



Tennessee

When a family or individual is faced with a progressive condition such as DM1 or DM2 they are often presented with additional financial expenses as well as loss of a steady income. This section attempts to gather financial resources that are available on a state level for persons living in the United States. By no means is this section complete; we invite you to share with us any resources you've identified.

This is an on-going project. We will add more resources as we gather them; please send us resources you know of that are not currently listed.

Please be advised that each organization has its own eligibility and application requirements. None of these organizations are affiliated with Myotonic. We hope you will share your experiences with us – let us know if you are successful in finding a good resource to help your family.

Caregivers

Homemaker Program: Homemaker Services are limited in-home personal care services designed to allow participants to remain in their own residence and maintain independence.
<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/adults/css-homemaker-program.html>

National Family Caregiver Support Program: The purpose of the National Family Caregiver Support Program is to help families care, as long as possible, for older relatives with chronic illness or disability in their homes.
<https://www.tn.gov/aging/our-programs/caregiving.html>

Planned Respite Program: Planned Respite is a program that helps enrolled caregivers of children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) learn the skills necessary for getting respite care.
<https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/mental-health-services/mental-health-services-for-children-and-youth/programs---services/programs-and-services/respite.html>

Relative Caregiver Program: Children and relative caregivers enrolled in the state program can receive supportive services such as information and referral, access to support groups, respite care, and family advocacy assistance.
<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/foster-care-and-adoption/fca/relative-caregiver.html>



Employment

Employment and Community First CHOICES: Employment and Community First CHOICES can help the person with an intellectual or developmental disability explore the possibility of working. Services can also help people learn skills for work, find a job, and keep a job.
<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/long-term-services-supports/employment-and-community-first-choices.html>

Employment and Transition Webpage: <https://www.tn.gov/cdd/projects-and-initiatives/employment-and-transition.html>

Project SEARCH: A nationally acclaimed model for transitioning students with intellectual and developmental disabilities from high school into employment through internships at community businesses.
<https://www.projectsearch.us/>

TennesseeWorks: A website with opportunities to increase the number of young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who are employed in the state.
<http://www.tennesseeworks.org/>

Unemployment Benefits: Unemployment Insurance (UI) is a benefit program funded by Tennessee employers for workers who have lost their job by no fault of their own.
<https://www.tn.gov/workforce/unemployment/apply-for-benefits.html>

Vocational Rehabilitation: Vocational Rehabilitation Services provides a variety of individualized services to persons with disabilities in preparation for their employment in a competitive and integrated labor market.
<https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/humanservices/ds/vocational-rehabilitation.html>

Financial Resources

CreditSmart: CreditSmart is a multilingual financial education curriculum and consumer outreach initiative designed to help consumers build and maintain better credit, make sound financial decisions, and understand the steps to sustainable homeownership.
<https://sf.freddiemac.com/working-with-us/creditsmart/overview>

NeighborWorks America: A national nonprofit organization created by Congress to provide financial support, technical assistance, and training for community-based revitalization efforts.
<https://neighborworks.org/>



Food/Nutrition

Child and Adult Care Food Program: The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded program that provides reimbursement for eligible meals that are served to participants who meet age and income requirements.

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/children/dhs-nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program.html>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: SNAP provides nutritional assistance benefits to children and families, the elderly, the disabled, unemployed, and working families.

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap.html>

Tennessee Summer Food Service Program: The SFSP is a partnership between the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, the Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS), and community-based organizations to provide free meals to children in their communities throughout the summer.

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/children/dhs-nutrition-programs/learn-about-the-summer-food-service-program.html>

The Emergency Food Assistance Program: TEFAP is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost.

<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/department/administration/commodity-distribution/emergency-food-assistance-program.html>

Housing

Community Supportive Housing: The Community Supportive Housing program provides flexible funding to agencies to provide supported housing for people in need.

<https://ccetn.org/>

Community Targeted Transitional Support Program: This program provides specific, temporary financial support for Tennesseans diagnosed with mental illness or co-occurring disorders. The program also assists adults, children, and families who are homeless.

