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# CABHN FEVER

## **EHC!** For Everything SummerFood Visit Website [www.CTSummerFood.org](http://www.CTSummerFood.org)

This new interactive website will help families and providers find summer meal locations where all children 18 and under can enjoy free and healthy meals all summer long. Features of the website include:

- ✓ Location/Site Finder with mapping feature
- ✓ Details about each site; including meals served and dates/times of service
- ✓ Driving, walking, public transit, or bike directions to sites
- ✓ Frequently Asked Questions about Summer Food
- ✓ Other resources for food in Connecticut
- ✓ Information about the Connecticut No Kid Hungry Campaign and its activities

### **What is Summer Food?**

Summer Food is the common name for the federal Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option of the National School Lunch program. Summer Food provides free, nutritious meals and snacks to kids and teens, 18 years of age and younger, throughout the summer when school is out.

### **What kind of food is served?**

Summer meals meet federal nutrition guidelines and are comprised of milk, fruits, vegetables, grains, and meat or another protein. To see if particular dietary substitutions can be made, parents or caregivers should contact the sponsor of the program. Sponsor contact information, when available, can be found by using the Location Finder. Some locations serve breakfast and snacks as well as lunch.

### **What kind of paperwork and/or registration is there?**

- ✓ No paperwork required.
- ✓ No registration required.
- ✓ No identification (ID) required.

### **What is the cost of these meals?**

There is NO cost!

All summer meals are FREE of charge to all kids & teens, 18 years of age and younger, at participating summer meals locations.

### **What else do kids & teens do at the locations besides eat?**

Some summer meals locations do have activities to help create a fun environment for kids & teens. Activities can be arts and crafts, team sports/outdoor activities, board games, or reading activities. Certain summer meals sites also have nutrition education lessons, gardening sessions, and/or visits from local community guests.

**See EndHunger! (Page 2)**

## **The Barometer Report**

United Way 2-1-1 receives over 360,000 calls each year from state residents seeking information and access to services. There are times, however, when resources are not available or callers are not eligible for the services they need. The Barometer report reviews those calls and programs supported by the United Way that seek to assist those with unmet needs. The report seeks to identify why people are not able to access the help they need and to look for new ways to create and increase access to valuable community resources. *See full report at: <http://www.ctunitedway.org/Media/Barometer/June2011.pdf>.*

## **Buy Fresh & Local!**

There are over 130 farmers' markets around the state. United Way 2-1-1 listings include location, hours and payment options. Many farmers' markets accept WIC, the Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program and SNAP (food stamps). Visit [www.211ct.org](http://www.211ct.org), enter your zip code or town and enter "farmers markets" under Search for Services, or dial 2-1-1 to find a farmers' market near you.

## **Community Fact Sheets**

The Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH) has produced a set of factsheets detailing Point-in-Time (PIT) Count data collected from individual communities across Connecticut. The factsheets are tailored to each CT Continuum of Care (COC) and compare area PIT Count data with statewide figures. To tell the story of homelessness in their area, CCEH encourages communities to distribute and use the sheets in communications with partners, funders, and advocates.

*Access the factsheets at <http://www.cceh.org/publications.htm#factsheets>.*



(Continued from page 1)

**What do adults do while the kids and teens are eating?**

Parents and/or guardians should feel free to:

- ✓ Chat with other parents and guardians;
- ✓ Help get their kids' meal(s) ready if they need help opening or cutting something;
- ✓ Assist the site supervisor if they need help; and/or
- ✓ Check out the activities offered to kids & teens at the location.

**What kind of supervision is there at the locations?**

Kids & teens are supervised at the summer meals locations by adult site supervisors and volunteers.

**Annual C.L.A.S.S. Conference**

C.L.A.S.S., Connecticut Local Administrators of Social Services, is gearing up for its annual conference. The conference will take place on Thursday, September 15th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Windsor. This year's theme is "Increasing Opportunities". Workshops will include; "Basic Benefits", "Jobs First", and "Aging in Place". Registration information will be available soon. Membership applications are now available for the upcoming year. For more information regarding C.L.A.S.S., the conference, or to become a member, go to [www.class-ct.org](http://www.class-ct.org).

