



SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISABILITY SERVICES ABLEGRAM

September—October 2019

Disability Services Presents the 2019

Halloween Dance

October 25 | 7-9pm

The Township of Schaumburg's Disability Services is hosting a Halloween Dance for Township residents ages 18 and older with developmental and cognitive disabilities! Come enjoy a night of pizza and dancing with a DJ. Dress up in your Halloween costume for a chance to win prizes.

The Dance is Friday, October 25, 2019 from 7-9 pm at the Township Building (One Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates).

Call Disability Services at 847-884-0030 for reservation by Friday, October 11th.

schaumburgtownship.org

 [@SchaumburgTownship](https://www.facebook.com/SchaumburgTownship)

 [@SchaumburgTwp](https://twitter.com/SchaumburgTwp)

847-884-0030

One Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates





LIHEAP Starting October 1st!

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for income-eligible older adults and people with disabilities **will begin October 1, 2019**. Please call the Disability Services Department for an appointment at 847-884-0030.

LIHEAP is administered by CEDA and provides assistance toward Nicor and/or ComEd accounts. You **must** have **all** the required documents listed below in order to apply for the program. You will **not** be able to apply if you have incorrect or missing documents.

Required Documents:

- 2019 Social Security Benefit Letter - **ALL PAGES REQUIRED BY CEDA**
- **ORIGINAL** Social Security cards for every member of the household—Copies will not be accepted.
- Most recent utility bills – Nicor and ComEd
- Proof of gross monthly income for every household member – paycheck stubs, unemployment, pensions, TANF, child support, etc., for the **30 days before your appointment date**
- Proof of disability if applicable
- Other documents may be required

PY2020 Income Guidelines

Household	30-Day Income
1	\$1,561
2	\$2,114
3	\$2,666

Medicare Part C/D Annual Enrollment 10/15-12/7

The Medicare Part C and D Annual Enrollment Period is October 15—December 7. This is the annual period when you can review, change, join, or cancel your Part C (Advantage) or Part D plans. Disability Services staff are trained to assist you in evaluating options through the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP). SHIP Counselors provide free, unbiased Medicare counseling.

Contact Disability Services after September 23 to schedule an appointment during open enrollment. You will need to bring your Medicare card and a complete list of medications including dosage and frequency. ****New this year:** you will have to create an online account with mymedicare.gov for personalized options. You can do this on your own, or staff can assist. Contact 847-884-0030 for more information.

CEDA Scam Alert!

CEDA became aware that an unknown promo group is impersonating CEDA with letters that look like they came from their office. The letter contained an 800 number only ONE digit off from CEDA’s hotline number. This “oh-so-close” number connects the caller to an unknown firm, which may be phishing for your personal and banking information! If you need to reach CEDA, please make sure you are dialing 1-800-571-CEDA (2332).

(Cedaorg.net)

Other CEDA Programs Available

ComEd Residential Special Hardship

For residential household customers who must meet income guidelines, have \$25 past-due and a financial hardship issue. Proof of identification is required for customer of record. The program will be terminated once funds are exhausted. **An eligible household can only receive a grant every two years.**

Furnace Assistance

Designed to restore a home’s heating system to a safe and effective operation to approved households that have or are eligible to receive a LIHEAP benefit. The heating system must not be operational or be red-tagged by their utility company. The services are free of charge for income qualifying households. **Renters are not eligible to apply.**

Weatherization Program

Provides solutions to reduce energy costs and make homes more energy efficient for eligible residents in Cook County. Installs energy saving measures to increase home performance, reduce energy and save money for clients through inspections, insulation, and air sealing. Our services are performed at no cost to income-eligible applicants depending on the program. Weatherization services are per address once every 10 years.

