

<b>Highlights in this issue:</b>	
<i>Tips on Finding An Apartment ....</i>	<i>p1</i>
<i>New SLS Website .....</i>	<i>p2</i>
<i>Proof of Citizenship - Medicaid ....</i>	<i>p3</i>
<i>Universal Health Care .....</i>	<i>p3</i>

# CABHN FEVER



## Are You Looking For An Apartment?

There are several places to start:

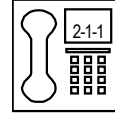
**HUD** (the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development): publishes a guide Looking for HUD-Associated Rental Housing in Connecticut that includes a lot of information that will be helpful in your search. Call 1-860-240-4800

**Section 8 Waiting List Web Site:** The Department of Administrative

Services now has a web site which lists all open Section 8 waiting lists in Connecticut. You can go to your local library for help in accessing the following web site:

[http://www.das.state.ct.us/Business\\_Svs/HCV/HCVP\\_Home.asp](http://www.das.state.ct.us/Business_Svs/HCV/HCVP_Home.asp)

**Infoline:** Call 211 from anywhere in the state for information about various social service agencies that may be able to assist you.



## Help Starts Here

Everyone knows to call 911 in an emergency, but is everyone aware of the number to call when they are being evicted from their apartment, looking for affordable child care, or just looking to volunteer time or donate items to people in need?

In Connecticut, people can call 2-1-1. This easy, 3-digit number connects a caller to 2-1-1, a statewide, help-by-telephone service that provides information, community referrals and crisis intervention. It's a simple way to give or get help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at no cost. Calls are answered by trained specialists who, by using a comprehensive database of community services, will connect the caller to the service or organization that can best suit their needs. Spread the word. Help starts here: 2-1-1.

### Things you should know when you are looking for an apartment

**Security Deposits:** A landlord can ask you to pay a security deposit before you move in. Under Connecticut law, no more than 2 months rent may be charged for such a deposit. If you are 62 years old or older, no more than one months rent may be charged.

If you receive state assistance, you may be eligible for assistance with security deposit payments. You should contact your DSS worker to apply.

**Subsidized Housing:** Public housing authority apartments are not your only option. There are state and federal programs that offer certificates that allow you to rent an apartment from a private landlord, and there are private companies who manage complexes that contain subsidized units. Refer to the HUD guide for more information. There are often long waiting lists for these apartments and certificates, so don't wait to apply.

**References:** Expect a landlord to ask for references. If you have had a good relationship with a former landlord, that is your best bet. If you have never rented before, use employers or other people who know you well. Your landlord may also run a credit check. If you are denied an apartment because of bad credit, you are entitled to a copy of your credit report.

**Discrimination:** Landlords are not allowed to discriminate based on family status (whether or not you have children); race; color; religion; origin; ancestry; sex; marital status; age; mental or physical disability; sexual orientation; or source of income. If you feel a landlord has discriminated against you, you can call SLS for further advice. →→→



### Summer Phone Line Hours for Statewide Legal Services

Starting Monday, July 3, 2006, SLS will be closing the intake telephone lines every Friday at 3:00. This change is for the summer months only.

Hotline hours for the months of July and August are as follows:

Mon., Wed. & Fri.

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 pm

Tues. & Thurs.

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 pm

**Statewide Legal Services Of Connecticut, Inc.**  
**425 Main Street, 4<sup>TH</sup> Floor,**  
**Middletown, CT 06457**  
**Client Hotline: 1 - 800-453-3320**  
**(Toll Free In Connecticut)**



## Finding Helpful Legal Information

Are you looking for the answer to a complicated legal question and don't know where to start? The newly designed, user-friendly Statewide Legal Services website for clients and social services providers can assist you.

Start by going to [www.slsct.org](http://www.slsct.org) and the first thing you'll notice is that the format has changed. The new design makes it easier to find the information you need and also gives you the chance to search easily for what you don't see right away.

