

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

## Children and youth with special healthcare needs and their families

The Special Kids Network Helpline – 1-800-986-4550

- Advocacy for special healthcare needs
  - [The Arc of Pennsylvania](#) [Website link]  
The largest advocacy organization in the United States for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities containing 34 local chapters serving 56 counties across Pennsylvania.
  - [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Select 'Luzerne' County then 'Advocacy and Legal Services' or 'Disability Rights and Special Needs Resources' for referrals. ]  
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393
- [Advocacy and Legal Services:](#)
  - [Association of Retarded Citizens \(ARC\)](#) Please see website for contact information  
Offers services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as early intervention, supported employment, job training, transition planning, respite care, supported living and transportation
  - [Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service](#) 1-800-932-0311  
Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service matches clients to a Pennsylvania lawyer in a specific area of law.
  - [Office Of Vocational Rehabilitation](#) 1-800-541-0721 or 814-871-4551  
OVR provides assistance with obtaining and maintaining employment to individuals with disabilities.
  - [North Penn Legal Services](#) 570-784-8760  
Provides legal representation to low-income people. Offers assistance with the following civil legal problems: consumer, housing, employment, education, utility, family, public benefits, elderly, and domestic violence.
  - [Special Kids Network](#) 1-800-986-4550  
Statewide referral service designed to serve families of children with chronic health of disabling conditions through information and service coordination
  - [Disability Rights Network Of Pennsylvania](#) Harrisburg: 717-236-8110  
Philadelphia: 215-238-8070; Pittsburgh: 412-391-5225  
Provide legal consultation and representation for individuals with disabilities and their families who are facing discrimination on the basis of disability and access to needed services along with providing information, referral and technical assistance to Pennsylvania residents with disability issues.
  - [Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network](#) 1-800-692-7443  
Providing information on disability programs and services in communities nationwide.
  - [PA Client Assistance Program](#) Philadelphia: 215-557-7112  
Camp Hill: 717-731-1077; Toll-Free: 888-745-2357 or 800-323-6060  
PA's Client Assistance Program is an advocacy program for people with disabilities seeking services in employment and housing
  - [LGBT Youth in Crisis Hotline](#) 800-246-7743  
Youth serving youth through age 25. Peer counseling, information, and local resources.

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

- [Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Helpline](#) 888-843-4564  
The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Hotline provides telephone and email peer counseling, as well as factual information and local resources for cities and towns across the United States.

## Disability Rights and Special Needs Resources

- [Pennsylvania Families Incorporated](#) See website for contact information.  
PFI is a resource database that empowers PA families of children with special needs by linking them to support and information.
- [Social Security Administration](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-826-6372;  
Local office where individuals can apply Hazleton: 570-455-2139  
for Social Security benefits.
- [Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-826-2361  
Provides services to assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired in areas of specialized children services, finding employment, starting a business, gaining independent living skills
- [Bureau of Autism Services](#) Harrisburg: 866-539-7689  
Bureau of Autism Services is a department within the Department of Human Services specifically addressing the needs, issues and concerns of people with Autism Spectrum Disorders in Pennsylvania. BAS provides information on available services and waiver funding.
- [County MH/MR/DS](#)  
The Home and Community Services Information Systems offers a directory of all of PA's county MH/MR/DS. The Office of Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Mental Development administers services and programs for individuals with mental and developmental disabilities
- [St. Joseph's Center](#) Scranton: 570-342-8379; Toll free: 1-800-786-6346  
Services for individuals with mental retardation or developmental delays including residential services, family support services, outpatient therapy, and adult day services.
- [The Advocacy Alliance](#) Refer to website for contact information.  
Community-based supportive services for individuals with intellectual disabilities or mental illness.
- [Northwest Human Services](#) Toll-free: 1-888-647-0020  
NHS provides residential living options, case/care management, and therapeutic services for individuals with disabilities.
- [Anthracite Region Center for Independent Living](#) Hazleton: 570-777-9906;  
Toll-free: 800-777-9906  
ARCIL provides services for individuals with disabilities such as independent living skills training, attendant care services, transportation services, information and referral. The VITAL program (Vocational and Independence Training for Adult Life) helps high school students with disabilities learn skills necessary to make a successful transition from school to adult life.
- [Good Will Industries](#) Refer to website for contact information.  
Good will Industries provides supported employment program for adults with disabilities.
- [Step By Step, Inc.](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-829-3477 or 570-829-3477  
Step by Step, Inc provides intensive case management and supportive living

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

services for mentally ill and developmentally disabled individuals. Residential living options include Lifesharing, Community Homes, Supportive Living and more.

