



**TOWNSHIP OF
SCHAUMBURG**

SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISABILITY SERVICES

ABLEGRAM

May—June 2020

TOWNSHIP OF SCHAUMBURG

Services

One Illinois Blvd,
Hoffman Estates, IL



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

In addition to our food pantry, Welfare Services can assist with financial hardships, applications for state and federal programs, such as SNAP (formerly the food stamp program), and more!

847-732-7166
dzanoni@schaumburgtownship.org

The Township of Schaumburg is still operating during the Illinois stay-at-home order. Available services listed here! For general support call:

847-732-7106

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is available for adults over 55 and people with permanent disabilities over 18 to dialysis and critical medical appointments. Call us today to schedule a low-cost ride!

630-445-9048
nchristopher@schaumburgtownship.org



SOCIAL PROGRAMMING

We are premiering several virtual social programs to keep the community engaged- ranging from exercise to healthy eating, support groups and info sessions to Deaf Services video calls and more!

847-450-8011
mconway@schaumburgtownship.org



SENIOR AND DISABILITY SERVICES

We are able to assist you over the phone or virtually to share resources and register you for ongoing federal and state assistance programs and more.

847-450-8011
mconway@schaumburgtownship.org



COMMUNITY NURSE

Our community nurse is still available to answer questions over the phone. She will be leading virtual programs to share important information on health topics and will continue the Diabetes Support Group via video conference.

jstachula@nch.org



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Residents can still apply for exemptions and certificate of errors with the Assessor's Office! Simply call or email to get the process started:

847-204-9901
vmorales@schaumburgtownship.org



STAY IN THE KNOW!

Visit our website and social media pages for up-to-date information on programs and services.

schaumburgtownship.org
f @SchaumburgTownship
t @SchaumburgTwp



WELLNESS CHECK-IN

Do you want to be added to our wellness check-in list? Call/email us here:

847-450-8011
mconway@schaumburgtownship.org

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

SUPERVISOR
Timothy M. Heneghan

CLERK
W. Robert Vinnedge

TRUSTEE
Diane Dunham

TRUSTEE
Jeffrey S. Mytych

TRUSTEE
Nimish Jani

TRUSTEE
Charlotte Kegaris

ASSESSOR
John Lawson, CIAO

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
Scott M. Kegaris

DISABILITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
847-285-4541
DIRECT NUMBER

847-884-0030
MAIN PHONE

224-520-9763
VIDEOPHONE

DIRECTOR OF DISABILITY SERVICES
Megan Conway

DEAF SERVICES COORDINATOR
Sarita Phadke

PR/EVENT COORDINATOR
Lauren Ewan

BENEFIT SPECIALIST
Ami-Nell Scurry

BENEFIT SPECIALIST
Sharon DeMarchi-Belter

Please note—Services subject to change due to continuous changing nature of COVID-19. During this time, all of the staff at the Township will continue to serve the public remotely while our office remains closed to the public. We are happy to help by phone, video chat, or email. We appreciate your understanding as we do our best to work with our clients remotely.

COVID-19 News

Call4Calm Emotional Support Line

The Illinois Department of Human Services' Mental Health Division has launched a free-of-charge emotional support text line, Call4Calm, for Illinois residents experiencing stress and mental health issues related to COVID-19. Individuals who would like to speak with a mental health professional can text "TALK" to 5-5-2-0-2-0, or for Spanish, "HABLAR" to the same number: 5-5-2-0-2-0.

Call4Calm is free to use, and individuals will remain anonymous. Once a resident sends a text to the hotline, within 24 hours they will receive a call from a counselor employed by a local community mental health center to provide support.

Individuals can also text 5-5-2-0-2-0, with key words such as "unemployment" or "food" or "shelter" and will receive information on how navigate and access supports and services.

(The Arc of Illinois Update Email 4/12/2020)

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Stimulus Payments

As part of the CARES Act, most Americans will receive a stimulus check that could be as much as \$1,200 per person, \$2,400 for married couples and \$500 for dependent children under 17. For people who earned more than that based on the adjusted gross income reported on their 2019 tax returns (or 2018 tax returns, if 2019 returns have yet to be filed), the amount of the check will get smaller the more money they earned over the \$75,000 individual threshold and \$150,000 married threshold.