There are three parts to the web site

- 1 "Legal Booklets".** Click on the books graphic or the words "Legal Booklets" and you will get a listing of subjects. Click on the subject or graphic you want for a list of easy-to-read legal aid booklets on that topic. Click on the topic you are interested in and it will get you to the pamphlet with the information you need. The information is also available in Spanish by choosing "Espanol" on the top left hand side of the first screen you come to.
- 2 "Search".** If you are not sure which booklet you are looking for, click on "Search" and type in the topic you need, for instance "eviction" or "welfare" and then click on "Begin Search". This will bring up a listing of legal aid booklets on your search topic. There is also a "search" option if you scroll down to the bottom of the "Legal Booklets" page.
- 3 "Get Help".** Get Help provides information about Statewide Legal Services, the legal aid hotline program in Connecticut. Click on the picture of the telephone or on the words "Get Help" and you'll go to a page providing contact information and services provided by Statewide Legal Services.

The web site home page also provides additional information and links to legal aid programs and resources in Connecticut, topical items of interest ("News for Legal Aid Clients") and information for Pro Bono Attorneys (Pro Bono Web Site).

If you have questions or need training for your agency or your community group on how to use the web site, call Bonnie Roswig from Statewide Legal Services at (860) 344-8096 ext. 3002 or e-mail her at [broswig@slsct.org](mailto:broswig@slsct.org).

If you have any comments or suggestions on how to improve our site please let us know at the telephone number or e-mail address above.



## Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

The FFVP provides participating Connecticut schools with the opportunity to offer fresh fruits and vegetables, free of charge, to students throughout the school day. For more information about participation in the program, contact Maureen Staggenborg at 860-807-2070 or Teri Dandeneau at 860-807-2079.

### Feed your family farm fresh!

Get your share of fresh fruits and vegetable and support Connecticut local farmers by going to one of the many Farmers' Markets located throughout Connecticut. For a full list of markets, go to <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/browse.asp?A=3> Many are EBT- Food Stamp Certified and WIC Certified.

*Information taken from publication Fresh Bites by State of CT Dept. of Education.*

## Free Breast & Cervical Cancer Screenings

The Connecticut Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program is a comprehensive breast and cervical cancer screening program implemented throughout Connecticut for medically underserved women. The objective of the program, offered free of charge through the state DPH and the CDC, is to significantly increase the number of women who receive breast and cervical cancer screening services and diagnostic follow-up, as appropriate. These include: Breast Exams, Mammography, Pelvic Exams and Pap Tests, Colposcopy and Biopsy, Breast Biopsies, Ultrasound of the Breast.

### Who Is Eligible?

You are eligible as a Connecticut woman if you meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Age 40 or older for mammograms (mammograms available for younger women with symptoms and/or specific risk factors for breast cancer) and age 19 or older for Pap tests AND
- ✓ Income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (see below) AND
- ✓ Have no health insurance OR have health insurance that excludes routine Pap tests and mammograms

To schedule an appointment, to get more information, and/or to ask if you are eligible for this program call 860.872.7833 . All calls are completely confidential.

200% of Federal Poverty Level	
Family Size	200%
1	\$19,600
2	\$26,400
3	\$33,200
4	\$40,000
5	\$46,800
For each additional person, add	\$6,800




### Medicaid Proof of Citizenship Requirements

Starting on July 1, 2006, US citizens applying for Medicaid or renewing Medicaid coverage will have to provide proof of their citizenship and identity. For those already on Medicaid, this proof will not be required until their regular annual redetermination. *This new requirement does not apply to legal immigrants who are receiving Medicaid or state-funded health care.*

US passports and original certified birth certificates will be the best way to prove citizenship and the passport can also be used to prove identity. Many Medicaid applicants and enrollees don't have passports however, and will be required to produce two documents such as a *certified original* birth certificate to prove citizenship and a picture ID such as a driver's license, to prove identity. For current Medicaid recipients, you will still remain eligible and receive benefits as long as you are making a good faith effort to comply with these new requirements. For those applying for Medicaid, benefits cannot be granted until citizenship and identity is verified.

It will cost \$5 to obtain your certified birth certificate from the Town Clerk's Office of the town where you were born or the town where your mother lived when you were born. You may be able to have that fee waived if you tell the Town Clerk that you can't afford it. You should let your DSS worker know if you were unable to obtain it because of the fee. DSS should consider this to mean that the document is unavailable and should proceed to assist you in obtaining alternate documents.

