

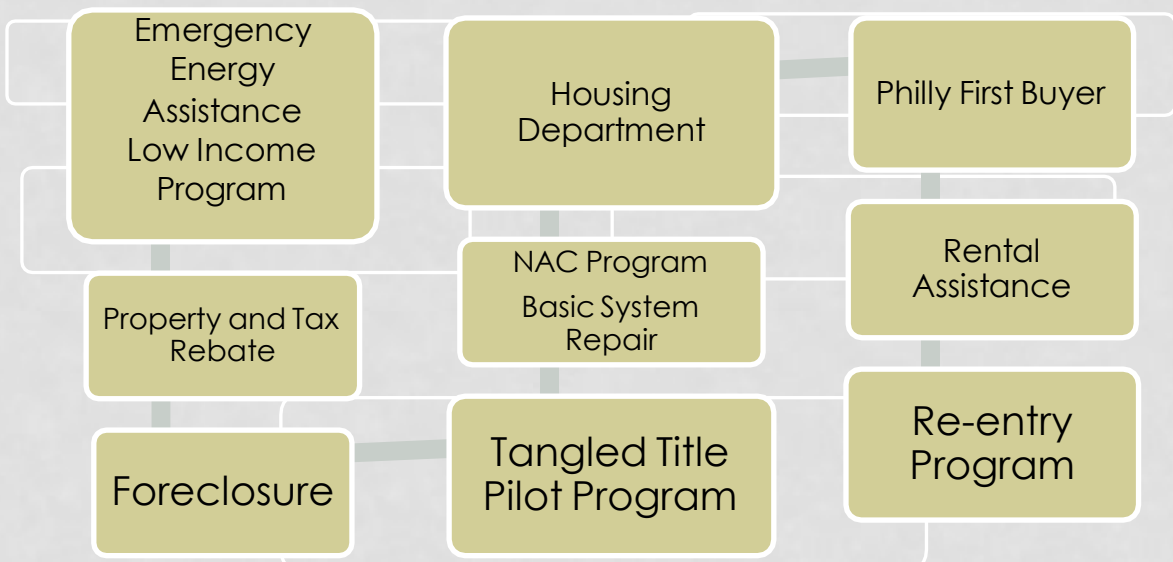


## OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2023 GPASS NAC NEWSLETTER

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### GPASS RESOURCES:



GPASS NAC ONE STOP SHOP

### Mission statement

The Greater Philadelphia Asian Social Service Center (GPASS) is a nonprofit organization based in the Olney/Logan Area dedicated to providing assistance to residents citywide, connecting people with needed resources and information, bridging the cultural gap, strengthening families, enriching lives and sustaining communities.

# Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC)

## GPASS have a NAC Program!!

**Neighborhood Advisory Committees (NACs)** help residents find out about City programs that could benefit them.

**NACs in your community:** The City has a lot of programs that support its core objectives. But not everyone knows about them.

Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) organizations help residents learn about City programs that could benefit them. NACs provide information about initiatives to:

- Promote neighborhood sustainability.
- Prevent homelessness.
- Preserve housing.
- Reduce energy costs.
- Develop resident job skills.
- Mentor youth.
- Engage residents.



## **GPASS IS ONE STOP SHOP HAVING NAC, NEC AND MORE !**

**“We can provide you and connect you with different resources:.”**

**GPASS is a Neighborhood Energy Center (NEC)** providing information on how to save on utilities and get help paying energy bills!! Please refer to next page for more info.

### **The Neighborhood Advisory Subcommittee (NAS)**

GPASS-NAC Count with a NAS group of residents elected by to represent the interests of the community. The NAS is a platform by which residents can affect physical and social change through community meetings, Service Area Briefings, event planning, outreach, and advocacy.

□ We are constantly meeting every month, please contact us if you are interested in attending our monthly community meetings please contact our NAC Department.

NAC Coordinator Carilyn Rodriguez: 215-456-1662 Ext.111 E: [crodriguez@gpasspa.org](mailto:crodriguez@gpasspa.org)

NAC Assistant Quadira McNear: 215-456-1662 Ext.110 E: [qmcnear@gpasspa.org](mailto:qmcnear@gpasspa.org)

### **Agencies**

**Housing counseling agencies** offer services for groups and individuals. They help residents buy and maintain their homes, avoid eviction and foreclosure, and more.

