

# Services and Resources for People with Disabilities and their Families





## **Disability Access Commission**

As part of its efforts to help people with disabilities lead proud and productive lives, the citizen volunteers who serve on the Disability Access Commission compiled this listing of programs and services. The listing is not meant to include every service available to people with disabilities, but to focus on services offered by the local governments and service agencies with offices in the Village or that provide services to Oak Park residents.

This listing will be updated regularly. The Disability Access Commission encourages you to report any important resource available to Oak Park residents with disabilities or their friends and families that may have been missed. Please contact the ADA Coordinator by email at **ADACoordinator@oak-park.us** with any suggestions.



## Table of Contents

General Services .....	2
Oak Park Township .....	2
Park District of Oak Park .....	3
Progress Center for Independent Living .....	4
Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services .....	4
Housing Services.....	5
Oak Park Housing Authority.....	5
Oak Park Residence Corporation.....	5
Progress Center for Independent Living.....	6
Housing Forward .....	6
Transportation Services.....	6
Oak Park Township .....	6
Library Services.....	7
Health Services .....	7
Mental Health Services .....	7
Thrive Counseling Center .....	7
Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township .....	8
Developmental Disabilities Services .....	8
Oak-Leyden Developmental Services .....	8
Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township .....	8
Vocational Rehabilitation Services .....	9
Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services .....	9
Easterseals.....	9
Meals and Food Services .....	9
Oak Park Township .....	9
Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry.....	10
Adult Day Programs.....	10
Safety Services.....	10
Voter Services.....	11
Oak Park Township .....	11
Village of Oak Park.....	11
Financial Services .....	11
Oak Park Township .....	11
Housing Forward .....	11
Education Services .....	12
Elementary District 97 .....	12
High School District 200 .....	12
After School Services.....	12
Disability Rights Service .....	12

## General Services



As the local municipal government, the Village of Oak Park ensures compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Activities include reviewing building permits for compliance with all local, state and federal laws and promoting voluntary property upgrades to make them accessible. The Village also investigates complaints about inaccessible locations and services, manages an emergency community notification system and maintains a registry of residents with special needs that first responders can access in response to a 911 call.



**Ensuring participation** – The Village also strives to ensure full participation by persons with special needs in all Village-sponsored events and meetings. Anyone needing special accommodations should contact the ADA Coordinator for assistance at least 48 hours prior to the event or meeting. The ADA Coordinator also responds to complaints about an inaccessible location or service.



**Safety notifications** – The Village of Oak Park can deliver important public safety information directly to residents via telephone, email and text message. To sign up for the service, complete the form at [www.oak-park.us/notifyme](http://www.oak-park.us/notifyme) and follow the instructions you will receive via email to complete registration. Residents who don't have access to email can call 708.358.5480 to sign up for telephone notification only.



**Emergency needs registry** – Oak Park residents with special needs that should be considered in an emergency situation can register with the Village to ensure first responders are aware when dispatched via a 911 call. Knowing that they are being sent to a home where someone may have a hearing or visual impairment, mobility limitation, cognitive impairment or uses an electrically powered medical device could prove vital to emergency medical personnel. Residents or their caregivers can register online at [www.oak-ark.us/911registry](http://www.oak-ark.us/911registry). A form also is available via email to [prepare@oak-park.us](mailto:prepare@oak-park.us) or by calling 708.358.5488. All information is kept confidential and should be updated annually.



### Oak Park Township

105 S. Oak Park Ave. (main office)  
130 S. Oak Park Ave. (senior center)  
Oak Park, IL 60302

General inquiries 708.383.8005 – [town@oakparktownship.org](mailto:town@oakparktownship.org)  
Senior citizen inquiries 708-383-8060 – [seniors@oakparktownship.org](mailto:seniors@oakparktownship.org)  
[www.oakparktownship.org/services/persons-disabilities](http://www.oakparktownship.org/services/persons-disabilities)

Oak Park Township provides a variety of governmental services and resources with special emphasis on advocacy and partnerships in human services that benefit at-risk youth, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, the ill and

individuals struggling financially. Assistance for persons with disabilities is for those 18 years or older. Programs for senior citizens are for individuals 60 years and older.