Individuals who earned more than \$99,000 and joint filers with no children who earned more than \$198,000 will not get a stimulus check at all.

Social Security recipients are eligible to receive these stimulus checks based on their "1099" benefit statements; no additional paperwork needs to be submitted even if no tax returns were filed for 2018 or 2019. Stimulus payments will not impact eligibility of SSI, SNAP, or medical benefits for a period of 12 months.

Most Americans should have received their payments by May whose information is already on file with the IRS from the last time they did their taxes. However, people who have not given their bank direct deposit information to the IRS, and therefore must receive paper checks, may see a delay in their payments.

(Stimulus Payments Article Continued Next Column)

(Stimulus Payment Article Continued Below)

To get your stimulus payment faster, file your 2018 or 2019 tax year if you haven't already and provide the IRS with your direct deposit information.

(MSN Money "Here's When Your Stimulus Check Should Arrive" Article 4/9/2020, Forbes "No, You Might Not Get a Stimulus Check" Article 4/12/2020, AARP "CARES Act Offers Economic Stimulus to Fight Impact of Coronavirus" Article 4/2/2020)

SSI Recipients Will Receive Automatic COVID-19 Stimulus Payment

The Social Security Administration announced that Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients will automatically receive their stimulus payment just as they would normally receive their SSI benefits. Treasury anticipates SSI recipients will receive these automatic payments no later than early May.

(SSA Press Releases 4/10/2020 and 4/15/2020)

Beware of COVID-19 Scams

Scammers are taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic by trying to get access to your personal information. Please be aware that no one or any business, organization will call or text you to verify your personal information or bank account details.

Tips to protect yourself:

- Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers, or any others that appear suspicious.
- Never share your personal or financial information via email, text messages, or over the phone.
- Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately.
- Scammers often spoof phone numbers to trick you into answering or responding.
- Do not click any links in a text message. If a friend sends you a text with a suspicious link that seems out of character, call them to make sure they weren't hacked.

([fcc.gov/covid-scams](https://www.fcc.gov/covid-scams))

ComEd Update

ComEd is extending through at least June 1, 2020, its suspension of disconnections for customers who cannot afford to pay their electric bill. We are also extending our waiver of new late payment charges through the same period.

If customers were disconnected prior to our suspension of disconnections, please contact our customer care team at 800-334-7661, M-F from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., so that we can work to safely restore your service.

Social Services Updates

Supplemental Emergency SNAP Allotment

The Illinois Department of Human Services announced that Illinois households will receive additional Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for May. Eligible individuals and families do not need to take any action. The benefits will automatically be added to their Link cards. The additional funds are intended to help Illinoisans obtain food and support for their families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The supplemental emergency SNAP allotment is the difference of the maximum monthly SNAP allotment for the household size minus the regular monthly benefit amount that the client receives in May 2020. A SNAP household that is already receiving the maximum monthly allotment for the household size is not entitled to a supplement. **May Emergency allotments will be made available to active SNAP households approximately the same date their emergency allotment was available in April. For example, if Bernice received her emergency allotment on April 22, 2020, she will receive her emergency allotment for May on May 22, 2020.**

The maximum SNAP benefit amounts listed below will be implemented for May. **Households will receive their regular benefit amount in June 2020.**

Number in SNAP household	Maximum benefit
1	\$194
2	\$355
3	\$509
4	\$646

Also, Township staff are trained and available to help file SNAP applications remotely. Call us at 847-285-4541 and a staff member will contact you to help file for the SNAP program.

The income limits for the SNAP program for a person age 60 or older or a person with a disability are:

Gross Monthly Income Guidelines

1 person household	\$2,082
2 person household	\$2,818
3 person household	\$3,555

SNAP provides monthly assistance toward your grocery bill that can be used at most area grocery stores to purchase fresh produce, dairy, canned goods, meat, and more. Benefits are available on a Link card and reloaded automatically each month.

Delay of Medicaid Redeterminations

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has delayed closing any Medicaid case for failing to respond to a redetermination or a certification period ending. The delay will continue until the Emergency Declaration has ended.

After the Emergency Declaration has ended, the state of Illinois will continue to review Medicaid recipients benefits yearly to ensure they are still eligible for benefits. Medicaid Recipients will receive a redetermination letter with instructions on how to renew their Medicaid coverage.

