

Assistance Programs for



Diabetes Supplies

Insulin Pumps

Free and Reduced-Cost Insulin and Prescription Medications

Scholarships

This publication contains information about patient assistance programs that are available in the United States and Canada. You can find more resources state-by-state (and for Canada) for local assistance programs and as well as information about government programs on Islets of Hope at:

http://www.isletsofhope.com/diabetes/assistance/main_1.html

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Tips on Finding Assistance

Where to Start

Start by calling your local hospital, doctor, or health and social services department for your county.

Contact Your Local Health Services Department

You can locate your health department at the United States Department of Health and Human Services website: <http://www.hhs.gov/about/regionmap.html>

Find a Free Clinic

If you don't have a doctor, you can search for free clinics in your area at <http://www.medkind.com> or visit Islets of Hope at www.isletsofhope.com.

Find Free or Reduced-Cost Hospital Services

In 1946, Congress passed a law that gave hospitals, nursing homes and other health facilities grants and loans for construction and modernization. In return, they agreed to provide a reasonable volume of services to persons unable to pay and to make their services available to all persons residing in the facility's area. The program stopped providing funds in 1997, but about 300 health care facilities nationwide are still obligated to provide free or reduced-cost care.

You can find a list of hospitals required by law to offer free or reduced-cost services (called Hill-Burton facilities) at: <http://www.hrsa.gov/hillburton/hillburtonfacilities.htm>

There are no obligated facilities in Indiana, Nebraska, Nevada, Rhode Island, Utah, Wyoming. For more information call the Hill Burton Hotline at 1-800-638-0742. In Maryland call 1-800-492-0359.

Help for Migrant Workers

The Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) Diabetes Initiative collaborates with health centers and social service agencies across the nation to better address the burden of diabetes in the migrant population. To find a facility visit the MCN website at: <http://www.migrantclinician.org/healthcenters/healthcenterdirectory.php>

Where can I find free or low-cost diabetes coverage and services?

The Bureau of Primary Health Care within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has a nationwide network of community-based health care centers that provide primary health care services at little or no cost. Check services available in your area at: <http://ask.hrsa.gov/pc/>.

All fifty United States has a health insurance program for infants, children and teens. The insurance is available to children in working families, including families that include individuals with a variety of immigration status. You can find out about the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) in your state at Insure Kids Now. Web address: <http://www.insurekidsnow.gov/>. Phone: 1-877-543-7669.

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance provides information about public and private patient assistance programs, which help low-income, uninsured patients get free or nearly free brand-name medicines. For a list of programs in your state visit: <http://www.isletsofhope.com/diabetes/insurance/medicare-prescription-1.html> or the PPA website at: <https://www.pparx.org/Intro.php>.

Assistance for Senior Citizens with Diabetes

Call the U.S. House of Representatives' Special Committee on Aging at (202) 224-5364 and ask for the free publication called "Information Paper on Programs to Help Older Americans Obtain Their Medications." The report lists resources for qualifying seniors to obtain medication assistance through drug companies.

Medicare

Medicare is a Government program providing health care services for people who are 65 years and older. People who are disabled or have become disabled also can apply for Medicare, and limited coverage is available for people of all ages with kidney failure. To learn if you're eligible, check with your local Social Security office or call the Medicare Hotline listed below.

Medicare now includes coverage for glucose monitors, test strips, and lancets as well as medical nutrition therapy services for people with diabetes or kidney disease when referred by a doctor. Diabetes self-management training, therapeutic shoes, glaucoma screening, and flu and pneumonia shots are also covered.

For more information about Medicare benefits, call the National Diabetes Education Program at 1-800-438-5383 and request copies of *The Power to Control Diabetes Is in Your Hands* and *Expanded Medicare Coverage of Diabetes Services*, or read them online at www.ndep.nih.gov (click on "Control" under "About Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes"). You can also read the booklet [Medicare Coverage of Diabetes Supplies & Services](#) (.pdf) online or request a copy from:

Publication PA-09-2006; Revised 02/07; Published by Islets of Hope

www.isletsofhope.com

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850
Phone: 1-800-MEDICARE (633-4227)
Internet: www.medicare.gov

For information about Medicare programs go to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/> or visit Islets of Hope's state-by-state guide to government assistance programs at: http://www.isletsofhope.com/diabetes/assistance-programs/main_1.html

Medicare Insurance Coverage of Insulin Pumps

The US Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) announced in 1999 that Medicare would cover the cost of insulin pumps for persons with type 1 diabetes. HCFA is the federal agency that administers the Medicare, Medicaid, and Child Health Insurance Programs. Always check with your insurance company to determine if insulin injection devices and supplies are covered under your plan.

Medicare Prescription Program

The Medicare Prescription Program offers a [searchable database of prescription drug assistance programs](#). The website offers information on public and private programs with discounted or free medication. You can also learn about Medicare health plans with prescription coverage.

To find out about Medicare prescription programs in your state check the government pages of your phone book or visit our section on [State Insurance Programs](#).

[Pfizer](#) offers a "[Share Card](#)" to qualifying patients that permits them to purchase a 30-day supply of any Pfizer prescription medicine for only \$15.00 per prescribed medication. Pfizer makes the sulfonylureas, Diabinese (chlorpropamide) and Glucotrol and Glucotrol XL (glipizide). Over 44,000 pharmacies participate in the program. [Download](#) their .pdf guide to the program.

