

# Flexible Funding to Help Households Access Essential Resources

Available through the following agencies:

**Jamestown Community Learning Council** – Contact Krista Camarata email: [krista.m.camarata@jpsny.org](mailto:krista.m.camarata@jpsny.org)  
Phone: (716) 483-5624. JCLC Serves families with infant, toddler and school-age children. Parents of these households have many barriers to accessing services and meeting basic needs.

**The Resource Center** – Contact Beth Jermain email: [Beth.Jermain@resourcecenter.org](mailto:Beth.Jermain@resourcecenter.org)  
phone: (716) 661-1557. Serves a variety of populations throughout the county including citizens with developmental disabilities, learning, mental health, and employment challenges.

**Mental Health Assoc.** – Contact Michael Nordin email: [michael.nordin@mhachautauqua.org](mailto:michael.nordin@mhachautauqua.org)  
phone: (716) 490-4028. MHA works with the population of adults who struggle with a mental health challenges and /or substance use disorders.

**Community Helping Hands** – Contact Shawn Whitmer email: [chh.shawn@gmail.com](mailto:chh.shawn@gmail.com) \_ phone: (716) 499-8332. Provides services to families and individuals living in poverty, to help meet their household needs including providing access to household items, clothing and other basic needs. CHH also is an approved employer through the Department of Health and Human Services and provides on-site work training and employability skills for people who are un or under employed. CHH Staff are bi-lingual and serving many families in the Latino community.

**Catholic Charities** – Contact Maria Perez-Cruz email: [maria.perez-cruz@ccwny.org](mailto:maria.perez-cruz@ccwny.org) phone: (716) 484-9188/366-3533. Provides mental health counseling and domestic violence offender classes/services for the community. Their programs often include a high degree of case management, to help support the individuals and families they serve.

**United Way of Northern Chautauqua County** – Contact Adam Dolce email: [adam@unitedwayncc.org](mailto:adam@unitedwayncc.org)  
Phone: (716) 366-5424. Provides funding to many of the non-profits who serve the residents of Northern Chautauqua County. UWAY collaborates with program providers to help identify and meet service gaps in the area. They also offer free tax services through the VITA program.

**Love INC** – Contact Susan Justham email: [susan.loveinc@gmail.com](mailto:susan.loveinc@gmail.com) Phone: (716) 338-9838. Faith communities can contact Love INC to help members of their community and congregations access resources.

Flexible funding is funding intended to help individuals and families overcome barriers to accessing essential resources, which have resulted directly from the COVID-19 crisis. These funds have set limits of \$200 per need/incident with a \$500 maximum per household.

Flexible funds may only be used to help households access essential resources during COVID-19, specifically in the areas of communication, transportation, and access to food/ hygiene and cleaning products. Examples of flexible funding would be cell phones, cell phone minutes, paying off back cable bills which are preventing access to the internet for students or people needing access to tele-medicine, tele-counseling or tele-psych services. Transportation may be used on items such as gas cards, basic car repairs, delivery, uber and cab fare to help people be able to access their primary needs such as food, medical and mental health services. Flexible funding can also be used to help meet basic needs to purchase items that they cannot find from traditional food pantries such as baby formula and diapers.

For questions or clarification of how flexible funds may be used, please contact the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County at (716) 483-1561

