# National Alliance on Mental Illness: COVID-19 Resource and Information Guide

https://www.nami.org/getattachment/About-NAMI/NAMI-News/2020/NAMI-Updates-on-the-Coronavirus/COVID-19-Updated-Guide-1.pdf

- Online support communities
- Website search engines to find federally funded health centers that provide care regardless of insurance coverage or income
  - o Find a federally funded health center near you at https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/.
  - National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics at https://www.nafcclinics.org/ offers a Find A Clinic function on its website.
  - Free Clinic Directory at https://freeclinicdirectory.org/ offers a free clinic treatment locator by zip code.
  - Helpwhenyouneedit.org and www.211.org is a zip-code-based search for local resources including: affordable medical/ mental health clinics, housing, food, heating assistance, etc.
- Financial assistance programs

### **Online Support Communities**

- NAMI hosts online communities where people exchange support and encouragement.
  - o To join these discussion groups: www.nami.org.
- 7Cups www.7cups.com
  - Free **online text chat** with a trained listener for emotional support/ counseling. Also offers feefor-service online therapy with a licensed mental health professional. Also offered in Spanish.
- EmotionsAnonymous:www.emotionsanonymous.org
  - EA members have in person and online weekly meetings available in more than 30 countries with 600 active groups worldwide. The EA is nonprofessional and can be a complement to therapy.
- Support Group Central: www.supportgroupscentral.com
  - Offers virtual support groups on numerous mental health conditions free or low-cost. Also offered in Spanish.
- SupportGroups.com: https://www.supportgroups.com/online
  - Website featuring 200+ online support groups.
- ForLikeMinds:www.forlikeminds.com
  - Online mental health support network for individuals to connect with others living with/ supporting someone with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and stressful life events.
- 18percent: www.18percent.org
  - Offers a free, peer-to-peer online support community for those struggling with a wide range of mental health issues.
- PsychCentral:www.psychcentral.com
  - Offers online mental health resources, quizzes, news, an "Ask the Therapist" function, and online support communities.
- Contact the SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline (800) 985- 5990 that provides 24/7, 365-day-a- year crisis counseling/ support to people experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters.

# Local COVID-19 Testing Centers

| Cajundome                              | 444 Cajundome Blvd,<br>Lafayette  | 8:30am-10:30am | Pre-screening phone #: 311 or 534-TEST. Please bring picture ID and insurance card.                                |
|--|---|----------------|--|
| North Lewis Elementary                 | 604 N. Lewis St, New<br>Iberia  | 9:00am-12:00pm | Pre-screening patients at these two #s: 337-374-7421 and 337-374-7420. Please bring picture ID and insurance card. |
| Delcambre Erath Rural<br>Health Clinic | 220 North Road, Erath   | 10am-12pm      | Pre-screening phone #: 337-892-6999. Please bring picture ID and insurance card.                                   |
| Opelousas General Health<br>System     | Information regarding test location will be released to patient once they have been screened. | By appointment | Pre-screening phone #: 337-678-4705. Please bring picture ID and insurance card.                                   |

# Resources from Louisiana Department of Health and Human Services

- For the Deaf or Hearing Impared:
  - http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/LDH COVID-19 DeafAssistance.pdf
- Information about Businesses:
  - http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/COVID-19 Business Guidance.pdf
- Family Preparedness for Families:
  - http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/Family Preparedness.pdf
- Questions about Funerals:
  - http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/COVID-19 FuneralGuidanceFAQ.pdf
- Main Page for Full List of Resources: <a href="http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3878">http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3878</a>

# **CDC Resources**

- CDC Information: If You Are Sick
  - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html
- CDC Information: How to Protect Yourself
  - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F201 9-ncov%2Fprepare%2Fprevention.html
- Resources for those experiencing Homelessness
  - https://www.http://ldh.la.gov/assets/oph/Coronavirus/resources/COVID-19\_FuneralGuidanceFAQ.pdfcdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homelessshelters/index.html
- Information on Travel: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html
- Guidance for Mass Gatherings or Large Events:

- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/mass-gatherings-ready-for-covid-19.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fmass-gatherings-ready-for-covid-19.html
- Resources about Coronavirus and Pregnancy/ Breastfeeding:
  - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancybreastfeeding.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019 -ncov%2Fprepare%2Fpregnancy-breastfeeding.html
- Resources regarding Coronavirus and Children:
  - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/faq.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019ncov%2Fprepare%2Fchildren-faq.html
- Resources regarding Animals/ Pets:
  - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/faq.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019ncov%2Fprepare%2Fchildren-faq.html#COVID19animals

# Office of the Governor: COVID-19 Resources for Louisiana

- https://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/92
- "Keep Calm through COVID" Hotline: 1-866-310-7977
  - TRAINED COUNSELORS available 24/7| All calls confidential
- Louisiana 211 Network (dial 211 OR text the keyword LACOVID to 898-211)
  - o For most current information about the outbreak as it becomes available

### • Volunteer Resources

- To volunteer visit <a href="https://covid-19lavolunteers.org">https://covid-19lavolunteers.org</a>
- Because of our critical need for healthcare workers, we have created a medical volunteer website in order to mobilize healthcare students and graduates from Louisiana universities and colleges to support the existing healthcare workforce that is quickly getting stretched thin.
- The website is available to active members or retirees of Louisiana's healthcare workforce who are willing and able to assist.

