



**Representative Emilia Strong Sykes
Ohio House District 34
Minority Leader**

**House District 34 Related Financial Resources Due to
COVID-19
As of October 14, 2021**

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Food and Clothing Resources

Open M Food Services

- <https://www.openm.org/food>
- 941 Princeton St., Akron, Ohio (330) 434-0110
- Emergency Food Pantry: Referral Only (Call Info Line 211)
Mon. - Thurs. 11:30 am - 2 pm. The Emergency Food Pantry provides referred participants with a three-day supply of shelf-stable products and fresh foods. Participants are eligible for food every 31 days.
- Hot Lunch: Last 2 Weeks of Each Month (Except Nov. & Dec.)
Mon. - Fri. 11:30 am - 1 pm. Hot Lunch provides fresh, hot meals to the community. It is provided in partnership with churches, organizations and community groups who purchase, cook and serve each meal.
- Mountain of Food: Third Friday Each Month
9 - 11 am. A Direct Distribution program of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank hosted by OPEN M. It is a one-day, bulk distribution of foods such as produce, meat, breads and more. Participants must bring an ID with an address. No referral or pre-registration is required for this program.
- Senior Supplemental Food Program: Must meet income guidelines and be pre-registered for program
Second Friday each month In partnership with the state of Ohio and the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, the Senior Supplemental Food Program helps improve the health of elderly citizens through supplemental and nutritious food boxes. Participants must meet income guidelines and be pre-registered for the program. This program takes place on the second Friday of each month.
- Blessing Box: The Blessing Box is an outdoor pantry box stocked with non-perishable sacked meals for those in need of emergency assistance after-hours when the Emergency Food Pantry is closed.

Celebration Church Food Assistance

- 688 Dan Street Akron, Ohio 44310
- Gives out food every Wednesday at 7p.m.-9p.m. and Thursdays 10a.m.-4p.m.
- Allows aide, friend, or another family member to pick up items for person in need with a proxy letter. This letter must include name, address, and person designating to pick up the food. Also need to have a valid ID
- **DUE TO HEALTH CONCERNS, THIS PROGRAM WILL BE DISTRIBUTING GROCERIES, BUT NOT PROVIDING A MEAL ON THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 7P TO 9P.**
- Call (330) 762-7458

Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

- In need of food resources? Visit <https://www.akroncantonfoodbank.org/covid19>
- Call 855-560-0850 to connect with food pantries or hot meals near you
- The Foodbank is maintaining its regular business hours of M-F 8-4 during the COVID-19 crisis. Please call 330.535.6900 if you have any questions.

- 350 Opportunity Parkway, Akron, OH 44307-2234
- Email: info@acrfb.org

Agape Storehouse (Akron Bible Church Food Pantry)

- Agape Storehouse Food Pantry helping residents of the community and those in need with grocery items on Wednesday evenings.
- Located at 340 E South St. Akron Oh 44311
- Call 330-376-5673
- https://www.akronbiblechurch.net/service-page/food-pantry?referral=service_list_widget

Akron Urban League

- The Akron Urban League is accepting donations for clothes for men and women as well as dress shoes, jewelry, purses and men's ties.
- The closet is open from 9-11 a.m. Tuesdays and from 2-4 p.m. Thursdays. No appointment is necessary. The Urban League is at 440 Vernon Odom Blvd., and the phone number is 330-434-3101.
- The Akron Urban League will also be hosting a diversity career fair on **Thursday, Oct. 14**. Register at www.akronurbanleague.org.

Rent and Utility Assistance

Akron Cares

- Emergency funding is available to eligible City of Akron residents who are having difficulty paying their Akron Utility Bill and are delinquent.
- For questions, please contact Akron Public Utility Customer Service at (330) 375-2554 or 3-1-1 or visit <https://www.akronohio.gov/cms/site/a1c1965762eaf81a/index.html>
- Apply here: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/3111001d512d4b3598187b7603be2e4e>

Summit County Cares

- <http://www.summitcountycares.org/apply.html>
summitcountycares@uwsummit.org 2-1-1
- Funding for mortgages or utilities for homeowners is no longer available through this program. Households that have already received assistance through the program are eligible to apply for additional months of assistance if needed at this time. If your household has previously submitted an application to Summit County Cares in 2021, and the application is still in process, please do not resubmit another application.

Community Action Akron Summit

- 330-376-7730
- www.ca-akron.org

United Way Summit

- 330-762-7601
- www.uwsummit.org

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority

- 330-762-9631
- dbarry@akronhousing.org
- Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) application: ohakron.tenmast.com/apply/
- Referral list for Emergency Shelters: <https://www.akronhousing.org/pages/Referral-Listing-for-Emergency-Housing.html>

Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio

- 330-762-7601
- www.voahin.org/northern-ohio

Local Resource List

- www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/akron_rent_assistance.html

Spectrum Internet

- Spectrum Internet Assist allows qualified households to sign up for low income internet assistance. To qualify, one or more members of a household must be a recipient of the National School Lunch Program, OR the Community Eligibility Provision of the NSLP, OR Supplemental Security Income
 - Visit <https://www.spectrum.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist> or call 1-855-707-7328

Public Utilities Commission

- 1-800-672-2231
- The Commission directs all public utilities under its jurisdiction to review their service disconnection policies, practices, and tariff provisions and to promptly seek any necessary approval to suspend otherwise applicable requirements that may impose a service continuity hardship on residential and non-residential customers or create unnecessary COVID-19 risks associated with social contact. For more information about service disconnection or reconnection, customers should call 1-800-672-2231.
- Ohio's electric, natural gas, water & wastewater distribution utilizes to suspend any in-person meter reading activities, and any other non-essential work; functions that are necessary to initiate new service or to ensure the continuity of service should be deemed essential and should continue during the state of emergency
- Visit <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/utilities/electricity/resources/utility-assistance-programs> for a list of assistance programs

