



**Town of Berlin, Connecticut  
Commission for Persons with Disabilities  
Resource Guide**



**January 8, 2015**



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## DEDICATION

This Resource Guide is dedicated to Catherine and Frederick Jortner. Their personal journeys amidst the challenges of caring for family members have made them champions for people with disabilities. They have fostered awareness, education and inclusiveness. The knowledge they have gained and shared has not only assisted other families in the Town of Berlin but people throughout Connecticut. We are proud to be their friends and neighbors.



## **Commission for Persons with Disabilities**

Town of Berlin CT  
240 Kensington Rd.  
Berlin, CT 06037

The Berlin Commission for Persons with Disabilities' mission is to assure persons with disabilities equal access to Town resources, facilities, programs, and identify local, state and federal programs to assist persons with disabilities. The Commission meets regularly. More information about the Commission and its meeting schedule can be found at <http://www.town.berlin.ct.us/departments/board.php?structureid=77>

This Resource Guide is intended to disseminate information regarding such programs, services and events to better serve our citizens with disabilities. It provides a starting place for resources, but is not intended to endorse or guarantee access to any resources contained in this guide. The information is current as to the date on the cover. Many of the website and information changes quickly. If more information is needed, we suggest contacting **211 Info Line**.

### **Commission Members:**

Robert Dombrowski, Chairperson

Laura Kern, past Chairperson

Andrew Chatlas

Barbara Cesanek

Peter Zera

Pamela DonAroma (member during the preparation)

Michael Jortner (member during the preparation)

Secretary: Marlo Matassa

Commission Liaison: Doug Truitt



## **Town of Berlin Services:**

**Absentee Ballot for Voters:** Contact the Town Clerk's Office at **860-828-7036**.  
An application can be sent through the mail.

**ADA Coordinator** – Denise Parsons – Assistant Town Manager; Email:  
[dparsons@berlinschools.org](mailto:dparsons@berlinschools.org)

**Community/Social Services Department:** Berlin Town Hall – Phone: **(860) 828-7007**.

**Probate Court, District of Berlin:** District-Berlin Probate Court  
- 1 Liberty Sq., New Britain, CT 06051- Phone: **(860) 826-2696**.  
<http://www.ctprobate.gov/Pages/Welcome.aspx> For additional resources, see:  
<http://www.ctprobate.gov/Pages/Probate-Court-User-Guides.aspx>

**Senior Center:** The Berlin Senior Center – 33 Colonial Drive – Berlin - Phone:  
**(860) 828-7006**. All Berlin residents, age 60 and older, are welcome to join.

**Youth Services Department:** Berlin Town Hall – Phone: **(860) 828-7059**

**Special Needs Registry:** The Police Department also has a Special Needs Registry, a voluntary program which lets Berlin residents send in information that allows police, fire and EMS to be aware of any special needs or disabilities which might impact emergency, evacuation or an extended time period without utilities. The information is kept confidential and will only be used for emergency notification. The form can be downloaded from this link:  
[http://www.town.berlin.ct.us/egov/apps/document/center.egov?eGov\\_searchDepartment=20&eGov\\_searchType=6](http://www.town.berlin.ct.us/egov/apps/document/center.egov?eGov_searchDepartment=20&eGov_searchType=6)



## Transportation:

**Berlin Senior Bus** can be used by seniors and persons with disabilities and is equipped with a wheelchair lift and operates Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Service is "curb to curb"; therefore, individuals that may require assistance getting to or from the curb should be accompanied by a companion who can provide such assistance. Please contact the Senior Center (33 Colonial Drive) to request transportation and further information. Phone: **(860) 828-7006**. Specific information about this service can be found at:

<http://www.town.berlin.ct.us/topic/index.php?topicid=115&structureid=23>

**Special Permit (Handicap Parking)** - Contact the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles – An application for a Special Permit Application and Impairment Certificate can be found at: <http://www.ct.gov/dmv/cwp/view.asp?a=818&q=480280>

## Housing:

**Elderly and Disabled Homeowners Applications: Tax Abatement Property Tax Program:** Available in the Assessor's Office. Phone: **(860) 828-7105**

<http://www.town.berlin.ct.us/topic/subtopic.php?topicid=27>

**Housing Authority:** Marjorie Moore Village – 250 Kensington Road – Community Center Room - Phone: **(860) 828-4500**.

<http://www.town.berlin.ct.us/departments/board.php?structureid=81>

**Renters Rebate Program:** Contact the Senior Center – 33 Colonial Drive – Phone: **(860) 828-7006**.

**Section 8 Housing:** Information about Department of Social Services Section 8 housing can be found by calling 1-800-842-1508



## **Health:**

**Food Pantry:** Contact the Department of Social Services - Berlin Town Hall -  
Phone: **(860) 828-7007**

**Food Stamps:** Information about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, can be found on the Department of Social Services website at the following address:  
<http://www.ct.gov/dss/cwp/view.asp?a=2353&q=320232> or by calling 1-800-842-1508 or 1-855-6CONNECT or 1-855-626-6632

**Flu Clinics:** Berlin VNA – Phone: **(860) 828-7030**

**Fuel Assistance:** Contact: Social Services Department – Town Hall  
Applicants under age of 60 - Phone: **(860) 828-7007**  
Applicants 60 & Over - Berlin Senior Center - Phone: **(860) 828-7006**

**Home Healthcare:** Berlin VNA – Phone: **(860) 828-7030**



## **Education:**

**Special Education Services - Department of Education– Pupil Personnel Services – 238 Kensington Road, Berlin, CT 06037 - Phone: (860) 828-6581**