**Community Food Pantry & Clothing Closet**

The Village for Families & Children offers a Community Food Pantry and Clothing Closet located at 131 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford. The pantry is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00am-5:00pm and Wednesday from 2:30pm-5:00pm. The Clothing Closet is open Friday, 2:30-5:00pm. The Village accepts donations such as gently used house ware items, soap, shampoo/conditioner, toys and monetary/cash cards for other items needed by families. Help spread the word about these valuable resources for families in need and keep the Village in mind if you're looking to make future donations!

**NAMI-CT Presents: A New NAMI-CAN (Child & Adolescent Network) Support Group**

This support group is for parents, families and friends of children, youth and young adults with behavioral, emotional or mental health disorders. Please join and share in support and encouragement with other individuals who understand the feelings and challenges of caring for a child/adolescent with behavioral, emotional or mental health disorders.

**When:** 4th Monday of each month  
6:30 - 8:00 PM

**Where:** CommunityHealthResources  
7B Ledgebrook Drive,  
Mansfield CT 06250

For more information, please contact Lorna at 860-456-0038 x350 or email [grivois620@comcast.net](mailto:grivois620@comcast.net)

NAMI-CAN Mansfield is a program of NAMI-CT in collaboration with "Communities Raising Children" The Northeast System of Care.

For more information about the National Alliance on Mental Illness please call the NAMI-CT office at 860-882-0236 or visit [www.namict.org](http://www.namict.org)

**When a Child Needs Help: EMPS is Ready**

When a child or adolescent experiences a behavioral or mental health crisis, help is a phone call away. Dial 2-1-1 to reach EMPS, Connecticut's Emergency Mobile

**Learning Together: Changing Minds - Spanish Language Course**

If you are raising a child or adolescent with behavioral health concerns, you are not alone!

"Learning Together: Changing Minds" is a free Spanish Language Course taught by Community Mental Health Workers (CMHW) or trained family members who have lived with this experience.

The course is comprised of six (6) weekly classes and follows a structured format covering issues frequently faced by families dealing with a child or teen with behavioral health concerns.

New Haven classes begin:

When: Wednesday July 13th, 2011

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Place: Clifford Beers Clinic

93 Edwards Street

New Haven CT 06511

Please call Rosita for details and to register: 203-535-8418. Light dinner and child care provided.

**Do you have a contribution for our newsletter?**

**Great!**

**Email Ellen Small Billard ([ESmall@larcc.org](mailto:ESmall@larcc.org)) or call 860-278-5688 x208**

**Don't forget, follow us on Facebook and receive action alerts, notifications of upcoming events and policy-related news. If you would like to donate to CABHN online, please visit [www.larcc.org](http://www.larcc.org)**

Psychiatric Service. When an EMPS call comes in to 2-1-1, a trained call specialist completes a brief assessment and connects the caller to a mental health clinician. EMPS clinicians are immediately available in person or by phone to help resolve the crisis wherever help is needed. Dial 2-1-1 to access EMPS. To learn more about EMPS, visit [www.empset.org](http://www.empset.org).

## State Budget Update

The state budget for the next two years was not finalized as of July 5 because the state employee unions failed to adopt the negotiated concessions package. This meant that the adopted budget would be in deficit by \$700 million in the 2011-12 fiscal year and by \$900 million in the 2012-13 fiscal year unless further action was taken.

On June 30, the legislature adopted amendments to the budget and changes to the budget process which require the Governor to identify cuts, including layoffs, that will balance the budget. The Governor was also given the power to rescind up to 10% of any budget item. This increased rescission power is effective through September 30. After that the Governor's rescission power returns to 3% of any fund and 5% of any line item.

The Governor must present a plan to balance the budget to legislative leadership by July 15. Leadership can then choose to hold hearings on the Governor's proposals and a vote on the proposals by August 31. In the absence of legislative action, the Governor's proposals are adopted.

Below is a list of changes that have already been adopted in budget legislation. There may be more cuts to social services when the Governor's new plan is adopted.