The letter may request additional documentation such as income, assets. It is very important to respond to this as soon as possible; failure to respond could result in losing Medicaid benefits. **Our department can assist you with your Medicaid paperwork remotely. Please call 847-285-4541 to speak with a staff member.**

All DHS Offices Closed; All Benefits Remain Available

DHS offices are closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however all eligible clients can apply and manage their benefits online at www.abe.illinois.gov or call the IDHS' Help is Here toll-free line at 1-833-2-FIND-HELP. IDHS will provide updates on office re-openings in the weeks ahead.

If you need assistance with your DHS paperwork for medical or SNAP, our department is available to assist you remotely by calling 847-285-4541.

All Social Security Offices Closed; Phone and Online Services Remain Available

While Social Security offices for in-person services are closed, people can access secure services, such as print a benefit verification letter, apply for disability and more online at www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices.

For Social Security services you cannot conduct online, please check the online field office locator at www.ssa.gov/locator/ about how to directly contact your local office. Your local office still will be able to provide critical services to help you apply for benefits, answer your questions, and provide other services over the phone.

If you cannot complete your Social Security business online, please call 1-800-772-1213.

(SAMHSA SOAR SSA COVID-19 Press Release 3/17/2020)

Social Services Updates

CEDA Programs Resume With Remote Intake Process

CEDA energy assistance programs are now resuming with a remote intake process. Client information will be taken over the phone during a scheduled appointment time and clients will then have to submit required documents (ex: proof of all 30 day income, latest energy bills, etc.) to complete their application.

If you have not already applied for LIHEAP, or would like to apply for Weatherization and/or ComEd Hardship, please contact us at 847-285-4541 and a staff member will assist you.

The State has deemed energy assistance programs such as LIHEAP essential services and extended the LIHEAP program until June 30, 2020.

COVID-19 Crisis Program Through CEDA'S Family Support and Community Engagement (FSACE)

In response to COVID-19, CEDA's FSACE program has expanded in order to provide relief to Suburban Cook County communities with additional services. A COVID-19 related event must have occurred in order to qualify for any one of the emergency services listed below (i.e., job loss, COVID-illness).

1. Water bill payments
2. Telephone bill payments
3. Child care for essential workers
4. Basic essentials assistance
5. Medical supply and prescription costs
6. Emotional counseling services

To inquire about any of these assistances, please call the information and referral line at 312-795-8948.

CEDA'S Family Support and Community Engagement (FSACE) Programs

CEDA's FSACE Program Specialist Rosemaria Davila is available at 312-285-6446 to prescreen clients for FSACE programs while CEDA offices are closed. If determined eligible for the program, clients will then be placed on a waiting list for an intake appointment.

To be eligible for FSACE, you must reside in Suburban Cook County, meet program income guidelines, and provide documentation to support program needs. Programs to establish self-sufficiency include: Dental Care, Transportation, Vision Care, Family Nutrition, Trade Skills, Employment Services, Scholarship, etc.

Veteran Services Available Remotely

The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) Office is closed, however Veterans Service Officer, Shynae Murphy, is available to assist veterans by email at shynae.murphy@illinois.gov.



Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club Still Accepting Applications for Hearing Aid and Eyeglasses

The Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club is still accepting applications for assistance with obtaining hearing aids and eyeglasses from Township residents 18 years and older.

The hearing aid program offers reconditioned over-the-ear style hearing aids and exams at a discounted price through a contracted audiologist. Interested applicants, please contact Lauren Ewan at 847-285-4541 or email at lewan@schaumburgtownship.org. Applicants will be screened for the program remotely and will need to complete documentation. There is no income limit for this program.

Our department is also available remotely to screen potential residents with obtaining eyeglasses through the Lions Club who show financial hardship. **Approved applicants must go to the Pearle Vision in Lake Zurich for the eye exam and eyeglasses—no exceptions.** For more information or to apply for the program, please call 847-285-4541 and a staff member will assist you.

Benefit Access Program

The Benefit Access program provides two benefits—discount on the annual license plate registration fee and the RTA ride free transit pass—to Illinois residents who meet income guidelines and must be 65 years of age or 16 and older with a permanent disability.

