
Resources for Caregivers in Tompkins County



TOMPKINS COUNTY
OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Aging Better, Together

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, New York 14850
(607) 274-5482
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Resources for Caregivers in Tompkins County

Titles in this booklet series*:

- Housing Options for Older Adults in Tompkins County
- Long Term Support Services in Tompkins County
- Resources for Caregivers in Tompkins County
- Tompkins County Fall Prevention Resource Guide

*This entire set of resource guides and other publications of the Tompkins County Office for the Aging are available online at:

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Unless otherwise stated, services and price levels described in this booklet are those scheduled to be in effect March 2024 and are subject to change.

This booklet has been prepared by the Tompkins County Office for the Aging.

Printed: March 2024

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, New York 14850
(607) 274-5482
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

CONTENTS

7 INFORMATION, REFERRAL & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS

7 Tompkins County Office for the Aging:
Caregivers Resource Center

8 Alzheimer's Support Unit

9 Alzheimer's Association

10 Tompkins County Long Term Care Services

10 Supports Specific to Other Diseases/Conditions

10 Supports for Caregivers of Veterans

11 GERIATRIC CARE MANAGEMENT

12 COUNSELING OPPORTUNITIES

13 Crisis Counseling/ 24-hour Hotline

14 Family and Children's Services Caregiver Counseling

- Caregiver Counseling
 - Counseling for Older Adults
 - Kinship Resources for Caregivers
-

14 Mediation Service (Wise Talk)

15 Mental Health Association in Tompkins County

15 CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

15 Caregiver Support Group

15 Alzheimer's (Dementia) Caregivers' Groups

- Lifelong
-

16 Cancer Caregivers Support Group

16 Parkinson's Disease Caregivers Support Group

16 LEGAL & FINANCIAL RESOURCES

17 NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

17 Legal Assistance Program

18 Directory of Financial Resources for Older Adults

22 HOUSING FOR OLDER ADULTS

22 Housing Options Consultation

23 Home Repair and Weatherization Assistance

23 Home Safety Assessment

24 Directory of Housing Facilities

25 Subsidized Apartments

26 55 and Older Senior Apartments (market rate)

27 Housing with Long Term Care Services

27 Apartments with Meals/Housekeeping Included

27 Lifecare Community

27 Licensed Adult Care Residences

28 Nursing Homes

29 LONG DISTANCE CAREGIVING

29 Eldercare Locator

29 NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

30 LONG TERM CARE COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

30 Meals and Shopping Services

30 Congregate Meals Program

31 Home Delivered Meals

32 Options for Grocery Delivery

33 Transportation

33 Gadabout

33 FISH Transportation Service

33 ADA Paratransit Service

34 Other Long Term Care Supportive Services

34 Project CARE Friendly Visiting

35 Hospicare and Palliative Care Services

35 Visiting Nurse Service - AIM

-
- 36 Love Living at Home
- 36 Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)
- 37 Protective Services for Adults
- 37 Project Lifesaver

38 IN-HOME CARE

- 39 Public Programs Providing In-Home Care
- 39 NY Connects (Long Term Care Services)
- 39 Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP)
- 39 Medicaid
- 40 Veterans' Long Term Care Services/Benefits
- 41 Directory of Home Care Agencies
- 42 Private Hire Employment Registry

43 RESPITE AND ADULT DAY PROGRAMS

- 43 Longview's Social Adult Day Community

43 Volunteer Respite Service

44 Private Hire Short-Term Respite

44 Overnight Respite:

- Assisted Living Level of Care
- Higher Level of Care
- Veteran's Residential Care Respite

45 SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

45 Finger Lakes Independence Center

45 Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

46 Equipment and Assistive Devices

46 Equipment Loan Fund for the Disabled

46 Loan Closets:

- Dryden Veterans' Memorial Home
- Finger Lakes Independence Center
- Groton American Legion
- Trumansburg American Legion

47 Wonderful Wheelchairs

47 Parking Permits

47 Ithaca City Clerk

47 Dept. of Motor Vehicles

48 SERVICES FOR EMPLOYED CAREGIVERS

48 Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993

48 New York State: Paid Family Leave

49 Employee Assistance Program

49 SUPPORT GROUPS

50 SAFE DRIVING RESOURCES

50 Defensive Driving Courses

50 Assessing a Driver

51 Other Resources

52 INTERNET RESOURCES FOR CAREGIVERS

52 Family Caregiver Alliance

53 Medicare

53 Trualta

53 ARCHANGELS

INFORMATION, REFERRAL & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS

The responsibilities involved in caring for a person with long-term care needs can be tremendous. Caregivers need to develop skills in a variety of areas in order to provide quality care. In addition, from time to time important decisions need to be made which effect the life of the person receiving care as well as the lives of caregivers and their family members.

Several organizations are available to provide caregivers with the information and support they need to provide quality care to an older or disabled person and make informed decisions that benefit everyone. The agencies listed below can also help with planning for caregiving, which can prevent or reduce some aspects of caregiver stress.

Tompkins County Office for the Aging

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5486

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa/care

Staff at the Office for the Aging provide unbiased information, referral, and counseling on a wide range of benefits and services for older adults. Services provided by COFA staff are free. Voluntary contributions are always welcome and are used to expand services. Home visits can be arranged.

Caregivers' Resource Center (CRC)

Located at the Tompkins County Office for the Aging, CRC provides information and support to individuals concerned about or caring for an aging or disabled relative or friend, near or far. The goal is to help caregivers provide quality care to older persons while also maintaining the quality of their own lives and the lives of their family members. The CRC offers information on caregiving in a variety of ways, including individual counseling, information and referral, caregiver training, a caregivers newsletter and other publications, and a caregivers support group.

TCARE-Tailored Caregiver Assessment and Referral

TCARE is an evidence-based program designed to serve caregivers more effectively. TCARE provides screening, assessment, intervention, and support for caregivers. It begins with a dynamic screening tool and a personalized evaluation conducted by our Caregiver Coordinator. This assessment covers critical areas such as identity, stress, depression, and the delicate balance between caregiving and life objectives.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

A six-week series of classes for family caregivers, offered at various times and locations during the year. This class teaches caregivers the tools necessary to "thrive, not just survive" while caring for a loved one.

Project CARE

Volunteers provide friendly visiting respite to caregivers who are caring for someone so that the caregiver may get away to run an errand or just take some much needed time for themselves. These volunteers provide friendly visits each week for a few hours.

Alzheimer's Support Unit: Support for Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers

The **Alzheimer's Support Unit** at the Office for the Aging offers information and counseling to persons concerned about the diagnosis or care of someone with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, including information and referral about counseling services, support groups, respite care, medical information, long-term care services, education programs, and tracking programs (*Project Lifesaver and Medic Alert+Safe Return program*). Articles and brochures are available on a variety of issues for caregivers, as well as a lending library of Alzheimer's books and videos.

