-services/disability-services-information/>. If a 6 month is needed, please visit the Department of Motor vehicles office to obtain one. For a permanent placard an application must be submitted to the Secretary of State’s office in Springfield. For more information please contact our office.

Township Transportation Service

The Schaumburg Township Transportation Department provides door-to-door transportation service to eligible Schaumburg Township residents with disabilities 18 and older (proof of permanent disability required). Transportation is available to medical and dental appointments, shopping and social outings. Service is typically provided within the boundaries of Schaumburg Township, or 7 miles beyond township boundaries for medical purposes only. All Schaumburg Township buses have lift capability. All riders are required to register with the Transportation Department prior to service. Call dispatch at 847-882-1929 for a registration form or download from our website at <http://www.schaumburgtownship.org/departments/transportation-services/>.

Reservations are taken on a “first come-first serve” basis. All reservations must be made no less than 72 hours in advance. A seat must be reserved for an aide if riding with passenger. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m. Monday—Friday and there is a \$1 suggested donation per ride.

Apply for SNAP at Our Office

The disability services department can assist Schaumburg Township residents with disabilities in applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the Food Stamp program at our office. SNAP helps people with limited income purchase food. SNAP application assistance is by appointment only. Please call our department for more information or to schedule an appointment at 847-884-0030.

Schaumburg Village Offers Handyman Repair Program to Eligible Residents

The Village of Schaumburg offers a Handyman Repair program for eligible residents that is funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The program assists low-to-middle income seniors (age 62 and over) and persons with disabilities with minor household repairs such as caulking, installation of ADA accessibility improvements, and minor electrical repairs.

The program is available to Schaumburg residents only. Participants will be required to submit an application and supporting documents verifying their income eligibility for the program. Once approved, participants will be able to coordinate the simple repairs with licensed village contractors who will perform the work with the homeowner. Financial assistance will be provided in the form of a grant. Additional information can be accessed on the village's website. Please contact Joseph Hennerfeind, Community Planner, at 847-923-3854 for any questions or to request an application. or dial 311 in Schaumburg.

HUD Income Limits:

| <u>Household</u> | <u>Income Limit</u> |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Person | \$47,400 |
| 2 Person | \$54,200 |

Township Bus Monday and Friday Retail Shopping Trips Schedule

Reservations are required by calling the transportation department at 847-882-1929.

March

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Monday—1st | Target at 1235 Higgins Rd, Schaumburg |
| Monday—4th Friday—8th | Walmart at 850 S. Barrington Rd, Streamwood |
| Monday—11th Friday—15th | Target at 2621 W. Schaumburg Rd, Schaumburg |
| Monday—18th Friday—22nd | Walmart at 801 Meacham Rd, Elk Grove |
| Monday—25th Friday—29th | Target at 1235 Higgins Rd, Schaumburg |

April

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Monday—1st Friday—5th | Walmart at 850 S. Barrington Rd, Streamwood |
| Monday—8th Friday—12th | Target at 2621 W. Schaumburg Rd, Schaumburg |
| Monday—15th Friday—19th | Walmart at 801 Meacham Rd, Elk Grove |
| Monday—22nd Friday—26th | Target at 1235 Higgins Rd, Schaumburg |
| Monday—29th | Walmart at 850 S. Barrington Rd, Streamwood |



**LOW VISION PRODUCTS
ROAD SHOW**
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Low Vision Products Road Show welcomes the public to experience state-of-the-art technology such as CCTVs, portable reading devices, and much more, including independent living aids, lighting, and even sun wear. Test each product and receive training from expert staff who can advise on the right tools to improve your quality of life. Absolutely free! Chicago Lighthouse staff will demonstrate and let you try out the variety of products available for help with school, work and daily life.

**Village of Hoffman Estates
Commission for People
with Disabilities First Friday Events**

The Village of Hoffman Estates' Commission for People with Disabilities monthly social for people with disabilities ages 14 has two events for March and April! Both events are FREE and held at the Hoffman Estates Village Hall from 6:30—8:30 p.m.

Come and join us on Friday, March 1st for our annual St. Patrick's Dance with a DJ.

On Friday, April 5th our theme is '50s night. Wear your "t-birds and pink ladies" attire and enjoy the movie "Grease". Pizza will be available for \$2 a slice, karaoke, and various games. Registration is not required.

The village of Hoffman Estates' Commission for People with Disabilities is a volunteer board who is in charge of helping to decrease the sense of isolation, loneliness and dependence that often effect the disabled. Other duties are to help enrich the social and intellectual life of the disabled through educational and social programs.