Medicare Preventive Services - Diabetes Screening, Supplies, and Self-Management Training

[Medicare Diabetes Preventive Care Program Information](#) - You are considered at risk if you have any of the following: high blood pressure, dyslipidemia (history of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels), obesity, or a history of high blood sugar. Other risk factors may also qualify you for this test and based on the results, you may be eligible for up to two screenings each year. Medicare also covers certain supplies and self-management training to find and treat diabetes.

Medicare Therapeutic Shoe Program

[Medicare Therapeutic Shoe Program](#) – A program under Medicare offering free foot-care for diabetics. The coverage includes a specialized shoe program to help prevent complications for people with diabetes and those with foot problems. Under the program patients are entitled to (annually) one pair of customized shoes, two sets of inserts, and a fitting by a podiatrist or shoe specialist. Patients can order molded or a depth shoe.

Medicare Kidney Dialysis and Transplantation Program

Kidney failure is a complication of diabetes. In 1972, Congress passed legislation making people of any age with permanent kidney failure eligible for Medicare. To qualify for Medicare on the basis of kidney failure, you must need regular dialysis or have had a kidney transplant, and you must have worked under Social Security, the Railroad Retirement Board, or as a Government employee (or be the child or spouse of someone who has), or you must already be receiving Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits. Every American needing dialysis for chronic kidney failure is eligible for dialysis assistance. For more information, call the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services at 1-800-MEDICARE (633-4227) to request the booklet *Medicare Coverage of Kidney Dialysis and Kidney Transplant Services*. This booklet is also available on the Internet at www.medicare.gov under "Publications."

For information on financing an organ transplant, contact the following organization:

[United Network for Organ Sharing](#) (UNOS)
P.O. Box 2484
Richmond, VA 23218
Phone: 1-888-894-6361

Medicaid

Medicaid is a state health assistance program for people based on financial need. Your income must be below a certain level to qualify for Medicaid funds to help you purchase diabetes medications and diabetes care supplies. Medicaid is a state administered program and each state sets its own guidelines regarding eligibility and services.

To locate information by state visit the Medicaid Site for Consumer Information at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidGenInfo/>. To apply, talk with a social worker or contact your local department of human services.

Patient Legal Assistance

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) is a national non-profit organization that seeks to safeguard patients through effective mediation assuring access to care, maintenance of employment and preservation of their financial stability. Contact PAF at:

Patient Advocate Foundation
help@patientadvocate.org
700 Thimble Shoals Blvd
Suite 200
Newport News, VA 23606
Phone: (800) 532-5274
Fax: (757) 873-8999

Your Insurance May Be Required by Law to Cover Your Diabetes Care and Supplies

As of December 2005, forty-six states have some type of laws requiring health insurance coverage to include treatment for diabetes. Most states require coverage of both direct treatment and the costs of diabetes treatment equipment and supplies often used by the patient at home. The states not included are Alabama, Idaho, North Dakota and Ohio. The laws in three other states are limited to requiring that insurers offer coverage, but not necessarily include the coverage in all active policies- Mississippi, Missouri and Washington.

Free and Reduced-Cost Insulin and Prescription Medications



The Institute in Washington, D.C., a nonprofit public interest group offers free booklets online about how to get free and low-cost prescription drugs as well as dental, outpatient, hospital, and nursing care. Website: www.institute-dc.org.

Patient Assistance Programs for Persons with Diabetes

3M Pharmaceuticals - Patient Assistance Programs - [United States](#)

AstraZeneca Foundation Patient Assistance Program - Offers a variety of assistance programs including:

- [Patient Assistance Program](#)
- [Caring Partners Program](#)
- [Together Rx Access](#)
- [Partnership for Prescription Assistance](#)
- [Medicare Prescription Benefits](#)

AstraZeneca also lists the following assistance resource links:

- [Area Agencies on Aging \(ElderCare\)](#)
- [Assoc. of Clinicians for the Underserved \(ACU\)](#)
- [BenefitsCheckUp®](#)
- [Health Resources and Services Administration](#)
- [Medicare](#)
- [NeedyMeds](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Discount Cards](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America \(PhRMA\)](#)
- [RxAssist](#)
- [RxHope™](#)
- [Volunteers in Health Care](#)

Bayer Corporation - Precose (acarbose) - Bayer Patient Assistance Program - 1-800-998-9180 - Glucophage (metformin hydrochloride) and Glucovance - Bristol-Myers Squibb Patient Assistance Foundation, Inc.- 1-800-736-0003

benefitscheckup.org - Find prescription drug assistance programs that you might qualify for.

Children With Diabetes Foundation - Has a new program that assists families in need for up to three months. Make tax-deductible donations or complete and assistance application online.