- adopts state **Earned Income Tax Credit** at 25% of the federal credit
- makes **smoking cessation** services available to all Medicaid recipients as of Jan. 1, 2012
- adds **podiatry** as a covered service in Medicaid as of Oct. 1, 2011
- limits non-emergency **dental services** for healthy adults in Medicaid reduced. Exams, cleanings and x-rays limited to once a year and some other unspecified modifications permitted.
- permits adoption of an unspecified alternate benefit package in the **Low Income Adults program** in Medicaid
- delays implementation of **medical interpreters** as a covered Medicaid service until July 1, 2013 and eliminates plan to include medical interpreters as covered service in HUSKY B
- restricts **vision services** for adults under Medicaid to one pair of glasses every 2 years unless medical changes require a different prescription
- limits eligibility for **ConnPACE** to those not eligible for Medicare or Medicaid
- removes COLA for **TFA, SAGA** and **State Supplement**
- establishes 100-person pilot program in the **Jobs First Employment Services** program
- revamps **Security Deposit Guarantee Program** ( details below )
- increases cost-sharing for state-funded **CT Home Care Program** from 6% to 7%
- reduces **personal needs allowance** for residents of long-term care facilities to \$60 per month and eliminates cost-of-living indexing

## Security Deposit Guarantee Program:

*Under the new rules adopted by the legislature:*

1. If a tenant claims eligibility for a security deposit guarantee because the tenant is about to be evicted, the tenant must have received a summary process writ (eviction papers from the court). Previously, the tenant had to have received a notice to quit, which comes somewhat earlier in the eviction process.
2. DSS can deny a security deposit guarantee to a tenant if DSS has paid claims on two previous Security Deposit Guarantees for that tenant.

3. DSS cannot reimburse a landlord unless the landlord provides receipts for repairs made (rather than estimates as required previously).

4. DSS payments to landlords are prohibited if the tenant moved because the apartment was uninhabitable, as determined by a government agency.

## Paid Sick Days Legislation Passes!

Early in the morning on June 4, 2011, the Connecticut House of Representatives passed S.B. 913 – An Act Mandating Paid Sick Leave – by a vote of 76-65. The bill had already passed the Senate. The Governor signed the bill into law on July 5th.

The bill was altered throughout the session to increase the likelihood of passage and now focuses mostly on service sector employees, one of the target workforce sectors supported by advocates of the measure as these employees are more likely to pass illness on to customers if they come to work sick.

The bill requires companies with 50 or more employees to give one hour of sick time for every 40 hours of work, up to a maximum of five days a year. An employer can count vacation time, personal days and any other paid time off against the requirement. Seasonal and temporary workers are not covered, nor are manufacturers or YMCAs and YWCAs -- exemptions sought as conditions for support by several Democratic senators. It will be effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Governor Malloy had been supportive of the bill throughout the session.

Thanks to Connecticut Working Families and the Everybody Benefits Coalition for your hard work and dedication to this important legislation.

Connecticut becomes the first state in the country to adopt such a measure.

## **The Hartford Votes ~ Hartford Vota Coalition**

The coalition continues its Series of Voter Engagement and Informational Programs by sponsoring:

### **Mayoral Candidate Forum**

**Theme: Quality of Life**

The quality of life in Hartford is affected negatively by crime, blight, noise, litter, and graffiti and positively by recreational opportunities, health care, libraries, food security, and services for seniors and youth. Attend this forum to hear from candidates on how they would address these issues if elected Mayor of Hartford.

**Thursday, July 28, 2011**

**Light Refreshments at 5:30 PM**

**Forum at 6:00 p.m.**

**Hartford Public Library**

**500 Main Street**

Submit your questions about quality of life issues for the candidates to [HartfordVotes@gmail.com](mailto:HartfordVotes@gmail.com)

## **Do You Have A Story?**

The Connecticut Housing Coalition will be looking to collect and communicate stories about the people and communities that make up our affordable housing network in Connecticut. Please consider participating and sharing your passion for this issue. For more information or to share your story, contact Betsy Crum at [betsy@ct-housing.org](mailto:betsy@ct-housing.org).

### **Did You Know?**

**The average American's spending on health care rose by 5% between 2008 and 2009 while average income dropped 1.1%?**

*Source: Consumer Expenditures in 2009, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2011*

## **Upcoming CABHN/FESN Meeting**

**The next meeting will  
be in  
September 2011**



**Location:**

**To Be  
Announced**

**Enjoy your summer!**

*The Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs (CABHN) is a statewide network of individuals, community groups and organizations which supports and promotes advocacy on low-income issues. For more information, please call (860) 278-5688.*

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**Legal Assistance Resource Center of CT and  
CABHN (Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs)**  
44 Capitol Ave., Suite 301  
Hartford, CT 06106