



**BLOUNT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



508 N. Cusick Street
Maryville, TN 37804
Phone: 865-982-0981
Fax: 865-977-1142
www.blountlibrary.org

Resources for Unemployed or Low Income Workers and Families

Compiled by Blount County Public Library staff – updated August 2017

Community Business & Service Resources: Note: This is **not** an exhaustive list of resources. Some resources in each area are listed to give a place to begin searching for assistance. Many other resources exist, and most places in any category can provide more referrals.

- 1. If you're out of a job or struggling financially, you're not alone.**
 - a. Almost everyone has been out of a job at some time or other.
 - b. Being out of your previous job may actually be a positive thing to boost you toward another, better job or training or position.

- 2. Network** –Statistically, most jobs are located through people you know:
 - a. Family, friends, business associates, former co-workers, colleagues in organizations, former high school & college friends and professors.
 - b. College Placement Offices for alumni
 - c. Newspapers, Job Lists, Career Center, Web sites, Blogs

- 3. File for unemployment** if laid off— provides a percentage of previous employment income
 - a. by phone (may take up to six hours of time) or
 - b. online: <http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd>

- 4. Job Listings, Career Testing, Résumé Writing, Interview skills**
 - a. **Online job listings:** www.indeed.com; www.blountjobs.com ; www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd ; <http://www.mynextmove.org/>
 - b. **Blount County Career Center (TN Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development)**
366 Glascock, Suite 100, Alcoa, 37701 – (www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd) – 379-5525 (Job listings, online career assessment, Internet computers with Microsoft Office software, resume software, VHS & DVDs with job search skills, booklets)
 - c. **Blount County Chamber of Commerce** – 983-2241
201 S. Washington Street, Maryville (Job listings, workshops, networking)
 - d. **Blount County Public Library** 508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville – 982-0981 (www.blountlibrary.org) – (Internet computers, online Learning Express résumé, interviewing aids, practice tests and other job search assistance; Résumé Writer software; Microsoft software; free computer classes in Introduction to the PC, Email and Internet Searching on most Thursdays, 2-4:00 p.m.; professional Reference staff)

5. Prioritize the most urgent needs for you and your family and make a written plan:

- a. **Immediate Cash** (no savings or rainy day fund stowed away in cookie jar)
 - i. Get a job immediately to bring in cash – (even a minimum wage job brings in money)
 - ii. Keep looking for the job you really want.
- b. **Loans, Mortgages, Preventing Foreclosure, Credit Card debt**—Counseling regarding how to handle debt payments.

Clear Point (Consumer Credit Counseling Services of East Tennessee) – www.clearpointcreditcounselingsolutions.org – some counseling for credit, budget & housing (foreclosure prevention), for questions or 1-800-251-2227 to schedule appointments. There is a Knoxville office.
- c. **Food** – Community Food assistance and food pantries
 - i. **Department of Human Services (DHS)** - food stamps for low income - 981-2350, 303 Home Ave., Maryville (Must make application)
 - ii. **Community Food Connection**, 311 Whitecrest, Maryville – 977-4400
 - iii. **Blount County Food Pantry** at old Alnwick School – 983-4206
2148 Sandy Springs Road, Maryville
 - iv. **Church Food Pantries:**
 1. **Chilhowee Baptist Center** – 1905 E. Broadway – 981-2992
 - a. Also offers clothing, utilities & other types of assistance
 2. **Fairview United Methodist Church** – 983-2080
2508 Old Niles Ferry, Maryville (also offers clothing)
 3. **Alcoa-Maryville Church of God - Manna Ministries** – 983-6921
2615 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville
 4. **Many others** – call 2-1-1 or Blount County Community Action Agency for lists (see phone numbers listed below)
 - v. **Angel Food Ministries** – www.angelfoodministries.com – 1-888-819-3745
(Low-cost, good-quality food distributed through local area churches or call 983-8411)
- d. **Hot Meals** – Meals served to anyone, free of charge.
 - i. **Lord's Disciples Ministries** - 981-2992 – Hot meals every Monday at 6 p.m. (2002 Old Knoxville Pike, Maryville, TN 37803).
 - ii. **Welcome Table at New Providence Presbyterian Church** – 983-0182
Hot meals every Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. (703 W. Broadway, Maryville, TN 37803)
 - iii. **Church of the Cove** – 448-1929 (642 Wears Valley Road, Townsend, TN 37882)
Hot meals every Wednesday at 6 p.m., and Food Pantry on the first Saturday of most months, 9-11 a.m.
 - iv. **Welcome Table at First United Methodist Church**, Maryville – 982-1273
Hot meals every Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m.
(804 Montvale Station Rd., Maryville, TN 37803)
 - v. **Salvation Army** – Ana Jennings, Captain – 983-7135;
<http://salvationarmymaryville.org> or Email: ana.jennings@uss.salvationarmy.org
(Cherokee Complex) 1414 Sevierville Road, Maryville, TN 37804
Free lunch on Fridays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in partnership with Broadway United Methodist Church (BUMC). Meals served at BUMC, 309 E Broadway Ave, Maryville, TN 37804, 982-6192.