<https://www.kidcentraltn.com/support/full-family-support/community-targeted-transitional-support-services.html>



Flexible Home Concepts Program: VHC is a voluntary certification program designed to encourage builders of new homes – whether single family or any multi-family building with up to three living units- to voluntarily implement design features which make a home accessible, visitable and convenient for everyone.

<https://thda.org/business-partners/fhc>

Housing Choice Voucher Program: HCV is a federal rental assistance program where very low-income individuals, families, the elderly, and the disabled receive assistance to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market.

<https://thda.org/renters/hcv>

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program: LIHEAP aims to assist low income households, primarily those who pay a high proportion of household income on home energy, in meeting their immediate energy needs.

<https://thda.org/business-partners/liheap>

Living with a Disability/Elderly

People First Tennessee: PFTN is a grassroots membership disability rights group led by self-advocates with the goal of empowering people with disabilities to have voices in addressing issues of equality that affect them.

<https://www.thearctn.org/People-First.php>

People Planning Together: This initiative develops a corps of trainers, who themselves receive disability support services through a Medicaid waiver, to teach advocacy skills to other individuals who receive similar services.

<https://www.tn.gov/cdd/projects-and-initiatives/leadership-and-self-advocacy/people-planning-together.html>

Tennessee Disability Pathfinder: The Pathfinder is a statewide multilingual information and referral service for disability resources operated by Vanderbilt Kennedy Center.

<https://vkc.mc.vanderbilt.edu/vkc/pathfinder/>

Tennessee Early Intervention System: TEIS is a program that provides services to children ages birth up to age three who have disabilities or other developmental delays.

<https://www.tn.gov/didd/for-consumers/tennessee-early-intervention-system-teis.html>



The Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly: PACE provides comprehensive medical and social services to certain frail, community-dwelling elderly individuals, most of whom are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/long-term-services-supports/the-program-for-all-inclusive-care-for-the-elderly-pace-program.html>

Transition Tennessee: Transition Tennessee is Tennessee's online home for training and resources on preparing students with disabilities for life after high school.

<https://transitiontn.org/>

Medical/Health Related

Child Support Services: Department of Human Services provides services in locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing child support orders, enforcing child support orders, securing and enforcing medical support, and collecting/dispersing child support payments.

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/child-support-services.html>

Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment: EPSDT is a program of checkups and health care services for children from birth until age 21 to detect and treat health problems.

<https://www.tn.gov/health/information-for-individuals/i/fact-sheets/epsdt.html#:~:text=Early%20Periodic%20Screening%2C%20Diagnosis%20and,all%20children%20who%20have%20TennCare.>

Family Planning Program: The program serves both men and women and provides the following services: yearly check-up, reproductive life planning, basic infertility services, comprehensive contraceptive services, pregnancy testing, and more.

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/family-planning.html>

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children: WIC is a federally funded program designed to provide supplemental food assistance and nutrition education to low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children until age five.

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/wic.html>

TennCare: If you are pregnant, you may be eligible to get temporary TennCare right now. This is called "presumptive eligibility." This will cover your visits to the doctor and other medical services while you are pregnant.

<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/members-applicants/pregnant.html>



Additional Resources

Emergency Cash Assistance: The Emergency Cash Assistance provides two monthly cash payments to families that were employed as of March 11, 2020 and have lost a job or lost at least 50% of their earned income due to the COVID-19 emergency.

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/covid-19/emergency-cash-assistance-and-covid-19-faqs.html>

Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Care Centers in Tennessee:

<https://www.mda.org/care/care-center-list?province=TN>

Pandemic EBT: Under the new P-EBT program, families of children who receive free or reduced meals at school or attend a Community Eligibility Provision school may receive financial assistance to replace school meals during the months of March, April and May due to COVID-19 school closures.

<https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/covid-19/p-ebt-and-covid-19-faqs.html>