**Tips for Looking at Alternative
Gas/Electric Suppliers**

The Senior and Disability departments have reported an increase in residents asking questions about alternative suppliers or not understanding the supply charges on their bill. The Citizens Utility Board (CUB) published the following information to help consumers make a decision. Here are some helpful tips on how to evaluate an alternative supplier if you plan to switch:

- Don't give out your electric bill or account number unless you are sure you want to switch. An unethical marketer could use that information to switch you to an alternative supplier without your consent.
- Ask if the rate you are being offered is an introductory or promotional rate. If so, ask when that rate ends and what the new rate will be.
- Ask if the rate you are being offered has any fees tied to it – such as a monthly fee that will inflate the per-kilowatt-hour rate, or an exit fee. Exit fees are capped at \$50. You can avoid getting slapped with an exit fee if you cancel a contract within ten days of the supplier's charges first appearing on your bill.

You can visit cubhelpcenter.com for money-saving tips on avoiding bad deals and practicing energy efficiency at home. CUB is Illinois' leading nonprofit utility watchdog group. You can also call their hotline at 800-669-5556 for more information.

As a reminder, the Township of Schaumburg is a warming and cooling center. We invite you to come to our building during normal operating hours if your service is disconnected or you are experiencing an outage at your home. Any questions, call us at 847-884-0030.

SHIP Program

The Schaumburg Township Disability Services Department provides free health insurance counseling through the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP). Our department has trained counselors who can assist you with Medicare, Medicaid, and prescription drug issues. ***SHIP does not affiliate with any insurance company and does not sell or solicit any type of insurance.*** Please call for an appointment or for information.



Medicaid Redetermination

The Illinois Medicaid Redetermination Project (IMRP) will be reviewing Medicaid recipients benefits yearly to ensure they are still eligible for benefits. Many individuals on Medicaid will receive a letter and a redetermination form explaining that they need to renew their Medicaid coverage. The letter may request additional documentation to support the individual's redetermination. **It is very important to respond to this as soon as possible. Failure to respond, could result in losing Medicaid benefits.**



Free Amplified Telephones and Cell Phone Amplifiers

The Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) offers free amplified telephones and two cell phone amplifiers for qualified Illinois residents with a certified hearing loss. Disability Services is a selection center to test the phones. There are five phones to choose from and **every three years you are eligible for another free amplified telephone and/or cell phone amplifier.** Please contact disability services for more information, or for an appointment to test the phones and/or cell phone amplifiers.



One Illinois Blvd.
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847-884-0030 (Phone)
224-520-9763 (Videophone)
847-884-1560 (Fax)

The Ablegram, Deaf Line and Town Crier newsletters are available on our website at:
www.schaumburgtownship.org

Disability Staff Email:
mconway@schaumburgtownship.org
sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org
lewan@schaumburgtownship.org
sdemarchi-belter@schaumburgtownship.org

Disability Services-847-884-0030
Megan Conway—Director—ext. 2020
Sarita Phadke—Deaf Services Coord.
224-520-9763 (Videophone)
Lauren Ewan—PR &Event Coord—ext. 2025
Sharon Belter—Benefit Counselor—ext. 2024

Township Officials

Mary Wroblewski—Supervisor
Timothy M. Heneghan—Clerk
Diane Dunham—Trustee
W. Robert Vinnedge—Trustee
Jeffrey Mytych—Trustee
Nimish Jani—Trustee
John Lawson, CIAO—Assessor
Scott M. Kegarise—Highway Commissioner

Schaumburg Township Disability Services
One Illinois Blvd.
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847.884.0030

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March 2019

- Committee for Disabled Citizens (CFDC) Mtg.—Tuesday, March 12—7 p.m. (Public Welcome)
- Fibromyalgia Support Group—Tuesday, March 26—7 p.m.
- Board of Trustees Mtg.—Wednesday, March 27—7 p.m.

April 2019

- World Autism Day—Tuesday, April 2
- Breakfast with the Bunny—Saturday, April 6—9:30—11:30 a.m. (Reservations Required, see front page)
- Committee for Disabled Citizens (CFDC) Mtg.—Tuesday, April 9—7 p.m. (Public Welcome)
- Fibromyalgia Support Group—Tuesday, April 23—7 p.m.
- Board of Trustees Mtg.—Wednesday, April 24—7 p.m.



FOUNDATION

Reminder: FREE Tax Preparation Through April 12, 2019

Free, individualized tax preparation for low to moderate income tax payers available. **Appointments are required** and can be made by calling the Township of Schaumburg Senior Services Department at **847-285-4597**.