All services and housing are at little to no cost.

- [AHEDD, Inc.](#) Pottsville Office: 570-622-9711  
Customized employment for people with developmental disabilities. Also services for youth in their transition from school to careers & work.
- [United Rehabilitation Services](#) Hazleton: 570-459-9784;  
Tunkhannock: 570-836-3930; Wilkes-Barre: 570-820-8480.  
United Rehabilitation Services offers Vocational services and supports for individuals with disabilities.
- [Garrahan Street Residence](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-825-0542  
Volunteers of America offers the Garrahan Street Residence, 2-bedroom apartments as a permanent housing option for young adults who may be at-risk of homelessness. Call for eligibility requirements.
- [Center for Independent Living of North Central PA](#) Williamsport: 570-327-9070  
CILNCP provides services for individuals with physical disabilities: independent living skills training, service coordination, peer support, attendant care services, advocacy, information and referral
- [Pennsylvania Association For The Blind](#) Refer to website for contact information.  
Providing services to prevent, prepare for, and manage vision loss with programs and services for both children and adults such as vision screenings, residential and vocational rehabilitation, transportation, transitional and Braille instruction, information and referral, support and advocacy.
- National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-786-2929  
Toll-free, nationwide hot-line for runaways and troubled youth. Provides information and referral for shelter, counseling, medical and legal services and transportation back home.
- [Kaleidoscope Family Solutions Inc.](#) Autism, IDD & Behavioral Team 877-384-1729;  
Kaleidoscope Family Services (KFS) is School Division: 800-908-0546  
a specialized provider of clinical and therapeutic services directly to individuals as well as education-system staffing services. Services are delivered through its specialty division outlined below.
  - KFS Behavioral Therapeutic Services
  - KFS Autism Services
  - KFS Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services
  - KFS School Staffing Services
  - KFS Training Services
- [Kids as Self Advocates](#) [Website]  
[Family Voices](#) project funded by the [U.S. Maternal and Child Health Bureau](#)
- [Pennsylvania Elks Home Service Program](#) Luzerne- 570-861-8485  
Providing support and advocacy services to individuals who have a developmental disability.
- Assistive Technology
  - [Caroline's Cart](#) Customer Service: 828-464-7388  
Grocery Cart designed for families with older children or adults with physical

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

special needs. See website for store locations.

- [Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation](#) [Webpage Resource] 888-744-1938  
Foundation's mission is to provide financing opportunities to people with disabilities and older Pennsylvanians helping them to acquire the assistive technology devices and services that improve the quality of their lives.
- Counseling for special healthcare needs
- Day Care
  - Child Care Information Services (CCIS) 570-822-6500  
A referral and information service linking families to childcare. Financial assistance given to income-eligible families to help pay for childcare costs.
  - [Pennsylvania Department of Human Services](#) 1-800-692-7462  
Child Care and Early Learning services.
    - [Child Care Works Subsidized Child Care](#) 570-822-6500  
if your household income is no more than twice of the FPIG and your child is 13 or younger and you are a working parent or you are going to school.
    - [Pre-school Programs](#) 1-866-214-5437  
if your household income is no more than the FPIG and your child is five years old or younger.
    - [Online Child Care Provider Search](#) Website address  
The search will help you locate a child care provider that meets your needs and offer information on Early Learning programs. The Online Child Care Provider Search offers a portion of the wide spectrum of child care services offered by Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agencies. For additional assistance in locating a child care arrangement, [contact your local CCIS](#).
- Early Intervention
  - [Luzerne County Head Start Inc.](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-829-6231  
Head Start helps all children regardless of their circumstances or needs to have the best chance for success in school. Toll Free: 1-800-551-5829
  - [Easter Seals Eastern Pennsylvania](#) 412-281-7244  
Easter Seals Eastern PA is committed to providing exceptional programs and services for children with disabilities or other special needs.
  - [PA Department of Education Early Intervention Program](#) 1-800-692-7288.  
The Pennsylvania Early Intervention program provides support and services to families with children, from birth to age five, with developmental delays and disabilities.
  - [Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Early Intervention Services Website](#)  
While all children grow and develop in unique ways, some children experience delays in their development. Children with developmental delays and disabilities benefit from the Pennsylvania Early Intervention program, a state supported