- e. **Health Care** - chronic illness of some family member or recent health emergency
 - i. **Blount County Health Department** – 983-4582
301 McGhee Street, Maryville - for health care if uninsured
 - ii. **Department of Human Services (DHS)** – 981-2350
303 Home Ave., Maryville – (TennCare) for children & their guardians, prenatal care, nursing home assessment.
 - iii. **Hospital Emergency Room** – for emergency care if uninsured
 - iv. **Cherokee Health Systems Good Samaritan Center** - 273-1616
255 East Watt Street, Alcoa, TN 37701
 - v. **Dental Care for uninsured–Trinity Health Ministries, Inc.** – 681-0770
1127 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville – low income guidelines
 - vi. **Partnership for Prescription Assistance** – www.pparx.org – 1-888-477-2669 (refer qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage to public and private assistance programs)
 - vii. **Remote Area Medical** – www.ramusa.org – 1-865-579-1530 - solicit donations and provide free medical, dental and vision care to uninsured.

- f. **Health Insurance** –
 - i. **Healthcare Marketplace** – Affordable Care Act insurance information online:
<http://www.healthcare.gov>.
 - ii. **Cherokee Health Systems**, 255 East Watt Street, Alcoa, TN 37701. Martin W. Ferrucho, certified counselor for Healthcare Marketplace enrollment and TennCare enrollment (bilingual in Spanish and English) at 865-318-5706.
 - iii. **COBRA** – Apply for Cobra from previous employer. Available at individual/family rates (not group rates) for 18 months after employment termination.
 - iv. **Department of Human Services (DHS)** – 981-2350 - 303 Home Ave., Maryville – Kiosk for online application to TennCare. Applications are also available online at www.covertn.gov.
 - v. **Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities** – 865-588-0508 - 5908 Lyons View Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919 Information and applications for programs which provide access and information for residential care, employment, etc. The website is www.tn.gov/didd.
 - vi. **Health AssistTN**- 1-800-269-4038 - an information phone line for questions about accessing health coverage or care. They can help applicants know which programs apply.

- g. **Shelters** (for those with no home)
 - i. **Family Promise**, Kathi Parkins, Executive Director – 233-4737;
www.blountfamilypromise.org or Email: info@blountfamilypromise.org
Short-term, temporary housing for families with children with no place to stay.
 - ii. **Haven House**, Melina Politte, Executive Director – 982-1087;
Short-term, temporary shelter for victims of domestic violence or abuse.
 - iii. **Heaven Sent Home**, Cathy Potter, Executive Director – 977-8882;
Knoxville Pike, Maryville, TN 37804
 - iv. **Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries** (Knoxville), 673-6540 Homeless, temporary shelter for men, women and families.