Department of Family Support and Community Engagement (FSACE)

FSACE services include auto repair, employment services, dental care, vision care, rental assistance, family nutrition, family support and case management, scholarship program and information and referral. Clients must sign and comply with a service agreement to be eligible for direct client assistance. Contact Rosamaria Davila at 312-285-6446 to determine if you are eligible for FSACE services. Rosamaria is available at the Township Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.

Contact the Disability Department for more information or to schedule an appointment to apply for ComEd Hardship, Furnace and/or Weatherization programs.



The Children with Disabilities Holiday Party will be on Saturday, December 14th! Details in the next newsletter!

Collection Spot

The Disability Services Department is a collection site for various household items. We are happy to support several initiatives and invite you to donate your items at our office! Please drop off items between 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

We accept the following items:

- Eyeglasses, sunglasses, hearing aids and hearing aid batteries for the **Lions Club**
- Pop can tabs for **Ronald McDonald House Charities**
- Small electronics: VCR, DVD, cords, cell phones, etc. for **Avenues to Independence**
- Calendars and greeting cards (new or used) for **Connect to Community**



RTA Traveling Training Program

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Travel Training Program teaches individuals with disabilities and older adults how to use Metra, Pace and CTA buses and trains. Travel Training is free except for the cost of transit fares during training sessions.

Travel training sessions are led by professionals who are knowledgeable about transportation accessibility, and have experience working with people with disabilities and older adults. A certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist is available to provide one-on-one travel training to participants who are blind or have low vision.

The RTA Travel Training Program offers two types of training tailored to meet each participant's needs:

1. **Trip Planning**—Participants work one-on-one with a Travel Trainer and practice using buses and trains to travel locations they visit on a regular basis.
2. **Individual Transit Orientation**—Participants will work one-on-one with a Travel Trainer to receive a general introduction to bus and train accessibility. During Individual Transit Orientation sessions, a Travel Trainer will explain how to use accessibility features in transit vehicles and transit stations, and how to plan trips on CTA, Metra and Pace.

An Eligibility Assistant will help participants decide which type of training will work best.

To sign up for Travel Training, contact the RTA Travel Training Program at 312-913-3120 or email TravelTraining@RTAChicago.org.

(RTA Traveling Training Brochure 8/19)

Telephone Check In Program

Between the Polar Vortex, tornadoes, and extreme heat, the weather in our area is unpredictable to say the least. We are creating a new list of people in our community who would like to be contacted in case of emergency or extreme weather. In the event of extreme weather or other situation, staff or volunteers would reach out and touch base with the resident. The Disability Department staff will then work with other providers or departments to establish services, if needed. If you would like to be added to our call list, please contact 847-884-0030 and we will get the necessary information!

Benefit Access Program

The Benefit Access Program is a program available to Illinois residents who meet income guidelines. Eligible applicants must also be over the age of 65 or 16 and older with a disability. To qualify, a single household must have gross income from the previous tax year less than \$27,610; for a two-person household, the limit is \$36,635.

Benefit Access provides two benefits—a discount off the annual license plate registration fee and eligibility for the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Free Ride Transit Pass which provides free transportation on all public fixed route transportation. To see if you qualify or to schedule an appointment, call 847-884-0030.

****Please note—you must reapply every two years to continue receiving benefits****



RTA Reduced Fare and Free Ride Transit Program

Did you know that there are two programs to assist persons with disabilities to access public transportation? The Regional Transportation Authority provides the “Reduced Fare” and “Free Ride” transit programs.

To qualify for the reduced fare program, individuals must submit proof of disability. If receiving Social Security disability benefits, a printout from Social Security, dated within the current year with the word “disabled” on the printout is required. If not receiving disability payments from Social Security, a doctor must fill out the proof of disability form located within the application and attach a letter of diagnosis to the application. To qualify for the “Free Ride” transit pass you must meet “Benefit Access” eligibility guidelines (see article above).

Residents are welcome to apply for either transit pass at the Township. You will need to bring a photo ID, completed application (available in Disability Services), and 2”x2” picture. We are able to take your picture for a \$2 suggested donation. There is no other fee to apply. If you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment please call 847-884-0030.