DHF Medical Assistance Program partners with pediatric hospitals and pharmaceutical companies to ensure low-income patients care still able to get healthcare and medications. (DHF is located in Canada)

Eli Lilly and Company - Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN 46285 - Humulin (insulin), Humalog (insulin), Glucagon (emergency kit)

- [Eli Lilly “Lilly Answers:” A Prescription Assistance Program](#) – A program for qualified senior citizens that offers drugs made by Eli Lilly at substantially reduced costs. Lilly makes insulin and Dymelor (a sulfonylurea). Persons must have a medical disability (diabetes), no other prescription drug coverage, be enrolled in Medicare, and meet income requirements. See site for full details. Phone: 1-800-795-4559.
- [Lilly Cares Program](#) - A program for diabetics that cannot afford their insulin. Lilly offers free, 3-month supply of insulin, the possibility of renewal. Eligibility determined by consultation with your doctor who needs to call Lilly Cares at 1-800-545-6962.
- [Lilly Canada Cares](#) - Lilly Canada Cares Insulin Assistance Program (Note: Individual must apply to this program through a Health professional only - such as a Diabetes Educator). Phone: 1 (888) 479 7587 ext. 3006 (Information line for Health Care Professionals). This program will provide insulin to patients who cannot afford it and do not have government or private insurance (approximately 3 month supply). Those eligible for this assistance include patients requiring insulin whose household incomes fall below Statistics Canada Low-Income Cut-Off levels AND who do not have other government or private health insurance. The supply will be delivered to the designated Diabetes Education Centre for the individual to pick up. If the need is still present after three months the individual, with their Health Care Professional can reapply.

[Everyone’s RX](#) – This site’s program offers access to reduced cost American brand name medications to U.S residents that financially qualify. Typically, people making less than \$25,000 per household or \$16,000 for a single person can be assisted. The program offers prescription assistance for low income patients, information on medication research, access to medical care for pre-existing health conditions, pharmacy aid to community clinics, and pharmacy discounts to their patient members.

[GlaxoSmithKline](#) - Makers of Avandia (rosiglitazone) and Avandimet (combo of Metformin and Avandia). Two programs offered: GlaxoWellcome Patient Assistance Program and the SmithKline Foundation Access to Care - 1-800-546-0420; 1-800-729-4544

[helpingpatients.org](#) - A directory of free supplies for Medicare enrollees without drug coverage.

[Islets of Hope](#) – Lists comprehensive assistance programs by state, as well as international resources for other countries. Includes private, corporate, and government programs. Click on “Assistance Programs” in their pull-down menu.

[The Medicine Program](#) – This services was founded by volunteers dedicated to alleviating the plight of an ever increasing number of patients who cannot afford their

prescription medication. The program requires a refundable \$5 processing fee but you can look up online what drugs are available (insulin and some pump supplies are available).

[Merck and Co., Inc.](#) - The Merck Patient Assistance Program - 1-908-423-1000

[The Minnesota Senior Federation](#) - Can help Americans of any age fill a prescription from your doctor by a licensed Canadian pharmacy for less money.

[NeedyMeds.com](#) - This site acts as a search portal for patient assistance programs. There is no cost to use this service which currently list 390 companies that offer free drugs and patient assistance programs.

- [Brand Name Drugs](#)
- [Generic Name Drugs](#)
- [Program List](#)
- [Company List](#)

[Novartis](#) - Starlix - Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation Patient Assistance Program - 1-800-277-2254

[Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals Inc.](#) - Offers free, 3-month supply of insulin, the possibility of renewal. Eligibility determined by consultation with your doctor who should call Novo Nordisk at 1-800-727-6500. NovoNordisk is the maker of Prandin (repaglinide), Novolin (insulin), Novolog (insulin). Two programs offered: Patient Assistance Program (Insulin products) and the Indigent Program Administrator (Prandin).

[IPump.org, Inc.](#) - Offers limited reimbursement for diabetes medications, supplies, and insulin to persons who qualify under their "ERMA" program. They also offer limited monthly financial assistance to qualifying persons to help cover the cost of insulin, diabetes medications and supplies. Persons may only receive financial assistance through one program and no more than once per year. Contact the Assistance Program Director, program-director@ipump.org for more information about programs currently funded.

[Partnership for Prescription Assistance \(PPA\)](#) - The program brings together America's pharmaceutical companies, doctors, other health care providers, patient advocacy organizations, and community groups to help qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage get the medicines they need through the public or private program to obtain free, or at-cost medications. The PPA site offers an online questionnaire to determine program eligibility from more 475 public and private patient assistance programs, including more than 150 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies. To access the Partnership for Prescription Assistance by phone, you can call toll-free, 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669). [Espanol](#)

Pfizer - This company offers a prescription drug "**Share Card**" to qualifying patients that permits them to purchase a 30-day supply of any Pfizer prescription medicine for only \$15.00 per prescribed medication. Pfizer makes the sulfonylureas, Diabinese (chlorpropamide) and Glucotrol and Glucotrol XL (glipizide). Over 44,000 pharmacies participate in the program. Applicants must be enrolled in Medicare and meet income requirements. **Download** their .pdf guide to the program. 1-800-707-8990. Other programs include:

- **The Connection to Care Program** may cover: Glucotrol (glipizide), Glucotrol XL (glipizide – extended release), Diabinese (chlorpropamide), Glucamide, Metaglip (combo of Metformin and Glipizide)
- **Pharmacia a subsidiary of Pfizer** may provide assistance for Glyset (miglitol), Micronase (glyburide), Tolinase, Orinase, DiaBeta. Please contact Pfizer for information about the Pharmacia assistance programs. 1-800-707-8990

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) and its member companies sponsor an interactive website with information on drug assistance programs at **www.helpingpatients.org**. Phone: (202) 835-3400;

The following information comes from the **The National Federation for the Blind**:

"The pharmaceutical industry has a tradition of providing medications free of charge to physicians whose patients might not otherwise have access to necessary medicines. Members of PhRMA, an association of drug manufacturers, have created a directory listing each participating manufacturer and the products that manufacturer has decided to list. Eligibility rules vary between manufacturers. All prescription medications are not included and all drug manufacturers may not be members of PhRMA. Still, the association's patient assistance program (which does include insulin, oral diabetes medications, and cyclosporine) is a useful safety net. For information about the *Directory of Prescription Drug Patient Assistance Programs*, physicians should contact PhRMA at the above address. "

Preferred Rx - Since 1988, Preferred Rx, a mail-order pharmacy in Cleveland, Ohio, has helped ease the financial burden experienced by many patients and families using expensive maintenance prescription drugs. Call 1-800-843-7038 for Discount Club prices and details on programs offered (below).