**Services for Adults and Senior Citizens**

- Curb-to-curb transportation on lift-equipped buses in Oak Park and River Forest
- Coupons for taxis, reduced-fare applications for CTA, RTA and Metra
- Key box for quick entry by emergency personnel
- Investigations into abuse complaints
- Assistance with benefit application, health insurance forms, home energy programs and counseling on options that allow an individual to remain in his or her home and still access available service
- Information and referral services

**Services for Senior Citizens**

- Case management help getting all needed services
- Meal programs
- Caregiver support, including respite and daily activity assistance
- Affordable will preparation
- Assistance with federal, state and local benefits
- In-home chore services
- Money management services

The Township also offers special services for individuals with permanent or temporary disabilities, including taxi coupons, temporary handicapped parking placards and referrals.



**Park District of Oak Park**

218 Madison, Oak Park, IL 60302

**[www.pdop.org](http://www.pdop.org)**

708.725-2000

The Park District of Oak Park offers nearly 3,000 recreation programs and special events annually with two outdoor pools, an indoor ice rink, gymnastics center, seven recreation centers and 84 acres of parkland. The Park District provides aid to allow persons with disabilities to participate in its many programs as well as special accommodations to contribute in public meetings. Information about special needs requests is available at **[www.pdop.org/registration/special-needs-requests](http://www.pdop.org/registration/special-needs-requests)**.

The Park District also works with the West Suburban Special Recreation Association to provide programs to adults and children with physical, mental and other types of disabilities.



## **Progress Center for Independent Living**

7521 W. Madison St.  
Forest Park, IL 60130  
708.209.1500  
TTY 708.209.1826  
**info@progresscil.org**  
**progresscil.org**

The federally funded Progress Center for Independent Living helps persons with disabilities of all ages establish lives in the community and increase and maintain independence. Free services include the following:

- Information and referral about any disability related topic, including legal resources
- Disability rights advocacy
- Training in how to live independently
- Sharing and problem solving in everyday issues
- Personal assistance services
- Medicare
- Moving from a nursing home back into the community, including locating accessible housing
- Services for the deaf, including TTY distribution and training
- Services to the Latino disability community



## **Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services**

2215 Enterprise Drive, Suite 1502  
Westchester, IL 60154  
708.409.8800  
Video Phone 708.223.7390  
Fax 708.409.8831  
**dhs.drs@illinois.gov**  
**www.dhs.state.il.us**

The Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) is the state's lead agency serving individuals with disabilities. DRS works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families achieve full community participation through employment, education and independent living opportunities. DRS provides services through the following four major bureaus:

- **Field Services:** assists individuals with preparing for, obtaining and maintaining quality competitive employment. Services include evaluation, guidance and counseling, education, training, physical and mental restoration, assistive devices, job development, job placement and post-employment services.
- **Blind Services:** helps adults who are blind or visually impaired rediscover their independence and achieve their employment, education, training and independent living goals. Services include specialized vocational

rehabilitation services, short-term residential program for adults who are newly blind or visually impaired and independent living services for older individuals who are blind. The Bureau also manages the Illinois Business Enterprise Program for the Blind, which offers professional food services through a network of small business operators.

- **Home Services:** provides a wide range of services to individuals with the most significant disabilities, helping them to remain in their homes and live as independently as possible. Services include specialized support for people with HIV/AIDS or brain injuries.
- **Disability Determination Services:** determines the eligibility of people to receive benefits under Social Security's disability programs, Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

## Housing Services



### **Oak Park Housing Authority**

21 South Boulevard  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
708.386.9322  
Fax 708.386.9362  
[www.oakparkha.org](http://www.oakparkha.org)

### **Oak Park Residence Corporation**

21 South Boulevard  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
708.386.6061  
Fax 708.386.9362  
[www.oakparkrc.com/contact-us](http://www.oakparkrc.com/contact-us)

As the public housing authority for Oak Park, the Oak Park Housing Authority administers various federal programs that help the community's low-income population find decent and affordable housing. The local housing authority administers the Housing Choice Voucher Program — formerly known as Section 8 housing — which provides rent subsidies to income-qualified participants to lease privately owned rental housing.