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

network of parents, service practitioners, and others which builds upon the natural learning opportunities that occur within the daily routines of a child and their family.

- Health Insurance
  - [CHIP](#) [Web Page link] 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)  
Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program.  
Covers all uninsured PA kids under 19.
  - [COMPASS](#) [PA Dept. of Human Services benefits online application Web Page link]  
[Select *Apply for Any Benefits* link to begin.]
  
  - *Help with Medicare*
    - [APPRISE](#) 1-800-783-7067  
a free health insurance counseling service  
for individuals 60 and over.
    - [Luzerne County Area Agency on Aging, APPRISE](#) 1-800-783-7067
    - [Medicare Part D](#) [Website link]  
Information about the Part D prescription drug  
benefit available to individuals enrolled in Medicare.
  - [HealthCare.gov](#) [Federal Health Insurance Enrollment Website] 1-800-318-2596
  - [HealthChoices](#) [Website]  
*HealthChoices* will provide low-income Pennsylvanians with the opportunity to purchase private health insurance at affordable rates through a network of eight insurance private insurers, offering three or more health insurance plan options per region. Coverage will begin Jan. 1, 2015. Apply online at [www.COMPASS.state.pa.us](http://www.COMPASS.state.pa.us) and learn more at [www.healthypa.com](http://www.healthypa.com).
  - [Medical Assistance \(MA\)](#) [PA Department of Human Services Web link.]  
Health care services for eligible individuals.
  - *Pregnancy Insurance*
    - [Presumptive Eligibility](#) [Eligible uninsured pregnant woman should register with Dept. of Human Services, COMPASS and Medical Assistance (MA).]  
Presumptive Eligibility (PE) provides insurance coverage for pregnant woman who have applied for MA but are still under review.
    - [Maternity Insurance.org](#) [Website link]
    - [Pennsylvania-Health-Coverage.com](#) [Website link] 1-866-589-6215  
Compare affordable maternity health insurance options.
  - [Resource Guide to Healthcare Options in Pennsylvania](#)  
For Children, Adults, and Seniors  
The Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health, Pennsylvania State University
  
- Housing
  - [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Luzerne County.]  
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393  
Housing
    - [HUD](#) Philadelphia: 215-656-0500; Pittsburgh: 412-644-6428  
HUD is a federal program that provides housing support for individuals in

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

need such as rental programs (including Section 8) and home ownership assistance programs.

- [Pennsylvania Affordable Apartment Locator](#) Charlotte, NC: 1-877-428-8844  
PAHousingSearch.com is a website in which affordable housing can be searched and located within PA.
- [Northwest Human Services](#) Toll-free: 1-888-647-0020  
NHS provides residential living options, case/care management, and therapeutic services for individuals with disabilities.
- [Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity at HUD](#) 1-800-799-2085  
Hotline service for individuals to report incidences of housing discrimination.
- [Consumer Credit Counseling](#) Luzerne County: 570-602-2227  
Educates and assists the general public on the intelligent use of consumer credit; provides professional budget and housing counseling to families and individuals; arranges debt-management programs for financially distressed consumers to liquidate their debts. Refer to CCC's website for additional information: <http://www.cccsnepa.org>
- [Making Homes Affordable](#) 888-995-4673  
National nonprofit organization aiming to prevent home foreclosure and reduce monthly payments for eligible individuals and families