Tech Classes Available at Township!

Talk Techie: Phone Calls, Bluetooth, & JPEG
Tuesday, September 10
10 – 11 a.m. (Apple Users)
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. (Android Users)
FREE

Starting in September, we are pleased to offer a monthly technology class. Join Benefit Specialist Ami-Nell Scurry in navigating tech topics while eating something yummy! The first several classes will be a series on how to navigate the confusing world of touchscreen smartphones and all the nuances that go with them. There will be a basic, intermediate, and advance session for both Apple (iPhone) and Android (Samsung) users. The first exciting class will be a basic instruction on smartphone features, *Phone Calls, Bluetooth & JPEG (PB&J)*. Participants will also enjoy snacks inspired by PB&J. For more information and to sign up for the class please call the Township at 847-884-0030 and ask for Ami-Nell Scurry!

Talk Techie: Apps and Appetizers
Tuesday, October 8
10 AM – 11 AM (Apple Users)
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM (Android Users)
FREE

Join Benefit Specialist Ami-Nell Scurry for the second installment on how to navigate touchscreen smartphones. The second class will be on how to access and use applications on a smartphone. A variety of delicious appetizers will also be served. For more information and to sign up for the class please call the Township at 847-884-0030 and ask for Ami-Nell Scurry!



Prostate Screenings With AMITA Health Cancer Institute

Wednesday, September 18
10 a.m.—4 p.m.
FREE

To qualify, participants must be age 50-74. Appointments will be 20 minutes long and testing is done via blood draw. To see if you qualify and to make an appointment, call 844-952-4673.



Flu Shot Clinic With Jewel Osco

Thursday, September 19
9:30 AM—11:30 AM
FREE with Medicare

Minimize your flu risk by getting a flu shot. Pneumonia, Tetanus, and Shingles vaccines also available. Bring your Medicare/Part D cards! Some vaccines may have a fee. First come, first served.

Hearing Screenings with the Lions Club Mobile Bus

Thursday, September 26
9 a.m.—12 p.m.
FREE

Lions Club will be on-site to provide free hearing screenings. This is not intended as a complete hearing examination; a referral to a doctor may be needed. First come, first served.

Elevate Energy—Energy Savings

Tuesday, October 15
11 a.m.—12 p.m.
FREE

Tia Hall from Elevate Energy will share info and resources to make energy-saving improvements and manage utility costs. Learn about the smart grid. Registration required.

Holiday Adoption Program

The winter season is quickly approaching! If you are in need this holiday season, we invite you to apply for our Holiday Adoption program for persons with disabilities. The Holiday Adoption for persons with disabilities program provides specialized care packages from community donations. To qualify, your income needs to be less than \$1,561 for a single household and \$2,114 for a two-person household. Special circumstances will also be considered.

To apply, you must meet with a staff member between October 1 and October 25. We cannot guarantee that all applicants will be selected. Preference will be given to first-time applicants. For more details or for an appointment, call 847-884-0030.

Holiday Donors Needed!

Every year, the Township is fortunate to work with numerous people, businesses, and agencies to serve those in-need during the holiday season. The Township sponsors “adoption” programs which provides care packages and essentials to older adults, persons with disabilities, and families facing a tough time.

We are asking for your help! If you are interested in “adopting” a person with a disability this holiday season, please contact Amy Fillmore in Welfare Services at 847-884-0030 or afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org. If you know of a business or other group who might be interested, please share her information too. Each donor is matched with an older adult in need and purchases care package essentials for the person. All applicants are screened by Township staff. We appreciate any and all support you can provide this program. If you prefer, we are also extremely grateful for any cash or gift card donations which can also be used to assist our neighbors. Help your neighbors and consider donating today.

