

RESOURCES FOR THE HAITIAN COMMUNITY

LEGAL/IMMIGRATION RESOURCES

Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

- For application forms, filing instructions, and updates:
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)
JFK Federal Building
15 Sudbury Street, Boston, MA
<http://www.uscis.gov>
(800) 375-5283
USCIS is also hosting a table in the lobby of the JFK federal building to address any questions relating to the US response to the crisis in Haiti.
- To request official Haitian documents:
Embassy of Haiti in DC
2311 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20008
Phone: (202) 332-4090
Email: embassy@haiti.org
Web: <http://www.haiti.org>
- The **Mayor's Office of New Bostonians** regularly provides free confidential consultation on all immigration issues, including Haitian TPS and adoptions.
When: Every first and third Wednesdays of the month. Noon – 2:30
Where: Boston City Hall, room 803
(617) 635-2980
<http://www.cityofboston.gov/newbostonians>
- For information, resources, and a list of legal assistance clinics:
<http://miracoalition.org/home/supporthaiti>

Bringing Relatives to the United States

- For application forms, filing instructions, and updates: <http://www.uscis.gov>
- For information on interviews and visa processing in Haiti: <http://haiti.usembassy.gov>

Adoptions

- For the latest updates on adopting Haitian children: <http://www.adoptions.state.gov/country/haiti.html>
- For US Citizens with pending adoption cases, please contact USCIS at HaitianAdoptions@dhs.gov to make inquiries or provide the agency with detailed information.
- If you know of orphaned children who are not in the adoption process and are lacking basic necessities, please contact UNICEF at portauprincehaiti@unicef.org.

US Embassy in Haiti (for all calls to Haiti, dial 011 + the number)

Tabarre 41, Boulevard 15 Octobre
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
(509) 22 29 8000
PapCons@state.gov (immigrant visa section)
<http://haiti.usembassy.gov>



CITY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Mayor
Thomas M. Menino

As of Saturday, February 13, 2010, the City of Boston's Haitian Referral and Support Center will no longer be in operation.

The City remains responsive to the needs of Haitian and Haitian American families affected by the earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010.

For information and referral, call the **Mayor's Office of New Bostonians** at **(617) 635-2980** Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. or **(617) 593-0363** after 5 p.m.

Please use this Resource Guide to access a range of local resources.

- Inquiries about the welfare of US Citizens in Haiti can be made to the embassy: (509) 22 29 8942, (509) 22 29 8089, (509) 22 29 8322, or (509) 22 29 8672
- Inquiries can also be made to US offices of the State Department: (888) 407-4747 or Haiti-earthquake@State.Gov.

Legal Service Providers

(for assistance with TPS applications)

For technical assistance questions regarding TPS or adoptions, please call:

- **Mass Law Reform Institute**
(617) 357-0700 x335
- **MIRA Coalition**
(617) 350-5480 x212
- **Maiona & Maiona**
(617) 695-2220

Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS)

197 Friend Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 603-1808
www.gbls.org
TPS Clinics - Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

AIDS Action Committee Legal Services Department

75 Amory Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02119
(617) 450-1317
TPS Clinics - Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project (PAIR)

254 Friend St, 5th floor
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 742-9296
Focus on those in immigration detention

For inquiries regarding eligibility for state or federal benefits and housing for those granted TPS, please call:

- **Mass Law Reform Institute**
(617) 357-0700 x328

Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigrant Services

275 West Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127
(617) 451-7979
Haitian TPS Assistance: (617) 464-8004

Legal & Social Service Providers

International Institute of Boston (IIB)

One Milk Street
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 695-1639
TPS Clinics - Monday – Thursday from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Irish Immigration Center

100 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 542-7654

East Boston Ecumenical Community Council

50 Meridian Street, Suite B-1
East Boston, MA 02128
(617) 567-2750

Community Based Organizations

Haitian Multi-Service Center/Catholic Charities

185 Columbia Road
Dorchester, MA 02121
(617) 506-6600

Association of Haitian Women in Boston (AFAB)

330 Fuller Street
Dorchester, MA 02124
(617) 287-0096

Haitian American Public Health Initiatives, Inc. (HAPHI)

10 Fairway Street
Mattapan, MA 02126
(617) 298-8076

Haitian Americans United (HAU)

10 Fairway Street, #218
PO Box 260440
Mattapan, MA 02126
(617) 298-2976

SOCIAL & MEDICAL RESOURCES

For questions regarding eligibility for state or federal benefits – including medical access, education, and housing – please call:

- **Mass Law Reform Institute** (617) 357-0700 x328
- **MIRA Coalition** (617) 350-5480 x222
- **Massachusetts Office for Refugees & Immigrations** (617) 727-7888

The **City of Boston** has other resources for Haitians in need of services:

- Mayor's hotline: (617) 635-4500 or haitiansupport@cityofboston.gov
- Mayor's Health line: (617) 534-5050
- Boston Public Schools to enroll your children in school: 617-635-9000 or www.bostonpublicschools.org

Free Telephone Access

- Catholic Charities and the Haitian Multi-Service Center have teamed up to provide free telephone access to family members in Haiti. Telephones are available at:
Haitian Multi-Service Center
185 Columbia Road Dorchester, MA 02121
(617) 436-2848

Mental Health/Trauma Counseling

- The **International Institute of Boston** provides free trauma counseling. Please call (617) 695-9990 x172.
- The **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee** has volunteer trauma counselors. Contact Nichole Cirillo at (617) 301-4336.
- For information on access to housing: <http://www.masslegalhelp.org/housing/finding-housing-booklets>
- Boston Emergency Services Team (BEST) provides 24 hour emergency psychiatric services to adults, families and organizations. Anyone walking into a Boston hospital emergency room will be seen by BEST. For more information, call BEST at (800) 981-4357.

Medical Services

Boston Area Hospitals

Boston Medical Center

Behavioral Health Outpatient Services
Dowling Building
771 Albany Street, 9th floor Boston, MA 02118
(617) 414-4238

Caritas Carney Hospital

2100 Dorchester Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02124
(617) 296-4012

Cambridge Health Alliance

18 locations throughout Cambridge, Somerville, Malden, Everett, and Revere
<http://www.cha.harvard.edu>

Boston Area Health Centers

Harvard Street Health Center

632 Blue Hill Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02121
(617) 825-3400

Codman Square Health Center

637 Washington Street
Dorchester Center, MA 02124
(617) 825-9660

Mattapan Community Health Center

1425 Blue Hill Avenue
Mattapan, MA 02126
(617) 296-6954

Opportunities to Help

- If you would like to volunteer for help Haitian families:
<http://www.bostonredcross.org>
<http://cityofboston.gov/readyboston>
- For monetary donations to relief services:
Partners in Health: <http://www.pih.org>
International Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org>
Catholic Relief Services: <http://www.crs.org>
- For food, clothing, and non-perishable donations:
Mildred Community Center
1-5 Mildred Ave
Mattapan, MA 02126
(617) 635-1328
- To volunteer as a Haitian Creole interpreter/translator, call (617) 635-2980.

Mayor Thomas M. Menino has established a Haitian Relief Fund at Bank of America where residents can make donations to support relief efforts for families in Boston who affected by the earthquake. Donations can be made via The Fund for Boston Neighborhoods, Inc., at Boston City Hall or Bank of America branches in Boston.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RESOURCES FOR HAITIANS WITH TPS

In addition to being able to live and work legally in the United States for 18 months, TPS provides individuals with eligibility for some state public assistance programs.

MA public assistance programs for which individuals in temporary protected status are eligible:

Medical

Haitians with TPS are eligible for the following MassHealth programs:

- MassHealth Essential (elderly or disabled if income under poverty level)
- MassHealth Family Assistance (children under 19)
- See: 504.002(D)(1)(k)

Also, they are eligible for the following MassHealth programs for which there are no immigration status requirements:

- MassHealth Limited (emergency care only)
- Health Safety Net (formerly referred to as Free Care) (reimbursement to acute hospitals and health care centers for care delivered to the uninsured)
- Healthy Start (prenatal care for pregnant women)
- Children's Medical Security Plan (immunizations and primary care for children under the age of 19)

Cash Assistance

Some TPS recipients may be eligible for Emergency Aid to the Elderly Disabled and Children cash benefits, administered through the Department of Transitional Assistance. (EAEDC) See 106 CMR 320.620(A)

MA Driver's licenses and MA ID

TPS recipients are eligible for driver's licenses only if they can meet the state's documentation requirements. See instructions for obtaining a driver's license in the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) driver manual at: <http://www.mass.gov/rmv/dmanual/chapter1.pdf>

Note; to meet the RMV's Social Security Number (SSN) documentation requirement, in some cases, TPS recipients will first need to submit an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) to the Social Security Administration (SSA) in order to have an SSN issued. Once the SSN is issued, the TPS recipient can then apply for driver's license or Massachusetts ID. (Note; the EAD processing time is ~90 days)

In-state Tuition

TPS recipients are eligible for in-state tuition, if the state's residency requirement is met (6 months for community college; 12 months for state schools and university). See the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (MDHE) Residency Status for Tuition Classification Purposes at: <http://www.mass.edu/library/Motions/2007/FAAP07-24.pdf>

Other Public Benefits available to MA immigrants regardless of immigration status:

- School lunch and breakfast
- WIC (supplemental food program for women, infants and children)
- Head Start
- Non-means tested benefits delivered at the community level, such as food pantries, homeless shelter, child protection services, and domestic violence, mental health and substance abuse treatment.