## Shelters

- [Runaway And Homeless Youth Program](#) Hazleton: 570-822-7118  
Altoona: 814-941-0975, 800-227-8336, or 814-944-3583  
Runaway and Homeless Youth Program offers 24 hour crisis intervention, emergency shelter, transportation, individual, family and group counseling, advocacy and referral for youth.
- [Catholic Social Services Of Scranton](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-822-7118  
Scranton: 570-207-2283; Carbondale: 570-282-0460; Hazleton: 570-455-1521  
The Catholic Social Services of Scranton provides multiple housing programs including shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing
- [Domestic Violence Service Center, Inc.](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-823-5834 & 1-800-424-5600  
DVSC provides services for victims of domestic violence such as emergency shelter and transitional housing, information and referrals, counseling, 24 hour hotline, legal/medical advocacy
- [Ruth's Place](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-822-6817  
Ruth's Place provides emergency shelter for homeless women of Luzerne County along with services of case management, counseling, information and referrals

## Transitional Housing

- [Commission on Economic of Luzerne Co.](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-826-0510  
CEO of Luzerne County promotes projects related to the Weinberg Food Bank, Meeting Basic Needs, Increasing Self-Sufficiency, Energy and Environmental Initiatives, Children and Youth Development, and the Health and Independence of the Elderly and Disabled. The residential services include Homelessness Assistance, Transitional Housing and Housing-related Services along with Homeownership Programs.
- [Association of Retarded Citizens \(ARC\)](#) See website for contact information.

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

Offers services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities such as early intervention, supported employment, job training, transition planning, respite care, supported living and transportation

- [St. Joseph's Center](#) Scranton: 570-342-8379; Phone: 1-800-786-6346  
Services for individuals with mental retardation or developmental delays including residential services, family support services, outpatient therapy, and adult day services.
- [Step By Step, Inc.](#) Wilkes Barre: 570-829-3477; Bethlehem: 610-867-0688  
Step by Step, Inc. provides intensive Upper Darby: 610-352-7837 case management and supportive living services for mentally ill and developmentally disabled individuals. Residential living options include Lifesharing, Community Homes, Supportive Living and more.
- [Garrahan Street Residence](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-825-0542  
Volunteers of America offers the Garrahan Street Residence, 2-bedroom apartments as a permanent housing option for young adults who may be at-risk of homelessness.
- [The Salvation Army Adult Rehab Center](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-822-4191  
The Salvation Army provides the Adult Rehabilitation Center in which offers shelter and rehabilitation services for individuals recovering from drug or alcohol addictions for 6 months.
- [Manna House Apartments](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-825-0542  
Volunteers of America offers Manna House Apartments, transitional housing for homeless young adults, ages 18-25 years old. The program provides housing as well as support services so that residents can build skills, obtain employment and transition to permanent housing within two years.
- [Clem Mar House Inc For Women](#) Dallas, PA: 570-674-1575  
Clem Mar House Inc For Women offers several treatment programs for women suffering with addiction/substance abuse and women with co-occurring mental and substance abuse disorders
- [Clem Mar House Inc For Men](#) Edwardsville: 570-288-0403  
Clem Mar House Inc For Men offers several treatment programs for men suffering with addiction/substance abuse and women with co-occurring mental and substance abuse disorders
- [Gabriel Shelter for Youth](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-824-5766  
Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton offers Gabriel Shelter for Youth which provide a safe and stable living environment along with supportive services which include: individual, group and family counseling, life skills education, recreation, tutoring, advocacy and referral
- [Domestic Violence Service Center, Inc.](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-823-5834 Phone: 1-800-424-5600  
DVSC provides services for victims of domestic violence such as emergency shelter and transitional housing, information and referrals, counseling, 24 hour hotline, legal/medical advocacy
- [Catholic Social Services Of Scranton](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-822-7118  
Scranton: 570-207-2283; Carbondale: 570-282-0460; Hazleton: 570-455-1521  
The Catholic Social Services of Scranton provides multiple housing programs including shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing.

