

# Housing Search Agencies

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What follows is a list of agencies that provide housing search help and other types of housing assistance. These agencies include Regional Nonprofit Housing Agencies, Community Action Programs (CAPs), Housing Assistance Programs (HAPs), and other programs. There is overlap among these lists.

## Regional Nonprofit Housing Agencies

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There are nine regional nonprofit housing agencies that provide access to a variety of different housing programs. They administer more than 15,000 federal Section 8 rent vouchers on a regional basis and 2,000 state rental vouchers. They also provide access to other housing services, homeownership opportunities, and homelessness prevention resources. The regional housing agencies are all part of a network called the Massachusetts Non-Profit Housing Association. For more information, go to: [www.masshousinginfo.org/mnpha](http://www.masshousinginfo.org/mnpha).

**Berkshire Housing Development Corp.** ..... 413-499-1630  
74 North St., Pittsfield MA 01201  
[www.masshousinginfo.org/bhdc](http://www.masshousinginfo.org/bhdc)

**Community Teamwork, Inc. (CTI)** ..... 978-459-0551  
167 Dutton St., Lowell MA 01852 ..... 800-698-0551  
[www.comteam.org](http://www.comteam.org)

**Franklin County Housing  
and Redevelopment Authority** ..... 413-863-9781  
42 Canal Rd., Turner Falls MA 01376  
[www.masshousinginfo.org/hra](http://www.masshousinginfo.org/hra)

**Housing Allowance Project (HAP)** ..... 413-233-1600  
322 Main St., Springfield MA 01105 ..... 800-332-9667  
[www.masshousinginfo.org/hap](http://www.masshousinginfo.org/hap)

**Housing Assistance Corp. (HAC)** ..... 508-771-5400  
460 West Main St., Hyannis MA 02601  
[www.haconcapecod.org](http://www.haconcapecod.org)

**Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership, Inc. (MBHP)** ..... 617-425-6700  
125 Lincoln St., Boston MA 02111 ..... 800-272-0990  
[www.mbhp.org](http://www.mbhp.org)

**RCAP Solutions, Inc.**  
**(Resources for Communities and People)** ..... 978-630-6600  
205 School St., P.O. Box 159, Gardner MA 01440 ..... 800-488-1969  
[www.rhircap.org](http://www.rhircap.org)

**South Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc. (SMOC)** ..... 508-620-2675  
300 Howard St., Framingham MA 01702 ..... 800-286-6776  
[www.smoc.org](http://www.smoc.org)

**South Shore Housing Development Corp.** ..... 781-422-4200  
169 Summer St., Kingston MA 02364 ..... 800-242-0957  
[www.masshousinginfo.org/ssh](http://www.masshousinginfo.org/ssh)

## **Community Action Programs**

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Community Action Programs (CAPs) provide information, counseling, and advocacy to tenants and landlords on a variety of issues related to housing. Many provide housing search assistance. For more information about and a direct link to each of these agencies, go to: [www.masscap.org](http://www.masscap.org).

**Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD)** ..... 617-357-6000  
178 Tremont St., Boston MA 02111

**Action, Inc.** ..... 978-283-7874  
24 Elm St., Gloucester MA 01930

**Berkshire Community Action Council, Inc.** ..... 413-445-4503  
1531 East St., Pittsfield MA 01201

**Cambridge Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.** ..... 617-868-2900  
11 Inman St., Cambridge MA 02139