To qualify, a single-person household must have a gross income **from tax year 2018** of less than \$33,562, \$44,533 for a two-person household and \$55,500 for a three-person household.

Please note: Applications submitted now through July 15, 2020 must use 2018 income to file. Applications submitted on July 16, 2020 or after must use 2019 income to file.

Secretary of State Extends Expiration Dates

The Illinois Secretary of State has extended expiration dates for driver's licenses, ID cards, vehicle registrations for 90 days after driver services facilities reopen. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has also pushed back the REAL ID deadline one year to Oct. 1, 2021.

Services and Programs

Medicare and Medicaid Insurance Counseling Through SHIP Program

Our department has trained Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors who can provide you free health insurance counseling for Medicare and Medicaid. **SHIP does not affiliate with any insurance company and does not sell or solicit any type of insurance.** Please call 847-285-4541 and a staff member will assist you.

Career Coach

Are you looking for guidance in today's workplace economy? Are you trying to find employment? The Township of Schaumburg can help through career coaching. The Career Coach is available by email and phone. The Township's Career Coach offers assistance in resume writing, searching for a job, interviewing, negotiations and more. For more information, visit the Township's website or email the career coach at emperservices@schaumburgtownship.org.



Paint-a-Thon Program Accepting Applications!

If the *exterior* of your home or garage, or even a smaller project such as the trim around the outside of your windows needs a fresh coat of paint due to peeling, fading, or worn paint, apply for the Paint-a-Thon program! The program provides for the painting of the *exterior* of single family homes at no cost to those who qualify. If you or someone you know could benefit, please contact Lauren Ewan at 847-884-0030 ext. 2025 for an application or for additional information.

To qualify, homes must be owned and occupied by people with limited financial resources. Current homeowners insurance is also required. The owner must be at least 60 years of age or have a permanent disability or be a veteran of any age.

Once a home is determined eligible, volunteer teams are matched to do the scraping, priming and painting of the house. The Community Paint-A-Thon covers 10 townships including Barrington, Elk Grove, Hanover, Maine, New Trier, Niles, Northfield, Palatine, Schaumburg and Wheeling. The Paint-A-Thon is a major community-wide event. Teams of volunteers are recruited from businesses, churches, social and civic groups. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Donnie Graham at HandsOn Suburban Chicago at donnie@handsonsuburbanchicago.org or 847-228-1320, ext. 104.

Free Amplified Telephones and Cell Phone Amplifiers

The Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) offers free amplified telephones and cell phone amplifiers for qualified Illinois residents with a certified hearing loss. Contact 847-285-4541 for an application or more information. Due to COVID-19, clients cannot test the phones until it is safe to do so.

Monday and Friday Retail Shopping Trips Schedule With the Township Bus

Below are the **Monday and Friday** retail shopping trips schedule for May and June. Reservations are required by calling the transportation department at 847-882-1929. **Please note that the schedule for grocery stores is accurate as of printing. Due to COVID-19, the schedules and routes may change. Please contact Dispatch for questions or to schedule your trip.**

May

Monday—4th Friday—8th	WALMART 850 S. Barrington Road Streamwood
Monday—11th Friday—15th	TARGET 2621 Schaumburg Road Schaumburg
Monday—18th Friday—22nd	WALMART 801 Meacham Road Elk Grove Village
Friday—29th	TARGET 1235 Higgins Road Schaumburg

June

Monday—1st Friday—5th	WALMART 850 S. Barrington Road Streamwood
Monday—8th Friday—12th	TARGET 2621 Schaumburg Road Schaumburg
Monday—15th Friday—19th	WALMART 801 Meacham Road Elk Grove Village
Monday—22nd Friday—26th	TARGET 1235 Higgins Road Schaumburg

Services and Programs and Medicare News

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Zoom Presentation

Disability Services is hosting a Zoom meeting/presentation on Social Security Disability Insurance from Social Security Disability lawyer, Jeffrey Rabin. **Join us on Tuesday, May 12 at 10 a.m. or Thursday, May 28 at 7 p.m.** to learn what Social Security Disability is, as well as how to obtain and maintain benefits. There are many myths and confusion around disability benefits – we'll help clarify! Mr. Rabin will also discuss the application process and the rules regarding returning to work while on Social Security.