**Neighborhood Advisory Committees** (NACs) help residents find out about City programs that could benefit them.

**Neighborhood Energy Centers** (NECs) provide information on how to save on utilities and get help paying energy bills.

# Utility Assistance Programs and Resources

## GPASS Can Get help with home heating bills, shut offs notices and home repairs.

### Get Help Paying Your Energy Bill



What is LIHEAP? The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps families living on low incomes to pay heating bills with a grant that does not have to be paid back.

LIHEAP 2023-2024 Season open on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. We had help over 200 clients to applied since opening. Please contact us for immediately assistance and to start your pre- application process.

- **CAP:** With the new CAP-PIPP, customers simply pay a percentage of their total household income as their monthly PECO bill.
- **CRP:** CRP is a customer assistance program that can help low-income customers better afford their PGW bills and keep their gas service on.
- **PWD TAP & Senior Discounts:** If your income is too high for those programs, a Special Hardship can make you eligible for TAP. Customers in TAP can work toward Debt Forgiveness.

Learn more about Philadelphia utilities and pay your water bill.

<https://www.phila.gov/services/water-gas-utilities/>

In need of increase the energy efficiency?



Have you heard about the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

### Helping Families Reduce Energy Costs

Direct weatherization services are provided through a network of public and non-profits agencies operating in single counties or multi-county regions. Services focus on:

- Diagnostic assessment of air leakage
- Health and safety repairs
- Electric baseload measures
- Client energy education

If you need Free Home repairs and or free home adaptations GPASS can help you apply for:


- **Adaptive Modifications Programs:** designed to help low-income individuals with permanent physical disabilities live more independently in their homes. It provides free adaptations to a house or an apartment, allowing easier access to and mobility within the home.
- **Basic Systems Repair Program (BSRP):** provides free repairs to correct electrical, plumbing, heating, limited structural and carpentry, and roofing emergencies in eligible owner-occupied homes in Philadelphia.

### Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program extended until December 31, 2023

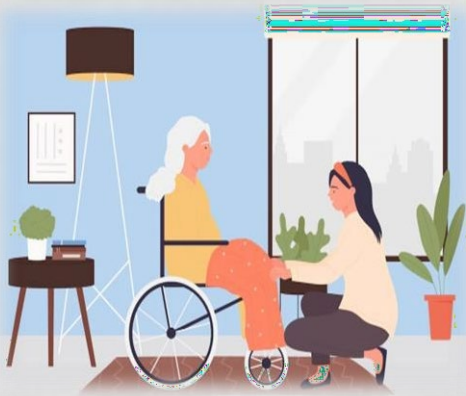


The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. Contact Us to help you apply!!

# GPASS Home Care Department

Home is where our  is

"We are always seeking new clients to provide loving care services in their home"



Are you interested in getting free home care services or interested in becoming a caregiver?

Call and see if you qualify!

"We have bilingual staff"

**Sign On Bonus**

- WeeklyPay
- HolidayPay
- HealthInsurance
- DentalInsurance



Any questions Call **GPASS** (215-456-1662) for information and ask to speak with Estefani Alonso, HomeCare Coordinator.

## Are you in need of food? GPASS HAS A FOOD BANK PROGRAM

### SENIOR FOOD BANK

Every 3rd Monday & Tuesday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 Pm

Photo ID and proxy form if picking up food for someone else.



### General Food Bank

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month from 10:00 to 2:00 pm

Bring two empty shopping bags. Must present photo ID

## GPASS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT (SAFE)



GPASS SAFE is proud to announce that Dr. Tracey Jones has joined our team as the new Medical Director of the SAFE Co-Occurring Program. With her extensive knowledge and experience in the field, we are excited to have her lead our program. Dr. Jones' appointment as Medical Director is a testament to her exceptional qualifications and expertise.



GPASS SAFE has recently appointed Mr. Symphorian Kamanou, a certified psychiatric nurse practitioner, to fulfill the role of conducting psych evaluations, administering medication, and providing Medicated Assistant Treatment. Mr. Kamanou's extensive experience and credentials make him an ideal candidate for this position. He will be responsible for ensuring the health and safety of our clients by using his clinical expertise to evaluate, diagnose, and initiate appropriate treatment plans.

