

GET SOME HELP DURING YOUR JOB SEARCH

One of the most challenging things about a job search is that it requires a lot of time and effort, but it doesn't provide any income until you get the job. Meanwhile, you have bills to pay just like everybody else.

This can be discouraging. But don't let it make you give up your job search. Everyone needs help sometimes.

If you're having trouble with bills, a good first step is to call your creditors to let them know you need more time to pay. Most creditors will appreciate your responsibility, and will do what they can to help. You could also talk with family or DSS to see what help they may be able to help you find.

You can also look for help directly. Call 211 or 888-892-1162 to connect with NC-211, which helps people find local services. For more immediate or interpersonal crises, call REAL Crisis Intervention at 758-4357. They are available any day, any time.

Churches can also be a good source of help. Several offer free food pantries to anyone in need. Your FNS caseworker can refer you to them.

Here are some important tips on getting help from food pantries:

- Call the pantry before your visit. Sometimes they have to change their schedules.
- Get to the pantry when it opens, or soon after. Sometimes they run out of food.
- Avoid using food pantries except in emergencies. Many pantries limit the number of times that individuals or households can use them.

In addition to help with food, people may need assistance with clothing, furniture, and household items such as lamps and kitchen utensils. These can be obtained inexpensively at the following services:

- Goodwill Industries: 720 Red Banks Road, Greenville; 321-1886.
- Hope of Glory Ministries: 103 East Arlington Boulevard, Greenville; 321-6857.
- My Sister's Closet (clothing): 329 East Arlington Boulevard, Greenville; 754-2495.
- My Sister's Attic (furniture): 909 Red Banks Road, Greenville; 227-4594.
- Salvation Army Family Store: 1913 East Fire Tower Road, Greenville; 756-3388.

- Salvation Army Thrift Store: 2337 Dickinson Avenue, Greenville; 756-5215.
- Salvation Army Thrift Shop: 3742 South Main Street, Farmville; 753-2784.

Finally, many people have trouble with housing expenses. Your FNS caseworker may be able to refer you to a program that can help.

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