Alzheimer's Association Central New York Chapter

5015 Campuswood Rd., Suite 102
East Syracuse, NY 13057
1-800-272-3900
www.alz.org/cny

Family caregivers or persons with dementia can consult with Alzheimer's Association staff using any of the following services:

Free 24/7 Helpline

Confidential care consultation provided by master's level clinicians who can help with decision-making support, crisis assistance and education on issues families face every day.

Contact: 1-800-272-3900

Care Consultation

Care Consultation can be provided in-person or via telephone to persons with dementia and their families to help with assessment of needs and assistance with planning and immediate problem solving.

Contact: (315) 472-4210 Ext. 227

Social Engagement Activities

These are scheduled periodically at cultural and recreational locations throughout the region covered by the Alzheimer's Association of Central New York.

Contact: (315) 472-4210 Ext. 227

The Alzheimer's Association offers caregiver **trainings, support groups** (see *page 15*), and **safety resources** (including the *Medic Alert/ Safe Return program*). Online education materials and the ALZConnected social community (online support groups and chat groups) can be accessed through the National Alzheimer's Association website: www.alz.org

Tompkins County Long Term Care Services

Human Services Building
320 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5278

Long Term Care Services provides phone consultation and can help people and their families determine what long-term care services may be needed. Case Management is provided to those eligible for services through the **NY State EISEP Program**, Alzheimer's Respite Scholarships, and caregiver respite programs as well as those receiving Medicaid home care service directly from the local Department of Social Services. Long Term Care Services conducts the **Patient Review Instrument (PRI)** assessment required before nursing home admission.

Supports Specific to Other Diseases and Conditions

Other local and national organizations offer support services to family caregivers of persons with specific illnesses/conditions. These include local organizations like the Cancer Resource Center in Ithaca, the American Cancer Society, and the National Parkinson's Foundation. Groups for persons with particular conditions (e.g. stroke, Parkinson's) are often open to family caregivers as well. See page 15 for a list of local groups.

Caregivers of Veterans

The Veteran's Administration offers information and support to family caregivers.

Call the Caregiver Support Line at 1-855-260-3274

Local:

For help in applying for "Aid and Assistance" benefits or other veteran's benefits, call the area NYS Veterans' Counselor, **John Canestaro** at:

(607) 733-2178

9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

www.caregiver.va.gov

County Department of Veteran Services

Tompkins County Department of Veterans Services

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

J.R. Clairborne

(607) 274-5920

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/veterans

The Tompkins County Department of Veterans' Services can connect local Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families with federal, state, and local resources.

GERIATRIC CARE MANAGEMENT

Geriatric Care Management offers a variety of personalized and customized services to assist older adults and their families in meeting long-term care needs. All service delivery options are designed by the geriatric care manager, a professional dedicated to helping individuals and families access various resources and services. Geriatric care management options vary depending on individual needs and are available on a short-term, on-going, or long-term basis. Geriatric care management services are provided for a fee.

Local Geriatric Care Management Services

Robert Levine, LMSW

(607) 229-8404

<http://mindfuleldercare.wix.com/levine>

mindfuleldercare@gmail.com



COUNSELING OPPORTUNITIES

If you are a family caregiver, you may find the experience rewarding, but also you may at times feel stressed, overwhelmed, angry, or guilty. No one has said that it is easy to sort out our relationships with family members. It is, of course, a lifetime activity. But mental health professionals tell us that longstanding problems often crop up again in caregiving situations. Understanding that this is not unusual, and understanding the changes that caregiving and infirmity bring to family relationships, can make life more positive and acceptable. Much more difficult to face is seeing a loved one we once knew as strong become debilitated. Not all of us are prepared to face this without help.

Many caregivers also need support to value and care for themselves. Caregivers are often pulled between the needs of the care receiver, the needs of other family members, or responsibilities of a job, and are unable to find the time or energy to deal with their own personal needs.

This self-neglect too often has dire consequences for the caregiver's mental or physical health. Discussing your concerns with a professional counselor can help you manage your situation and learn how to improve it. There are several counseling opportunities for caregivers in Tompkins County.

Crisis Counseling

Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service

124 E. Court St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 272-1616

www.ithacacrisis.org

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

Ithaca Warm Line (607) 210-8328

SPCS phone counselors are available at any hour of the day or night to assist in crisis or non-crisis situations. Caregivers can get assistance in assessing depression or suicidal risk.

The **Ithaca Warm Line** is for individuals not experiencing a crisis and not having suicidal thoughts. The line was developed for those who may feel lonely and need to talk. Callers are able to chat with someone to get their thoughts out with no judgment.

Whole Health Mental Health Services

Adult Therapy

Tompkins County Whole Health

201 East Green St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-6200

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/health/mh

Adult therapy is offered using a variety of evidenced-based practice therapies specifically designed to address treatment needs through individual, couples, family, and group modalities.

Individual Counseling and Support

Individual counselors can provide clinical and therapeutic counseling and support for you and/or your loved one. The following work directly with caregivers.

Lisa Luciano, LCSWR, ACSW

(607) 591-2763

Ann Dolan, LCSW

(607) 708-0808

**www.psychologytoday.com is an online resource for those looking for a therapist in their area. Searches can be filtered by a variety of needs.*

Family & Children's Services For Older Adults & Caregivers

Family & Children's Services

127 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-7494

www.fcsith.org

Caregiver Counseling provides monthly visits with licensed Social Worker who can provide consultation on caregiver mental health care options, clinical support for caregivers, education on mental health care options and communication strategies for caregivers.

Counseling Services for Older Adults will respond to issues related to anxiety, stress and depression, Alzheimer's disease, caring for spouse or parent, empty nest syndrome, losing independence, social withdrawal and isolation, and widowhood.

Kinship Resources for Caregivers provides trauma informed education, counseling and training to kinship caregivers of youth who live, work or attend school in Tompkins County. A grandparents raising grandchildren support group is also facilitated monthly.

Mediation Service (Wise Talk)

Community Dispute Resolution Center

171 E. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.

Suite 105-1

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-9347

www.cdrc.org

Wise Talk is a free older adult mediation service to assist with difficult conversations or conflict resolution involving an older adult. CDRC contacts all the parties involved in the dispute and schedules a mediation at a time and place convenient to all.

Mental Health Association in Tompkins County

171 E. State St., Suite 275
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 273-9250
www.mhaedu.org

The **Mental Health Association (MHA)** is a private, not-for-profit organization that maintains a listing of therapists in Tompkins County and their specializations.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

We recommend that you call before attending any of these groups for the first time to confirm the time and exact location of the meeting. All of the following groups have a facilitator provided by the sponsor except for the Parkinson's spouses group which is a self-help group.