Working with its affiliate, the Oak Park Residence Corporation, the Housing Authority also operates rental housing that is specifically designed to serve the Village's low-income elderly and disabled population. The Residence Corporation currently owns and manages 22 multi-family buildings containing about 480 units of rental housing. Many of these apartment buildings also provide supportive social services.



## **Progress Center for Independent Living**

7521 W. Madison St.  
Forest Park, IL 60130  
708.209.1500  
TTY 708.209.1826  
Relay Phone 708.689.1378  
**info@progresscil.org**  
**progresscil.org**

The federally funded Progress Center for Independent Living helps persons with disabilities of all ages to establish lives in the community and increase and maintain independence, including assistance locating accessible housing.



## **Housing Forward**

1851 S. Ninth Avenue  
Maywood, IL 60153 708.386.1946  
**www.housingforward.org**

Formerly known as West Suburban PADS, social service agency Housing Forward helps individuals and families living in west Cook County (including Oak Park) transition out of homelessness. Services include referrals to shelters, case management and emergency funds to prevent homelessness for people in crisis.

## **Transportation Services**



### **Oak Park Township**

105 S. Oak Park Ave. (main office)  
130 S. Oak Park Ave. (senior center)  
Oak Park, IL 60302

General inquiries 708.383.8005 – **town@oakparktownship.org**  
Senior citizen inquiries 708-383-8060 – **seniors@oakparktownship.org**  
**www.oakparktownship.org/services/persons-disabilities**

Oak Park Township offers curb-to-curb transportation services in Oak Park and River Forest to residents 60 years and older and to persons with disabilities of any age. All buses are equipped with lifts for full accessibility.

Service can be arranged for any purpose, including medical appointments, social activities and errands. A donation of \$1 per ride is suggested, but no one is denied service based on ability to pay. Reservations are available from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Reservations should be made at least 24 hours in advance by calling 708.383.4806.

Oak Park Township also provides coupons for taxis, temporary handicapped parking cards, and reduced fare information for CTA, RTA and Metra services at its offices at 105 S. Oak Park Avenue.



## Library Services



### **Oak Park Public Library**

#### **Main Branch**

834 Lake St.  
Oak Park, IL 60301  
708.383.8200

#### **Dole Branch**

255 Augusta Ave.  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
708.386.9032

#### **Maze Branch**

845 Gunderson Ave.  
Oak Park, IL 60304  
708.386.4751

All branches of the Oak Park Public Library are accessible. The main library also offers accessible parking. Free home delivery of materials is available to all Oak Park library cardholders unable to come into a location either indefinitely or temporarily, such as while recovering from surgery or caring for a newborn. To arrange a home delivery, call 708.452.3469 or email **homedelivery@oppl.org** and provide your name, address and telephone number.

## Health Services



### **Oak Park Department of Public Health**

Village Hall  
123 Madison St.  
708.358.5480  
TTY 711  
**health@oak-park.us**  
**www.oak-park.us/health**

The municipal Oak Park Department of Public Health provides information and referrals to affordable resources for medical and dental services for both adults and children without access to healthcare.

## Mental Health Services



### **Thrive Counseling Center**

120 S. Marion St.  
708.383.7500  
TTY 708.383.2841  
**www.thrivecc.org**

The Thrive Counseling Center offers comprehensive counseling services for

youth to adult, psychiatric services and around-the clock crisis services. Services include behavioral healthcare, crises and emergency, youth, psychiatric recovery and specialized group support.



### **Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township**

1010 Lake St., Suite 616  
Oak Park, IL 60301  
708.358.8855  
Fax 708.358.8866

**[www.cmhb.networkofcare.org](http://www.cmhb.networkofcare.org)**

Through Network of Care, a national clearinghouse of social services resources, the Community Mental Health Board provides referral resources to individuals, families and agencies concerned with mental/behavioral health and developmental disabilities. Network of Care has information about a wide range of mental/behavioral health services, laws and related news, as well as communication tools and other features.

