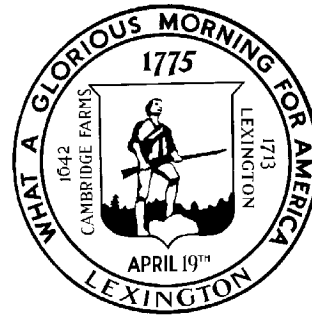


Can I make a donation?

Your donation helps sustain the Lexington Emergency Assistance Fund. If you would like to make a donation, please send a check made out to Town of Lexington, Human Services Fund and mail it to:

Town of Lexington
Selectmen's Office
1625 Massachusetts Avenue
Lexington, MA 02420



Town of Lexington



*For Residents Who Would Like to Help
and Those Who Need Help*

Human Services Department
1475 Massachusetts Avenue
Lexington, MA 02420
781-861-0194
Fax 781-863-2271

For more information:
781-861-0194

What is the Lexington Emergency Assistance Fund (LEAF)?

The LEAF provides limited financial assistance to Lexington residents experiencing unforeseen and unexpected financial crises. These one-time funds are provided as a last resort for critical needs when other funding sources are unavailable or have been exhausted.

Who determines who will receive help? (How is approval determined?)

Referrals can come from various organizations, such as places of worship, and/or town departments such as school, police and fire. Residents may also self-refer. Residents meet with a Town of Lexington Human Services Department Social Worker for a comprehensive assessment. The request is carefully reviewed and if the applicant meets eligibility guidelines, the request is usually granted. Throughout the process, confidentiality is strictly maintained.

How do residents apply?

To apply for assistance, please call the Human Services Department at 781-861-0194 and ask to speak with a Social Worker. Applicants will be required to document their residency and need, as well as provide a sustainable plan for the future once they receive financial assistance. A Social Worker will also help the applicant identify additional sources of outside assistance.

When does the LEAF help?

The LEAF assists residents with a one-time financial crisis that would be substantially alleviated with assistance. Each request is carefully considered on a case-by-case basis. Examples of prior recipients include, but are not limited to, assistance with motel fees for homeless families, utility arrears and unforeseen medical expenses.

“ I am SO thankful for this help. Now I can stay in Lexington because this funding helped me pay my back rent and make a plan for the future. I just can't thank you enough.”

-LEAF recipient

Is there really a need for an emergency fund in Lexington?

Yes! The fund was started to meet the needs of Lexington residents who experience unexpected crises which in turn, jeopardize their safety and well-being within the community. ***In many cases, the LEAF is the only resource available to residents due to the limited number of assistance programs in existence within Lexington. In 2010, almost \$12,000 was distributed to residents facing unforeseen crises.***

What other help do applicants receive?

All applicants have an opportunity to learn about other resources when meeting with the Social Worker. For example, connections to available food and utility resources will lighten the financial burden on a resident, helping to stabilize his/her situation. In addition, scholarship resources within the Town of Lexington may be identified (eg Lexpress, Recreation, Water/Sewer).