**Citizens for Citizens, Inc.** ..... 508-679-0041  
264 Griffin St., Fall River MA 02724

**Community Action Agency of Somerville, Inc.** ..... 617-623-7370  
66-70 Union Sq., #104, Somerville MA 02143

**Community Action Committee  
of Cape Cod & Islands, Inc.** ..... 508-771-1727  
115 Enterprise Rd., Hyannis MA 02601

**Community Action, Inc.** ..... 978-373-1971  
25 Locust St., 2nd fl., Haverhill MA 01832

**Community Action Programs Inter-City, Inc. (CAPIC)** ..... 617-884-6130  
100 Everett Ave., #14, Chelsea MA 02150

**Community Teamwork, Inc. (CTI)**.....978-459-0551  
167 Dutton St., Lowell MA 01852

**Franklin Community Action Corp.**.....413-774-2318  
393 Main St., Greenfield MA 01301

**Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.**.....978-681-4900  
350 Essex St., Lawrence MA 01840

**Lynn Economic Opportunity, Inc. (LEO)** .....781-581-7220  
156 Broad St., Lynn MA 01901

**Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.** .....978-342-7013  
66 Day St., Fitchburg MA 01420

**North Shore Community Action Program, Inc. (NSCAP)** .....978-531-0767  
98 Main St., Peabody MA 01960

**PACE, Inc.** .....508-999-9920  
166 Williams St., P. O. Box 5626, New Bedford MA 02742

**Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc. (QCAP)** .....617-479-8181  
1509 Hancock St., Quincy MA 02169

**Self-Help, Inc.** .....508-588-0447  
Fagan Dr., Avon MA 02322

**South Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc. (SMOC)** .....508-620-2300  
300 Howard St., Framingham MA 01701

**South Shore Community Action Council, Inc.** .....508-747-7575  
265 S. Meadow Rd., Plymouth MA 02360

**Springfield Partners for Community Action, Inc.** .....413-263-6500  
619 State St., Springfield MA 01109

**Tri-City Community Action Program, Inc. (TRI-CAP)** .....781-322-4125  
110 Pleasant St., Malden MA 02148

**Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.**.....413-552-1554  
300 High St., Holyoke MA 01040

**Worcester Community Action Council, Inc.** .....508-754-1176  
484 Main St., 2<sup>nd</sup> fl., Worcester MA 01608

## **Other Housing Search Agencies**

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These community agencies may provide housing search assistance, but may have eligibility or referral guidelines.

- Attleboro Youth and Family Services/  
Family Resource Center**..... 508-226-5722  
11 Peck St., Attleboro MA 02703
- Bristol Housing Services** ..... 781-891-9510  
205 Bacon St., Waltham MA 02451
- Brockton Area Helpline** ..... 508-584-4298  
47 W. Elm St., Brockton MA 02301
- Community Service Network, Inc.** ..... 781-438-1977  
52 Broadway St., Stoneham MA 02180
- HomeStart** ..... 617-542-0338  
105 Chauncy Street, Suite 502, Boston MA 02111
- Salvation Army** ..... 978-342-9407  
739 Water St., Fitchburg MA 01420
- Somerville Community Corporation** ..... 617-776-5931  
One Davis Square, Suite 213, Somerville MA 02144

## **Independent Living Centers Program**

### **What is Independent Living?**

Independent living is having control over one's life. This means being able to choose and control the decisions and directions for one's life to the fullest extent of one's capabilities. People with disabilities have been historically denied the right and opportunity to make their own decisions. Independent living is also a philosophy which advocates for the availability of a range of services and options which maximize self-reliance and self-determination in all of life's activities.

### **What is an Independent Living Center?**

ILCs provide the following services that assist individuals with disabilities to achieve their self-identified goals.

Peer Counseling – the opportunity to tap the experience of other people with disabilities who have successfully strived to lead productive and meaningful lives in their communities through a peer role modeling approach. Peer counseling issues include: personal growth, problem solving, socializing or issues faced specifically by persons with disabilities.

Skills Training – the acquisition of skills needed for living independently, such as how to find housing, Personal Care Attendant management, budgeting, self-advocacy or managing entitlements or benefits.

Information and Referral – providing information and referrals related to disability such as where to look for accessible housing, adaptive equipment, medical providers, legal assistance and a large number of other programs and resources.

Advocacy – helping persons with disabilities to know and assert their rights with, for example, the health care system, landlords, accessing financial benefits and in the community in general.

There is no cost for these services.

### **Community Services**

In addition to individual services, ILCs provide services to the communities in their service areas. Such services might include community access monitoring, consultation on the Americans with Disabilities Act including transitional plans for cities and towns, outreach to under-served populations with disabilities, and training to other service providers and systemic advocacy on a national, state or community level to make the environment more accessible to people with disabilities.

Because ILCs bring together people with all types of disabilities (or cross-disabilities), their advocacy and community service efforts can often be more powerful than those of various groups working alone. ILCs know that regardless of the type of disability, individuals experience many of the same problems and barriers to independence. Thus, common bonds and strength in combining forces are emphasized, while still recognizing that each person has specific and unique needs and goals. Consumer involvement is an important aspect of an ILC. There are many opportunities for people with disabilities,

particularly those who receive or have received services from an ILC, to participate in advocacy efforts, serve on the Board or its committees, volunteer or perhaps become employed at the Center.

