

## Financial Assistance Programs

These programs can help free up funds for other living needs by reducing the cost of things like utilities, food, & rent. Most programs have criteria that must be met in order to qualify (income, age, etc.). Some may offer a one-time payment while others provide monthly assistance as long as qualifications continue to be met. We try to keep this information as accurate as possible however, it is always ideal to verify information with the organization providing the service directly.

\*Some programs are county specific\*

### Utilities

- **PG&E**

**Phone:** 1-866-743-2273

**Website:** [www.pge.com/en\\_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/care/care.page](http://www.pge.com/en_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/care/care.page)

**Service:** California Alternate Rates for Energy Program (CARE) offers a monthly discount of 20% or more on gas and electricity. Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA) offers a monthly discount of 18% on electricity only. Must be a household with three or more people.

**Phone:** 1-800-743-5000

**Website:** [https://www.pge.com/en\\_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/one-time-assistance/reach/reach.page](https://www.pge.com/en_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/one-time-assistance/reach/reach.page)

**Service:** Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH) helps you pay for energy during a crisis. REACH provides an energy credit for up to \$500 based on the past due bill.

- **Southern California Edison**

**Phone:** 1-800-655-4555

**Website:** [www.sce.com/residential/assistance/Arrearage-Management-Plan](http://www.sce.com/residential/assistance/Arrearage-Management-Plan)

**Service:** The Arrearage Management Plan (AMP) Program is a debt forgiveness payment plan option for residential CARE and FERA customers who have past due bills totaling \$500 or greater which are at least 90 days old. In exchange for making on-time payment of your current monthly bill, AMP will forgive 1/12 of the eligible total past due amount.

- **CAPSLO San Luis Obispo County\***

**Phone:** 1 (805) 541-4122 ext. 2125

**Website:** [capslo.org/utility-assistance](http://capslo.org/utility-assistance) (LIHEAP)

**Service:** The Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assists low-income households with a once-a-year payment toward their utility bills (gas, propane, or electric).

- **CommUnify Santa Barbara County\***

**Phone:** (800) 655-0617

**Website:** [www.communifysb.org/community-services/utility-payment-assistance](http://www.communifysb.org/community-services/utility-payment-assistance) (LIHEAP)

**Service:** Enroll in the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) can help those in financial need prevent service interruption or restore disconnected utility services. Assistance payments are provided for gas, electric, oil, wood or propane services.

- Golden State Water Company**  
**Phone:** (866) 360-2279  
**Website:** [www.gswater.com/post/customer-assistance-program](http://www.gswater.com/post/customer-assistance-program)  
**Service:** Customer Assistance Program (CAP) offers a monthly water bill credit for low-income customers who qualify.
- California Public Utilities Commission**  
**Phone:** 1-866-272-0349  
**Website:** [www.californialifeline.com](http://www.californialifeline.com)  
**Service:** The California LifeLine Program provides discounts on home phone and cell phone services to qualified households. The California LifeLine discounts help consumers lower the cost of their phone bills. Only one discount per household is allowed (except for teletypewriter users and for Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program participants). Call a participating phone company and ask for the California LifeLine discounts to start the application process.

## Food

- Cal Fresh**  
**Phone:** 1-877-847-3663  
**Website:** <https://cdss.ca.gov/calfresh> To apply: [www.getcalfresh.org](http://www.getcalfresh.org)  
**Service:** CalFresh, known federally as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP, provides monthly food benefits to individuals and families with low-income.
- Food Bank San Luis Obispo County\***  
**Phone:** (805) 238-4664  
**Website:** [www.slofoodbank.org](http://www.slofoodbank.org)  
**Service:** The Food Bank distributes millions of meals to our neighbors in need through our distributions and agency partners. We are committed to providing food assistance to anyone who needs it. Offers home delivery to homebound.
- Food Bank Santa Barbara County\***  
**Website:** [foodbanksbc.org](http://foodbanksbc.org)  
**Phone:** (805) 967-5741
- Meals That Connect San Luis Obispo County\***  
**Phone:** (805) 541-3312  
**Website:** [www.mealsthatconnect.org](http://www.mealsthatconnect.org)  
**Service:** Meals That Connect serves free noontime meals every weekday to seniors throughout San Luis Obispo County. Seniors gather together at dining rooms in their community to eat together, share stories and build friendships. For those who are unable to leave their homes, volunteers drivers deliver meals to their home.
- Senior Nutrition Program Santa Barbara County\***  
**Phone:** (805) 925-9554 option 1  
**Website:** [centralcoastseniors.org](http://centralcoastseniors.org)  
**Service:** Provides both congregate meals and home delivered meals to eligible seniors. Must sign up in advance by calling the number listed or going to the website. Home delivered meal service requires an in-home assessment.