Caregiver Support Group

Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 274-5486
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Meets every other week on Tuesdays at 1pm on Zoom.

Alzheimer's Caregivers' Support Group/Alzheimer's Association of Central New York

Lifelong
119 W. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(315) 472-4201 Ext. 227
www.alz.org/centralnewyork

Meets at Lifelong on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM. Advance screening and registration is required. Please call to be screened and obtain zoom link and/or location information.

Brookdale Caregiver Support Group

Brookdale Senior Living-Crossings Community
103 Bundy Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 592-7986

Meets 4th Thursday of the month, 4:00 to 5:00 PM.

Cancer Caregivers Support Group

Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes
840 Hanshaw Rd., Suite 5
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 277-0960

Meets on Zoom the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5:30 to 7:00 PM and the 4th Tuesday of the month, 1:00 to 2:30 PM. For family, friends and caregivers of individuals with cancer.

Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Support Group

Carol Grove
(607) 279-8257

(See p. 49 for additional support groups for persons with particular diseases/conditions, some of which may also be open to family caregivers.)

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Legal and financial issues are sometimes confusing but necessary aspects of caring for a frail older person. Planning ahead in these areas enables the caregiver to use the older person's resources to provide the best quality care, particularly if and when the older person becomes unable to make decisions for her/himself. Possible legal arrangements that can be made include the durable power of attorney, health care proxy, living will, and others. In the financial realm, it is important for caregivers to understand Social Security, Medicare, Medicare Supplement policies, and Medicaid.

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5482

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Staff at the Office for the Aging provides information, referral, and counseling on a wide range of long term care benefits and services for older adults. Services provided by COFA staff are free.

Legal Assistance Program

The Office for the Aging contracts with **LawNY** to provide free legal consultation in some civil matters for Tompkins County residents age 60 and older. Specific information on the program may be obtained by calling the Office for the Aging at **(607) 274-5482**. Contributions are accepted, but no fee is charged. Legal problems that are given high priority include the rights of nursing home patients, landlord and tenant problems, Social Security, Medicare, SSI, and other benefit programs.

Estate Planning Council of Tompkins County

The Estate Planning Council was formed in the early 1980's by local professionals. These professionals include lawyers, accountants, financial professionals, life insurance professionals, trust officers and planned giving professionals. Visit the site and view a directory of professionals in the discipline you require.

estateplanningcouncil.org/directory

Lawyer Referral Service

NY State Bar Association

800-342-3661

LRS@NYSBA.org

If you are referred to an attorney through the lawyer referral service, the attorney will provide you with a half-hour consultation for \$35.

During your visit with the attorney, you and the attorney will discuss your matter and decide what further action to take, if any.

There is no obligation for you to hire the attorney. If the attorney agrees to represent you, the attorney will charge you at his or her regular rates.

Directory of Financial Resources for Older Adults

Energy Assistance

HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program)

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5482

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

The Tompkins County Office for the Aging processes HEAP applications for persons over age 60, and for those who receive SSI, or SSD and do not receive SNAP benefits.

EPIC (Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage)

PO Box 15018
Albany, NY 12214-5018

800-332-3742

www.health.ny.gov/health_care/epic

Health Insurance Information, Counseling, and Assistance Program (HIICAP) *(including Medicare, Medigap, EPIC)*

Lifelong

119 West Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-1511

www.tclifelong.org

NY Connects/Office for the Aging

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5482

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Tax Counseling

Lifelong

119 West Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 273-1511

www.tclifelong.org

Medicare Enrollment

Social Security Administration (SSA)

127 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St., 2nd Floor
Ithaca, NY 14850

1-866-706-8289 or 1-800-772-1213

www.ssa.gov

Medicare Savings Program

Medicare recipients who are income eligible may qualify to have Medicaid pay their monthly Medicare B premiums for them.

NYConnects/Office for the Aging

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 274-5482

Lifelong

119 W. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 273-1511

New York State IT-214 (Real Property Tax Credit)

Lifelong (Assistance with application available)

119 W. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 273-1511

Forms available through Tompkins County Assessment Office.

Real Estate Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens & STAR exemption

Tompkins County Department of Assessment

128 East Buffalo St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 274-5517
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/assessment

**Rental Assistance-Housing Voucher Program (Section 8)
and Public Housing**

Ithaca Housing Authority (IHA)
798 South Plain St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607)273-8629
www.ithacaha.com

Tompkins Community Action
701 Spencer Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607)273-8816
www.tcaction.org

Social Security Administration (Social Security and SSI)
127 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St., 2nd Floor
Ithaca, NY 14850
866-706-8289
www.ssa.gov

Tompkins County Department of Social Services

Human Services Building
320 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/dss

Long Term Care	(607) 274-5278
Temporary Assistance	(607) 274-5348
SNAP <i>(Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)</i>	(607) 274-5201

Telephone Discounts

Lifeline discount for Landline phones:

Verizon or call your local telephone office	1-800-837-4966
Safelink (free cell phone service) Enroll online at www.safelinkwireless.com	1-800-723-3546
Assurance Wireless (free cell phone service) Enroll online at www.assurancewireless.com	1-888-321-5880

Note: *Income-eligible individuals must choose either the lifeline (landline) phone discount or a free cell phone service. You cannot receive both benefits.*

TCAT— Bus Fare Discounts

737 Willow Ave.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 277-9388
www.tcatbus.com

County Department of Veteran Services

Tompkins County Department of Veterans Services

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

J.R. Clairborne
(607) 274-5920

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/veterans

The Tompkins County Department of Veterans' Services can connect local Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families with federal, state, and local resources.

New York State Veterans Counselor

John Canestaro
(607) 733-2178
john.canestaro@veterans.ny.gov
www.veterans.state.ny.us

Office hours: 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Veterans or their spouses may be eligible for a financial benefit (Aid and Attendance program) if they have long-term care needs or a monthly stipend (if living in a skilled nursing facility). Call and leave a message for a return call.

Note: *Low income older adults and their caregivers can call the Office for the Aging to discuss which financial assistance programs might be available to them.*

HOUSING FOR OLDER ADULTS

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 274-5482
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

The **Tompkins County Office for the Aging** provides these housing related services:

Housing Options Counseling

Consultation with older adults and their caregivers about housing options available to them (including independent living and assisted living, home repair programs, rent-subsidies, and other affordable housing programs)

Home Repair and Home Safety

Assistance in helping low-income, older homeowners address an assortment of energy, health, and safety related home repair needs. Also, free falls home safety assessments and Certified Aging in Place (CAPS) Evaluations.

