

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide interim assistance with basic needs for those who do not have the resources to meet these needs and encourage community involvement in addressing issues to help break the circle of poverty.

In General

Laconia's Welfare Department is to fulfill the City's legal obligation to assist persons who are poor and unable to support themselves. As required under state law, the City Council has established guidelines outlining how Welfare staff is to fulfill this duty. Welfare guidelines are available on the City website. www.laconianh.gov/welfare. People seeking assistance should review the guidelines. Below is a brief outline of major items covered in the guidelines.

Assistance Provided

- Assistance is available to those who meet eligibility guidelines.
- The Welfare office provides eligible persons with interim, emergency assistance with basic needs. Basic needs include shelter, medications, food, rental assistance, utilities (electric, heat, etc.) and burials.
- No cash assistance is provided. Assistance is issued in the form of vouchers paid directly to a vendor.
- The Welfare office will provide additional resources to other community organizations that may be able to provide additional assistance.
- Welfare assistance is not 'no strings attached'. If you receive assistance from the city you will most likely be asked to fulfill certain responsibilities. This can include conducting job searches, participating in a work program, conducting apartment searches, apply for assistance with other agencies, etc. These are outlined in the guidelines.

How to Apply

Anyone may apply for assistance by completing an application and gathering all required documentation (income, IDs, Utility bills etc.) Applications can be picked up at City Hall, day or night. Applications are kept in a container

on the wall next to the Entrance Door or you can print one from the City's website.

Once you complete the application and gather the required documents, call 527-1267 for the next step. In emergency situations the application process can be expedited. If you have questions about applying or documentation call the Welfare Office at 527-1267.

What happens after you apply

Once your application is received by the Welfare Technician, they will review it for completeness and accuracy, if the technician has questions or need additional documents, you will receive a call from the Welfare Office.

Once the application has been verified by calling employers, landlords, relatives, etc., the Welfare Office will reach out to you to discuss your application.

Once your application has been reviewed you will receive a Notice of Decision letting you know if your request for assistance has been granted or denied. You will receive the Notice of Decision with 5 working days after the application and documents are submitted.

Why might my application be denied?

Every case is unique, but here is a list of common reasons that a request may be denied:

- Sufficient Income (exceeds income guidelines)
- Incomplete application (failure to provide income information, work history etc. within a specific time frame)
- Filing false information
- Not providing required documentation
- Refusal to accept assistance (for example, refusal to accept placement in a shelter)
- Failure to meet requirements from prior assistance provided.

When a request for assistance is denied or when an applicant desires to challenge a decision made by the welfare official/technician relative to the receipt of assistance, the applicant must present a written request for a fair hearing to the welfare official within five (5) working days of receipt of the notice of decision at issue.

Additional Resources

Community Action Program (CAP) –

Fuel/Electric Assistance & Emergency Food 524-5512,
Security Deposit 225-2437,
WIC 1-800-578-2050,
Family Planning 524-5453,
Head Start & Early Head Start 528-5334,
Weatherization Program 1-800-856-5525,
Meals on Wheels 524-7689,
Commodity Foods 524-1741,
Transportation 225-3295

St Vincent DePaul - Food Pantry (Monday Noon - 2 p.m. & Wednesday 6 to 8 p.m.), financial needs, furniture, clothing. 524-7470

Medication Connection - Ensures that everyone in our community has access to the prescription medications they need. 527-7011

Laconia Housing (Section 8) - Low Income Housing 524-2112

WIC - Supplemental food assistance to pregnant women, infants, and children up to age 5. 1-800-578-2050

Isaiah 61 Café - Meals, bathroom facilities, showers, lockers, clothing, washers, and dryers. 524-6161

Lakes Region Mental Health - Mental Health Counseling. 524-1100

Boys and Girls Club – Monday – Friday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Free supper.

Salvation Army – Furniture, clothing, food pantry, lunches available Tuesday – Saturday. 524-1834

Salvation Army – Carey House – Homeless shelter. 527-8026

Belknap House – Family homeless shelter. 527-8097

NH Legal Aid – 223-9750 ext. 4

CITY OF LACONIA WELFARE OFFICE



45 BEACON STREET EAST
LACONIA, NH 03246

Cathy Raymond, Welfare Technician
524-1267
craymond@laconianh.gov

Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30 am – 4:30 pm