HOUSING ASSISTANCE

1) ADAMS HOUSING AUTHORITY

4 Columbia Street 413-743-5924
Adams, MA 01220
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Maintains subsidized units for individuals and families with low and moderate incomes and persons who are elderly and/or disabled; subsidizes some rental apartments under Section 8 and under the Massachusetts 705 program.

2) ADLIB INC. CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

215 North Street 413-442-7047
Pittsfield, MA 01201

85 Main Street 413-663-6200
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

AdLib is an independent living center for people with disabilities. AdLib provides four core services of peer counseling, advocacy, skills training, and information and referral. In addition, AdLib offers the following specialized programs: Personal Assistance Services, Americans with Disabilities Act Technical Assistance, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Housing Assistance, Transportation Services, Representative Payee Program, and the Drop-In Center.

3) BERKSHIRE COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

150 North Street 413-443-7138
Suite #28 1-800-248-9002

Pittsfield, MA 01201
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Assists in landlord/tenant mediation, information on landlord/tenant law, workshops, counseling and apartment searching. Services are voluntary, confidential and take place in a nonintimidating setting.
4) BERKSHIRE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND BERKSHIRE HOUSING SERVICES, INC.

74 North Street 413-499-1630
Pittsfield, MA 01201 413-499-1633
(Leasing) 413-499-4887
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Works with Section 8 and the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program to assist elderly, low income, and disabled persons and families in Berkshire County and those moving into the area. Handles applications for housing units at Pittsfield Family YMCA. Also provides housing rehabilitation assistance to residents of some Berkshire County towns, based on availability of grants for specific towns.

5) THE CALEB GROUP

201 Mohawk Forest Blvd. 413-663-6900 Ext. 203
North Adams, MA 01247

Provides the following services for residents of Mohawk Forest in North Adams: Safe and affordable housing for the elderly, disabled and families; a computer laboratory with Internet access; an after school program serving first through twelfth grades; a seven-week summer camp program.

6) CONSTRUCT/PROJECT HOME

41 Mahaiwe Street 413-528-1985
Great Barrington, MA 01230-0582
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Short-term rental assistance, housing advocacy, apartment search services, home ownership programs. Adult education workshops and counseling for the homeless. Free GED, basic literacy and ESOL training for the homeless and people at risk of homelessness.
7) ELIZABETH FREEMAN CENTER
www.efcenter.org

146 First Street 413-499-2425
Pittsfield, MA 01201 (24 Hour) 413-443-0089

54 Housatonic Street (24 Hour) 413-243-1119
Lee, MA 01238

85 Main Street (24 Hour) 413-663-9709
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Support, information, counseling and advocacy for women in crisis or “transition” relating to battering, divorce, separation, shelter, restraining orders or reentering the job force. Individual support and workshops available. Twenty-four hour crisis program; counseling, advocacy, and support for victims of rape and sexual assault (includes incest and sexual harassment). The Center welcomes help with its child advocacy, domestic violence/sexual assault work and special projects of interest to the student.

8) DALTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Pinegrove Manor 413-684-2493
293 High Street
Dalton, MA 01226
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:15 a.m.- 1:15 p.m.

Provides government subsidized housing for eligible citizens, including elderly and disabled citizens and low-income families. Call for current eligibility requirements.

9) ELDER SERVICES OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY. INC.
www.esbci.org

66 Wendell Avenue 413-499-0524
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Services for elders 60 years and older. Case management, information and referral, homemaker/personal care, home health services, nutrition, “Meals on Wheels” program, housing, adult family care, ombudsmen (advocacy for elderly patients in long term care facilities) and money management program. Nursing home prescreening, protective services, employment opportunities for elders, volunteer opportunities (transportation, shopping and companionship) and transportation resources. Support group for family caregivers of the elderly.
10) FAMILY LIFE SUPPORT CENTER, INC.

85 Main Street, Suite 228 413-664-8279
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
(Can leave message evenings and weekends.)

Housing search assistance and homelessness prevention through apartment listings, landlord/tenant mediation, housing code checklist and limited financial aid. Emergency homeless shelter (Louison House). Employment & budget counseling, assistance in obtaining benefits if eligible (food stamps, WIC, housing subsidies). Information & referral for child care, as well as information about free medical and dental services. Also runs emergency food pantry. Volunteers/interns welcome to help with intake and eventually solve client problems with staff guidance.

11) GREAT BARRINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

2 Gibbons Drive 413-274-1142
Great Barrington, MA 01230

State-subsidized public housing. 64 units for elderly and 16 units for families.

12) HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Northern Berkshire:
P.O. Box 391 413-664-4440
57 Main Street
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – Noon
(Answering machine available during off hours)

Central Berkshire: 413-442-3181
314 Columbus Avenue
P.O. Box 2717
Pittsfield, MA 01202
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p. m.

A volunteer-based organization that offers an opportunity for affordable housing to low income families. Volunteers and future homeowners work in partnership, making use of community donations of money, materials, and labor. Families who qualify purchase their home with a 20-25 year mortgage. Habitat makes no profit and adds no interest charges to the mortgage.
13) HOMEOWNER OPTIONS FOR MASSACHUSETTS ELDERS (HOME)

*Berkshire County Regional Housing Authority 413-443-7138*
*150 North Street*
*Pittsfield, MA 01201*
*Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.*

A comprehensive housing counseling service to help low and moderate income elderly homeowners make informed housing decisions. Assists elders in identifying a wide variety of options in planning for their immediate and future housing needs, home repair, social service, legal assistance, and follow-up.

14) LEE HOUSING AUTHORITY

*155 Marble Street 413-243-3464*
*Lee, MA 01238*
*Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- Noon*

Provides state-subsidized housing for low income people.

15) LENOX HOUSING AUTHORITY

*6 Main Street 413-637-5585*
*Lenox, MA 01240*
*Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.*

Low income state-subsidized housing, one- and two-bedroom units for elderly and handicapped and two- and three-bedroom units for family and handicapped.

16) MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE

*75 South Church Street 413-236-2000*
*P.O. Box 576*
*Pittsfield, MA 01202*

*37 Main Street 413-663-1100*
*P.O. Box 975*
*North Adams, MA 01247*

*Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.- 5 p.m.*

State-sponsored employment training program for those currently receiving transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); provides formal education skills training, on the-job training, direct job placement, food stamps and emergency assistance. Child care services are available for those who qualify. Caseworker assistance may involve shelter and housing placement. Also offers Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children (EAEDC) program, which provides cash assistance and limited medical coverage for elderly, disabled individuals without dependent children and unrelated adults caring for children under 18. The majority of recipients of EAEDC are single individuals with short-term disabilities. Those caring for a disabled household member may be eligible as well.
17) NORTH ADAMS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

10 Main Street, Room 221 413-662-3025
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
(Closes at 1:00 p.m. on Fridays during the summer.)

Offers low interest loans to low income persons and families, elderly and disabled and assists with loan applications. Loans can be used for certain home repairs.

18) NORTH ADAMS FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION

c/o Office of Community Development 413-662-3025
10 Main Street
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Assistance for landlord/tenant disputes. Processes fair housing discrimination complaints and enforces fair housing laws as set forth by both state and federal government.

19) NORTH ADAMS HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 666 413-663-5379
150 Ashland Street
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Closes Wednesday at noon.

Subsidized housing for individuals, families, elderly and disabled. Assistance based on income. Elderly housing has 15 units that are handicapped accessible.

20) PITTSFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

65 Columbus Avenue 413-443-5936
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Subsidized housing services for families and the elderly in the Pittsfield area. Call for an appointment to apply for housing under Section 8 or in a family or elderly project.
21) SALVATION ARMY (PITTSFIELD)
www.salvationarmy-ma.org/locations/corps_pittsfield.shtml

298 West Street 413-442-0624
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- noon, and 1 p.m.- 4 p.m.
(Bread pickup open until 4 p.m.)

Grocery items for anyone in need, referrals for emergency housing, budget counseling, counseling for families, marriage counseling, and counseling for victims of domestic violence. Also handles Pittsfield Area Council of Churches (PACC) emergency funds. Serves breakfast daily (9-10 a.m.) and Sunday evening dinner at 4:30 p.m.

22) STOCKBRIDGE HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 419 413-298-3222
Stockbridge, MA 01262
Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

State-assisted housing for elderly and disabled persons. Please call for application.

23) USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

195 Russell Street, Suite B7 413-585-1000, ext. 4
Hadley, MA 01035-9521
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

- HOME OWNERSHIP: A Direct Loan Program is available to low-income families and individuals who wish to purchase or build a home in a rural town. Borrowers receive a direct loan from Rural Development with the payments based on their income with no down payment required. Borrowers must be unable to obtain a homeownership loan from a bank or other conventional sources.

- HOME REPAIR: Home improvement and repair assistance loans are available to very low income applicants who currently own a home in a rural town. Funds are available for repairs, improvements, and the removal of health and safety hazards. Seniors 62 and older who cannot afford a loan may also qualify for a grant of up to $7500.

24) WILLIAMSTOWN HOUSING AUTHORITY

35 Adams Road 413-458-8282
Williamstown, MA 01267 413-458-5483
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Subsidized housing for elderly and low-income families and individuals.