Information/Assistance with:

- **Filing Property Tax Exemptions**
- **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)**
- **New York State Real Property Tax Credit (IT-214)**

Home Repair and Weatherization Assistance

Tompkins County Small Home and Safety Repair Program

INHS
115 W. Clinton St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 277-4500
www.ithacans.org

Home Safety Assessment

Empowerment by Design Occupational Therapy

PO Box 506
Ithaca, NY 14851
(607) 351-1654
www.ebd-ot.com

Comprehensive home safety evaluation and help with selection of accessibility products. Generally a fee, unless covered by insurance.

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

The Office for the Aging offers free fall prevention and home safety assessments by a Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS).

(607) 274-5482

Full Spectrum Rehabilitation and Wellness

15 Catherwood Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 227-4421
fullspectrumrehab@outlook.com
www.fullspectrumithaca.com

Specializing in falls prevention, home safety assessments, neuro-rehab. Participating with all Medicare, Medicaid, and all commercial and managed-medicare/medicaid policies.

Directory of Senior Housing Facilities

Subsidized Apartments

The apartments mentioned in this guide have been especially designed for independent older adults. They offer many features that are attractive to older residents such as laundry facilities, extra security and safety features, and the opportunity to live with other older adults. The apartment complexes have generally been subsidized by various federal agencies. This accounts for the variation in income level stipulations and rental rates.

For your information, in 1983 Congress enacted a statute allowing residents of rental housing for the elderly or handicapped to have common household pets. Application of this policy differs from complex to complex. We suggest that you call and inquire if this is an area of interest to you.

For more in-depth information, consult *Housing Options for Older Adults in Tompkins County*, a companion booklet in the Office for Aging booklet series.



Cayuga Meadows 108 Aster Ln. Ithaca, NY 14850 www.coniferllc.com	(607) 216-9808
Center Village Court Apartments 200 West South St. Groton, NY 13073	(607) 898-5887
Conifer Village 200 Conifer Dr. Ithaca, NY 14850 www.coniferllc.com	(607) 277-6320
Ellis Hollow Apartments 1028 Ellis Hollow Rd. Ithaca, NY 14850 www.coniferllc.com	(607) 273-3020
Fountain Manor 9 Midline Rd. Slaterville Springs, NY 14881 www.tompkinsliving.com	(607) 539-6320
Juniper Manor I 24 Elm St. Trumansburg, NY 14886 www.mycrmrental.com	(607) 387-5922
Juniper Manor II 16 Pease St. Trumansburg, NY 14886 www.mycrmrental.com	(607) 387-5922
Lehigh Crossing Apartments 15 Cook St. Freeville, NY 13068 www.mycrmrental.com	(607) 844-4045
McGraw House 221 S. Geneva St. Ithaca, NY 14850 www.mcgrawhouse.org	(607) 272-7054

Newfield Garden Apartments (607) 277-4500
261 Main St.
Newfield, NY 14867
www.ithacanhs.org

Schoolhouse Garden Apartments (607) 898-4770
177 Main St.
Groton, NY 13073
www.coniferliving.com

Titus Towers I and II (607) 273-8629
Ithaca Housing Authority
798 & 800 South Plain St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.ithacaha.com

Willowbrook Manor (607) 844-8000
4 Neptune Dr.
Dryden, NY 13053
www.tompkinsliving.com

Woodsedge (607) 533-4792
100 Woodsedge Dr.
Lansing, NY 14882
www.mycrmrental.com

55 and Older Senior Apartments: Market Rate

Blue Heron Patio Homes (315) 685-3808
2 Blue Heron Way
Lansing, NY 14882
www.blueheronpatiohomes.com

Cayuga View Senior Living (607) 319-0949
16 Cinema Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.cayugaview.com

Horizon Villages (315) 246-0931
45 Horizon Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.horizonvillages.com

Longview Patio Homes**(607) 375-6300**

1 Bella Vista Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.longviewithaca.org

Library Place**(607) 273-1654**

105 W. Court St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.libraryplaceithaca.com

Housing with Long Term Care Services

Senior Housing with Meals/Housekeeping Included

Longview Apartments**(607) 375-6300**

1 Bella Vista Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.longviewithaca.org

101 apartments consisting of studios, one-bedroom and two-bedrooms. One restaurant-style meal, housekeeping services and other amenities included in monthly rental fee.

Life Care Retirement Community

Kendal at Ithaca**(607) 266-5300**

2230 North Triphammer Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.kai.kendal.org

This type of Long Term Residential Program provides a continuum of care including independent housing, health care services, a residential care facility (assisted living residence) and a skilled nursing facility.

Licensed Adult Care Residences

Assisted Living

Licensed adult care facilities provide housekeeping, meals, and recreational programs, 24-hour supervision, medications monitoring and varying levels of personal care. Adult care facilities are licensed by the New York State Department of Health.

Bridges Cornell Heights**(607) 257-5777**

403 – 407 Wyckoff Ave.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.bridgescornellheights.com

Brookdale Ithaca
103 Bundy Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.brookdale.com

(607) 645-6704

Longview
1 Bella Vista Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.longviewithaca.org

(607) 375-6300

Family-Type Adult Homes in Tompkins County

These are homes that are licensed by the state to provide residential and personal care services for up to four persons.

(607) 277-1342

Old Hundred House
Classen Home Health
704 Five Mile Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.classenhomehealth.com

Evergreen House
Classen Home Health
4461 Jacksonville Rd.
Jacksonville, NY 14854
www.classenhomehealth.com

Nursing Homes

(607) 898-5876

Groton Community Health Care Center
120 Sykes St.
Groton, NY 13073
www.grotonhealth.org

(607) 273-8072

Cayuga Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
1229 Trumansburg Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.cayuganursingandrehab.org

(607) 272-8282

Oak Hill Manor Nursing Home
602 Hudson St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.oakhillmanorithaca.com

Beechtree Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing
318 South Albany St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
www.beechtreecenter.com

LONG DISTANCE CAREGIVING

Providing care for an older adult from a distance presents a unique challenge. Gathering information about the older person's situation, helping her/him make decisions about the future, and providing emotional support are as important as providing care.

Open communication among everyone involved and planning ahead can help avoid complications in the future. An important part of long-term planning is gathering information about services and programs in the older person's community. If you have Internet access, you may be able to find information about long-term care services in another state by searching to see if the county Area Agency on Aging has a webpage listing those resources.

Eldercare Locator

1-800-677-1116

www.eldercare.acl.gov

One service available to long distance caregivers is the Eldercare Locator. The Eldercare Locator is a national toll-free number that helps caregivers identify the most appropriate organization for information and assistance in the older person's community. Call **1-800-677-1116** Monday through Friday, between 8:00 AM and 9:00 PM, Eastern Standard Time, for assistance. Please have the following information ready when you call: **(1)** The name and address of the older person you are assisting including the zip code. **(2)** A brief and general description of the problem or type of assistance you are seeking.