## Rent

- **Catholic Charities San Luis Obispo County\***  
**Phone:** San Luis Obispo (805) 541-9110 / Paso Robles (805) 706-8565  
**Website:** [catholiccharitiesdom.org](http://catholiccharitiesdom.org)  
**Service:** Offers supportive services programs that aid with rent, move-in, and utility assistance. Also helps with CalFresh and Medi-Cal application process.
- **Catholic Charities Santa Barbara County\***  
**Phone:** Santa Barbara (805) 965-7045 / Lompoc (805) 736-6226 / Santa Maria (805) 922-2059  
**Website:** [www.catholiccharities-sbc.org](http://www.catholiccharities-sbc.org)  
**Service:** Offers programs to help with clothing, food, emergency assistance, medical referrals & grants, case management, older adult pet medical services.

## Other

- **Medi-Cal**  
**Phone:** Your local Social Services office  
**Website:** [www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/default.aspx)  
**Service:** Medi-Cal is California's Medicaid program. This is a public health insurance program which provides needed health care services for low-income individuals. You can apply in person through your county Social Services office or online at [www.coveredca.com](http://www.coveredca.com). One program offered through Medi-Cal is In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) which can provide housecleaning, meal preparation, laundry, grocery shopping, personal care services, accompaniment to medical appointments, and protective supervision for the mentally impaired. Service is funded through the State.
- **Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)**  
**Phone:** 1-800-772-1213 or your local Social Security office  
**Website:** [www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability)  
**Services:** The SSDI program pays benefits to you and certain family members if you are “insured.” This means that you worked long enough – and recently enough - and paid Social Security taxes on your earnings. Must also meet requirements for qualifying disability.
- **Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (Not Social Security)**  
**Phone:** 1(800)772-1213  
**Website:** [www.ssa.gov/ssi](http://www.ssa.gov/ssi)  
**Service:** Provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness who have income and resources below specific financial limits. SSI payments are also made to people age 65 and older without disabilities who meet the financial qualifications.
- **People Helping People (PHP)**  
**Phone:** (805) 686-0295  
**Website:** [www.syvphp.org](http://www.syvphp.org)  
**Service:** Provides a wide range of basic needs and support services to families and individuals in communities in the **Santa Ynez Valley\*** (Solvang, Ballard, Buellton, Santa Ynez, and Los Olivos), Los Alamos, and surrounding areas. Domestic violence prevention services and limited basic needs services are available to farm and vineyard workers in the Lompoc Valley.

- **Salvation Army San Luis Obispo County\***  
**Phone:** Paso Robles (805) 238-9591 / Atascadero (805) 466-7201 / Morro Bay (805) 772-7062 / Arroyo Grande (805) 481-0278  
**Financial Assistance** is by appointment only - (805) 544-2401  
**Website:** [sanluisobispo.salvationarmy.org](http://sanluisobispo.salvationarmy.org)  
**Service:** Offers assistance with shelter, meals, bill paying, employment and more.
- **Salvation Army Santa Barbara County\***  
**Phone:** (805)964-8738 / (805) 962-6281  
**Website:** [santabarbara.salvationarmy.org](http://santabarbara.salvationarmy.org)  
**Service:** Offers assistance with shelter, meals, bill paying, employment and more.
- **United Way San Luis Obispo County\***  
**Phone:** (805) 541-1234  
**Website:** [www.unitedwayslo.org](http://www.unitedwayslo.org)  
**Service:** Offers programs that help with education, health, financial stability, & community strengthening.
- **United Way Santa Barbara County\***  
**Phone:** (805) 965-8591  
**Website:** [www.unitedwaysb.org](http://www.unitedwaysb.org)  
**Service:** Offers programs that help with education, financial empowerment, & community crisis.

