

Resources During the COVID-19 Pandemic



United Way’s COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund – Emergency Assistance

United Way of the Coastal Empire has created a fund to support local residents financially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. This fund will be used to help families retain stable housing by assisting with rent, mortgage, and utility payments when grace periods are not offered and to provide financial assistance for additional critical needs such as medical expenses and child care. Assistance is provided for residents of Bryan, Chatham, Effingham, and Liberty Counties. Some documentation is required, and residents must meet eligibility guidelines. Apply by calling the United Way of the Coastal Empire office in Rincon at **(912)826-5300** or United Way 2-1-1.

Housing

Please make sure to contact your landlord or mortgage company directly if you will struggle with paying your rent or mortgage due to COVID-19. Many companies and landlords are working with individuals to help get through this financially unstable time.

Food

Name/Location	Number	Schedule
Manna House Food Pantry 1210 Patriot Drive Rincon, GA 31326	(912) 826-2037	Currently closed. Drive through only services. Follow Facebook or call ahead for updates
St. Boniface Catholic Church 1952 Hwy 21 S. Springfield, GA 31329	(912) 754-7473	Drive thru food bank on Wednesdays 11am – 1:30pm
God’s Mission House – Food Pantry 1435 Hwy 119 N. Springfield, GA 31329	(912) 754-0840	OPEN Mon, Tues, Wed 9am - 11:45am
Compassion Christian Church 810 Fort Howard Rd. Rincon, GA 31326	(912) 629-3186	Can only attend one pantry a month. 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month; 10am - 12pm. Please call ahead to confirm that pantry is open.
Fillin’ Station Food Pantry 1290 Hwy 119 S. Springfield, GA 31329	(912)772-3478	Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am – 1pm Drive Thru Services ONLY
Glow Ministries Food Pantry 367 Fifth Street Meldrim, GA	(912) 663-5806	Tuesday & Thursday 9am-12pm
Effingham County Schools- Lunch Pick-up	(912) 851-4000	Check Effingham County Schools website - https://www.effinghamschools.com/ for location of 10 pick-up sites. Thru May 22nd
America’s Second Harvest – Summer Lunch Program at Effingham YMCA	(912) 826-2199	Grab-N-Go meals for children 18 and under Monday-Friday 11am-1pm

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Utilities

Most utility companies are doing something to help customers due to COVID-19 closures. See below what is known at this time regarding arrangements for each local company. We suggest that you watch their Facebook pages or call them directly to ensure you have the most updated information. Please note:

- This is NOT a waiver and does not eliminate your bill. Your bill will still be due, just delayed.
- We recommend that you try to stay current with your payments, continue to pay what you can and work directly with your utility company to develop a workable payment plan.

Name/Location	Number	Response to Pandemic
Georgia Power	(888) 660-5890	Suspend residential disconnections until further notice.
Planters Electric	(478) 982-4722	Disconnections currently suspended. Can pay online at plantersemc.com or by phone
Effingham County Utilities	(912) 754-8012	Postponing cutoffs
City of Guyton	(912) 772-3353	No Disconnections until July at the earliest All interest and/or late fees waived on bills that were due
City of Rincon	(912) 826-5745	Postponing cutoff, waiving late fees and waiving fee to pay online
City of Springfield	(912) 754-7617	Postponing disconnects and waiving late fees for May
Project Share Utility Assistance – DFCS	(912) 754-6471	Department of Family & Children Services offers utility assistance to qualifying clients. Certain criteria must be met, limitations/restrictions apply.

Unemployment / Reemployment Services

Name/Location	Response to Pandemic
Georgia Department of Labor www.dol.ga.gov Career Center 5520 White Bluff Road Savannah, GA 31405 Phone: (912) 356-2773 TTY/TTD: (912) 303-1634	Keep checking the website www.dol.ga.gov for updates on filing for unemployment, mandatory filing by employers for partial claims, and reemployment services. https://dol.georgia.gov/blog/new-information-filing-unemployment-partial-claims-and-reemployment-services Also visit https://dol.georgia.gov/file-unemployment-insurance-claim
Small Business Resources	
Georgia Chamber/US Chamber	Check websites for updated information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.gachamber.com/covid19/ • https://www.uschamber.com/coronavirus-response-toolkit
Effingham County Chamber of Commerce	(912) 754-3301 https://www.effinghamcounty.com/coronavirus-resources
Small Business Association	Check website for resources and loans for small businesses: https://www.sba.gov/page/guidance-businesses-employers-plan-respond-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19

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Wi-Fi Access

Name	Information
Comcast	Offering free access to Xfinity WiFi hot spots for everyone, including non-subscribers and providing unlimited data to its customers for no extra charge. No Disconnect or late fees. Internet Essentials available to low income families, free for 60 days & \$9.95 afterwards For a map of Xfinity WiFi Hotspots, visit www.xfinity.com/wifi
Windstream	Contact Windstream at (844) 942-1517
Verizon	Until May 13, we will waive late fees our residential or small business customers may incur because of the economic circumstances related to the coronavirus. And we will not terminate service to any of our residential or small business customers because of their inability to pay their bills due to hardships caused by the coronavirus.
Effingham Board of Education	Free Wifi available at the following locations: (CLOSED during Spring Break) Network: GUEST INET Password: connectme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rincon Learning Center (old RES, along 4th Street and Richland Avenue) Available at all times • ECSD Auxiliary Services (old ECMS, in the bus circle and gymnasium areas) Available Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm • SEHS/SEMS (along the bus ramp and in teacher parking lots) Available Monday - Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
AT&T	Households with at least 1 resident participating in SNAP qualifies for affordable internet. No annual commitment, No deposit, No installation fee & No charge for in-home wifi. att.com/access

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Public Benefits & Resources

Name	Phone	Information
DFCS	(912) 754-6471	Office is closed to in person operations
Food Stamps (SNAP)	(912) 754-6471 (877) 423-4746	Provides monthly benefits to low-income households to help pay for the cost of food. To apply or learn more, visit https://dfcs.georgia.gov/food-stamps
Medicare/Medicaid	(912) 754-6471 (877) 423-4746	Medicaid provides health coverage to millions of Americans, including children, pregnant women, parents, seniors and individuals with disabilities. For more information, visit: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/how-apply/basic-eligibility To apply go to: https://gateway.ga.gov/access/
WIC The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program	(912) 754-6471	Health and nutrition program for Infants and Children age 1 to 5 years (including foster children), Pregnant Women, Breastfeeding Mothers (up to 1 year), and Postpartum Women (up to 6 months). To take a prescreen assessment to determine if you are eligible, visit https://wic.fns.usda.gov/wps/pages/preScreenTool.xhtml . Contact County Public Health Department to apply – https://dfcs.georgia.gov/locations/effingham-county
Georgia Coastal Health District		Updates regarding COVID-19 https://www.gachd.org/
Effingham County Health Department	(912) 754-6484	Updates and Events specific to Effingham County https://www.gachd.org/counties/effingham_county_health_depart_1/
Effingham Victim Witness Assistance Program	(912) 754-7460	Our mission is to assist victims of violent crimes and to empower them to live healthy and functional lifestyles. https://effinghamvwap.org/