## ○ Housing Authorities

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

- [Luzerne County Housing Authority](#) 570-287-9661  
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
- [Housing Authority of the City of Hazleton](#) 570-455-8553  
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
- [Housing Authority of the City of Nanticoke](#) 570-258-1480  
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
  
- [Housing Authority of the City of Pittston](#) 570-655-3707  
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
- [Scranton Housing Authority](#) 570-348-4400  
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
- [Wilkes-Barre Housing Authority](#) 570-825-6657  
Public housing program that connects income-eligible individuals and families with public housing or section 8 vouchers.
  
- Health Waiver Programs
  - **Medicaid Waivers for Children under 21:**
    - [Attendant Care/Act 150](#) Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827  
Enables individuals with a physical disability, ages 18-59, who are mentally alert to continue to live in their homes with support and services.
    - Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities/[OBRA Waiver](#)  
Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827  
Provides services to people 18 or older with severe developmental and physical disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or similar conditions (onset prior to age 22).
    - [Consolidated Waiver for Individuals with Mental Retardation](#)  
Provides services to eligible people age three or older with mental retardation so that they can remain in the community.
    - [Person/Family Directed Support Waiver](#)  
Provides services to eligible people age three or older with mental retardation so that they can remain in the community.
    - Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities/[Independence Waiver](#)  
Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827  
Provides services to individuals 18 and older with severe physical disabilities to allow them to live in the community and remain as independent as possible.
    - [Infant, Toddlers, and Families Waiver](#) 717-346-1119  
Supports Early Intervention services to children up to age three who would otherwise require the level of care provided in an Intermediate Care Facility for persons with Mental Retardation of Other Related Conditions.
  
- Respite Care

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

- [ARCH National Respite Network](#) [Website]  
for help with the Respite Locator Service please contact Mike Mathers at: [mmathers@chtop.org](mailto:mmathers@chtop.org) or by phone at 1-919-490-5577.  
The mission of the ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center is to assist and promote the development of quality respite and crisis care programs, to help families locate respite and crisis care services in their communities, and to serve as a strong voice for respite in all forums.
  
- Special Education
  - [PA Bureau of Special Education Consult Line](#) 1-800-879-2301  
Help for families and advocates of children with special needs can be obtained by calling the Consult Line or with the on-line request form available at: <http://odr-pa.org/contact-consultline/>
  - [Intermediate Units in PA](#) [Website Link]  
Intermediate Units in Pennsylvania are part of the governance structure of public education and are located in the middle between the state education agency and the local school districts. They provide specialized services to local school districts that can be operated more effectively and efficiently on a regional basis
  
- Support Groups
  - National Multiple Sclerosis Society [Luzerne County Self Help group](#)  
Self-help group for individuals with MS. 570-793-6729
  - [Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania](#) [Select 'P2P Supports Groups' link]  
Linking families of children and adults with disabilities or special needs. 1-888-727-2706
  - [PA Families Incorporated](#) [info@pafamiliesinc.org](mailto:info@pafamiliesinc.org) 1-800-947-4941  
Statewide network providing support to families raising children and youth with emotional, behavioral, and special needs, as well as serving as an advocate in the different child serving systems.  
Updated regularly.  
[Luzerne County](#) [Select 'Resources' link on main page then select desired County.]

## Women who are or who might be pregnant

The Healthy Baby Information Helpline – 1-800-986-2229

- Baby Supplies
  - Birthright of Scranton, PA 570-961-1133  
Pregnancy support services
  - [Volunteers of America, Pennsylvania](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-825-5261  
Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, spiritually based organization

Updated June 2015

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

providing local human service programs and opportunities for individual and community involvement. In Pennsylvania,

- Breastfeeding Guides If you need more information visit [Handouts for Parents](#) or call the Healthy Baby line at 800-986-BABY(2229).
  - [Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Referral Guide](#)  
Arranged by County
  - [Womenshealth.gov Breastfeeding Challenges Guide](#)  
Information regarding common breastfeeding challenges  
Office on Women’s Health, US Department of Health and Human Services  
800-994-9662
  
