



Your place to grow

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mansfield Opens Application Process for Childcare Assistance to Qualified Residents

Mansfield, CT February 12, 2021– The Town of Mansfield has opened up the application process for Mansfield residents who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and need assistance with paying for childcare.

Families with incomes at or below the following income thresholds who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for up to six months of assistance with childcare costs:

Income Limits by Household Size

1 Person	2 People	3 People	4 People	5 People	6 People	7 People	8 People
\$54,950	\$62,800	\$70,650	\$78,500	\$84,800	\$91,100	\$97,350	\$103,650

Called “A Helping Hand,” the program’s online application can be found on the town’s website: <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/2089/COVID-Assistance>

In addition to the application, there is detailed information available to help families determine whether they are eligible. The [pre-application screening form](#), [program information sheet](#), and [frequently asked questions](#) are all available on the [website](#). Mansfield residents are encouraged to direct questions they have to HelpingHand@MansfieldCT.org.

“We are keenly aware of the hardship and economic challenges the pandemic has brought to many local families, and our staff team in the Planning and Development, Youth Services and Human Services Departments is positioned to provide timely assistance through this new grant-funded program,” says Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager. “Mansfield is eager to help our families who qualify under the guidelines for this state and federal funding. Receiving financial assistance toward licensed childcare when many before and after school activities have been suspended, and when some traditional options for family member childcare have become unavailable—this help could be life-changing for some families who are just trying to keep a regular work schedule,” he adds. “Mansfield is fortunate to have qualified for these monies, and we are eager to put them to work for residents who need it.”

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Local childcare providers are being informed of the details of the program so that they might help families they serve to connect with the assistance. The town will also be making efforts to reach those who might benefit through its social services and school personnel, and through town-wide mailings. Resources for families for whom English is not their native language will also be offered to help ensure all families have access to the application process. Monies will be distributed to qualified families on a first-come, first-served basis, and all program activities and funding assistance must be completed by the end of 2022.

A food security/nutrition assistance program will also be rolled out in April.

The assistance programs were announced on February 3 through the Town of Mansfield's e-newsletter, and a web page outlining the program was made available last week for residents to preview and to complete qualifying pre-applications.

Funding for these programs has been provided by the State of Connecticut as part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program.

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ABOUT THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD, CONNECTICUT

Mansfield is a vibrant, diverse, and caring community that offers its residents and visitors unique cultural, recreational, and educational opportunities. Known for its excellent public schools, community-wide events, inclusive and efficient government, parks and preserves, protected open spaces, and agriculture, the Town is home to the main campus of the University of Connecticut. Principles of sustainability guide zoning and development, preserving the Town's historic character and providing for economic vitality.

Come and enjoy the beauty and historic traditions that Mansfield has offered for more than 300 years and see why it's your place to grow.

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