



WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE  
**Todd County**  
● MINNESOTA ● EST. 1855 ●

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Courthouse Annex  
212 Second Ave South  
Long Prairie, MN 56347  
Phone: 320-732-4500  
Fax: 320-732-4540

Branch Office  
200 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE #1  
Staples, MN 56479  
Phone: 218-894-6300  
Fax: 218-894-2878

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

5/5/2020  
12:00pm

### CONTACT:

Jackie Och  
Todd County Health & Human Services  
320-732-4500

## Financial Resources for Todd County Residents

As of May 5, 2020, Todd County has 15 lab confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19). Local transmission of the virus is occurring. During these difficult times residents may be struggling with their financial security, mental wellbeing and meeting their family's needs. The following resources are available.

### Cash and Economic Assistance

**Unemployment Support:** If you lose your job, had your hours greatly reduced, or are unable to work because of the COVID-19 pandemic, you should apply for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. To get more information about Unemployment Insurance or to apply for benefits, visit [www.uimn.org](http://www.uimn.org)

**Bridge to Benefits:** This web-based screening tool can help you identify if you're eligible for public assistance programs, including SNAP, WIC, School Meal Program, Minnesota Health Care Programs, Energy Assistance, and Child Care Assistance. Website: <http://www.bridgetobenefits.org/>

**ApplyMN:** This web application can connect you with state and county services to help meet you and your family's basic needs. Use it to apply for cash assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, child care assistance, and Emergency Assistance. Call 651-431-4000 for questions, or visit: <https://applymn.dhs.mn.gov/>

**Emergency Assistance:** Your household may be eligible for assistance to cover emergency needs, such as help paying rent or utility bills. Contact Todd County Health & Human Services at 1-320-732-4500 to learn about availability, eligibility, and how to apply.

### Health Care Coverage

Minnesotans looking for health insurance coverage can compare plans and see if they qualify for financial help to cover the cost of insurance premiums or no-cost or low-cost health insurance either through Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare. Also if you have recently lost or will lose health insurance through your employer, you may qualify for a special enrollment period to enroll in a health plan through MNSure. To enroll, you must contact MNSure and pick a plan within 60 days of losing employer coverage. To avoid a gap in coverage, you can contact MNSure up to 60 days in advance of your employer's plan ending to begin the enrollment process. Visit: <https://www.mnsure.org/>

### Mental Health Resources

**Wellness in the Woods Warmline:** A peer to peer telephone support line available 5:00pm-9:00am. It's a safe and supportive place for people to call and speak with peers who are there to listen and support adults experiencing emotional distress. Phone: 1-844-739-6369

**Crisis Line and Referral Service:** A free, confidential, nonjudgmental, 24-hour crisis line.  
Phone: 1-218-828-HELP, 1-800-462-5525 Text: MN to 741741



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**Senior LinkAge Line:** A free service of the state of Minnesota that connects older Minnesotans and their families with the help they need. Phone: 1-800-333-2433, Website: <https://www.seniorlinkageline.com/>

**Disability Hub MN** provides free, statewide, information, referral and assistance service to help people with disabilities and chronic illnesses connect to community services. Phone: 1-866-333-2466, Website: <https://disabilityhubmn.org/>

**Hands of Hope** provides free and confidential services for those affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and other general crimes. Phone: 1-800-682-4547, Email: [advocates.handsofhope@gmail.com](mailto:advocates.handsofhope@gmail.com)

**Housing Resources**

**Suspending evictions during COVID-19:** The Governor signed an order to suspend evictions. However, rent is not reduced or waived during this time. Once the suspension has ended, owners can file for evictions and removals can be enforced. Not paying rent on time can impact credit or cause problems that impact future housing options. For more information visit: <http://www.mnhousing.gov/sites/np/covid-19>

**Food Resources**

**Food Shelves:** All food shelves remain open at this time; please call ahead for hours and any specific instructions.

Bertha-Hewitt Food Shelf- New Life Church of God, 401 Main St W Bertha, (218) 924-2085, (218) 924-2871

Browerville Area Food Shelf- 701 N Main St, (320) 594-2201

Long Prairie Food Pantry- 127 Central Ave, (320) 732-0979, (320) 266-8863

Sauk Centre Community Connection Food Shelf- 523 Sinclair Lewis Ave, (320) 351-2287

Staples Area Food Shelf- Staples City Hall, 402 Wisconsin Ave SE, (218) 894-1935

**Congregate Dining and Home Delivered Meals (for ages 60+):** All congregating dining sites are offering 14 meals available for curbside pick-up or residents can be added to a Meals on Wheels route if they would like to receive meals at home. Call Lutheran Social Services at 1-800-488-4146.

**Hilltop Regional Kitchen** has frozen meals available for purchase for any aged individual. These meals can be shipped directly to your door or are available for pick up at 131 Park Ave NW, Eagle Bend. Call 1-218-738-5563 or visit [www.hilltopregionalkitchen.org](http://www.hilltopregionalkitchen.org)

**Living Bread Pantry – Eagle Bend Food Distribution:** The Assembly of God church in Eagle Bend is providing food distribution events. Visit their Facebook page for specific information:

<https://www.facebook.com/livingbreadeaglebend/> or call Pastor Eric Monson at 218-640-7802

The following COVID-19 hotlines are available to answer questions:

School & Child Care questions	Health questions	Housing questions	Discrimination helpline
651-297-1304	651-201-3920	For single-family residences:	1-833-454-0148
1-800-657-3504	1-800-657-3903	651-296-8215	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Weekdays: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.	For multi-family residences:	Monday-Friday
Weekend: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Seven days a week	651-297-4455	
		8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday	