

Short-Term Services Provided at HOPE

Short-Term Emergency Assistance

Rent	Water
Electric	Natural Gas
Food	Budget Awareness
Community Referrals/Resources	

A short-term emergency is defined as something that has happened in the last 90 days that was out of your control and/or unexpected to cause you to need assistance in paying a bill or needing food.

Examples include job loss, unexpected medical or home repairs, and/or unexpected car repairs

At HOPE, we partner with you by being a bridge to aid you in moving forward from your Short-Term Emergency.

Assistance granted is on a case-by-case basis AND is also dependent upon the availability of HOPE funds. As with all of our services, our goal is not to give a handout but a hand up.

At HOPE, we recognize that it is our responsibility to be good stewards of the resources that have been entrusted to us. By partnering with HOPE you agree to help us by returning required documents, paying your contingency portion, attending required classes, or keeping appointments with other resource agencies.

What to expect

- ⇒ Bring all required documentation at the time of application including any documentation for the short-term emergency. This can include receipts, doctor notes, hospital discharge papers, repair bills, unemployment status, etc.
- ⇒ You will meet with a Client Advocate at the time of your application for assistance.
 - *Be prepared to discuss your financial crisis and what happened, out of the ordinary, to cause this.
 - *You can expect to discuss your plans to be able to maintain moving forward.
 - *When discussing your situation and budget, the Client Advocate may also be aware of other resources that can help you maintain.
- ⇒ HOPE's may help in a variety of ways, such as:
 - Financially assisting you with your bills, nonfinancial services such as food and budget awareness, and/or providing applicable resources.
- ⇒ HOPE may also ask for a contingency when assisting you. Contingencies may include you paying a portion of your bill and HOPE paying a portion of your bill or requiring you to attend a budget class or make an appointment with an outside resource.
- ⇒ Applications for assistance can take up to 3 days to process, even cut-off notices. **DON'T WAIT!**

HOPE in Lancaster, Inc. is a non-profit agency established in 1983. We do not receive "government funding". HOPE has the right to refuse assistance based on a number of variables. Behavior including cursing, verbal/emotional/physical abuse of staff/volunteers, intoxication, threats or demanding behavior will result in a denial of services.

Documents needed to apply for assistance

- A. South Carolina Photo ID (can not be from another state)*
- B. Social Security Card for person applying for assistance*
- C. Proof of address (lease agreement, utility bill, etc.)*
- D. DSS Food Stamp Verification Form (if applicable)*
- E. Short-Term Emergency Documentation
- F. All the bills you are needing assistance with (they must be current and in your name)

***required for initial interview**

Below are examples of short-term emergencies that HOPE has assisted with. Documentation that supports each of these may look different in every case. In general, we are asking for proof that the short-term emergency has occurred or has caused you to pay out of pocket funds that would have ordinarily been used for monthly expenses. No handwritten receipts will be accepted.

- ⇒ Job Loss or Job hours reduced
- ⇒ Car repairs or Car accident
- ⇒ Unexpected Home Repair
- ⇒ Unexpected hospital stay or loss of work due to unexpected medical reason
- ⇒ Unexpected medical cost paid out of pocket
- ⇒ Out of pocket expenses related to death in family

Mission Statement

HOPE in Lancaster, Inc. provides assistance, resources, and referrals that allow individuals and families in crisis situations the opportunity to recover from and move beyond short-term emergencies.



Client Service Hours

Serving the Communities of Lancaster County & Fort Lawn

Monday –Friday 8:30-11:30

Plan to arrive by 11:00 am to guarantee you will be seen by a Client Advocate

(Appointments at other times may be available upon request)

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