- Car Seats
  - [Car Seat Safety](#)  
The PA Child Passenger Protection Act requires that all drivers transporting children ages birth – four years use an approved child safety seat. Children ages four to eight must wear a seat belt and be in a booster seat. Children with medical conditions or disabilities may require special considerations or adaptations for transportation safety.
    - [The PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project](#)  
Car Seat Loan Program by County - Information Hotline – 800-CAR-BELT  
Training for school districts and companies 412-885-0266  
on transporting children with special needs.
    - [National Highway Safety Transportation Administration](#) – 888-327-4236  
Information on car seat safety and installation inspection.
    - National Easter Seal Society [phone listing] 800-221-6827  
Referrals and information about car seats.
    - [The American Academy of Pediatrics](#) 847-228-5005  
Referrals and information about car seats.
  
- Counseling
  - [Catholic Social Services, Scranton Diocese](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-822-7118;  
Hazleton: 570-455-1521; Scranton: 570-207-2283  
Through funding sources such as State Shelter, FEMA, United Way, State Food, Diocese of Scranton and donations, our Agency is able to provide relief services to alleviate the financial burden of the needy of our community. Financial and non-financial assistance, budget counseling and referral to other appropriate services are provided. Our goal in offering financial assistance is to meet emergency needs and guide clients toward self-sufficiency; it is not intended to supplement their income continuously.
  - [Nurse-Family Partnership](#) [select ‘Find a Local Agency’ for access to County list]  
Luzerne County – 570-826-1777  
A free, voluntary program that partners first-time moms with nurse home visitors. When you enroll in the program, a special trained nurse will visit you throughout your pregnancy and until your baby turns two years old. During these visits, your caring nurse will offer the knowledge and support you need to confidently create a better life for your baby and yourself.

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

- CHIP
  - [PA Children's Health Insurance Program](#) Call automated phone line at 800-986-KIDS (5437) and a CHIP representative will return your call within two business days.  
Pennsylvania's CHIP program puts health coverage within reach for all uninsured kids and teens who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance.
- Pregnancy Insurance
  - Presumptive Eligibility (PE), Medical Assistance (MA)  
Presumptive Eligibility is a temporary program of health insurance coverage for pregnant women who are applying for Medical Assistance.
    - PA Dep of Human Services Benefits Helpline [phone] 1-800-692-7462
    - [PA Dep of Human Services County Assistance Office Contact Information](#)
  - [COMPASS](#) (PA Dep of Human Services) [Website]  
*Online application for Pennsylvanians to apply for many health and human service programs. Click on the 'Apply Now' button to begin or use links on right side for further assistance.*
  - [PAHealthOptions.com \(PA Dep of Insurance\)](#) 1-877-881-6388  
The Pennsylvania Insurance Department's Unbiased Guide to Understanding Health Insurance.
- [text4baby](#) Registration is free on the text4baby.org website.  
Free text messages to keep you and your baby healthy throughout your pregnancy and the baby's first year.
- [WIC](#) 800-942-9467  
Through WIC, pregnant women, mothers, and caregivers of infants and young children learn about good nutrition to keep themselves and their families healthy. WIC provides nutrition service, breastfeeding support, health care and social service referrals, and healthy foods to over 250,000 participants every month in PA.

## Lead health information for parents, homeowners, contractors, and healthcare professionals

The Lead Information Helpline - 1-800-440-5323

- [Elevated Lead Blood Level Case Management Guidelines](#) [CDC Web Page]  
Recommendations from the CDC Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- [Environmental Protection Agency, Lead](#) [EPA Web Page]  
Provides many useful links for families including: (800) 424-5323.  
[Lead Hotline – National Lead Information Center](#) link
- [PA Lead and Healthy Homes Program](#) [Website link] (717) 772-2762  
The Pennsylvania Lead and Healthy Homes Program (LHHP) seeks to

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

create safe and healthy housing by addressing environmental health and safety issues in homes.