Preferred Rx offers two programs: one for people who have insurance covering prescription drugs and one for people who don't. For those who qualify for our mail-order/insurance billing plan, Preferred Rx:

1. ships without advance payment
2. files the claim with the insurance company
3. offers delayed billing for insurance co-payments, and
4. waives insurance co-payments for those with a qualified financial hardship

Patients who do not have insurance can join Preferred Rx's Discount Prescription Club, a program offering significant savings at local pharmacies! A \$25.00 annual fee (which covers the whole family) entitles members to preferred discount pricing.

[Proctor and Gamble Pharmaceuticals](#) - Proctor and Gamble Pharmaceuticals Patient Assistance Program - 1-800-830-9049

[Roche Laboratories Inc.](#) - Roche Laboratories Patient Assistance Program - 1-800-285-4484. Web: www.rocheusa.com

rxassist.org - Website for details of drug company discount cards.

[Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.](#) - For Amaryl (glimepiride) and Lantus (insulin) - Lovenox Patient Assistance Program and the Aventis Patient Assistance Program - 1-888-632-8607; 1-888-875-9951

[Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America](#) - Actos (pioglitazone hydrochloride - Takeda Patient Assistance Program - 1-800-830-9159

[Together Rx Prescription Savings Program](#) – Offers a free prescription discount card (20-40% off many name brands, additional discounts off generic drugs) to senior citizens. See site for full list of eligibility requirements.

[The United Health Alliance](#) - Also fills your prescription by a licensed Canadian pharmacy.

[Veteran's Administration](#) - For active and retired military personnel and their families - 1-877-222-8387 or <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/> (mail order pharmacy).

Other Resources to Explore for Prescription Drugs and Medical Supplies

If you can't pay for your medicines and supplies without help, you should tell your health care provider. Your doctor may be able to direct you to local programs or even provide free samples.

You or your doctor can order a free filament to check feet for nerve damage. The filament (with instructions for use) is available by calling the Bureau of Primary Health Care's (BPHC's) Lower Extremity Amputation Prevention Program (LEAP) at 1-888-ASK-HRSA (275-4772) or by accessing www.bphc.hrsa.gov/leap on the Internet.

The Medicare Prescription Program offers a [searchable database of prescription drug assistance programs](#). The website offers information on public and private programs

with discounted or free medication. You can also learn about Medicare health plans with prescription coverage.

Try contacting a local shelter for more information on how to obtain free medications and medical supplies; sometimes private or public corporations offer shelters medication and medical assistance. Check your phone book under Human Service Organizations or Social Service Organizations for the number of your nearest shelter.

Charitable Resources for Free Diabetes Supplies



Where to start

If you need assistance with diabetes supplies or care start by calling your local hospital, social services department, or even your doctor. Medical professionals often are the best source of information to find out about local assistance plans.

Assistance Resources

The following charities assist with free diabetes supplies to those who qualify:

Boston Avenue Helping Hands, Inc. - dba Helping Hand Ministry, 700 S. Boston, Tulsa, OK 74119. Phone: 918-584-4701, 918-584-5233 Fax. Services: Emergency help for limited utility and rent assistance, prescriptions, food. Aid limited to once a year; other criteria apply.

Bristow Social Services - 123 W. 6th Street, Bristow, OK 74010. Phone 918-367-5400, Fax: 918-367-6981. Services: Social services and emergency aid for: food, clothing, utilities, rent, prescriptions, household items.

Broken Arrow Neighbors - 322 W. Broadway, Broken Arrow, OK 74012. Phone: 918-251-7781. Services: Food pantry, clothing, coats, free clinic for minor illnesses, no-interest loans for emergency needs.

California - Community Health Partnership, San Jose - Rhonda McClinton Brown, MPH, Executive Director, P.O. Box 21940, San Jose, CA 95151-1940. Phone: (408) 289-9260. Web: www.CHPSCC.org. Services: The Supply Bank provides low-income, uninsured or underinsured individuals access to free glucose meters, testing strips, lancet devices, and lancets for up to three months. Participation in the Supply Bank will also afford clients with the opportunity to access the diabetes self-management education classes and referrals to low-cost healthcare services.

Charles Ray III Diabetes Association offers free diabetes supplies for those that cannot afford the cost, all over the world. Pumps and pump supplies available here. The Charles Ray III Diabetes Association, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

- [How to Qualify for Assistance](#)
- [Ask me how you can get a Medtronic MiniMed Insulin pump](#)
- [Donate your Medtronic 508, Paradigm, or Pump Supplies](#)
- [Pump & Supplies Recipients](#)

Children With Diabetes - Order their free "Welcome Kit" and receive the following:

- A blank quilt square and decorating supplies so you can make a panel for the [Quilt for Life](#)
- An inspiring DVD entitled *I Have Diabetes Too!*
- A coupon for a LifeScan blood glucose meter at No Charge
- Educational materials about insulin, glucose monitoring, and insulin pump therapy
- A nice backpack to hold everything

The CWD Welcome Kit is for residents of the United States only and is supported through the generosity of [LifeScan](#) and [Animas](#).

