

You may qualify for basic needs assistance!

- ▶ Do you receive State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) medical benefits or Town of Norwich GA medical benefits?
- ▶ Are you no longer receiving cash from the SAGA or GA program?
- ▶ Are you currently receiving substance abuse or mental health treatment?
- ▶ Do you need temporary help meeting basic needs such as clothing, food, utilities, transportation and shelter or housing?

If you answered "yes" to all of these questions, we may be able to help you!

What can I do if my request is denied?

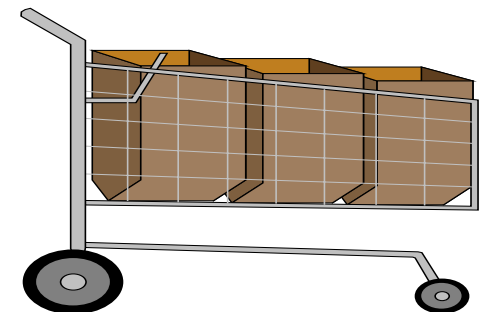
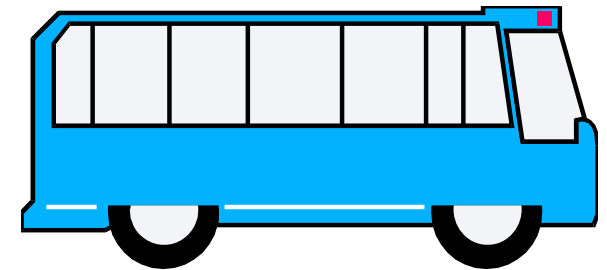
If your request is denied, you can request a reconsideration of the decision with the help of your treatment provider or anyone else you choose. If you would like your request to be reconsidered, your written request for reconsideration must be received at DMHAS Managed Care Division within 7 calendar days after the denial of an urgent support or within 14 calendar days of a standard support. Contact your provider to get a Reconsideration Form. Mail or fax your request to:

Department of Mental Health
and Addiction Services
Managed Care Unit
P.O. Box 341431, MS14MCP
Hartford, CT 06134
Phone: 1-800-368-1526
FAX: 860-418-6780

Your request will be reviewed and a final determination will be communicated to you and your treatment provider.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Department of Mental Health
and
Addiction Services

BASIC NEEDS PROGRAM



What is the Basic Needs Program (BNP)?

The Basic Needs Program (BNP) is a program administered by the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services designed to provide assistance with basic daily life needs if you are eligible. This program is for SAGA/GA clients in mental health or addiction treatment who are not receiving cash. The Basic Needs Program will provide temporary help with basic supports needed to assist you with your recovery process. **BNP is not an entitlement.**

You must be actively participating in treatment in order to receive supports.

What kind of expenses does the Basic Needs Program (BNP) cover?

BNP is designed to help you when there are no other resources available to meet your particular basic needs. This means that assistance is temporary. In most instances it is intended to be a single purchase. Although, in some situations you may qualify for an extension of your request.

The items covered by BNP are:

- Food
- Personal care items or services
- Clothing
- Transportation
- Shelter beds or housing
- Utilities
- Other needed supports

How do I know if I am eligible?

You are eligible to request assistance under the BNP if you are:

- On State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) or General Assistance (GA) from the town of Norwich; and
- Not receiving SAGA or GA cash benefits; and
- Currently receiving substance abuse or mental health treatment; and
- Actively engaged in your treatment process.

How do I access the Basic Needs Program (BNP) for supports?

Since BNP is designed to support your current course of treatment, your substance abuse or mental health treatment provider must assist you in accessing to the BNP. When you need to request assistance, let your treatment provider know. He or she will complete an application with you. You will need to provide basic information about yourself and why you need assistance. The application contains a section where you can write in your own words a statement that will support your request. The completed application is then forwarded to a review committee for authorization.

How long does it take to receive the BNP support?

Two types of request can be made through the BNP.

Urgent: An urgent request includes those items that you need to have within a day or so. You can expect a response to your urgent request within one working day of it being submitted.

Standard: A standard request is one that is not considered urgent. Standard requests will usually receive a response within five working days.

All requests that have been reviewed will be forwarded to you and to the provider that helped you with the application.

For more information please contact:

**DMHAS BNP
Hotline 1-800-368-1526**