



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Communications Office

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SUBJECT: Local Programs Ready to Help Federal Workers Impacted by Shutdown

BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

Local Programs Ready to Help Federal Workers Impacted by Shutdown

[Duluth, MN] - As the federal government shutdown continues, roughly 1,000 workers in Duluth, and their families, are trying to find ways to meet their daily basic needs. Multiple local organizations are available to provide assistance depending on the need. When in doubt, the Head of the Lakes United Way 2-1-1 Information and referral line is a great resource anyone can access.

Temporary Employment:

Duluth Workforce Center, 402 West First Street. Free services to connect people to temporary jobs/careers, (218) 302-8400.

Basic needs (food, clothing, healthcare, chores, etc.):

Call Head of the Lakes United Way 2-1-1 program, dial 2-1-1 from a land line or from a cell phone call 800-543-7709. All calls are kept confidential.

Questions about food programs (SNAP or Food Stamps):

Minnesota Food HelpLine at 1-888-711-1151

Emergency food shelf:

CHUM has three sites where people can access provisions. Hours and locations are available at <https://www.chumduluth.org/chumfoodshelf.htm> or people can also call 211

Unemployment benefits, apply online:

<http://www.uimn.org/applicants/index.jsp>

Utilities help for Duluth and immediate surrounding cities/townships:

Water, gas, sewer (ComfortSystems) – (218) 730-4050

Minnesota Power customers can call 800.228.4966 or visit <https://www.mnpower.com/Assistance>

Help paying rent:

Contact St. Louis County, Government Services <https://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/public-health-human-services/about-public-health-human-services> or call (218) 726-2222. Those with mortgages are encouraged to contact their mortgage lender.

As the community, state, and country hope for an expedient end to the federal shutdown, those potentially impacted by it are encouraged to utilize any of the above resources. The Duluth community is doing what it can to support federal employees. Local

program staff are available to discuss options that may be available to federal employees, answer any questions, and direct people to the appropriate organizations or agencies that can be of assistance. Lenders and credit unions may also offer short-term loan assistance.

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