

# ***Brookfield Social Services Summer 2022***



It is summertime - Yay! The season to relax from the stress of another hectic school year, work, the cold weather, etc. and enjoy family and fun activities. Pat yourselves on the back for a job well done and allow yourselves to wind down and take in a breath of that calming, warm air.

Once you have taken a well-deserved rest, it may be a good time to begin to plan for the months ahead. What would you like to accomplish? Where do you see yourself in the next year, two years, etc.? What steps might you need to take to achieve those goals?

Please know that we are here to help you to meet your goals by supporting you in your efforts to find what you are on this earth to accomplish and to give your children what they need to flourish. Working together, we can make a positive difference in your life to support you in going forward and in realizing your independence and your dreams.

For now, take in the sun and fun. May you make many happy memories this summer.

*Brookfield Social Services*

## ***Renter's Rebate***

Filing period is April 1 - October 1. If you rented in 2021, were age 65 or older or disabled and your income (including Social Security) was no more than \$38,100 for individuals and \$46,400 for couples, you may be eligible to receive a Rebate from the State. For more information about this program and your eligibility, please contact Lorraine at 203-775-7312.

## ***Help for Homeowners!***

A new CT homeowners' assistance program has been created using monies from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). It is called **MyHomeCT**, and is available to eligible CT residents who have mortgage **delinquencies or defaults that occurred as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic**. The CT Department of Housing is the responsible entity for the program and has designated the CT Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) to administer it on its behalf. Mortgage and non-mortgage grants are awarded to eligible homeowners as either **one-time assistance**, which brings the homeowner's bills current, or as **ongoing assistance** to pay bills going forward (up to 12 months). Non-mortgage assistance includes, but is not limited to non-mortgaged real estate taxes and insurance, condominium or HOA fees, water and sewer liens, HOA or condominium assessments.

For more information and to apply, please go to:

<https://www.chfa.org/myhomect/>

or call the MyHomeCT call center at: 877-894-4111 Mon-Fri from 10am-8pm EST

## ***Connecticut Child Tax Rebate***

Governor Lamont has announced a one-time Connecticut Child Tax Rebate for CT families: For details or to apply go to <https://portal.ct.gov/DRS/Credit-Programs/Child-Tax-Rebate/Overview>.

## *CTpathways SNAP Employment and Training Program*

SNAP E&T is a work program designed to help SNAP recipients gain skills that will help increase self-sufficiency.

If you are receiving SNAP in Connecticut and not receiving money from the Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) program, you may be eligible to participate in SNAP E&T. E&T is a skills-based program that provides short-term vocational programs at community colleges and community-based organizations.

To learn more and to get started, please visit:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/SNAP/SNAP-Employment-and-Training>

### *Join us in welcoming a new staff member!*

Effective mid-July, Brookfield Senior and Social Services will be welcoming a new staff member to our offices. Ryan's official title is Behavioral Services Liason. He will be collaborating with the Brookfield Police Department, the Health Department, the schools and local agencies to determine and assist where there might be unmet needs. We hope you are able to attend some of the programs and events he will be holding.

In the meantime, stop by anytime to meet Ryan and welcome him to Brookfield!

### Ride for Free



### **HARTransit Services are Free of Charge**

#### **CONNECTICUT BUSES FARE-FREE THROUGH November 30, 2022**

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) announced today that all public transit buses will be fare-free across Connecticut from April 1, 2022 through November 30, 2022.

"With the recent rise in fuel prices and increased costs associated with owning and maintaining private vehicles, it is important to provide meaningful relief to the residents of our state," stated CTDOT Commissioner Joseph Giulietti. "We are excited that people are returning to our services again or are trying us out for the first time."

Fare free buses were included in [recent policy signed](#) by Governor Lamont. Policy also includes a three-month waiver of .25 cents to the state's gasoline tax, and a sales-tax free week in mid-April on clothing and shoes under \$100.

"As the pandemic recedes, many people are now returning to workplaces either full-time or with a hybrid schedule, and as a result, increasing the traffic volume on our state's roadways," said CTDOT Bureau Chief for Public Transportation Rich Andreski. "Going fare-free for three months will benefit all riders of the bus system and hopefully entice more people to give the bus a try."

On-demand bus services operating in Norwalk and Westport as Wheels2U, in Stonington as Hop and in the Estuary region as XtraMile, are premium services that are not included in the fare-free promotion. Interstate bus services such as Greyhound and Peter Pan are also not included.

## ***Food Pantry***

Our food pantry remains a drive-thru pick-up in which a list of available items is provided to food pantry clients.

### **Food Pantry Hours**

- **Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
- **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**
- **Closed during holidays and when the Town Hall is closed**

**The Danbury Food Collaborative** has recently updated their food guide to include SNAP and WIC information. The food guide is a comprehensive listing of pantries, congregate meal sites, etc. The Danbury Food Collaborative is supported by the United Way of Western CT.