## **Developmental Disabilities Services**



### **Oak-Leyden Developmental Services**

411 Chicago Ave.  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
708-524.1050

**[oak-leyden.org](http://oak-leyden.org)**

Oak Park based Oak-Leyden Developmental Services provides vocational and residential services for adults with developmental disabilities. The organization also offers therapy and educational and family support for infants and young children with developmental disabilities.



### **Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township**

1010 Lake St., Suite 616  
Oak Park, IL 60301  
708.358.8855  
Fax 708.358.8866

**[www.cmhb.networkofcare.org](http://www.cmhb.networkofcare.org)**

Among the wide range of referrals offered through the Network of Care, the Community Mental Health Board also helps for people with developmental disabilities find resources.

## Vocational Rehabilitation Services



### **Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services**

2215 Enterprise Drive, Suite 1502-1503

Westchester, IL 60154

708.409.8800

Video Phone 708.223.7390

Fax 708.409.8831

**[dhs.drs@illinois.gov](mailto:dhs.drs@illinois.gov)**

**[www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us)**

The Illinois Department of Human Service's Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) is the state's lead agency serving individuals with disabilities. The wide range of services provided through its various bureaus help with employment, education and training. Details about other services provided by the division are listed in the General Services section of this guide.



### **Easterseals**

120 Madison St.

Oak Park, IL 60302

708.434.2525

Easterseals has been helping individuals with disabilities and special needs live better lives for nearly 100 years. From child development centers to physical rehabilitation and job training, Easterseals offers a variety of services to help people with disabilities address life's challenges and achieve personal goals. For information on local services, call 708.434.2525 or email **[tmikasa@eastersealschicago.org](mailto:tmikasa@eastersealschicago.org)**.

## Meals and Food Services



### **Oak Park Township**

105 S. Oak Park Ave. (main office)

130 S. Oak Park Ave. (senior center)

Oak Park, IL 60302

708.383.8060

**[seniors@oakparktownship.org](mailto:seniors@oakparktownship.org)**

**[www.oakparktownship.org/services/meal-programs](http://www.oakparktownship.org/services/meal-programs)**

Oak Park Township offers several meal programs to residents of Oak Park and River Forest age 60 and over. Qualifying residents can choose from the following:

- **Senior Lunch Program:** provides complete well-balanced meals, opportunity for social interaction and educational programming. Lunch is served daily at 11 a.m. in the Senior Center, 130 S. Oak Park Ave. A donation is suggested for each meal, but no one is denied service based on ability to pay.

- **Home Delivered Meal Program:** offers nutritionally balanced meals to qualified homebound residents. Call 708.383.8060 to enroll.
- **Dine Out Program:** Gives seniors the opportunity to enjoy an affordable, well-balanced meal at selected local restaurants. For more information about the Dine Out Program call 708.383.8060.



## Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry

848 Lake St.  
 First United Church (lower level)  
 Oak Park, IL 60302  
 708.386.1324 (general voicemail)  
**[www.oprffoodpantry.org](http://www.oprffoodpantry.org)**

Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry works to reduce hunger locally through direct relief, awareness education and policy. Food is distributed from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month and 3:30 to 5 p.m. other Wednesdays. Recipients must reside within the Pantry's service area and meet income eligibility requirements. Proof of residency is required, such as a driver's license, state ID card or utility bill. Information on income guidelines is posted at **[www.oprffoodpantry.org/get-food](http://www.oprffoodpantry.org/get-food)**.



## Adult Day Programs

A variety of programs available for those who need care for adults with disabilities is available through the Network of Care – visit **[oakpark.il.networkofcare.org](http://oakpark.il.networkofcare.org)** and search by service or keyword.

## Safety Services



**Emergency notification** – The Village of Oak Park can deliver important public safety information directly to residents via telephone, email and text message. To sign up for the service sometimes referred to as reverse 911, visit **[www.oak-park.us/notifyme](http://www.oak-park.us/notifyme)** or call 708.358.5480.



**Emergency access** – Oak Park Township can provide a secure key box that will allow emergency response personnel to access your home in an emergency. Call 708.383.8005 or email **[town@oak-parktownship.org](mailto:town@oak-parktownship.org)** for details.



