First Time Homebuyers

South Shore Habitat for Humanity

(781) 337-7744 ext. 18

Information about entering a lottery for one of their affordable homes.

Attleboro-Taunton HOME Consortium

Offers financial assistance with first-time home purchases. The program is operated through the City of Taunton. For guidelines and to apply, Contact Jim Howland at (508) 821-1030.

South Shore Housing

(781) 422-4200; 1-800-242-0957 Housing case management and education

Pro-Home, Inc.

(508) 821-2514

For first-time home buyers, offers grants up to \$10,000 in down-payment and closing cost assistance, counseling and seminars on the home buying process.

MassHousing

(617) 854-1185

Loans available for moderate income buyers. Call for list of affordable units.

Neighborhood Housing Services of the South Shore

(508) 895-1782

First-time homebuyer counseling/classes

Veterans Affairs

1-800-827-6311

Home loan programs for veterans

Affordable Rental Housing

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

(202) 708-1112; TTY (202) 708-1455 Maintains listings of affordable homes

South Shore Housing

(781) 422-4200; 1-800-242-0957 Maintains listings of affordable homes

Massachusetts DHCD (Dept. of Housing & Community Development)

(617) 573-1150

Affordable rental housing programs.

Easton Housing Authority

(508) 238-4747

Operates Easton Section 8 & public housing programs.

Taunton Housing Authority

(508) 823-6308

Oversees Section 8 list for entire region.

Help with Utility Bills

Low-income utility rates:

Bay State Gas: 1-800-882-5454 **National Grid:** 1-800-322-3223

Help with utility bills:

Good Neighbor Energy Fund

1-800-334-3047

Masschusetts Cold Relief Hotline

1-800-632-8175

Citizens Energy Heat Assistance

Gas: 1-866-427-9918; Oil: 1-877-563-4645

Self-Help Inc.: (508) 588-5440

Massachusetts Utility Shutoff Protection

1-877-886-5066 or (617) 727-8400

For Individuals with Disabilities

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

(202) 708-1112; TTY (202) 708-1455 Maintains listings of affordable housing (including accessible housing)

Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST

1-888-341-7781 (V/TTY)

FIRST is an initiative designed to promote compliance with the Fair Housing Act design and construction requirements. The program offers comprehensive and detailed instruction programs, useful online web resources, and a toll-free information line.

Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD)

(617) 727-7440; V/TTY 1-800-322-2020 Provides technical assistance, trouble-shooting and advice on disability related issues. Mental disorders: Mass Dept. of Mental Health (617) 626-8000; Mass Dept. of Mental Retardation (617) 727-5608.

Easton Housing Authority

(508) 238-4747

Oversees accessible public housing in Easton.

Disability Law Center of Massachusetts

Boston: (617) 723-8455/1-800-872-9992; TYY (617) 227-9464/1-800-381-0577

New England INDEX

1-800-642-0249; TTY 1-800-764-0200 Information and assistance for people with disabilities.

For Those Behind on Bills or Facing Foreclosure

Massachusetts Division of Banks

1-800-495-BANK (2265)

Help those facing foreclosure in the next 7 days by working to delay the process until a housing counselor is reached.

Making Home Affordable

1-888-995-HOPE (4673) 1-877-304-9709 TTY

National foreclosure prevention hotline. Assistance with mortgage refinances, modifications, reducing monthly payments.

Neighborhood Housing Services of the South Shore

(508) 895-1782 Foreclosure prevention classes & counseling

Mortgage Relief Fund

(Does not need to be your current bank) Citizen's Bank 1-888-411-1145 Sovereign Bank 1-800-288-6225 Assistance for homeowners having difficulty making their mortgage payments.

Domestic & Sexual Violence

Hotlines with referrals to safe housing:

A New Day - (508) 588-8255

H.U.G.S. II - (508) 230-3309

SafeLink - 1-877-785-2020

Massachusetts DTA - (508) 895-7163

Family and Community Resources, Inc. (508) 583-6498; TTY (508) 583-6498

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project

1-800-832-1901

Housing & Financial Assistance

The Town of Easton, along with state and other agencies, offers a variety of programs to help income-qualified families and others seeking help in renting, buying and affording a home. We encourage you to make use of these programs and to refer family, friends and neighbors who may be eligible.

For further information:

- Stop by Easton Town Offices at 136
 Elm Street
- Call Easton's Community Housing Planner at (508) 230-0630
- Call Easton's Citizen Advocate at (508) 230-0512
- Visit the Town website

Legal Disclaimer

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Emergency Housing Help

BAMSI

(508) 584-4357; 1-866-621-4747 Housing assistance program for families in danger of becoming homeless.

Mass Coalition for the Homeless

(781) 595-7570

Emergency homelessness resources for families, individuals and people who have experienced domestic violence.

Community Care Services

(508) 821-7777

Offers housing placement services to help families transition from homelessness.

Massachusetts DTA

(508) 895-7000 Brockton office; 1-800-445-660 Statewide hotline Assistance including emergency shelter.

For Seniors

Easton Housing Authority

(508) 238-4747

Oversees senior public housing in Easton.

Massachusetts State Government

1-800-882-2003

Elder Hotline (info. on rental assistance)

Massachusetts Dept. of Elder Affairs

(617) 727-7750

Maintains list of facilities and resources for senior housing

HUD

(202) 708-1112; TTY (202) 708-1455 Maintains listings of affordable housing (including senior housing)

Home Maintenance & Repair

Boston Building Material Co-op

(617) 422-2262

BBMC provides high quality materials at a reasonable cost and instruction on home maintenance and improvement.

Attleboro-Taunton HOME Consortium

Assistance for home rehabilitation projects. Contact Jim Howland at (508) 821-1030.

Neighborhood Housing Services of the South Shore

508-895-1782

Home improvement grants/loans for income-eligible households

Mass Lead Paint Removal Program

1-800-532-9571; TTY (617) 624-5286

General/Legal Resources

Money Management International (formerly Consumer Credit Counseling)

1-886-889-9347

Help with emergency financial situations

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination: (617) 727-3990

Massachusetts Attorney General's Office (617) 727-2200; TTY: (617) 727-4765

HUD (617) 994-8200; TTY (617) 565-5453 Enforces federal fair housing laws.

HUD 1-800-569-4287

Information on housing counseling agencies, buying a home, renting, default, foreclosure avoidance, credit issues and reverse mortgages.

Town of Easton



Housing Assistance



Town of Easton
Planning & Community Development
136 Elm Street
Easton, MA 02356