



COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR NJ CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (continued)

Family does not have stable housing	Family is homeless and in need of emergency shelter	<p>When working with a household at risk of homelessness or one whose status is homeless – absent factors of child abuse or neglect - the first referral should be to the local County Social Services Agency, so that an intake can be conducted in the coordinated entry system and the household can be referred to an appropriate resource.</p> <p>If that referral cannot be made immediately, call 211 to see if an immediate resource is available, and encourage the family to follow up with the coordinated entry process as soon as possible</p>	<p>Find your county's NJ County Social Services agency at: https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dfd/counties/</p> <p>Call or text 211 any time, 24/7/365</p>
	Family is at risk of homelessness	The Homelessness Prevention Program provides up to three months of assistance to pay past due rent to households in imminent danger of eviction due to temporary financial problems beyond their control	A list of local Homeless Prevention Program providers is available at: https://www.nj.gov/dca/dhcr/offices/pdf/HPPAgencyContacts.pdf
	Family needs legal help to prevent eviction	DCA's Office of Eviction Prevention provides free legal assistance to low-income people with low incomes who are facing eviction.	Contact your county's NJ Eviction Defense and Diversion Services agency: https://www.nj.gov/dca/dhcr/offices/dhcroep.shtml
Family Poverty	Family is struggling to meet basic needs	NJ's County Social Service Agencies provide economic and social services to individuals and families based upon financial need, including cash assistance, food assistance, medical assistance, child support, housing, and more.	Contacts for local County Social Service Agencies can be found at: www.nj.gov/humanservices/dfd/counties
	Family needs help with utility bills	The Home Energy Assistance Program helps very low-income residents with very low income to access assistance with heating and cooling bills and emergency fuel.	Call 1-800-510-3102 or visit the NJ Department of Community Affairs website www.nj.gov/dca/dhcr/offices/hea.shtml for more information and to apply.
	Family needs information about benefits eligibility or to apply for benefits	The NJ Helps website can support families to identify if they are eligible for food assistance (SNAP), cash assistance (WFNJ/TANF or WFNJ/GA), and health Insurance (NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid). From there, a family can apply for services or learn about additional resources	Visit www.njhelps.gov