



Learners and Leaders, PS 305

360 Seneca Avenue, Ridgewood NY 11385 Tel-718-381-0312 Fax 718-381-0570

378 Seneca Avenue, Ridgewood NY 11385 Tel-718-366-1061 Fax 718-366-4301

Principal

Kalosh Dalipi

Assistant Principals

Concetta Lacerenza-Perotto

October 30, 2025

Dear Learners and Leaders PS 305 Community,

1 out of every 7 New Yorkers receive SNAP benefits to help them buy food. Nearly one-third of SNAP recipients are children. We know that many members of our community rely on these funds to feed their families. Due to the current federal shutdown, there is a strong possibility that SNAP benefits will be paused or cancelled starting on November 1st. During this difficult time, we want families to know that we are here for them and they don't have to face this alone.

Learners and Leaders PS305, offers free breakfast and lunch to all students every school day.

In addition, if your family is facing food insecurity, please feel free to reach out directly to our School Counselor Angela Kearney, School Social Worker Otilia Rivera and/or our Parent Coordinator Ms. Michelle Bordoy-soto



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Please read on for **local free food resources** and **more information on the current situation with SNAP benefits**.

Local Free Food Resources

The following websites can help you find up-to-date, local food assistance in your zip code:

[NYC Food Finder](#)

[Food Bank for NYC Food Map](#)

findhelp.org

Cathedral of Joy CDC

43 George Street 11206

718-386-8151

Thursday	Pantry Bag Distribution	First & Third Week of Month	9:00 am	11:30 am
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Make the Road New York

301 Grove Street 11237

866-365-2724 ext. 4

Day	Meal Type	Frequency	Open	Close
Friday	Pantry Bag Distribution	Weekly	8:00 am	11:00 am



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SCO Family of Services/Bethany House

164 Suydam Street 11221

646-600-4800

Day	Meal Type	Frequency	Open	Close
Thursday	Pantry Bag Distribution	Weekly	11:00 am	1:00 pm

Metro World Child Mobile Program

11 Harman Street 11221

718-453-3352

Day	Meal Type	Frequency	Open	Close
Friday	Pantry Bag Distribution	Weekly	1:00 pm	3:00 pm
Saturday	Pantry Bag Distribution	Weekly	10:30 am	12:00 pm

- **Beyond Hunger Emergency Food Pantry:** [2241 Church Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226](https://camba.org/programs/beyond-hunger-emergency-food-pantry/)

<https://camba.org/programs/beyond-hunger-emergency-food-pantry/>

- CAMBA's Beyond Hunger Emergency Food Pantry operates on a client-choice/supermarket-style system, where clients choose individual food items rather than



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receiving pre-packed bags. Clients also receive vegetables and fruits from nearby farms in NY State. Call 718-282-3082, Email LucilaS@camba.org to get more info

- **SuperPantry:** [2004 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233](https://www.tcahnyc.org/find-food/#superpantry) <https://www.tcahnyc.org/find-food/#superpantry>
 - SuperPantry Program provides emergency food five days a week. Individuals are allowed to select fresh fruits, whole grains, lean proteins, vegetables, various food items, and new clothes according to their preference. Call 718-773-3551 ext. 112

- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)**
 - Must go to Food Bank of NYC located at 252 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10026 (Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-6:00 PM). A staff member will be available to assist with completing the application.

- **North Brooklyn Angels:** <https://www.northbrooklynangels.org/meals/>
 - They serve meals every week throughout Brooklyn (check the meals page for updates to the following schedule)
 - Tuesday on the Southside and in Bushwick
 - 12:30 PM at 240 Division Avenue: The van is parked across the street from the Williamsburg Library on the Division Avenue Overpass, between Marcy Avenue & Rodney Street.
 - 12:00 PM at 176 St. Nicholas Ave: The truck is parked outside our partners at Iglesia de la Santa Cruz + Bushwick Abbey.
 - 11:45 AM at 1 Havemeyer Street: A meal is served right outside our Community Kitchen.
 - Wednesday in East Williamsburg and Bushwick



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- 12:30 PM at 195 Maujer Street: The truck is parked in front of St. John the Evangelist Lutheran Church, across the street from the Williamsburg Houses.
- 11:45 AM at 1 Havemeyer Street: A meal is served right outside our Community Kitchen.
- Thursday in East Williamsburg and Greenpoint
 - 12:30 PM at Cooper Park Houses Residence Council: The van is parked in front of the playground at the intersection of Jackson Street and Debevoise Avenue.
 - 12:30 PM at 862 Manhattan Avenue: The truck is parked in front of the steps of the St. Anthony of Padua - St. Alphonsus church at the intersection of Manhattan Avenue and Milton Street.
 - 11:45 AM at 1 Havemeyer Street: A meal is served right outside our Community Kitchen.
- Friday in Bushwick and the Northside
 - 12:30 PM at 138 Montrose Ave: The truck is parked in front of Most Holy Trinity Church.
 - 11:45 AM at 1 Havemeyer Street: A meal is served right outside our Community Kitchen.