Please call 847-285-4541 to register.

To Join Zoom Meeting:

1. Watch online at <https://zoom.us/j/4715872835>
2. Type in Meeting ID: 471 587 2835 and password: 8840030
3. Dial by your location: 1-312-626-6799 US (Chicago)
4. Enter Meeting ID: 471 587 2835 and password: 8840030

Medicare Telehealth Services Available During COVID-19

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency, doctors and other health care providers can use telehealth services to treat COVID-19 and for other medically reasonable purposes from offices, hospitals, and places of residence (like homes, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities) as of March 6, 2020. Coinsurance and deductibles apply, though some healthcare providers are reducing or waiving the amount you pay for telehealth visits.

Medicare telehealth services include office visits, psychotherapy, consultations, and certain other medical or health services that are provided by an eligible provider who isn't at your location using an interactive 2-way telecommunications system (like real-time audio and video).

Your costs with Original Medicare: Part B (Medical Insurance). You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor or other health care provider's services, and the Part B Deductible applies. For most telehealth services, you'll pay the same amount that you would if you got the services in person.

If you have coverage through a Medicare Advantage Plan, you won't have to pay out-of-pocket costs (called cost-sharing) for COVID-19 tests. They may also offer more telehealth services than what was included in their approved 2020 benefits.

(Medicare.gov)

Caregiver Hotline

Helping care for a family member or loved one can be hard work. People don't often talk about the emotional toll it can take on the actual caregiver. This is one of the reasons why the Caregiver Action Network launched a hotline specifically for caregivers to provide resources and emotional support. Caregivers can contact the Caregiver Help Desk at 1-855-227-3640 or also chat with them on caregiveraction.org or email them on that same site.

Another thing the Caregiver Action Network can help with is finding support groups in your area, as well as income assistance if you've had to leave work.

(<https://www.wxyz.com/news/national/theres-now-a-hotline-specifically-for-caregivers>)

Managing Stress During the COVID-19 Pandemic

More than ever, it's important to stay home to slow the spread of COVID-19, and if you must go out, practice social distancing. While we stay home, don't let fear and anxiety about the COVID-19 pandemic become overwhelming. Here are a few ways the CDC recommends managing stress during these challenging times:

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories and social media.
- Connect with others. Talk with friends and loved ones over the phone or via video chat about your concerns and how you are feeling.
- Take care of yourself. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy meals, exercise regularly, and get plenty of sleep.

(Medicare.gov)

Temporary Parking Placards Still Being Processed

Our department is still issuing three month temporary parking placards to residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants must mail their completed application—part 1 completed and signed by applicant and part 2 completed and signed by physician—to our offices at 1 Illinois Blvd., in Hoffman Estates. We will mail back a copy of the approved application with the temporary placard to the address on the application.

Applications for a six month placard: we can mail you a placard for the first three months, and then applicants would then have to mail back the same application to get a new placard for the additional three months. Questions? Please contact us at 847-285-4541 and a staff member will assist you.

Visit us at booth 106!

Yes, You CAN!

Abilities
Serving the Community
Since 1979
EXPO

At Abilities Expo, you can...

- Build independence with the latest products
- Learn tips and life hacks at workshops
- Improve fitness with adaptive sports
- Open doors with service animals
- Change the game with new tech
- Get answers from the experts
- Embrace your abilities through dance
- Access facts on therapeutic cannabis
- And so much more!

**FREE
ADMISSION**

Chicago • June 12-14, 2020

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center

1551 Thoreau Drive North • Schaumburg, IL 60173

Fri. 11 am - 5 pm • Sat. 11 am - 5 pm • Sun. 11 am - 4 pm



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www.AbilitiesExpo.com
Register online today. It's free!



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

**Department Phone: 847.285.4541
Township Main Phone: 847.884.0030
Deaf Services Videophone: 224.520.9763
www.schaumburgtownship.org**

f @SchaumburgTownship

t @SchaumburgTwp

**PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 154
SCHAUMBURG, IL**

Thank You



Our Breakfast with the Bunny may have been canceled, but the disability and senior services departments packed Easter baskets for kids with disabilities and their siblings!



**Special thanks to
Commissioner Kevin
B. Morrison, his staff
and volunteers for
delivering 40 baskets
to our guests!**