# GPASS HOUSING COUNSELING PROGRAM

**GPASS DHC** is one of the many successful housing counseling programs in the City. We work to promote housing stability in the lives of the residents surrounding our local area and in the outlying Pennsylvania area by assisting residents in retaining their housing, improving their existing housing, and acquiring better housing.

For the past few months, **GPASS** Housing counseling Department has been providing educational workshops and one-on-one counseling sessions to many first time home buyers. **The First Time Home Buyers** workshops have transitioned back to a biweekly basis instead of weekly due to the increasing demand for new homebuyers eager to attend the workshop but with the increase, come an opportunity to expand and welcome more counselors.

**The Philly First Time Home Buyers Grant** provides assistance (6% of the sales prices of the home) or up to \$10,000 which can be used towards down payments or closing costs. Since the last newsletter, counselors have successfully approved more than 60 people for the grant.

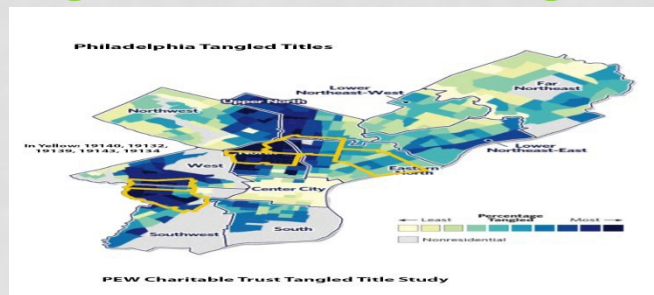
**GPASS** open the one time Rental Assistance program for rental and or security deposit, helping clients stay in their homes. If anyone is interested in receiving any housing resources we are here at **GPASS** to assist you. To stay updated on the latest housing programs available at **GPASS**, please visit the city website at <https://phdcphila.org/residentsandlandlords/homebuyers-andrenters/philly-first-home/> and our website at <http://www.gpasspa.org> for immediately assistance.



## [SIGN UP FOR THE NEXT WORKSHOP](#)

Every other Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Please contact the Housing Department 215-456-1662

## Tangled Title Pilot Program



Over 10,000 Philadelphia homeowners deal with tangled title issues which threaten the housing security of Philadelphia families and puts them at risk of losing crucial generational wealth.

GPASS, HOPE PHL and Strawberry Mansion were select to provide immediately assistance to residents in need of resolving the tangled titles issues. Along with Legal institutions as PLA, CLS and Philly VIP GPASS will help residents to get start in the process. Those institutions are able to provide advice to or represent clients, who are working through the probate process and preparing and filing a deed with the Philadelphia Department of Records. If you have questions, call the Save Your Home Philly Hotline or GPASS NAC at 215-456-1662 Ext 111 [crodriguez@gpasspa.org](mailto:crodriguez@gpasspa.org) [Qmcnear@gpasspa.org](mailto:Qmcnear@gpasspa.org)

# Tangled Title Program

## Resolving Tangled Titles in Philadelphia

If you live in a house that you cannot prove ownership for because your name does not appear on the deed, you may have a tangled title.

### This often happens if:

- A relative owned the house you live in but has passed away
- You live alone in your house, but the original owner has moved or passed away
- You lease or rent-to-own your house and have paid all or some of the purchase price, but your name is not on the deed

### For immediate tangled title assistance:

#### Greater Philadelphia Asian Social Service Center (GPASS)

4943 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Philadelphia, PA 19120  
 215-456-1662

#### HopePHL

325 N. 39<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Philadelphia, PA 19104  
 215-777-5820

#### Strawberry Mansion NAC

2829 W. Diamond St.  
 Philadelphia, PA 19121  
 215-235-7505

### Legal Services

#### SaveYourHomePhilly Hotline

215-334-Home(4663)

#### Community Legal Services (CLS)

North Philadelphia  
 Law Center  
 215-981-3700

#### Philadelphia Legal Assistance (PLA)

215-981-3800

#### SeniorLAW Center

215-988-1242



# GPASS EVENTS

## GPASS 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Fair and Tangled Title Workshop

October 28, 2023