Creek Indian Community of Tulsa - 8611 S. Union, Tulsa, OK 74132. Phone: 918-298-2464, FAX: 918-298-2466. Services: For Creek Community Center Members: **Diabetic supplies, medical trips to Indian health facilities**, grants for education beyond high school.

Day Center for the Homeless - 415 W. Archer, Tulsa, OK 74103. Phone: 918-583-5588, FAX: 918-583-6745. Services: Homeless services: Day center, transportation, mental health intervention, case management, service coordination, homeless shelter. **Free low income clinic for homeless persons: health screenings, limited prescriptions, crisis help.**

Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi - The Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi provides free one-time emergency assistance with diabetes-related medicines and testing supplies to uninsured/underinsured Mississippians. We also provide referrals to pharmaceutical assistance programs and other area agencies. Patients simply have

their medical team or social worker to contact the DFM to verify the patient's need. The DFM works to get the supplies to the patient.

Mary D. Fortune
Executive Vice President
The Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi
16 Northtown Drive, Suite 100
Jackson, MS 39211
(601) 957-7878
(601) 957-9555 (Fax)
E-Mail: [Mary Fortune](mailto:Mary.Fortune@dfm.org)

Easter Seal Society, Oklahoma - 2738 E. 51st Street, Suite 130, Tulsa, OK 74105.
Phone: 918-743-2311, FAX: 918-749-8510. Services: **Financial help for adaptive equipment and prescriptions.**

FreedoMed - Phone: 1-888-722-7556. Medical supply company, that provides low cost or totally free diabetic supplies to diabetics who are eligible through Medicare or private insurance.

Georgia - Piedmont Hospital - Atlanta. The Diabetes Resource Center participated in community and work-based health fairs by providing free glucose/diabetes screenings on an ongoing basis. The objective of the free screenings is to identify individuals who might have diabetes and not realize it. For patient information (non media calls), call 404-605-3436.

Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church - Phone: 713-674-4435. Services: The benevolent fund ministry assists in paying utilities, rent, **medical bills and prescription medicines.** We also provide food and clothing to families in need.

Health For All - Phone: 979-823-1466 . Services: 150+ volunteer medical providers deliver **free medical, pharmaceutical, optical, lab/x-ray, vision and counseling services to 5,500+ low-income, uninsured** patients of the Brazos Valley.

Healthcare for the Homeless-Houston – Phone: 713-276-3073 www.homeless-healthcare.org EIN#76-0647934 Primary care including psychiatry, mental health counseling, TB testing, vision assistance, dentistry, podiatry, health education, information and referral. Women and children's specialty. Street Outreach.

Illinois - Northwest Community Hospital - Patient Financial Services, 3060 Salt Creek Lane, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Phone: 847-618-4747. Assists patients with diabetes regardless of their ability to pay. If you do not have health insurance, please call a hospital financial counselor at the number indicated below. The financial counselor will review payment and funding options that may be available to you. These could include applying for Illinois Medicaid, Kid Care or Family Care programs, Illinois

Crime Victims' Funds, other government-sponsored plans, grants, community funding, financial assistance and/or charity care. To apply for patient financial assistance at Northwest Community Hospital, please [click here](#) (.pdf) to download an application form, which you may print, complete and mail to the address listed on the form.

Financial Counselors can be reached at 847.618.4542.

[Insulin-Pumpers.org](#), is the largest nonprofit organization serving the needs of insulin pumpers world-wide. They are almost exclusively run by dedicated volunteers and offer financial assistance through their Insulin Pumpers Foundation program. Visit their main site for more information.

[IPump.org, Inc.](#) - Offers limited reimbursement for diabetes medications, supplies, and insulin to persons who qualify under their "ERMA" program. They also offer limited monthly financial assistance to qualifying persons to help cover the cost of insulin, diabetes medications and supplies. Persons may only receive financial assistance through one program and no more than once per year. Under their "REDS" program eligible persons may receive certain free diabetes and insulin pump supplies. Contact the Assistance Program Director, program-director@ipump.org for more information about programs currently funded.

[Islets of Hope](#) – Lists comprehensive assistance programs by state, as well as international resources for other countries. Includes private, corporate, and government programs. Click on “Assistance Programs” in their pull-down menu.

[NeedyMeds.com](#) - This site acts as a search portal for patient assistance programs. There is no cost to use this service which currently list 390 companies that offer free drugs and patient assistance programs.

- [Brand Name Drugs](#)
- [Generic Name Drugs](#)
- [Program List](#)
- [Company List](#)

Neighbor For Neighbor - 1506 E. 46th St. N., Tulsa, OK 74126. Phone: 918-425-5578, FAX: 918-425-6935, Clinic: 918-425-5595. Services: Food, clothing, household items, **free dental clinic, civil legal services**, employment assistance, **free medical clinic, eye clinic (exams, glasses, fee for lenses), prescription assistance**

[North Dakota Community Action Diabetics Supplies Program](#) - The program accepts referrals of low-income individuals needing assistance with diabetes supplies. A case management approach will be utilized to assure that the participant will be able to maintain access to needed diabetic supplies. An individual needing assistance will meet with a staff person at DPCAA to complete an application and determine a plan for future needs. A voucher will be provided which the participant will take to the designated pharmacy to receive approved diabetic supplies.