Centers for independent living have served as a strong consumer voice on a wide range of national, state and local issues. They work to assure physical and programmatic access to housing, employment, transportation, town or city buildings and services, voting, recreational facilities, and health and social services. They have been instrumental in the development of personal care services, and have worked to reduce physical and programmatic barriers in a number of Massachusetts communities. Additionally, a particular ILC may provide other services such as a Personal Care Assistance (PCA) program, computer training, etc.

What Services are NOT provided by an Independent Living Center?

\*An ILC is not a place to live. Consumers will be provided with a list of available housing and taught where and how to locate housing.

\*An ILC does not provide services that the individual with a disability does not want, even if another family member or professional recommends them. Rather, the pros and cons of such services may be discussed. The choice is that of the consumer.

\*An ILC does not 'manage' aspects of the life of a person with a disability on an ongoing basis. For example, ILC staff will not manage a consumer's money, monitor the upkeep of their home on an ongoing basis or provide a PCA. Rather, again, the emphasis is on teaching the consumer to do these things independently or making referrals to, and advocating for, such necessary services.

Ad-Lib, Inc.  
215 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Phone: 413-442-7047 Fax: 413-443-4338  
Website: [www.adlibcil.org](http://www.adlibcil.org).

#### Cities & Towns Served

Adams	Alford	Becket
Cheshire	Clarksburg	Dalton
Egremont	Florida	Great Barrington
Hancock	Hinsdale	Lanesborough
Lee	Lenox	Monterey
Mount Washington	New Ashford	New Marlborough
North Adams	Otis	Peru
Pittsfield	Richmond	Sandisfield
Savoy	Shelfield	Stockbridge
Tyringham	Washington	West Stockbridge
Williamstown	Windsor	

Boston Center for Independent Living  
60 Temple Place, 5<sup>th</sup> fl, Boston, MA 02111  
Phone: 617-338-6665 Fax: 617-338-6661  
Website: [www.bostoncil.org](http://www.bostoncil.org).

#### Cities & Towns Served

Acton	Arlington	Bedford
Belmont	Boston	Braintree
Brookline	Burlington	Cambridge
Canton	Carlisle	Chelsea
Concord	Dedham	Everett
Lexington	Lincoln	Malden
Medford	Milton	Newton
Norwood	Quincy	Randolph
Revere	Sharon	Somerville
Walpole	Waltham	Watertown
Westwood	Weymouth	Winchester
Winthrop	Woburn	Wilmington



Center for Living and Working, Inc.  
484 Main St, Suite 345, Worcester, MA 01607  
Phone: 508-798-0350 Fax: 508-797-4015  
Website: [www.centerlw.org](http://www.centerlw.org)

#### Cities & Towns Served

Ashburnham	Ashby	Athol
Auburn	Ayer	Barre
Berlin	Blackstone	Bolton
Boylston	Brookfield	Charlton
Clinton	Douglas	Dudley
East Brookfield	Fitchburg	Grafton
Gardner	Harvard	Hardwick
Hopedale	Hubbardston	Holden
Leicester	Lancaster	Lunenburg
Leominster	Milford	Millbury
Millville	Mendon	New Braintree
Northborough	Northbridge	North Brookfield
Oxford	Oakham	Petersham
Phillipston	Paxton	Princeton
Royalston	Rutland	Shirley
Shrewsbury	Southbridge	Spencer
Sterling	Sturbridge	Sutton
Templeton	Townsend	Upton
Uxbridge	Warren	Webster
West Boylston	West Brookfield	Westborough
Westminister	Winchendon	Worcester

Cape Organization for the Rights of the Disabled  
1019 Iyannough Road, #4, Hyannis, MA 02601  
Phone: 508-775-8300 Fax: 508-775-7022  
Website: [www.cordonline.org](http://www.cordonline.org)

#### Cities & Towns Served

Aquinnah (Gay Head)	Barnstable	Bourne
Brewster	Chatham	Chilmark
Dennis	Eastham	Edgartown
Falmouth	Gosnold	Harwich
Mashpee	Nantucket	Oak Bluffs
Orleans	Provincetown	Sandwich
Tisbury	Truro	Wellfleet
West Tisbury	Yarmouth	

Independence Associates, Inc.  
141 Main St. 1<sup>st</sup> fl., Brockton, MA 02301  
Phone: 508-583-2166 or 800-649-5568  
Fax: 508-583-2165  
Website: [www.iacil.org](http://www.iacil.org)

