

Further to our fundraising efforts to directly support musicians in need during this difficult time, SMC is working to amplify pre-existing resources to support our New York City community. Below you can find a summary of NYC government resources available to all New Yorkers in need:



Unemployment Benefits

New Yorkers who are out of work should ensure that they have received the maximum number of eligible benefits from the State of New York, which may include up to 59 weeks of benefits. Consult the NY State Department of Labor for more information and detailed FAQs.

NY State Department of Labor: www.dol.ny.gov

Food Security Resources and other Public Benefits

NYC Human Resources Administration/Department of Social Services (HRA/DSS)

HRA/DSS is dedicated to fighting poverty and income inequality by providing New Yorkers in need with a variety of essential benefits designed to meet their social service and economic needs, including:

Cash Assistance Benefits and Emergency Assistance

New Yorkers in need may qualify for temporary Cash Assistance on an ongoing basis or for one-time assistance to meet an emergency need, generally when an unforeseen circumstance prevents them from meeting an expense.

Food Stamps / Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Helps low- and moderate-income New Yorkers, including working families, the elderly, and the disabled buy healthy and nutritious food. SNAP recipients use an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card to buy food.

ACCESS HRA: nyc.gov/accesshra or call 718-557-1399 for assistance

Learn more about what is available and how to interact with ACCESS HRA via this detailed guide:

www1.nyc.gov/assets/hra/ACCESSHRA/pdf/announcements/welcome_english.pdf

GetFoodNYC

During the [COVID-19 public health crisis](#), New York City is taking steps to make sure every New Yorker has access to the food they need. Below you can find a map of free food resources and find help accessing longer term benefits.

GetFoodNYC: <http://nyc.gov/getfood>

Free/Affordable Healthcare Resources

NYC Care

NYC Care is a health care access program that guarantees low-cost and no-cost services to New Yorkers regardless of immigration, income, or insurance status. NYC Care can also assist you in getting insurance through the health insurance market, like for Medicaid or others, if you are eligible.

With NYC Care, you can get a unique membership card to access health services, choose your own doctor, and get affordable medications.

NYC Care: www.nyccare.nyc or 646-NYC-CARE (646-692-2273)

Thrive NYC

Thrive NYC promotes mental health for all New Yorkers by trying to fill critical gaps in our mental healthcare system.

Thrive NYC: thrivenyc.cityofnewyork.us

Financial Management Resources

NYC Financial Empowerment Center

NYC Financial Empowerment Centers provide free one-on-one professional, financial counseling and coaching that help you to:

- Manage your money and set up a spending plan
- Contact creditors about existing loans, including student loans. [Get student loan debt tips during COVID-19](#).
- Develop a strategy to minimize debt
- Access local, state, and federal emergency resources

NYC Financial Empowerment Center: www.nyc.gov/talkmoney

Tenant Protection Resources

This eviction prevention tool was designed to help renters navigate public and private resources that can stabilize their housing situation. A tenant seeking help will be taken through a series of questions and directed to the most useful resources based on their responses.

Tenant Resource Portal: www.nyc.gov/tenantresourceportal

Job Search and Training Opportunities

NYC's Workforce1 system helps New Yorkers prepare for and connect to job opportunities across New York City in every sector of the economy. Via the Virtual Workforce1 Career Center you can connect to one-on-one help from professionals who can help you:

- Identify jobs that are a fit for your experience and skills
- Compile resumes and prepare for interviews
- Access free training for growing job sectors

Virtual Workforce1 Career Center System: www1.nyc.gov/site/sbs/careers/virtual-wf1cc.page