For more information contact: Janet Hannesson, DPCAA, 223 4th Street NE, Devils Lake, ND 58301. Phone: (701) 662-6500, ext 328; 1-800-321-5943, ext 328. Email: janet_hannesson@dpcaa.intranets.com

Project Get Together - 2020 S. Maplewood Ave., Tulsa, OK 74112. Phone: 918-835-2882, FAX: 918-835-2883, Social Services: 918-835-2910. Services: **Diabetic supplies program for emergency needs, diabetic self-management education.**

Emergency aid for food, household goods and other needs. No-interest loans for rent deposits. Housing programs, counseling and financial help to purchase a home, **free medical clinic for low-income persons without health insurance, eye clinic provides exams and glasses for low cost.**

Restore Hope Ministries - 2960 Charles Page Blvd., Tulsa, OK 74127. Phone: 918-582-5766. Services: No-interest loans for emergency needs for rent, utilities, and **prescriptions**, food assistance clothing assistance.

Insulin Pump Assistance Programs



Where to start

If your doctor has recommended an insulin pump but you cannot afford one, start by calling the pump company. Most have some sort of assistance program or they may be able to direct you to other support organizations. Pump companies may even offer you a contracted or reduced rate if you plead your case. Even if they cannot offer you any financial assistance, if you they give you a cheaper price, you have less to find funding for to cover on your own.

Insulin pumps companies licensed to seel in the United States are:

- [Animas](#)
- [DANA Diabecare USA](#)
- [Deltec Cozmo](#)
- [Disetronic USA](#)
- [Medtronic MiniMed](#)
- [Nipro Amigo](#)

Where to apply for assistance

[Animas Corporation](#) - Insulin pumps and supplies through the Diabetes Trust Fund (for children 21 and under with current health care coverage). 1-877-YES-PUMP (937-7867), ask to speak to Anne Barton at extension 1149.

[Ashley's Diabetes Information Center](#). This is a for-profit site run by a mother of a child with diabetes. She offers visitors a place to post their need for supplies and encourages others who have extras to share. Kimberly posts needs on her site and connects donors with those in need. Donors then send supplies directly, at their own cost. This is a grass-roots project and donors don't get tax receipts. E-mail: Kimberly Advent at: KimberlyDAdvent@aol.com

[Charles Ray III Diabetes Association](#) offers free diabetes supplies for those that cannot afford the cost, all over the world. Pumps and pump supplies available here. The Charles Ray III Diabetes Association, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

- [How to Qualify for Assistance](#)
- [Ask me how you can get a Medtronic MiniMed Insulin pump](#)
- [Donate your Medtronic 508, Paradigm, or Pump Supplies](#)
- [Pump & Supplies Recipients](#)

[Children With Diabetes Foundation](#) The mission of SCWDF is to provide short-term diabetes supplies for children with type 1 diabetes who are in emergency situations in which their families are unable to obtain the basic supplies for diabetes care.

[Diabetes Hope Foundation Medical Assistance Program](#) - 6150 Dixie Road, Unit 1, Mississauga, ON, CA, L5T2E2. Contact Name: Barbara Pasternak, Email: info@diabeteshopefoundation.com. Services: provides financial assistance and medical supplies such as insulin pumps or supplies not covered by OHIP for disadvantaged families. Diabetes Hope Scholarship Program provides scholarships to outstanding youth transitioning from paediatric to more self-directed adult health care programs as well as transitioning from high school to university or college. Our community Initiatives include Camp Huronda where we have funded many capital improvements to the waterfront, Nurse's Nest and Insulin Inn Infirmary. We also provide bursaries for underprivileged children living with diabetes enabling them to attend camp for two weeks.

[Diabetes Trust Foundation](#) - 1530 3rd Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35294. Phone: 800-577-1383, Fax: 205-975-4976. Email: info@diabetestrustfoundation.org. Services: The program helps provide pumps for children and teens based on medical and financial need. Pump maker Animas Corp. has partnered with DTF on the program.

[Disetronic Medical Systems, Inc.](#) - A supplier of insulin pumps founded a children's foundation called Pumps For Kids. The mission of Pumps For Kids is to provide insulin pumps and supplies to children with diabetes who could benefit from pump therapy but whose families cannot afford the cost.

Pumps For Kids initially awarded 25 Disetronic insulin pumps and supplies to children across the United States. Applications for awarding pumps will be distributed to doctors around the country, who will have the opportunity to nominate kids with the requisite medical and financial need.

For more information about Pumps For Kids call Disetronic Medical Systems, Inc. at 800-280-7801.

[Insulin-Pumpers.org](#), is the largest nonprofit organization serving the needs of insulin pumpers world-wide. They are almost exclusively run by dedicated volunteers and offer financial assistance through their Insulin Pumpers Foundation program. Visit their main site for more information.

[IPump.org, Inc.](#) - Offers some financial assistance to help with the purchase of the pump (see website for qualifications and restrictions). Receives donated, used insulin pumps and when they have available doanted pumps they give them for free to qualifying children in need. Contact the Assistance Program Director, program-director@ipump.org for more information about programs currently funded.

[Islets of Hope](#) – Lists comprehensive assistance programs by state, as well as international resources for other countries. Includes private, corporate, and government programs. Click on “Assistance Programs” in their pull-down menu.

[JDRF Canada - Win a Medtronic MiniMed® insulin pump!](#) - From the JDRF Canada webiste:

JDRF's Count Me In program aims to build a database of Canadians affected by juvenile (Type 1) diabetes. Currently, there is no system in place to capture the amount of Canadians affected by this disease – a crucial number when trying to make the government take this disease more seriously.