[Click here for the Food Guide in English >](https://www.danburyseniors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DanburyFoodGuide-English-11.21.2019.pdf) <https://www.danburyseniors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DanburyFoodGuide-English-11.21.2019.pdf>

[Clique aqui para o Guia Alimentar em Português>](https://www.danburyseniors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DanburyFoodGuide-Portuguese-11.21.2019.pdf) <https://www.danburyseniors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DanburyFoodGuide-Portuguese-11.21.2019.pdf>

[Haga clic aquí para ver la Guía de alimentos en español>](https://www.danburyseniors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DanburyFoodGuide-Spanish-11.21.2019.pdf) <https://www.danburyseniors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DanburyFoodGuide-Spanish-11.21.2019.pdf>



## ***Farmers Market***

- The Brookfield Farmer's Market accepts SNAP and will double your purchase dollars! Eating locally grown food is healthy. Please stop by the Farmer's market which operates every Friday from 3-6 p.m. through October 21.
- Coupon books from the USDA for seniors and disabled persons living in senior housing that offer meals, will be available in July. Please check with Lorraine.

## ***Back-To-School Program***

Do you have a child in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade? If so, the 2022 Salvation Army Back-to-School program will be distributed during the food pantry in August. You must have completed an annual eligibility update with Social Services to participate.



Connecticut Family Support Network (CTFSN) helps families raising children with disabilities. CTFSN connects with parents to provide support in the form of emotional support, advocacy and guidance, education and parent groups. Please visit the website at <https://ctfsn.org/> or call (860) 744-4074.

## **Brookfield Social Services**

100 Pocono Road  
Brookfield, CT 06804

### **Brookfield Social Services Department**

**100 Pocono Road Brookfield, CT 06804 Telephone: 203-775-7312**

*Social Services Coordinator:*  
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(Lorraine habla español)  
[lkelly@brookfieldct.gov](mailto:lkelly@brookfieldct.gov)

*Director of Senior/Social Services:*  
Ellen Melville [emelville@brookfieldct.gov](mailto:emelville@brookfieldct.gov)

*Senior/Social Services Program Coordinator:*  
Amy Diezemann [adiezemann@brookfieldct.gov](mailto:adiezemann@brookfieldct.gov)

*Senior/Social Services Administrator*  
Kathy Creighton [kcreighton@brookfieldct.gov](mailto:kcreighton@brookfieldct.gov)

#### ***FISH Medical Transportation:***

Transportation for medical appointments  
weekdays from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Ambulatory disabled and/or seniors.

Brookfield residents only. *Call 203-616-9678 to  
submit request at least 3 days prior to appointment.*



#### ***SweetHART Telephone:***

Main Phone: 203-744-4070  
Reservations: Press 3

#### ***Meals on Wheels:***

Home delivered meals for those 60 years of age or  
older who are homebound.  
Main number: 800-994-9422

#### ***Elder Justice Hotline:***

If you are the victim of scam, or neglected,  
exploited, or abused, they are here to help.  
***Main phone: 860-808-5555***

***All Are Welcome Here!***

Brookfield Social Services and  
Brookfield Senior Center respect the  
diversity of all who enter.





When you're trying to rebuild your life after experiencing a significant setback, you need all the help you can get. And, while unexplained gaps in your resume may seem like a major barrier to creating a new life, all too often the biggest roadblock is your own lack of belief in yourself and your ability to make a fresh start.

At TBICO, we focus on what you can do, not what you might have done in the past. Job and career coaching is all about you. Instead of thinking about the holes in your life, we encourage you to think about where you want to go. There are people and agencies waiting to help you get a new start and TBICO is one of them.

Call us at 203-743-6695 ext 200

Or email us at [info@tbicoworks.org](mailto:info@tbicoworks.org)

*What's behind you doesn't matter.*

*Enzo Ferrari*

6 Finster Drive  
Danbury, CT 06810  
Tel: 203-743-6695 Fax: 203-743-6836  
[www.tbicoworks.org](http://www.tbicoworks.org)

## Connecticut Summer at the Museum 2022 - Free Admission for Kids



It's time to explore!

From July 1 to September 5, Connecticut children age 18 and under plus one accompanying Connecticut resident adult can visit participating museums free of charge through the Connecticut Summer at the Museum program.

*Before you visit, check each participant's website for specific program details and ticket availability.*



### SUCCESS IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL: ALICE ENRICHMENT FUND

LIVE UNITED

Does your child want to play a sport, take an art class, enroll in music lessons, or something similar?

United Way's ALICE Enrichment Fund provides qualified families with assistance for out-of-school activities.