- Certified Contractors
  - Locating EPA Certified Lead Contractors and technicians
    - [EPA.gov - Lead](#)
    - [PA Labor and Industry](#)  
Link to list of accredited trainers and certified contracting firms.
  - Information for Contractors
    - [EPA - Lead](#)     Renovate Right for Contractors and Trainers
    - [PA Labor and Industry](#)  
Certification and Other Requirements for Lead Occupations
    - [OSHA](#)  
For information about regulations regarding work on facilities which are non-residential, contractors should contact the appropriate Occupational Safety & Health Administration Pennsylvania area office.
- Property Managers
  - [HUD – Lead Disclosure Rule](#)

Congress passed the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, also known as Title X, to protect families from exposure to lead from paint, dust, and soil. Section 1018 of this law directed HUD and EPA to require the disclosure of known information on lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards before the sale or lease of most housing built before 1978.

If you did not receive the Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards form when you bought or leased pre-1978 housing, contact 1-800-424-LEAD (5323).

## Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury and their families

The Head Injury Information Helpline – 866-412-4755

- [Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania](#) 1-800-444-6443

Our mission: to prevent brain injury and improve the quality of life for people who have experienced brain injury and their family members through support, education, advocacy, and research.
- PA Department of Health Head Injury Program
  - [Head Injury Program](#) 866-412-4755

The goal of the program is to help individuals with a traumatic brain injury live independently in their homes and communities.
- Waiver Programs
  - [Independent Enrollment Broker](#) 788-550-4227

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

Office of Long-Term Living launched the PA Independent Enrollment Broker, a contracted statewide entity, to facilitate and streamline the eligibility/enrollment process for applicants seeking services for several PA waivers/programs.

- [COMMCARE Waiver](#) 1-800-753-8827  
A Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
- [OBRA Waiver](#) 1-800-753-8827  
Home and Community based Waiver program that may help if you have a developmental physical disability to allow you to live in the community and remain as independent as possible.
- Other Information
  - [Acquired Brain Injury Network of Pennsylvania](#) [info@abin-pa.org](mailto:info@abin-pa.org), 1-800-516-8052  
Nonprofit organization of brain injury survivors, family members, and friends dedicated to increasing public awareness about acquired brain injury, and to providing support, education, information, advocacy, and other services for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families.
  - [Brainline.org](#) 703-998-2020  
Preventing, treating, and living with traumatic brain injury (TBI).

## Immunizations/Vaccinations

- [City of Wilkes-Barre Public Health Department](#) , Kirby Health Center: 570-208-4268  
[Bureau of Personal Health](#)  
Focusing on General Communicable Disease Control, Community Immunization, Sexually Transmitted Disease Control, HIV/AIDS, and Tuberculosis. Kirby Health Center: 570-208-4272
- PA Department of Health Division of Immunizations
  - [Division of Immunizations](#) 717-787-5681
  - [Pennsylvania Vaccines for Children Program](#) 888-646-6864  
Free vaccines for uninsured children 877-724-3258
- [PA Department of Health, Health Services Locator](#) [Website]  
To find a local health center close to you select your county.
- [Rural Health Corporation of Northeastern Pennsylvania,](#) [Edwardsville:](#) 570-288-1188  
[Valley Pediatrics](#)  
Federally Qualified Health Care Center. Comprehensive center for well and sick child care, immunizations, consultations and allergy shots.

# Luzerne County Resource Guide

## Legal advocacy for the disabled in Pennsylvania

### [Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania](#)

Harrisburg 1-800-692-7443  
717-236-8110  
717-346-0239 [TDD]  
Philadelphia 215-238-8070  
Pittsburgh 412-391-5225

The mission of the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania is to advance, protect, and advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

### [PA Health Law Project](#)

1-800-274-3258

Helping People in Need get the Health Care they deserve.

Advocacy on access to health care for low-income consumers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

## Transportation Assistance for the Disabled

- [Pennsylvania Care Planning Council](#) Website address  
[Community Disability, Assistive Technology & Transportation Service](#)
- [PA Dept of Human Services Medical Assistance Transportation Program](#) 570-288-8420  
Toll Free: 800-679-4135
- [Volunteers of America, Pennsylvania](#) Wilkes-Barre: 570-825-5261  
[Dial-A-Driver](#)  
Medical transportation service for the disabled in Wilkes-Barre area. \$9 round trip fee. Appointment required. Call for details.