Also, when you count yourself in, you will receive an “Empowerment” package which will give you the tools needed to stay informed about the world of diabetes research, government advocacy, support, special offers, and fundraising opportunities to help us get to the finish line quicker.

On top of all the items you receive as part of the Empowerment package, your name will also be placed in a draw to win a [Medtronic Minimed](#) Paradigm 512 insulin pump worth \$6,400.

Medtronic Mini-Med - For Insulin pumps and supplies through their Mini-Med Financial Assistance Program. For more information call Medtronic at 1-800-MINI-MED.

Northwest Community Hospital - Patient Financial Services, 3060 Salt Creek Lane, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Phone: 847-618-4747. Assists patients with diabetes regardless of their ability to pay. If you do not have health insurance, please call a hospital financial counselor at the number indicated below. The financial counselor will review payment and funding options that may be available to you. These could include applying for Illinois Medicaid, Kid Care or Family Care programs, Illinois Crime Victims' Funds, other government-sponsored plans, grants, community funding, financial assistance and/or charity care. To apply for patient financial assistance at Northwest Community Hospital, please [click here](#) (.pdf) to download an application form, which you may print, complete and mail to the address listed on the form. Financial Counselors can be reached at 847.618.4542.

Ontario government funding of insulin pumps to benefit children and families - Staff and physicians at Markham Stouffville Hospital's paediatric diabetes clinic can now offer additional treatment options to more families as a result of the recent Ontario government decision to fund insulin pumps and related supplies for children with type 1 diabetes. As the only specialized program in York Region, the clinic will coordinate pump acquisition for eligible patients and provide mandatory training in addition to disease management education.

S.U.G.A.R. (Support Unlimited Guaranteed for Appliances Required) - A nonprofit Canadian group that provides assistance for diabetic devices to Canadians. They receive donated insulin pumps and loan them out to clients in need. Their address is: S.U.G.A.R., 495 Enfield Road, Burlington, ON, L7T 2X5. Phone: 905-632-0932, Fax: 905-632-0932. E-mail: info@sugarcharity.org.

Medical Supplies, Assistive Devices, and Medical Services Assistance Programs



Eyeglasses and Eye Care

Eye Care America - People eligible for a referral through the program receive a comprehensive, medical eye exam and up to one year of treatment—at no out-of-pocket

cost—for any disease diagnosed during the initial exam. Volunteer ophthalmologists accept Medicare and/or other insurance reimbursement as payment in full. 1-800-222-EYES (3937).

Lions Club International - A number of organizations collect used prescription eyeglasses and distribute them to those who cannot afford corrective glasses. The current major service project of Lions Clubs International, a community service organization, is the SightFirst program. Many Clubs collect used eyeglasses that can be distributed to people in need. Collection sites are often located in shopping centers, public libraries, and optical shops. Contact your local Lions Club for more information. Phone: (630) 571-5466 x393.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation - Financial assistance for eye surgery for those who cannot pay on their own. Applicants may or may not already be receiving other assistance. 1000 East State Parkway, Suite I, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Phone: 847-490-3838.

Mission Cataract USA - Volunteer Eye Surgeons' Association, providing free cataract surgery to people of all ages who have no other means to pay. Surgeries are scheduled annually on one day, usually in May. Phone: 1-800-343-7265.

Neighbor For Neighbor - 1506 E. 46th St. N., Tulsa, OK 74126. Phone: 918-425-5578, FAX: 918-425-6935, Clinic: 918-425-5595. Services: Food, clothing, household items, free dental clinic, civil legal services, employment assistance, free medical clinic, eye clinic (exams, glasses, fee for lenses), prescription assistance

New Eyes for the Needy, Inc. is a nonprofit, nonsectarian volunteer organization whose mission is to help provide better vision to poor people around the world. For more information on how to make your tax-deductible donation, write New Eyes for the Needy, 549 Millburn Avenue, Short Hills, NJ, or call (201) 376-4903.

Sight for Students - A VSP charity that provides free vision exams and glasses to low-income, uninsured children. Operates nationally through a network of community partners who identify children in need and VSP network doctors who provide the eyecare services. Call 1-800-877-7195 Monday - Friday 5 a.m. to 7 p.m., Pacific Time to speak with Member Services.

Vision USA - Providing basic eye health and vision care services free of charge to the many uninsured low-income people and their families who have no other means of obtaining care. Apply on line, mail or by phone. 1-800-766-4466, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., CST

Hearing Aids

Hear Now - The Hear Now program provides donated hearing aids to individuals who cannot afford to buy a hearing aid. Hear Now affiliates across the country prescribe and fit hearing aids for free. Can call 1-800-648-HEAR for more information, or check the

Web at . Donated hearing aids may be sent (in a padded envelope) to Hear Now, 9745 E. Hamden Avenue, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80231. To receive a donation receipt for tax purposes, include your return address.

Therapeutic Shoes

Medicare Therapeutic Shoe Program – A program under Medicare offering free foot-care for diabetics. The coverage includes a specialized shoe program to help prevent complications for people with diabetes and those with foot problems. Under the program patients are entitled to (annually) one pair of customized shoes, two sets of inserts, and a fitting by a podiatrist or shoe specialist. Patients can order molded or a depth shoe.

Prosthetic Care

The following organizations provide financial assistance for people who need prosthetic care and rehabilitation.