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 274-5482
www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

The Office for the Aging maintains a directory of contact people in County Offices for the Aging nationwide. A simple telephone call can provide detailed information about services available where the older person lives, regardless of what part of the state or country. A consultation with staff of the Caregivers' Resource Center may also be helpful in your decision-making process. The Resource Center also has a lending library of books and other resources for caregivers as well as free, easy-to-read brochures.

LONG TERM CARE COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

A variety of other services are available to help meet the physical, psychological, and social needs of frail elderly living in the community. These services can also be of tremendous help to caregivers, easing some of the responsibilities of providing care. The first section that follows lists available community resources in the areas of home health care, nutrition, transportation, safety, and socialization. The second section contains a listing of in-home support and nursing services. For further information, consult the Long Term Support Services in Tompkins County booklet in the Office for the Aging booklet series.

Meals and Shopping Services

Foodnet: Congregate Meals Program and Home Delivered Meals

2422 North Triphammer Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607)266-9553
www.foodnet.org

Congregate Meals Program

Provided by Foodnet, a not-for-profit organization that contracts with the Tompkins County Office for the Aging to operate the nutrition programs for the County. They provide meals and social time Monday through Friday at midday. The sites for meals are conveniently located throughout the County, and are open to everyone over age 60.

- **Titus Towers** (Ithaca)

Home Delivered Meals

Provided by Foodnet, who contracts with the Tompkins County Office for the Aging to serve people age 60 and over who live in Tompkins County. Two meals are delivered 5 days a week, and frozen meals can be provided for the weekends. Nutrition counseling and education are provided to participants. Contributions for the Congregate Meals and Home Delivered Meals are encouraged, but not required.

Participants have the opportunity to make a voluntary and anonymous contribution in support of this service. The full cost of providing this service is \$9.50. The suggested contribution range is \$3.50 to \$9.50 per meal.

No one is denied a meal because of inability to make a contribution.

Foodnet Select

Persons under the age of 60 who meet the Home Delivered Meal criteria have the ability to pay independently for meals. Please contact Foodnet for more information.

Other Home Delivered Meals Options

Rose's Home Dish

Dinners are delivered cold and ready to pop into the oven. Served in 8x8 glass or disposable casserole dish. Provides at least two servings. Delivery to City and Town of Ithaca. For surrounding areas, inquire by calling: **(607) 229-2416**

- Delivery on Wednesdays.
- Weekly menus sent by email.
- View this week's menu online at www.roseshomedish.com

The following delivery services may have specific delivery service areas and standard delivery fees. Contact each for more information.

Ithaca to Go
GrubHub
DoorDash
Uber Eats

ithacatogo.com or (607) 216-9310
www.grubhub.com
www.doordash.com
www.ubereats.com

Options for Grocery Delivery

Rosie *Online Shopping and Home Delivery*

1-855-767-4366

<https://www.rosieapp.com>

Select the preferred grocer and shop. Choose between in-store pick-up or home delivery. Participating local grocers are:

- **P&C Fresh Ithaca**, 315 Pine Tree Rd. (East Hill Plaza)
- **Clark's Food Mart**, 33 North St., Dryden
- **P&C Fresh Cortland**, 160 Clinton Ave., Cortland

Instacart Service

www.instacart.com

Visit instacart.com and choose from a variety of grocers and other businesses to shop from in your area. Standard delivery rates may apply.



Transportation Services

Gadabout

737 Willow Ave.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-1878
www.gadaboutbus.org

Gadabout provides demand-response transportation in Tompkins County to people 55 or over, and those with a disability. Most of its vehicles are wheelchair-lift equipped. Reservations two or more days ahead of time. Trips can be for any purpose, with priority given to medical and nutritional necessities. Fare is \$2.00 one way within the city limits and \$3.00 one way outside of the city limits.

FISH Transportation Service

c/o 211 Tompkins Cortland
Ithaca, NY 14850

Call 211 or 1-877-211-8667
www.fishoftc.org

FISH (Friends In Service Helping) volunteers provide essential transportation for elderly, handicapped, or low-income individuals. This service is offered primarily for medically-related trips. You are asked to call a week in advance to schedule transportation. There is no charge for this service. Donations are accepted.

ADA Paratransit Service

Tompkins Transit Center
737 Willow Ave.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 277-9388, Ext. 420 **TTY (607) 277-9766**
www.tcatbus.com/ada

The ADA Paratransit Service is specialized transportation to serve persons with disabilities which prevent them from riding a fixed route bus. Those who qualify receive a card allowing them to use the service, which covers a 3/4 mile-wide corridor on either side of regular bus routes, and operates within the same time frame as public bus service.

Note: To explore other ways of getting around in Tompkins County, visit the Cooperative Extension **Way2Go** website:
www.ccetompkins.org/community/way2go

Other Long Term Care Supportive Services

Project CARE Friendly Visiting

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5499

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Project CARE matches older people with volunteers and encourages regular visits, offering companionship and a chance for sharing time and interests.

Project CARE volunteers also provide respite to caregivers who are caring for someone so that the caregiver may get away to run an errand or just take some much needed time for themselves.



Hospice Care: *at home, in nursing home, or the Hospice Residence*

Hospicare and Palliative Care Services

172 East King Rd.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 272-0212

www.hospicare.org

Hospicare and Palliative Care Services is a program of comprehensive home care for terminally-ill patients and their families. The program includes home care services, emotional, psychological and spiritual support to the patient and to family members, respite services, financial and legal counseling, and provision of medical supplies, drugs, and equipment. The Hospicare Residence provides residential care for terminally ill patients and is located inside the Hospice Center.

Visiting Nurse Service of Ithaca and Tompkins County

138 Cecil A. Malone Dr.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-0466

www.vnsithaca.org

AIM (Advanced Illness Management) helps patients with advanced chronic illness manage their health in ways that closely align with the patients goals. AIM is a palliative care program that is appropriate for anyone, at any age and any stage of serious illness. Curative treatment may also be received at the same time.

Love Living at Home

832 Hanshaw Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 319-0162

www.lovelivingathome.org

Love Living at Home membership is open to any residents of Tompkins County, 50 and older. Started in 2016, it is a network of people helping people to access needed services that enable them to live safely in their own homes for as long as possible. Its programs aim to enrich the lives of its members, forge connections for new friendships, and assist one another to access the array of area services and providers necessary to stay at home though the life span.

Annual membership fee: \$470/individual or \$595/household.

Financial assistance with membership fee is available for those with low incomes.

Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5482

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

The **Personal Emergency Response System** is a communication system which links an individual with the County's emergency medical response system. Pressing a button on the unit or on a pendant worn around the neck automatically dials Doyle Medical Monitoring which will alert emergency services to respond when necessary. The **PERS system costs \$25/month**. At an extra charge, Fall Detection Sensor and GPS Mobile Service can be added to manage safety and security virtually anywhere.