h. Housing (rent; house payments; home repair)

- i. **Good Neighbors**, currently located in the Red Cross building, 1741 Triangle Park, Maryville, 37801. Appointment required – call 681-5420 to set up a time to meet with a representative. (Blount County Ecumenical Council of Churches agency screens requests and provides short-term, emergency assistance for housing, utilities.)
- ii. **Blount County Community Action Agency** – 983-8411 3509 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville (old Hubbard School near Lem’s Corner) BCCAA screens and provides assistance for housing, utilities, food.
- iii. **Family Promise**, Kathi Parkins, Executive Director – 233-4737; www.blountfamilypromise.org or Email: info@blountfamilypromise.org Short-term, temporary housing for families with children with no place to stay.
- iv. **Blount County Housing Repair Collaborative** – 982-8717, ext. 223. To contact the Housing Repair Collaborative, dial the hotline (above). An individual will assess the situation & determine if the family or individual qualifies for assistance, the type of repairs needed, funding assistance, volunteers and time.
- v. **Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness (TVCEH)** -- Tonia Latham – (865)982-3454; Email: tdlatham@tvceh.org 903 McCammon Ave., Maryville, TN 37801; Intake: (865)982-7616; (865)983-1989.

i. Utility Bills – electricity, gas, water/sewer, phone

- i. **Blount County Community Action Agency** – 983-8411 3509 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville (old Hubbard School near Lem’s Corner) BCCAA screens and provides assistance for housing, utilities, food.
- vi. **Good Neighbors**, currently located in the Red Cross building, 1741 Triangle Park, Maryville, 37801. Appointment required – call 681-5420 to set up a time to meet with a representative. (Blount County Ecumenical Council of Churches agency screens requests and provides short-term, emergency assistance for housing, utilities.)
- ii. **Free Cell Phone Service to Low Income Families** – 1-800-977-3768 www.safelinkwireless.com (free 911 service plus 60 minutes use per year)

j. Clothing & Miscellaneous Small Appliances (low cost; free items at some churches)

- i. **Salvation Army Thrift Store** – 1414 Sevierville Rd., Maryville – 983-7135
- ii. **Habitat for Humanity Thrift Store** – 212 College St., Maryville – 379-9299
- iii. **Good Will** – New Midland Shopping Center, Alcoa

k. Transportation

- i. **East TN Human Resource Agency (ETHRA)** - 681-1778 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, M-F (\$3.00 each way to and from a location per county; call 48 hours ahead of time).
- ii. **Salvation Army – Ana Jennings, Captain** – 983-7135; <http://salvationarmymaryville.org> or Email: ana.jennings@uss.salvationarmy.org (Cherokee Complex) 1414 Sevierville Road, Maryville, TN 37804 Offers fuel assistance for unemployed who are registered with America’s Job Center, 366 Glascock, Suite 100, Alcoa, 37701 (formerly Blount County Career Center).
- iii. **Car pool or Ride with a neighbor or relative.**

l. School needs for children – school supplies, school lunches, classroom fees, clothing
School Family Resource Services

1. **Alcoa** – referral by classroom teacher or principal
2. **Blount County** – referral by classroom teacher or principal
3. **Maryville** – referral by classroom teacher or principal ii.
4. **Chilhowee Baptist Center**-1905 E. Broadway-981-2992
Also offers clothing, utilities & other types of assistance.