Amputee Coalition of America - 900 East Hill Avenue, Suite 285, Knoxville, TN 37915–2568. Phone: 1–888–AMP–KNOW (267–5669).

Easter Seals - 230 West Monroe Street, Suite 1800, Chicago, IL 60606. Phone: 1–800–221–6827, Fax: 312–726–1494.

Prosthetics for Diabetics Foundation - 323 Reed Way, Monroe, GA 30655. Phone: 770–267–0019, Fax: 770–395–7487.

You or your doctor can order a free filament to check feet for nerve damage. The filament (with instructions for use) is available by calling the Bureau of Primary Health Care's Lower Extremity Amputation Prevention Program (LEAP) at (888) ASK-HRSA (275-4772) or by visiting www.bphc.hrsa.gov/leap on the Internet.

Wheel chairs and mobile assistance devices

Chariots of Hope - Collects used wheelchairs which are repaired and given free to those in need.

Easter Seals - Offers free wheelchairs and other medical related equipment, like walkers, commodes, bathtub rails, bathtub chairs, crutches, transfer benches, electric wheelchairs and scooters, on a short- or long-term basis. Some programs require a fully-refundable deposit.

Technological Assistance

Assistive technology, which can help people with disabilities function more effectively at home, at work, and in the community, can include computers, adaptive equipment, wheelchairs, bathroom modifications, and medical or corrective services. The following organizations provide information, awareness, and training in the use of technology to aid people with disabilities:

[Alliance for Technology Access](#) (ATA)
1304 Southpoint Boulevard, Suite 240
Petaluma, CA 94954
Phone: 707-778-3011
Email: ATAinfo@ATAccess.org

Scholarships for Person with Disabilities, Including Diabetes



Scholarships

[American Library Association](#) (ALA): Offers both undergraduate and graduate scholarships to students enrolled in a library science degree programs. Also offers Century Scholarships to students with disabilities.

[Bank of America Corporation](#) (BOA): Offers large scholarships to persons with disabilities (diabetes included) who have a permanent residence in Texas. Qualified candidates include high school graduating seniors, four-year college or university undergraduates, or students attending a technical or vocational school. Qualifications are stringent but the scholarship awards are often generous. Interested eligible applicants should contact The Bank of America Abilities Scholarship Program at P.O. Box 1465, Taylors, S.C. 29687 to receive an application packet. Application packets also are available by phone (864) 268-3363 or by fax (864) 268-7160.

[BPHC - Hawaiian Program Information](#) - The Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program provides financial support for Native Hawaiian students pursuing careers in

selected health professions. The program's goals are to increase the number of Native Hawaiians in health professions and to improve the availability of primary and preventive care services to Native Hawaiians in the State of Hawaii. For more information regarding the Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program, please refer to the 2003-2004 School Year Applicant Information Bulletin. It is available for download in [Adobe Acrobat \(.PDF\) format](#) as well as [Plain Text \(.TXT\) format](#). You will need the free [Acrobat Reader](#) to view and print the .pdf.

[Diabetes Hope Foundation](#) - The Diabetes Hope Foundation (Canada), supported by their partners and patrons, has awarded 115 scholarships to students living with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in the past 5 years.

[Eli Lily and Company "Lily for Learning Diabetes Scholarships"](#) - Awards fifty, \$2,500 scholarships for any undergraduate field of study at an accredited institution.

[Henderson State University](#) - Scholarship information for people with disabilities (diabetes included)

[Joslin Center for Diabetes](#) - Post-graduate and college scholarships and support for students with diabetes (look at the bottom of their page for link to a .pdf file).

[National Institute of Health](#) (NIH): NIH offers undergraduate scholarships in biomedical research as well as several other medical areas. Also offers scholarships for minorities and students with disabilities (including diabetes).

[Novo Nordisk Donnelly Awards](#): Novo Nordisk is a pharmaceutical company manufacturing diabetes care products. This year Novo Nordisk is the sponsor of the WTT Donnelly Awards established in 1998 by tennis pro Billie Jean King. The two, \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to students ages 14-21 who play tennis competitively, or, on a school team. Award includes free attendance to a World Team Tennis match and expenses-paid trip to Philadelphia to receive the award.

[Texas Health Careers](#): This site lists scholarship awards for various fields and persons, including persons with disabilities (diabetes included).

College Savings Plans

If you shop with grocery store, department, debit, gas, or credit cards you should consider setting up a [UPromise](#) College Savings account. The service works by registering your credit, grocery, and debit cards with UPromise. Every time you shop one of their merchants you get back a percentage of the total spent deposited into a tax-free college savings account that you design. You can shop online through their site, or, you can shop local merchants. UPromise merchants include gas companies, airlines, florists, and even McDonald's and many other restaurants. It is free to join.

Financial Assistance for the Private Education of K-12th Grade Students

Children's Scholarship Fund - Founded in 1998, the Children's Scholarship Fund provides partial tuition assistance for low-income families to send their children to private schools. More than 67,000 children have benefited from scholarships across the United States as part of our mission to open the doors of educational opportunity to families. Currently, more than 23,000 children are using CSF scholarships

E-Student Loan - Private or Alternative PREP loans can be used to fund your child's K-12 education. Several lenders now have loan programs specifically tailored to help families fund private school tuition. And there are NO GOVERNMENT FORMS to complete. You can use the eStudentLoan LoanFinder to compare these loans and find the best fit for you.