#### Cities & Towns Served

Abington		Avon
Bridgewater	Brockton	Carver
Cohasset	Duxbury	East Bridgewater
Easton	Foxborough	Halifax
Hanover	Hanson	Hingham
Holbrook	Hull	Kingston
Mansfield	Marshfield	Middleborough
	Norton	Norwell
Pembroke	Plainville	Plympton
Plymouth	Raynham	Rockland
Scituate	Stoughton	Taunton
West Bridgewater	Whitman	

Independent Living Center of the North Shore and Cape Ann Inc.  
27 Congress Street Suite 107, Salem, MA 01970  
Phone: 978-741-0077 Fax: 978-741-1133  
Website: [www.ilcnsca.org](http://www.ilcnsca.org)

Cities & Towns Served

Beverly	Danvers	Essex
Gloucester	Hamilton	Ipswich
Lynn	Lynnfield	Manchester by the Sea
Marblehead	Melrose	Middleton
Nahant	North Reading	Peabody
Reading	Rockport	Rowley
Salem	Saugus	Stoneham
Swampscott	Topsfield	Wakefield
Wenham		

Metro West Center for Independent Living  
280 Irving Street, Framingham, MA 01702  
Phone: 508-875-7853 Fax: 508-875-8359  
Website: [www.mwcil.org](http://www.mwcil.org)

Cities & Towns Served

Ashland	Bellingham	Dover
Foxboro	Framingham	Franklin
Holliston	Hopkinton	Hudson
Marlboro	Maynard	Medfield
Medway	Millis	Natick
Needham	Norfolk	Plainville
Sherborn	Southborough	Stow
Sudbury	Wayland	Wellesley
Weston	Wrentham	

Multi-Cultural Independent Living Center of Boston  
110 Claybourne St., Dorchester, MA 02124  
Phone 617-288-9431 TDD 617-288-2707  
Fax 617-265-2597  
Website: [www.milcb.org](http://www.milcb.org)

Cities & Towns Served

Dorchester	Roxbury	Mattapan
Jamacia Plain	Roslindale	West Roxbury
Hyde Park	Dedham	Milton

Northeast Independent Living Program  
20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843  
Phone: 978-687-4288 Fax: 978-689-4488  
Website: [www.nilp.org](http://www.nilp.org)

#### Cities & Towns Served

Amesbury	Andover	Billerica
Boxborough	Boxford	Chelmsford
Dracut	Dunstable	Georgetown
Groton	Groveland	Haverhill
Lawrence	Littleton	Lowell
Merrimac	Methuen	Newbury
Newburyport	North Andover	Pepperell
Salisbury		Tewksbury
Tyngsborough	West Newbury	Westford

Southeast Center for Independent Living  
66 Troy Street, Suite #3, Fall River, 02720  
Phone: 508-679-9210 Fax: 508-677-2377  
Website: [www.secil.org](http://www.secil.org)

#### Cities & Towns Served

Acushnet	Attleboro	Berkley
Dighton	Dartmouth	Fairhaven
Fall River	Freetown	Lakeville
Mattapoisett	Marion	
New Bedford	No.Attleboro	Rehoboth
Rochester	Seekonk	Somerset
Swansea	Wareham	Westport



STAVROS CIL

691 South East Street, Amherst, MA 01002

Phone: 413-256-0473 Fax: 413-256-0190

Website: [www.stavros.org](http://www.stavros.org)

Cities & Towns Served

Agawam	Amherst	Ashfield
STAVROS	Benardston	Blanford
Belchertown	Buckland	Charlemont
Brimfield	Chesterfield	Chicopee
Chester	Conway	Cummington
Colrain	Easthampton	East Longmeadow
Deerfield	Gill	Goshen
Erving	Granville	Greenfield
Granby	Hampden	Hatfield
Hadley	Heath	Holland
Hawley	Huntington	Leverett
Holyoke	Longmeadow	Ludlow
Leydon	Monroe	Monson
Middlefield	Montgomery	New Salem
Montague	Northfield	Orange
Northampton	Pelham	Plainfield
Palmer	Russell	Shelburne
Rowe	South Hadley	Southampton
Shutesbury	Springfield	Sunderland
Southwick	Wales	Ware
Tolland	Wendell	West Springfield
Warwick	Westhampton	Whately
Westfield	Williamsburg	Worthington
Wilbraham		