Referral Binder

The Disability Services Department recently updated the referral binder that lists community resources for support groups, events, social service programs, recreational activities, transportation and more! Stop by and take a look.

SSI & SSDI – What’s the difference

SSI and SSDI are benefit programs that are available to people over 65, people who are blind or people who have a disability.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is an entitlement program that is based off of income and assets. To be eligible for SSI, one must have limited income and limited resources. In 2019, the max benefit that one can receive for SSI is \$771. **Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)** is an earned benefit that is determined based on someone’s work history. To be eligible for SSDI, one needs at least 40 quarters of work credits and cannot work past the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) threshold. In 2019, the SGA is \$1,220 monthly. When deeming someone “disabled,” Social Security considers: Can the person still do their job or any job? Is it medically determined to be a physical or mental impairment? Lastly, will the disability last for more than 12 months or will the disability result in death within 12 months?

To apply for either of these programs, you can **go online at www.ssa.gov** or **in-person** at the Social Security office. **If you need more information about SSI or SSDI, please call Social Security at 800-772-1213 or the Township Disability Services office at 847-884-0030.**

Social Security Compassionate Allowances

In order to speed up the processing of Social Security Disability claims, the Social Security Administration (SSA) implemented the Compassionate Allowances program in 2008. The Compassionate Allowances program is intended to expedite the initial claim process for those individuals deemed to have a disabling condition that qualifies as a Compassionate Allowance.

The SSA has compiled a list of 200+ disabling conditions available online at <https://www.ssa.gov/compassionateallowances/conditions.htm> that qualify for the Compassionate Allowance program. If you have medical documentation to prove that you have one of the qualifying conditions, your initial claim will automatically be flagged by the SSA and processed in as little as 10 days.

All of these disabilities will automatically medically qualify for SSDI or SSI benefits. Please click on the name of the condition for more information on how to apply for disability benefits when suffering from that specific condition.

(disabilitybenefitscenter.org)

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 and older is back! Come and join us on Friday, September 6th and Friday, October 4th from 6:30—8:30 p.m. at the Hoffman Estates Village Hall. Admission is free! There will be pizza for \$2 a slice, karaoke, and various games. Registration is not required.

Monday and Friday Retail Shopping Trips Schedule With the Township Bus

Below are the **Monday and Friday** retail shopping trips schedule for September and October. Reservations are required by calling the transportation department at 847-882-1929.

September

Friday—6th	WALMART 850 S. Barrington Road Streamwood
Monday—9th Friday—13th	TARGET 2621 Schaumburg Road Schaumburg
Monday—16th Friday—20th	WALMART 801 Meacham Road Elk Grove Village
Monday—23rd Friday—27th	TARGET 1235 Higgins Road Schaumburg
Monday—30th	WALMART 850 S. Barrington Road Streamwood

October

Friday—4th	WALMART 850 S. Barrington Road Streamwood
Monday—7th Friday—11th	WALMART 850 S. Barrington Road Streamwood
Monday—14th Friday—18th	TARGET 2621 Schaumburg Road Schaumburg
Monday—21st Friday—25th	WALMART 801 Meacham Road Elk Grove Village
Monday—28th	TARGET 1235 Higgins Road Schaumburg

Internet Transaction Exchange Location: Hoffman Estates Police Department

Residents can safely conduct transactions at the Hoffman Estates Police Department and reduce the risk of internet scams and violent crimes related to internet transactions. Police personnel will not get involved unless criminal activity is suspected or involved with any transactions in any way. Any questions, please contact Officer Kruschel at 847-781-2880.



Schaumburg Athletic Association TOPSoccer

The Schaumburg Athletic Association (SAA) TOPSoccer is a non-competitive, adaptive soccer program for children ages 5 and older with special needs. Each practice includes activities modified to each individual's unique abilities, strengths and motivations. Players participate alongside volunteer "Buddies" in a safe and encouraging environment. Everyone who wants to play will be accommodated in such a way so that they can participate.