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Other Resources

- 1 One Shot Deal (via NYC Human Resources Administration) <https://access.nyc.gov/programs/one-shot-deal/> Access NYC Provides a one-time cash grant to help pay bills (rent, utilities, emergency medical, etc.) when you face an unexpected financial setback.
- 2 Emergency Assistance / Temporary Assistance (via NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance) <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/temporary-assistance/> NY State OTDA Offers emergency cash assistance to needy adults and children in urgent situations (homelessness, no fuel, etc.).
- 3 Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance/> NY State OTDA+1 Helps low- and moderate-income households pay rent arrears and utility arrears to avoid eviction or housing instability.
- 4 United Way of New York City – Emergency Assistance & Community Needs (EACN) Fund <https://unitedwaynyc.org/emergency-assistance-community-needs-fund/> United Way of New York City Provides grants to community-based organizations which then help families in crisis with food, housing, and other urgent needs.
- 5 NYC 311 Referral Service <https://portal.311.nyc.gov/> (see article) Need Help Paying Bills Free 24/7 hotline and website that helps connect you to agencies offering financial help (rent, utilities, bills) across NYC.
- 6 Fund for the City of New York – Nonprofit Recovery Loan / Grant Program <https://www.fcny.org/nonprofit-loan-financing/> FCNY+1 Offers interest-free or fee-free bridge financing to nonprofit organizations in NYC facing urgent cash-flow issues so they can continue operations.
- 7 New York Foundation for the Arts – Emergency Grants for Artists <https://www.nyfa.org/knowledge-base/emergency-resources/emergency-grants/> Nyfa One-time grants to professional artists in New York City who face sudden financial hardship due to circumstances beyond their control.



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8 NYC Assist – Property Disaster Relief & Emergency Financial

Assistance <https://www.nycassist.org/> nycassist Helps New York City residents whose homes or buildings were damaged by fire/disaster with emergency financial assistance for food, lodging, housing, and repairs.

9 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) / Emergency

HEAP <https://www.coned.com/en/accounts-billing/payment-plans-assistance/help-paying-your-bill> Con Edison Provides financial assistance to eligible households to pay heating costs, and emergency benefits if you face shut-off or lack of fuel.

10 Partnership for New York City – Homeless Assistance Fund <https://pfnyc.org/civic-engagement-and-corporate-responsibility/homeless-assistance-fund/> Partnership for New York City A public-private initiative that funds intensive outreach and support services for unsheltered individuals in New York City who face severe homelessness and crises.

11 Con Edison Utility Bill Assistance Programs <https://www.coned.com/en/accounts-billing/payment-plans-assistance/help-paying-your-bill> Con Edison Offers resources and assistance programs (including emergency benefit) for customers who cannot pay their bills, especially in households at risk of shut-off.

12 NYC Department of Small Business Services – Financial Assistance & Coaching (for personal & business relief) <https://nyc-business.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/business-services/financial-assistance> MyCity Business While aimed at small business owners, includes free one-on-one financial counseling and resources to stabilize personal finances and credit during financial emergencies.



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If you currently receive SNAP:

You will be notified about the status of your November SNAP benefits by the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) through the [OTDA website](#), [NYC ACCESS HRA](#), [myBenefits](#), the ebtEDGE app, and by text. Any unused benefits will remain available after November 1—you can check your EBT balance at [ebtEDGE.com](#) or through the app. Continue completing required steps like recertifications and periodic reports to stay eligible.

Are there any restrictions on using my SNAP benefits during the federal government shutdown? No, your EBT card will work as usual, and you can use your SNAP benefits at all [authorized retailers](#) and farmers markets. You can check your balance by:

- Looking at your last receipt.
- Calling the customer service helpline at 1-888-328-6399.
- Checking your EBT account online at [www.ebtEDGE.com](#).
- Using the ebtEDGE mobile app.

Will my EBT card still work in November? Based on information available to OTDA, your EBT card will still work in November. Unused SNAP benefits received previously will still be available. The Public Assistance program will continue to operate as usual.

Can I apply for SNAP during the federal government shutdown if I do not already receive benefits? Yes. Applications for SNAP will continue to be accepted. However, if you are approved for SNAP during the federal government shutdown, you may not receive benefits until the shutdown ends. You can apply for SNAP online at [myBenefits](#), in person at your local SNAP office, or by mail.

Do I still have to meet SNAP requirements during the federal government shutdown? Yes, you still need to follow all SNAP rules, like completing your recertification, submitting reports, and informing your local SNAP office of certain changes in your household's circumstances.

What if I need to recertify for SNAP and have not yet submitted my recertification application? It is important to submit your recertification application as soon as possible. SNAP participants must continue to meet program requirements to remain eligible for benefits. You can submit your recertification online at [myBenefits](#), in person or by mail. For more information about SNAP eligibility and how to recertify visit: [otda.ny.gov/snap](#).



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More information here: https://otda.ny.gov/snap-benefits-shutdown-faq.asp?utm_source=chatgpt.com

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