**Website includes Guide to Special Education Services in Berlin and other resources <http://www.berlinschools.org/page.cfm?p=991>**

**Additional resources can be found at the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education Resources, including Procedural Safeguards: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2678&Q=320730>**



## **Recreation:**

**Berlin Community Center/Parks and Recreation Department** – 230 Kensington Rd. Phone: **(860) 828-7009**

**Berlin Peck Memorial Library** – 234 Kensington Rd. Phone: **(860) 828-7125**

Website - <http://www.berlinpeck.lib.ct.us/>

**Friendship Place** - accessible boundless playground - Willard Elementary -1088 Norton Road, Berlin, CT 06037

**Hungerford Park** - The New Britain Youth Museum at Hungerford Park has many walking trails, located behind the museum at 191 Farmington Ave (Route 372), Kensington. The shortest trail is 1/4 mile, with the longest being 1 mile. A map of the trails is on a sign near the fence at the trail entrance. A separate brochure for the Wildflower trail is available in the museum. Open dawn to dusk. Phone: **(860) 827-9064** Website - <http://www.newbritainyouthmuseum.org/>

**Timberland Golf Club** - 330 Southington Road - Berlin, Connecticut, 06037  
Phone: **(860) 828-3228** - Website: [www.timberlingolf.com](http://www.timberlingolf.com)

**YMCA of New Britain/Berlin**: 365 Main Street **Phone:** (860) 828-6559





## **Financial:**

### **Department of Banking**

260 Constitution Plaza  
Hartford, CT 06103-1800  
1-800-831-7225

### **Energy Assistance**

The Berlin Senior Center  
33 Colonial Drive  
Berlin, CT 06037  
(860) 828-7006

### **Social Security Administration**

233 Main Street  
New Britain, CT 06051  
(866) 858-6086

**Website:** [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

### **Workers' Compensation Commission**

Chairman's Office  
21 Oak St.  
Hartford, CT 06106  
(860) 493-1500

**Website:** [www.wcc.state.ct.us](http://www.wcc.state.ct.us)

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## State of Connecticut Agencies:

**Board of Education and Services for the Blind** - The mission of the Board to provide quality educational and rehabilitative services to all people who are legally blind or deaf-blind and children who are visually impaired at no cost to their clients or their families. 184 Windsor Avenue Windsor, Connecticut 06095 **Telephone: 860-602-4000 TDD: 860-602-4221**

**Website:** [www.ct.gov/besb/site/default.asp](http://www.ct.gov/besb/site/default.asp)

**Bureau of Rehabilitation Services** - The mission of the Bureau is to create opportunities, through the provision of individualized rehabilitation services, which enables persons with disabilities to live and work independently. General Information: **1-860-424-4844**

**Website:** <http://www.ct.gov/brs/site/default.asp>

**Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired** – The Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired was created by the Connecticut Legislature in 1974 to advocate, strengthen and implement state policies affecting Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals and their relationship to the public, industry, health care, and educational opportunities. 67 Prospect Avenue, 3rd Floor Hartford, CT 06106 Telephone: 1-860-231-1690 TTY/VOICE

**Website:** [www.cdhi.ct.gov/cdhi/cwp/view.asp?a=2684&Q=319078&cdhiNav=|](http://www.cdhi.ct.gov/cdhi/cwp/view.asp?a=2684&Q=319078&cdhiNav=|)



**Department of Children and Families (DCF)**

505 Hudson Street

Hartford, CT 06106

860-550-6300; Careline for questions of abuse: 1-800-842-2488

**Website:** <http://www.ct.gov/dcf/site/default.asp>

**Department of Developmental Services – (Formerly Dept. of Mental Retardation)**

460 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

860-418-6000 Office -866-737-0330 Toll Free 860-418-6079 TD

**Website:** <http://www.ct.gov/dds/site/default.asp>

**Department of Motor Vehicles – Programs and Services for Persons with Disabilities - Within Hartford Area 860-263-5700 Elsewhere in Connecticut 800-842-8222**

**Website:** [www.ct.gov/dmv/cwp/view.asp?a=884&Q=246596](http://www.ct.gov/dmv/cwp/view.asp?a=884&Q=246596)

**Department of Social Services - General Information: 1-855-6CONNECT or 1-855-626-6632; Auxiliary aids are also available for persons with visual impairment and other disabilities.**

**Website:** <http://www.ct.gov/dss/site/default.asp>



**Department of Veterans' Affairs** - The Health Care Facility at the CT Veterans' Home provides long term care to veterans with chronic and disabling medical conditions. These conditions include but are not limited to heart and lung disease, stroke, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and other dementias. The program also provides Hospice care, Palliative care and Respite care. 287 West Street - Rocky Hill, CT 06067 – Phone: **(866)-928-8387**; Military Support Program: **866-251-2913** or 2-1-1: 211 (Ask for Military/Veteran Listings)

**Website:** <http://www.ct.gov/CTVA/site/default.asp>

**Veterans' Information:** Copies of DD-214 – **Website:** <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>

**Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities** Information and Referrals - Phone: **(860) 297-4300**

**Website:** [www.ct.gov/opapd/site/default.asp](http://www.ct.gov/opapd/site/default.asp)

**211 Info Line** - 2-1-1 Infoline is an integrated system of help via the telephone - a single source for information about community services, referrals to human services, and crisis intervention. It is accessed toll-free from anywhere in Connecticut by simply dialing 2-1-1. It operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Multilingual caseworkers and TDD access is available.