State Resources

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance or Traditional Unemployment Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

- <https://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/>
- Visit <https://pua.unemployment.ohio.gov/Claimant/Core/Login.ASPX> for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) application and eligibility
- If you have a question about your unemployment case, [click here](#) for the phone number to the processing center that has your claim. Processing centers are assigned based on the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- File your unemployment claim online: <https://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/>
- File by phone: (877) 644-6562
- Employer Help Desk: (614) 466-2319

If you still need assistance with your PUA or Traditional Unemployment claim, please contact **REP34@ohiohouse.gov** with the following information:

Legal first and last name
Phone number
Email address
Claimant ID
Last four digits of your social
Full home address
PUA or Traditional Unemployment
Brief summary of your issue

If you need assistance with your appeal, please call the Unemployment Redetermination Unit at **877-574-0015**.

If you received an overpayment on your account, you may submit an overpayment waiver at **<https://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/expandedeligibilityFAQ/>**.

- For victims of traditional unemployment or PUA identity fraud
- For more information on pandemic unemployment benefits or to file a fraud claim, visit <https://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/>
 - Click on the 'Report Identity Theft' button and follow the guidance for individuals. This includes three steps: 1. Complete the reporting form, 2. File your taxes with IRS guidance, and 3. Protect your identity.
- Call the ID Theft Hotline at (833)-658-0394, Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm

Ohio Department of Medicaid

- Ohio Medicaid Covid-19 Resources:
<https://medicaid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/medicaid/resources-for-providers/covid/covid>

- For more information or to apply for healthcare coverage, visit healthcare.gov or <https://medicaid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/medicaid/home>

Ohio Development Services Agency

- Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loan program will enable small business owners to **apply for low-interest loans to help overcome temporary loss of revenue** due to the COVID-19 outbreak; for more info contact BusinessHelp@Development.Ohio.Gov
 - <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/> 1-800-659-2955
- Funding options found here <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- Apply at www.benefits.ohio.gov

Miscellaneous

Summit Medina Ohio Means Jobs

- <https://www.summitmedinaomj.org/entry/OMJ.html>

Downtown Akron Partnership

- For Akron specific resources and more, visit <https://www.downtownakron.com/news/covid-19>

Covid-19 Vaccine

- As of March 19, those aged 40 and older are eligible for the vaccine.
- Beginning March 29, 2021 Ohioans aged 16 and older with parental or legal guardian consent will be able to receive vaccine - 16 & 17 year olds can only receive Pfizer as available.
- For more information on the vaccine, visit <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-program/get-the-shot>
- **Schedule your appointment at** <https://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov/screening>
- Summit County Public Health
 - Pfizer Booster shots are available for those who are eligible. Stay up to date on clinic dates [here](#). Appointments suggested.
 - Visit Summit County Public Health <https://www.scph.org/covid/covid-19-vaccine-information> for more information
 - Watch Leader Sykes' virtual town hall on the Covid-19 Vaccine <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCHR3n3ZO4w&feature=youtu.be>
- Summa Health
 - Summa Health is offering COVID-19 vaccines around Summit County with mobile clinic. No appointment needed.
 - See the full list of dates here: <https://www.summahealth.org/coronavirus/covid-vaccine/vaccination-mobile-unit>
- Free Rapid at Home COVID-19 Test
 - Convenient and easy-to-use test
 - Can use at home and will give you results in 15 minutes if you are symptomatic or have been exposed to someone with COVID
 - Test can be used on anyone 4 years old and older
 - For more information on how the test works and how to take the test, click [HERE](#)

Test are available at the walk-up Vital Statistics window at **1867 W. Market St.** in Akron, OH, **8 am – 4 pm Monday through Friday**. No appointment is necessary.

How to Help

Access, Inc.

- Shelter for homeless mothers and children located at 230 W. Market St., Akron Ohio
- They are accepting donations for these items for women and children: winter coats, hats, gloves, casual clothing, new pajamas and underwear, lotions, hair products for Black women, and cleaning products
- Contact Dominic Hinton at dhinton@access-shelter.org or 330-376-0997

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

- Located at 2301 Roming Rd.
- Donation drop-offs accepted Mondays & Tuesdays from 8am-3:30pm, Wednesdays-Fridays from 8am-6pm and Saturdays from 8am-4pm
- Free pickups in Summit County can be scheduled online at hfhsummitcounty.org/restore. For no contact pickup, donations must be in a garage or outdoors
- Call 330-745-9098 for details

Helping Hands of Summit County

- Love on a Leash Fundraiser through March 31
- This will help families and pets who are struggling with domestic abuse
- Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 26601, Akron Ohio, 44319
- Visit www.helpinghands-sc.org for more information.

Closet of Caring

- If people have clothing, hygiene products or other items to donate, they can email closetofcaring@gmail.com or send a message to the Closet of Caring Facebook page. Kimberly Stimmel (owner) will arrange with donors to have them drop off the items on her porch.
- Information can also be found on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/closet.of.caring/> and on the website at closetofcaring.org.
- The top of the Closet of Caring Facebook page lists the items that are needed year-round: Men's clothing (in season); drawstring backpacks; toiletries (travel size), toothbrushes, toothpaste (any size); men's socks; bags (large TJ Maxx-type bags); hygiene items (wipes, deodorant); non-perishable snacks and water; soap (any size bar); masks; sanitizer (any size); and lip balm.