The Office for the Aging can also provide information on other Emergency Response Systems that are available.

Protective Services for Adults

Tompkins County Department of Social Services
320 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5222

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/dss

Protective Services are provided to adults over the age of 18 who, because of physical or mental impairment, are unable to manage their own resources or protect themselves from neglect or hazardous situations, and have no one able to help them. Services are available regardless of income level. If necessary, the Department of Social Services can serve as a representative payee for a person unable to manage his or her money. Referrals come from concerned individuals as well as agencies and people themselves. Referrals are kept confidential.

Project Lifesaver

Tompkins County Sheriff's Office/Public Safety Building
779 Warren Rd. (Megan Cook)
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 257-1345, Ext. 4456

Project Lifesaver provides timely response to save lives and reduces potential injury for adults and children who wander due to Alzheimer's, autism, and other related conditions or disorders. Each participant who is enrolled in the program is fitted with a Project Lifesaver wristband (transmitter) that emits a tracking signal every second 24 hours a day. The signal can be tracked by trained personnel from the Tompkins County Sheriff's Office using equipment with radio frequency tracking capability.

A helicopter with radio frequency capability can be used in the search if necessary. Personnel come to the participant's house every 60 days to change the battery and check the band to assure it is in good working order. Call the Sheriff's office at **(607) 257-1345, Ext. 4456**, to make an appointment to enroll in the program.

IN-HOME CARE

A variety of agencies offer home care service. Home care may be scheduled as needed from several hours per week to 24 hours a day. Costs vary depending on the agency and the services performed. Generally, home care is provided by a registered nurse (RN), licensed practical nurse (LPN), home health aide (HHA), personal care aide (PCA), homemaker, or companion. Hiring someone to provide care in the home, either from an agency or privately, is an individual decision. Home care agencies are responsible for training, scheduling, supervising, arranging for substitutes, and employee benefits for personnel they employ. Payment to an agency is made either by the family or a third party such as Medicare, Medicaid, or an insurance company. Private home care arrangements generally cost less than hiring through an agency; however, the patient or family assumes responsibility for paying social security taxes, disability, and other employer responsibilities. For further information, consult the Long Term Support Services in Tompkins County booklet in the Office for the Aging series.



Public Programs Providing In-Home Care

NY Connects/Tompkins County Long Term Care Services

Human Services Building
320 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St..
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5278

Provides intake and ongoing care management services for older adults receiving in-home services through the **EISEP** program and for some **Medicaid home care** clients. Their nurses can also provide the **PRI** (Patient Review Instrument) assessment that is required for individuals prior to admission to a nursing home. Note: Medicaid beneficiaries who need help with dressing, bathing, or other hands-on personal care that is expected to last more than 120 days must enroll in a Medicaid Managed Long Term Care (**MLTC**) plan. Call Tompkins County Long Term Care Services or NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging to learn about the process in enrolling in MLTC plans.

EISEP

Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program provides non-medical, in-home services and case management for people 60 or over to help with bathing, dressing, cooking, shopping, laundry, and housekeeping. The case manager will arrange for and monitor these services to make sure they are meeting the client's needs. Clients pay for services on a sliding fee scale based on their income and housing expenses. There is no charge for care management.

Medicaid

Medicaid provides a variety of home care services to Medicaid clients. Medicaid need must be documented by a physician. Caseworkers and nurses, under a doctor's order, jointly coordinate in-home personal care and home health aide services to people who receive Medicaid. Services are provided without regard to age.

County Department of Veteran Services

Tompkins County Department of Veterans Services
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

J.R. Clairborne

(607) 274-5920

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/veterans

The Tompkins County Department of Veterans' Services can connect local Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families with federal, state, and local resources.

Veterans Long Term Care Benefits

Some Veterans may be eligible for home health care, short-term respite stay in a VA facility, "Aid and Assistance" pension, and/or other benefits. To discuss eligibility criteria, call:

NYS Veterans' Counselor

For help in applying for "Aid and Assistance" benefits or other veteran's benefits, call the area NYS Veterans' Counselor:

John Canestaro

(607) 733-2178

9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

john.canestaro@veterans.ny.gov



Directory of Home Care Agencies

Medicare-Certified Agencies

The following agency is certified by Medicare to offer skilled nursing, physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy to patients who meet Medicare criteria for being homebound.

Visiting Nurse Service of Ithaca and Tompkins County, Inc.

138 Cecil A. Malone Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-0466

www.vnsithaca.org

Licensed Agencies

The following agencies are licensed by the NY State Department of Health to provide personal care and home care aide services.

CareGivers

2359 N. Triphammer Rd. Unit 1A
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 275-0238

www.caregivershomecare.com

Classen Home Health Associates, Inc.

Ithaca Shopping Plaza
222 Elmira Rd., Suite 3
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 277-1342

www.classenhomehealth.com

Community Health and Home Care, Inc.

138 Cecil A. Malone Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 273-7780

www.vnsithaca.org/CHHC/index.html

Hospicare and Palliative Care Services

See page 35
172 East King Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 272-0212

www.hospicare.org

Companion Care/Homemaker Services

Home Instead Senior Care

(607) 319-0075

840 Hanshaw Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.homeinstead.com/842

Comfort Keepers

(607) 272-0444

1301 Trumansburg Rd. Suite A
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.comfortkeepers.com

Finding People to Hire Privately

The Registry

(607) 272-2433

Finger Lakes Independence Center
215 Fifth St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.fliconline.org

The Registry is a free listing and referral service for households needing in-home help. The Registry links these households with independent job seekers over the age of 18. In-home job seekers are listed after they are interviewed and references are checked. The Registry job seekers offer services such as housekeeping, cooking, personal aide care, and errands/driving.

Wages for home health aides and personal care aides usually range between \$15 to \$25 or more per hour. There is no fee for the matching service, but contributions are welcomed.

Finding In-home Helpers Online

Another option for being matched with privately hired in-home helpers is by searching on the Internet for matching sites such as Care.com.

www.care.com

RESPITE AND ADULT DAY PROGRAMS

Taking care of an elderly family member at home can be a 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year commitment. Providing this care places considerable stress on spouses, adult children, and friends who must manage other family and work obligations as well. Respite services offer family caregivers temporary relief from the responsibilities of caring for a physically or emotionally dependent person, and also provide the care-receiver with social opportunities. There are three types of respite services available to caregivers in Tompkins County: in-home respite, overnight respite, and adult day programs. One or more of these services may be just what you need to take care of yourself.