**Special needs registry** – Oak Park residents with special needs that should be considered in an emergency situation can register with the Village to ensure first responders are aware when dispatched via a 911 call. Residents or their caregivers can register online at **[www.oak-park.us/911registry](http://www.oak-park.us/911registry)**. A form also is available via email to **[prepare@oak-park.us](mailto:prepare@oak-park.us)** or by calling 708.358.5488. All information is kept confidential and should be updated annually.

## Voter Services



### **Oak Park Township**

105 S. Oak Park Ave. (main office)

Oak Park, IL 60302

General inquiries 708.383.8005

**town@oakparktownship.org**

**www.oakparktownship.org/services/voter-registration**



### **Village of Oak Park**

123 Madison St.

Oak Park, IL 60302

708.358.5790

TTY - 711

**clerk@oak-park.us**

**www.oak-park.us/villageclerk**

In-person voter registration is offered at Oak Park Township, 105 S. Oak Park Ave. and Village Hall, 123 Madison St. The Township Clerk will make arrangements for in-home voter registration.

## Financial Services



### **Oak Park Township**

105 S. Oak Park Ave. (main office)

Oak Park, IL 60302

General inquiries 708.383.8005

**town@oakparktownship.org**

Oak Park Township may provide interim financial assistance to people applying for Social Security Supplemental Security Income (SSI) as well as help filing for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Circuit Breaker program, property tax exemptions, rent rebates and pharmacy benefits.



### **Housing Forward**

1851 S. Ninth Avenue

Maywood, IL 60153 708.386-1946

**www.housingforward.org**

Formerly known as West Suburban PADS, social service agency Housing Forward helps individuals and families living in west Cook County transition out of homelessness. Services include emergency funds to prevent homelessness for people in crisis.

## Education Services



### **Elementary School District 97 (K-8)**

970 Madison St.

Oak Park, IL 60302

General number 708.524.3000

Special Education Department 708.524.3030

**[www.op97.org/special-education](http://www.op97.org/special-education)**

District 97 is the public elementary school district in Oak Park. The district has eight elementary schools and two middle schools serving nearly 6,000 students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Details on the special education services are posted on the District 97 website.



### **High School District 200**

201 N. Scoville Ave.

Oak Park, IL 60302

General number 708.383.0700

**[www.oprfhs.org/special-education](http://www.oprfhs.org/special-education)**

Oak Park and River Forest High School serves 3,300 students from the neighboring communities of Oak Park and River Forest. A comprehensive public high school, the district offers more than 200 courses in nine academic divisions at transition, college preparatory, honors and advanced placement levels. The district also offers 75 clubs and activities and 29 competitive sports at 80 different team levels, freshman through varsity. Details on special education programs and services are posted on the District 200 website.



### **After School Services**

• **Oak Park Township After-School Activities Guide** (call 708.383.8005 or email **[town@oakparktownship.org](mailto:town@oakparktownship.org)** to determine if activity is located in an accessible facility)

## Disability Rights Service

The Illinois Attorney General's Office provides a range of services and information to protect the rights of people with disabilities:

- **Disability Rights Guide**
- **Disability Rights Bureau** – 312.814.5684 (Chicago)
- Other disability rights information

Resources for the City of Chicago managed through the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities. Contact the office at 312.744.7050 or toll-free TTY 312.744.4964.



## **Disability Access Award**

Do you know a business or organization that goes above and beyond to provide accessibility for patrons with disabilities and their families? You can nominate them for a Disability Access Award.

The Disability Access Commission will recognize businesses, organizations and other entities in Oak Park that provide extraordinary accessibility for patrons with disabilities and their families.

Nominations should be for efforts to provide easy access for people with disabilities, an inviting physical space, and a welcoming, helpful, service-oriented attitude.

Winners will be recognized at an event in December.

More details at **[www.oak-park.us/accessawards](http://www.oak-park.us/accessawards)**



# Oak Park

The Village of Oak Park  
Village Hall  
123 Madison Street  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302  
[www.oak-park.us](http://www.oak-park.us)

708.383.6400  
[ADAcoordinator@oak-park.us](mailto:ADAcoordinator@oak-park.us)