#### Unemployment Resources

- o To file a claim, go to www.louisianaworks.net/hire or call 866-783-5567
- If your workplace has temporarily closed or you have been told to take unpaid time off, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits through the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

### Business and Homeowner Resources

- Small Business Administration low interest disaster loans help business and homeowners recover from declared disasters
  - https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance
- Louisiana Economic Development offering 'COVID-19: Business Resources', an online guide to assistance available for impacted businesses.
  - https://www.opportunitylouisiana.com/covid19
- Federal Housing Finance Agency
  - https://www.fhfa.gov/Homeownersbuyer/MortgageAssistance/Pages/Coronavirus-Assistance-Information.aspx
  - Assistance for homeowners and renters impacted by Coronavirus

# **Resources for Parents**

Find a Child Care Provider, Find a School Meal Site, LPB Learning at Home Resources https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/covid-19

#### **General Financial Assistance**

- Need Help Paying Bills: www.needhelppayingbills.com
  - Provides information on assistance programs, charity organizations, and resources that provide help paying bills, mortgage and debt relief (financial, rent and government assistance).
- Aunt Bertha: www.auntbertha.com
  - Connects users to free/ reduced cost local resources such as medical care, food, housing, transportation and much more. Website also offered in Spanish.
- 211 / www.211.org
  - Dial 211 or visit www.211.org to search for contact information by zip code; service refers callers to agencies/community organizations that offer emergency financial assistance; available in most areas. Offered in Spanish.
- HelpWhenYouNeedIt: www.helpwhenyouneedit.org
  - An online service that connects users to over 350,000 listings
    nationwide of private/ public resources for food pantries, stores that accept food stamps,
    assisted living facilities, domestic violence & homeless shelters, mental health & substance use
    treatment, free clinics, legal and financial assistance.
- Help with Bills: www.usa.gov/help-with-bills
  - Provides information about government programs that help with bill payment, temporary assistance, jobs/unemployment, credit, etc. Offered in Spanish.

# Medical Care/Hospital Bill Assistance

- The Assistance Fund: www.tafcares.org
  - For those who qualify for financial support, service provides advocates to assist in securing financial assistance for co-payments, prescriptions, deductibles, premiums & medical expenses. Available in Spanish.
- Rise Above the Disorder: www.youarerad.org
  - Resource for finding a therapist, answering mental health questions and applying for grants to cover the cost of therapy.
- Patient Access Network Foundation (PAN): www.panfoundation.org
  - Provides underinsured patients with financial assistance through disease-specific funds. Provide access to progressive therapies. Available in Spanish
- Patient Advocate Foundation: www.patientadvocate.org
  - Helps federally and commercially insured people living with lifethreatening, chronic, and rare diseases. Offers co-pay relief program to provide direct financial assistance to insured patients who meet certain qualifications to help them pay for needed prescriptions and/or treatment. Available in Spanish.
- HealthWell Foundation: www.healthwellfoundation.org
  - Financial assistance for those underinsured to afford critical medical treatments through "Disease Funds" (note, typically for chronic physical diseases). Available in Spanish.
- Medicare Information Regarding COVID-19
  - https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus

# **Prescription Medication Assistance**

- NAMI-Help Paying for Medications page: https://www.nami.org/find- support/living-with-a- mental-health-condition/getting-help-paying-for- medications
- PhRMA's Medicine Assistance Tool: www.medicineassistancetool.org
  - o A search engine for patient assistance resources that the pharmaceutical industry offers.
- Needy Meds: (800) 503-6897 / www.needymeds.org
  - A HelpLine/ website information on financial assistance programs to help defray the cost of medication. Available in Spanish
- RX Assist: www.rxassist.org
  - Provides up-to-date directory of free and low-cost medicine programs and other ways to manage medication costs.
- RX Hope: www.rxhope.com
  - o A free patient assistance program- Helps obtain critical medications
- USARX: www.usarx.com
  - Provides coupons online for downloading/printing and can be brought to the pharmacy to see if it will give consumers a lower price.
- Blinkhealth Prescription Assistance: www.blinkhealth.com
  - Individuals (with or without insurance) pay upfront for medication online and then take a voucher to their pharmacy. Accepts calls 8 a.m.-10 p.m. M-F, 9 a.m.-7p.m. weekends (EST); Available in Spanish.