- m. Re-training – GED, college, specialized skill training** – Credit and Non-Credit training:
- i. **Blount County Adult Education** (GED, computer classes, English as Second Language), 1500 Jett Road, Maryville (old Everett High School) – 982-8998
 - ii. **Blount County Public Library** (computer classes, online non-credit courses available through Gale Courses, various types of informational public programs), 508 N. Cusick St., Maryville - 982-0981 or 273-1436.
 - iii. **Pellissippi State Community College** – Blount Co. – 981-5300 or 681-1064, 2731 W. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Friendsville, 37737 Scholarships: including **Reconnect Now** for adult learners (any student deemed independent by FAFSA criteria), Pell Grants, Loans & Non-Credit skills training.
 - iv. **Maryville College** – 502 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville - 981-8000 (Scholarships, Pell Grants, Loans)
 - v. **Multiple other colleges and skilled training institutions in Knoxville area**
- n. Pets** – pet food, veterinary care and bills
- i. **PPAW (People Promoting Animal Welfare)** – 856-7729
6869 Morganton Road, Greenback - Low-cost spay/neuter & reduced annual vaccinations
 - ii. **Animal Works** – 3337 Regal Drive, Maryville – 379-2227
Low-cost spay/neuter and reduced annual vaccinations
- o. Leisure activities** -
- i. Consider reducing (or temporarily giving up) use of for-pay services (e.g., cable, internet, satellite, multiple cell phones) and for-pay activities.
 - ii. Instead, check out items – for free - from the library: movies (DVD or VHS), music CDs, audiobooks on CD, downloadable books.
 - iii. Enjoy free activities – hiking bicycling, walking, free outdoor games, board games, reading, using the Blount County Public Library.

6. General Community Resource Agencies know specific places for assistance:

- a. **2-1-1:** Regional (Knoxville area) phone hotline for community service agencies (Free call 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Access by dialing on any land line phone: 211)
- b. **United Way of Blount County**, 1615 E. Broadway, Maryville – 982-2251
- c. **Blount County Community Action Agency (BCCAA)** – 983-8411 3509 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville (old Hubbard School near Lem’s Corner)
BCCAA screens and provides assistance for housing, utilities, food, and home repair.
- d. **Blount County Office on Aging** – 3509 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville – 983-8411, ext. 25.
(Office on Aging serves as a resource referral agency for services to the elderly. Includes access to Mobile Meals & multiple services. Publishes a Senior Services Directory every 2 years.)

- e. **Blount County Public Library**, 508 N. Cusick St., Maryville – 982-0981
(www.blountlibrary.org) – (Internet computers, online Learning Express résumé, interviewing aids and other job search assistance; Résumé Writer software; Microsoft software; Professional Reference staff)
- i. **Reference Desk** – 982-0981, ext. 302 or 273-1436.
 - ii. **Community Information** – Brochures, flyers and booklets describing services and resources available in the community.
 - iii. **Computer Classes** – “Tech Time” is a walk-in class for learning basic computer skills: Email, Internet, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest & E-Books – offered most Thursdays, 2:30-4:00 p.m. Bring technology questions & get assistance (first come, first served).
 - iv. **Online Databases** – From the library website home page, click on “Electronic Resources” and then scroll down to the various database icons. **Gale Courses** provides online noncredit courses (about six weeks with a teacher, assignments and final test) in business, education, medical and personal/leisure topics. **Reference USA** gives corporate information nationally; **PowerSpeak Languages** has multiple languages; **Tennessee Electronic Library and Gale** provide complete articles from more than 10,000 periodicals as well as a Job and Career Center with resume and interview resources, ACT & SAT & professional licensing practice tests and more; Multiple other databases.
- f. **Good Neighbors**, currently located in the Red Cross building, 1741 Triangle Park, Maryville, 37801. Appointment required – call 681-5420 to set up a time to meet with a representative. (Blount County Ecumenical Council of Churches agency screens requests and provides short-term, emergency assistance for housing, utilities.)
- g. **America’s Job Center (TN Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development)**
366 Glascock, Suite 100, Alcoa, 37701 – (www.jobs4tn.gov)– 379-5525, ext. 101 (Job listings, online career assessment, Internet computers with Microsoft Office software, resume software, VHS & DVDs with job search skills, booklets.)
- h. **Blount County Chamber of Commerce** – 983-2241
201 S. Washington Street, Maryville (Job listings, workshops, networking)

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