



**COMPASS** is the information and referral line at NAMI Massachusetts . We help people navigate the complex mental health system, find resources, and problem solve in difficult circumstances.

We can help people find resources for:

- Peer Support
- Family Support
- Treatment
- Health Insurance
- Public Benefits
- Legal Issues
- Housing
- Children's Services
- Youth & Transition
- Transportation
- Employment
- and more!

What to expect when you call COMPASS:

- empathy, support, and confidentiality
- taking with a real person who's been there
- resources and next steps to fit your needs
- continued connection to a network of support

**to contact COMPASS**

call us at 617-704-6264

or email us at [compass@namimass.org](mailto:compass@namimass.org)

Monday - Friday • 9 am - 5 pm

# Resources for Finding Housing



This information is offered for educational purposes only. Contact the NAMI Mass **COMPASS** helpline for additional resources.

## Information About Housing Opportunities

### Housing Search Guide for People with Disabilities in Massachusetts

[www.chapa.org/housingsearchguide](http://www.chapa.org/housingsearchguide)

This guide provides information about searching for rental housing in Massachusetts for people disabilities.

### Affordable Housing

[www.mass.gov/topics/affordable-housing-0](http://www.mass.gov/topics/affordable-housing-0)

Information about public housing, rental assistance programs, emergency housing, and other Massachusetts resources to help find safe and secure shelter.

### MassAccess Housing Registry

[www.massaccesshousingregistry.org](http://www.massaccesshousingregistry.org)

The MassAccess Housing Registry helps people find affordable rental and home ownership opportunities in Massachusetts.

### MassHousing Developments List

[https://www.masshousing.com/portal/server.pt/community/rental\\_housing/240/looking\\_for\\_an\\_affordable\\_apartment\\_](https://www.masshousing.com/portal/server.pt/community/rental_housing/240/looking_for_an_affordable_apartment_)

MassHousing finances the construction and preservation of affordable rental housing throughout Massachusetts. This list includes MassHousing-financed properties across the state.

### Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Centralized Waiting List for Massachusetts

[www.gosection8.com/masscw1](http://www.gosection8.com/masscw1)

This website can be used to apply to, and update personal information on the Centralized Section 8 Waiting List.

### Common Housing Application for Massachusetts Public-Housing

<https://publichousingapplication.ocd.state.ma.us/>

This website can be used to apply to, state-aided public housing, as well as update personal information on previous applications.

## Programs that Can Assist with a Housing Search

### Independent Living Centers

[www.masilc.org/findacenter](http://www.masilc.org/findacenter)

Independent Living Centers (ILC) are community organizations run by and for people with disabilities. Their goal is to help members lead as independent a life as possible. Helping people find housing is a large bit of what ILCs do, and many ILCs offer an introductory housing workshop to get people started,

### Housing Consumer Education Centers

[www.masshousinginfo.org](http://www.masshousinginfo.org)

Housing Consumer Education Centers (HCECs) are programs that help people make informed decisions about their housing situation. They provide housing search assistance, budget counseling, utility assistance, information about housing rights, help accessing rental assistance programs, and more.

### Community Action Programs

[www.masscap.org/agencies.html](http://www.masscap.org/agencies.html)

Community Action Programs (CAPs) are organizations that help people and families gain self-sufficiency. They address the causes of poverty through programs that fight unemployment, inadequate housing, poor nutrition, and lack of educational opportunity. Many CAPs also provide assistance to people in crisis, to help meet emergency needs.

### Mass 2-1-1

[www.mass211.org](http://www.mass211.org)

Mass 2-1-1 is an information and referral service that specializes in helping people find emergency shelter and transitional housing programs. You can use the search engine on their website to find programs, but they can provide you with a more accurate and personalized response if you call (simply dial 211 from any phone within Massachusetts).