Player fees are \$40 starting in September. Practices are held Saturday afternoons from September—November and April—June at Atcher Park. Additional practices dates in winter and summer TBD.

Volunteers and players can register anytime throughout the year. Volunteers "Buddies" are generally ages 12 and older.

Visit TOPSoccer@saa-online.com for additional information and to sign-up as a player or a Buddy. Contact TOPSoccer at 847-352-7422 with any



Welcome, Nurse Janet!

Please join us in welcoming a new Community Health Nurse from Northwest Community Hospital. Nurse Janet will be onsite Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m. Nurse Janet has an extensive nursing background and has lived in Schaumburg for over 30 years!



Nurse Janet will provide several health services at the Township. Residents can drop in for their blood pressure during her office hours. She is also able to do A1C testing by appointment for a low cost of \$12 cash. On the second Tuesday of each month, we will host free bone density testing by appointment as well. If you are a diabetic, we invite you to attend the "Diabetes Support Group" which meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m.

For more details or to register, please call Nurse Janet directly at 847-285-4551.



Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club Hearing Aid Assistance Program

The Lions of Illinois Foundation and the Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club can assist Township residents 18 years and older obtain reconditioned over-the-ear style hearing aids and exams at a discounted price. Applicants can apply in the Disability Services Department with Lauren Ewan. Applicants will be screened for the program by appointment only. There is no income limit for the program. For more information or to apply for the program, please contact Lauren Ewan at 847-884-0030 ext. 2025 or lewan@schaumburgtownship.org.

Call For Art

We invite all artists with disabilities residing in Schaumburg Township to submit one piece of original artwork for display at the Township. We will accept submissions from a resident of any age or experience level. Pieces should be any two-dimensional type of work (pencil drawing, crayon drawing, painting, photography, etc.). We kindly request that pieces be no larger than 18" x 24". Artists can submit their work until September 30. All artists will receive a token of appreciation, and some may be selected for permanent display at the Township.

To enter, artists should submit their artwork to Schaumburg Township Disability Services, 1 Illinois Blvd, Hoffman Estates. Artists should include their name, address, age, and nature of disability. Please also include the title, media, and description of artwork (if applicable). Please direct any questions to Director Megan Conway at 847-884-0030 or mconway@schaumburgtownship.org.



Thank You ITAC, the Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club and Village Tavern and Grill for Sponsoring Summer Celebration!

Special Thanks to State Representative Michelle Mussman and State Representative Fred Crespo for Sponsoring the Brookfield Zoo Animal Ambassador Program!

Thank you to all the volunteers and the Township of Schaumburg Highway Department for their help!

Check out our website for a full list of event donors.

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. The Disability Department can assist Township residents with disabilities with their Medicaid paperwork. Please contact our office at 847-884-0030. We look forward to assisting you!

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.

Apply for SNAP Benefits 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.



Please note that the Township will be closed Monday, September 2, in observance of Labor Day.



DISABILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

847-884-0030 (Phone)
224-520-9763 (Videophone)
847-884-1560 (Fax)

DIRECTOR OF DISABILITY SERVICES

Megan Conway
847-884-0030 EXT 2020
mconway@schaumburgtownship.org

DEAF SERVICES COORDINATOR

Sarita Phadke
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Lauren Ewan
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BENEFIT SPECIALIST

Ami-Nell Scurry
847-884-0030 EXT 2022
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BENEFIT SPECIALIST

Sharon DeMarchi-Belter
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Township Officials

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



**Township of Schaumburg
Disability Services Department
1 Illinois Boulevard
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
Phone: 847.884.0030**

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Deaf Services Videophone: 224-520-9763

www.schaumburgtownship.org

f @SchaumburgTownship

t @SchaumburgTwp

**Call for Art has been extended until September 30th! Get your artwork in now!
Details page 6! We are excited to see your work!**

DISABILITY SERVICES

CALL

FOR

ART