Longview Adult Day Program

Longview

1 Bella Vista Dr.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 375-6323

www.longviewithaca.org

With today's busy, two-career lifestyle, it's often impossible for someone to be home all day providing companionship and ensuring the safety and security of older adults.

Spousal caregivers may also benefit from some respite from caregiving. Longview's Adult Day Community is one possible solution. The daily fee includes personal supervision and recreational programs, as well as morning and afternoon snacks and a hot, nutritious lunch. \$80/ day. The program currently runs Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00am-3:00pm

Volunteer In-Home

Project CARE Friendly Visiting

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging
214 W. Martin Luther King Jr./State St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5499

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Project CARE matches community volunteers with caregivers to provide some respite by visiting with the care recipient or doing other errands or chores to free up the caregiver (see page 34).

Privately-Hired Respite Services

For a fee, you may arrange for respite aide service through one of several area agencies if they have aides available at the times you need one (See page 41). You may also be able to hire someone privately through The Registry, a service of the Finger Lakes Independence Center (see page 42).

Overnight Respite

Note: Some financial assistance may be available to family caregivers who cannot afford to pay for in-home help or a short-term facility stay that enables the caregiver to get away for a few days.

Call the Office for the Aging: (607) 274-5482

Assisted Living Level of Care

Short-term stays are allowed on a space-available basis at **Brookdale Senior Living** and **Longview** as well as most of the smaller, family-type, adult care homes locally. You may also want to look at places in nearby counties if space is not available at local residences. Charges generally include meals, housekeeping, help with bath and medications, and recreational programming. Respite residents must have enough self-care skills to qualify for residential care.

Higher Level of Care

Those who do not have self-care skills to qualify for an adult home level of care can consider two other options for overnight respite:

Cayuga Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and **Beechtree Care Center** skilled nursing facilities. Both accept short term admissions for respite purposes on a space-available basis. A nursing home assessment and doctor's orders are needed. Contact the nursing home well before the date respite care is needed.

Veterans may be eligible for a respite stay at a **Veteran's Administration** residential care facility. In Tompkins County, contact the **County Department of Veterans Services** at (607) 274-5920 to discuss eligibility and how to apply or call the national **VA Caregiver Support Line** at 1-855-260-3274. Go online to learn about VA caregiver support at www.caregiver.va.gov

SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

The following services may be useful to adults with physical disabilities. Physical disabilities encompass a wide variety of conditions including visual, speech, hearing, mobility or other impairments caused by illness or accident. If the impairment originated before age 22, this may qualify as a developmental disability, and provide eligibility for a variety of services and funding sources.

Agencies

Finger Lakes Independence Center (FLIC)

215 Fifth St.
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 272-2433
www.fliconline.org

Provides information, referral, and advocacy on hearing loss and deafness, visual loss and blindness as well as other disabilities. The “Try It Room” at FLIC contains a wide variety of assistive devices of decoders, pocket talkers, TDD/TTY’s, phone amplifiers, books and video tapes on hearing impairments, deafness, sign language and other disability related subjects. Provides assistance in locating appropriate professionals for hearing evaluation. American Sign Language classes offered.

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services– Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR)

44 Hawley St.
Binghamton, NY 13901
1-800-888-5020 or (607) 721-8400
www.acces.nysed.gov/vr

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services–Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) offers access to a full range of employment and independent living services that may be needed by persons with disabilities through their lives. Through its administration of independent living programs, VR coordinates independent living services for people of all ages.

Equipment and Assistive Devices: Information, Purchases, and Loan Closets

Many devices are available to help disabled people to adapt to their disabilities and lead more active lives. They can make life much easier for caregivers as well. If your need is temporary, the loan closets listed below provide free equipment (a deposit may be required). Whenever possible, seek professional guidance to choose the appropriate device—wheelchairs and walkers come in sizes, and can be unsafe if used improperly. Physical and Occupational Therapists and other rehabilitation professionals can help choose the right adaptive equipment for physical impairments.

Equipment Loan Fund for the Disabled

NYS Office of Children and Family Services (518) 474-0197
52 Washington St., Room 201 South
Rensselaer, NY 12144
www.ocfs.ny.gov/programs/nyscb/equipment-loan-fund.php

The Equipment Loan Fund allows you to borrow up to \$4000, with an interest rate of 4%, and can be used to purchase wheelchairs, wheelchairs van lifts, and adaptive equipment.

Loan Closets

Dryden Veterans' Memorial Home (607) 844-9900
2272 Dryden Rd. (Rt. 13)
Dryden, NY 13053

Loan closet includes bathroom safety equipment, canes, crutches, wheelchairs, beds, etc.

Finger Lakes Independence Center (607) 272-2433
215 Fifth St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

www.fliconline.org

Free loan of wheelchairs, canes, crutches, walkers, portable ramps, TDD's, closed caption decoders, phone amplifiers, electronic magnifying devices, bathroom safety equipment. Consultation on home modifications.

Groton American Legion**(607) 898-3837**

307 Main St.

Groton, NY 13073

Loan closet for wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, and commodes.

Trumansburg American Legion**(607) 387-4212**

4431 E. Seneca Rd.

Trumansburg, NY 14886

Loan closet for wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, and commodes.

Wonderful Wheelchairs**(607) 444-2817**

Cayuga Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

1229 Trumansburg Rd.

Ithaca, NY 14850

Refurbishes used wheelchairs and makes them available to people in the Ithaca area who need them.

Parking Permits**City Clerks Office****(607) 274-6570**

City Hall, 108 E. Green St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

www.cityofithaca.org

Permits allowing parking at designated spots are available for temporarily or permanently disabled individuals at either the City Clerk's office or your own Town or Village Clerk's office.

Doctor's statement or prescription required.

Department of Motor Vehicles**(607) 273-7187**

301 Third St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

www.dmv.ny.gov

Permanently disabled individuals can obtain license plates marked with the "handicapped" sign for one-time charge of \$28.75. A doctor's statement, insurance card (and old plates) must be brought in.

Note:

The Finger Lakes Independence Center maintains a listing of area stores and services that offer assistive equipment sales, rental, and repairs (*see contact information on page 46*).

SERVICES FOR EMPLOYED CAREGIVERS

Due to economic necessity and greater opportunities in the workplace, more and more caregivers are working outside the home. Juggling work and family responsibilities can be a tremendous challenge. It is important for working caregivers to seek out and receive the support that they need.

Employers are beginning to recognize eldercare as an important concern for their employees which may affect productivity. Policies to inquire about and advocate for (if your employer does not already have them) include flexible working hours, flexible benefits, family leave, and contracted programs such as information and referral, adult day care, workshops, and support groups.

Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

The **Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)** covers employers of more than 50 employees (at the worksite or within 75 miles thereof). Since 1993, the FMLA has entitled qualified employees, who have been employed for at least 12 months and who have worked at least 1,250 hours during the 12-month period, to up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave per year for the birth or adoption of a child, to care for a spouse or an immediate family member with a serious health condition, or when unable to work because of a serious health condition. The employer is required to maintain any preexisting health coverage during the leave period and, once the leave period is concluded, to reinstate the employee to the same or an equivalent job.

NY State Family Paid Leave

As of January 1, 2018 most employees who work for private employers in New York State are eligible to take up to 12 weeks **Paid Family Leave**. Family Leave provides job-protected, paid time off so someone can care for a close relative with a serious health condition. The employee can continue their health insurance while on paid family medical leave and are guaranteed the same or a comparable job when the leave ends. For more details, visit: www.paidfamilyleave.ny.gov

Employee Assistance Programs (EAP)

Some employers provide free, confidential individual counseling for employees. Inquire about whether there is an Employee Assistance Program through your place of work to help you explore options when problems seem too confusing or painful to solve alone.

DIRECTORY OF SUPPORT GROUPS

Contact **Tompkins 211** for updated information on area support groups.

Alcoholics Anonymous (607) 273-1541
Self-help for alcoholics.

Al-Anon (607) 387-5701
Self-help for family & friends of alcoholics.

Alzheimer's Support Groups (315) 472-4201
Alzheimer's Association.

Bereavement Support Group (607) 272-0212
Support for those who have experienced death of a loved one.

Brookdale Caregiver Support Group (607) 342-6050
Support for those caring for aging parents or other elderly.

Cancer Support Groups (607) 277-0960
Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes.

Caregiver Support Group (607) 274-5486
Office for the Aging group for those caring for aging parents or other elderly relatives or friends.

Diabetes Community and Support Groups (607) 274-4127
Periodic education series and support for people with diabetes, family, friends. Held at Cayuga Medical Center.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group (607) 273-7494
Sponsored by Family and Children's Service in Ithaca.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (607) 273-2462
Support group for friends and family of people with severe, biologically-based mental illness. Formerly called Finger Lakes

SAFE DRIVING RESOURCES

Navigating when it's time to address driver safety with a loved one can often be very difficult. In addition to safety concerns, there can be an emotional component that can make having these conversations hard. The following are resources that can hopefully help guide one through this process. The **Tompkins County Office for the Aging** can provide additional information on these programs.

Safe Driving Programs

Defense Driving Courses

A state approved Defensive Driving course can reduce your auto insurance rates and provide up to a 4 point reduction from your driving record. By completing this course you are eligible for a 10% reduction in your insurance premiums for 3 years.

- **AARP**
www.aarpdriversafety.org
- **AAA**
westerncentralny.aaa.com/automotive/driver-training/defensive-driving.html
- **TST BOCES**
<https://www.smore.com/8wcv6-tst-boces-defensive-driving-course>

Assessing a Driver

The Association for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists

www.aded.net/page/725

This website allows you to search for certified driver rehabilitation specialists by State.

Learn Well School of Driving

www.learnwellschoolofdriving.com/

Instructors can ride with the person, in a dual control car, and assess their driving ability. They **do not** revoke licenses.

DMV Driver Re-evaluation Program

dmv.ny.gov/driver-license/dmv-driver-re-evaluation

The purpose of this program is to allow a driver to show qualifications to drive. The DMV will not remove driving privileges based on age or based on any standard except driving ability.

CarFit

www.car-fit.org

CarFit is an educational program created by the American Society on Aging. The program was developed together with the AAA, the AARP and the American Occupational Therapy Association. CarFit can help older adults determine how well their personal vehicles "fit" them.

Other Resources

Safe Driving Tips for Older New Yorkers

www.ny.gov/programs/safe-driving-tips-older-new-yorkers

This site encourages online and in-person safety training and car safety check programs; provides information to help older drivers understand options for roadway safety; and offers a user-friendly guide about preventing adverse drug interactions that can affect one's ability to drive.

DMV Older Driver Resources

dmv.ny.gov/older-driver/older-driver-resources

This site provides information about driving skills and programs, health tips, license FAQs, vehicle safety tips, and more.

INTERNET RESOURCES FOR CAREGIVERS

NY Connects/Tompkins County Office for the Aging

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/cofa

Information on caregiver supports and other services offered by the local Office for the Aging. The booklet you are reading is online at this site as well as other resource guides on services for older adults in Tompkins County including Housing Options, Long Term Care Supports, and Falls Prevention. To view the resource guides, click on the booklets located at the bottom of the homepage.

Finger Lakes Independence Center

www.fliconline.org

Accessibility consultations; adaptive equipment; consultations about vision, hearing, and mobility impairment resources; support groups. On their home page, click on **Services** to explore options for trying to obtaining assistive devices and equipment.

Health in Aging

www.healthinaging.org

HealthinAging.org was created by the American Geriatrics Society Foundation for Health in Aging (FHA), to provide consumers and caregivers with up-to-date information on health and aging. Overseen by a team of experts on caring for older adults, choose among many topics for information of interest to you.

Family Caregiver Alliance

www.caregiver.org

The Family Caregiver Alliance supports and assists caregivers of brain-impaired adults (such as persons with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, or stroke) through education, research, services, and advocacy. FCA provides online support groups, caregiver consultations, information fact sheets, and a newsletter. Excellent publications for all caregivers.

Medicare

www.medicare.gov

Medicare information, nursing homes ratings, and much more. Make sure you pay a visit and bookmark it for future reference.

Trualta

The New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) and Association on Aging in New York (AgingNY) have partnered with Trualta to offer Trualta’s web-based caregiver education and support platform at no cost to any unpaid caregiver in New York State.

There are an estimated 4.1 million caregivers in New York State who provide 2.68 billion hours of unpaid care. Sixty-one percent worry about caring for a loved one and 70 percent reported at least one mental health symptom during the pandemic. Trualta teaches critical skills to reduce caregiver stress levels and increase confidence in one’s caregiving abilities.

Caregivers can access this service at www.newyork-caregivers.com.

For more information or assistance please contact our office at **607-274-5482**.

ARCHANGELS

ARCHANGELS is a national movement and a platform that is reframing how caregivers are seen, honored, and supported using a combination of data and stories. We believe shining a light on caregivers so they feel seen, honored, and supported is the first line of care. Our Caregiver Intensity Index (CII) is designed to engage all caregivers, even those who do not see themselves in that role. The platform provides each caregiver with a ‘score’ that not only validates their experience, but crosswalks them over to the resources that exist but often go underutilized due to lack of awareness.

ARCHANGELS provides communities (including states, employers, healthcare providers, and payers) with an omni-channel data-driven engagement approach that changes caregiver’s lives (as well as top and bottom lines) for the better.

Connect with ARCHANGELS at www.archangels.me