 **Would you like to receive your copy of CABHN Fever electronically? Please let us know by sending an email to [mail@larcc.org](mailto:mail@larcc.org)**



### Families Should Submit TMA Renewal Applications for Continued HUSKY Coverage

This month, many families receiving HUSKY health care through the Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA)\* program will reach the end of their 12 months of eligibility for TMA. Each family should receive a TMA renewal application and **should complete it and return it as soon as possible.**

Many families will still be eligible for HUSKY coverage because HUSKY coverage for parents is now available for families with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty level. Additionally, some families may still be eligible because of pregnancy, disability or because their income has

decreased. Importantly, even if parents are over-income for HUSKY and TMA coverage, their children may still be eligible for HUSKY A or B.

\* What is TMA? Families who become ineligible for HUSKY A coverage due to increases in income through earnings or child support may be able to stay on HUSKY through the Transitional Medical Assistance program for up to 12 months. These families must have initially been in the "family coverage" HUSKY category, which covers families earning up to 150% of the federal poverty level (\$24,900 for a family of 3).

#### What's New?

### Universal Health Care Foundation

On June 22, the Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut released the results of a study that analyzed three new approaches to providing health care coverage to non-elderly residents of Connecticut. The study, conducted by the Economic and Social Research Institute, explored the costs and benefits of three different ways that Connecticut could move toward universal health care coverage.

**The three approaches studied were:**  
**A single health care plan which would cover all non-elderly state residents.**

→ Employers and individuals could purchase additional coverage if desired. The plan would be financed by contributions from employers and employees, state funds and Medicaid funds. This approach would lower total health care costs, although the impact on individual employers and people would vary, and would provide coverage for all residents.

**A state pool with competing private plans which contract with the state pool.**

→ The pool would be financed by individual premium payments, employer contributions, federal Medicaid funds and state funds. Everyone in the state would be covered under this approach. Health care costs per person would fall but total spending on health care would rise slightly.

**Expanding the health coverage safety net for adults and covering all children.**

→ This approach would expand HUSKY to cover all adults with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level, provide tax credits for uninsured adults between 201% and 300% of the federal poverty level and require all parents to provide health care coverage for dependent children.

According to the study, despite significant differences in impact, each of these approaches would greatly expand health coverage and modestly improve the state's economy. More details about the study's conclusions are available on the Foundation's website: [www.universalhealthct.org](http://www.universalhealthct.org).

## AIDS Walk 2006



AIDS Walk 2006, an annual fundraiser for AIDS Project Hartford will take place on Saturday, October 14, 2006 at the MDC Reservoir on Rte. 4 / Farmington Avenue in West Hartford. Registration begins at 9:30 and the Walk will start at 11:00am. It will follow a scenic 3-mile path through the woods and around the reservoirs. There will be information tables, refreshments and entertainment.

Put together a team! Get co-workers, friends and family together to walk. You can raise money for a good cause and have a lot of fun doing it. All pledge sheets must be turned in before or on the day of the Walk. VISA and MasterCard pledges can be called into AIDS Project Hartford before October 14th, 2006.

For more information, and to get pledge sheets and walk rules please call (860) 951-4833 ext. 302 or [wvap@aidspjrojecthartford.org](mailto:wvap@aidspjrojecthartford.org) e-mail

### Health Care Facts

“Health Care Facts” combines brief descriptions of health care programs and issues with answers to questions about the impact of these programs now and in the future. To view, go to [www.larcc.org](http://www.larcc.org), click on Self-Help Materials and see Health Care Facts.

If you would like a hard copy of this publication, call Maureen at LARCC at 860-278-5688 (ext. 16) or email [mbrown@larcc.org](mailto:mbrown@larcc.org). This publication was produced by LARCC with the generous support of the Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut.

### CABHN Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month

9:30 - 11:30 am

**Upcoming Meeting:  
Friday, September 8**

Community Renewal Team  
(CRT)

555 Windsor St., Hartford

Topic:

*New Jobs First/TFA Rules*

*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.*

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD CT  
PERMIT NO 3377

Legal Assistance Resource Center of CT and  
CABHN (Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs)  
80 Jefferson Street  
Hartford, CT 06106