Research shows that children who participate in enrichment activities have improved levels of physical and mental health, and academic achievement. United Way of Western Connecticut's ALICE Enrichment Fund will provide families who fall within the ALICE® (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) income category\* financial subsidies for their children to participate in extracurricular activities.

Visit [www.uwwesternct.org/aliceenrichmentfund](http://www.uwwesternct.org/aliceenrichmentfund) for more information and to connect with United Way's local partner to apply.

#### BROOKFIELD

Department of Social Services

Amy Diezemann

203.775.5308

[adiezemann@brookfieldct.gov](mailto:adiezemann@brookfieldct.gov)

For more information, visit

[www.uwwesternct.org/aliceenrichmentfund](http://www.uwwesternct.org/aliceenrichmentfund)



TOWN OF BROOKFIELD  
Department of Social Services



United Way  
of Western Connecticut

## Brookfield Congregational Church Thrift Shop



**OPEN For Business!**  
**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays**

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
160 Whisconier Rd; Rte 25

Vouchers available through Social Services

\*Income thresholds vary by family size. For example, families of four can earn no more than \$70,788 to qualify for this assistance.  
301 Main St., Ste 2-5, Danbury, CT 06810 203.792.5330 | 24 Bank Street, New Milford, CT 06776 203.354.8800 | 1155 Summer Street, Stamford, CT 06901 203.348.7771





## TOWN BEACH SEASON PASSES

Come enjoy our beautiful Town Park Beach located at 460 Candlewood Lake Rd. Swimming, basketball, sand volleyball, plentiful picnic seating, BBQ grills, restrooms, individual and family changing rooms and more await you. The beach is staffed with some of the best trained, most helpful and friendly lifeguards you'll find anywhere on Candlewood Lake.

Season passes may be purchased over the phone by returning pass holders. New residents must provide proof of residency in person at the Parks & Recreation Office at 162 Whisconier Road.

Please contact Brookfield Social Services to see if you qualify for a free Beach Pass.



<b>June 17</b> <b>The Spanners</b> Pop Rock Brookfield Lions Club Claire A. Free, MD, LLC The Goddard School	<b>July 15</b> <b>Future Tense</b> Rock Dance Brookfield Plumbing & Heating, LLC The Sandbox Daycare Center of Danbury Sandbox Too! of Danbury Village Preschool & Daycare of Bethel	<b>August 5</b> <b>Generation Blues</b> Blues Harding for Senate
<b>June 24</b> <b>Goldrush</b> Bluegrass Clayton's Mercantile Supply Inc. Southridge Technology	<b>July 22</b> <b>Rock &amp; Blu</b> Pontoon Rock Radio McCahey Professionals Team at Coldwell Banker Chick-fil-A	<b>August 12</b> <b>Eight to the Bar</b> Swing-Motown-Blues Brookfield Cares
<b>July 1</b> <b>Scratch</b> Dance Party Overhead Door Company of Brookfield Frankies of CT Sippin Energy Products	<b>July 29</b> <b>Owls Nest</b> Eclectic Mix Rock & Blues Dental Associates of Connecticut ABC Fuel Oil & Service, LLC	<b>August 19</b> <b>Older Than Dirt</b> Classic Rock Orthopaedic Specialists of CT & Interventional Pain Management Hegarty & Company Inc., Real Estate
<b>July 8</b> <b>Jamnesia</b> Classic Rock Shakespeare's Garden Massage Envy Brookfield		<b>August 26</b> <b>Dan's Garage</b> Classic Rock Jim Eagan Agency Matson Financial Advisors, Inc.

Concerts are scheduled Friday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the Town Hall Bandstand, 100 Pocono Road. Family fun! Bring a chair or blanket and picnic in the park!

## BROOKFIELD FARMERS MARKET ACCEPTS SNAP CARDS and WILL DOUBLE YOUR PURCHASE DOLLARS!



Buy fresh food and/or seeds with your SNAP card. You will not only be able to buy healthier foods to enjoy, but you'll get double the value of your SNAP! There's no reason not to, and all the reasons to come to the:

**Brookfield Farmer's Market**  
Intersection of Silvermine and Pocono Roads  
(across from the Post Office)  
Fridays 3-6pm beginning June 17<sup>th</sup> and ending October 21<sup>st</sup>

See you there!

See back of flyer for details on what you can and cannot purchase with SNAP

## Fast-track your way to a NEW JOB

as a Part Time  
Product Demonstrator!



Part time  
benefits  
available!



Chat with our virtual teammate  
Cindy to start your application now.  
Our hiring process is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Text **CDSJOBS** to **33000**
2. Chat with our virtual teammate Cindy to qualify
3. Fast-track your app by recording a quick video showcasing your Product Demonstrator skills!