

PROGRAM MANUAL

PREPARED FOR GLOBAL BLESSING, INC.



FIND HAPPINESS IN
SHARING YOUR BLESSINGS

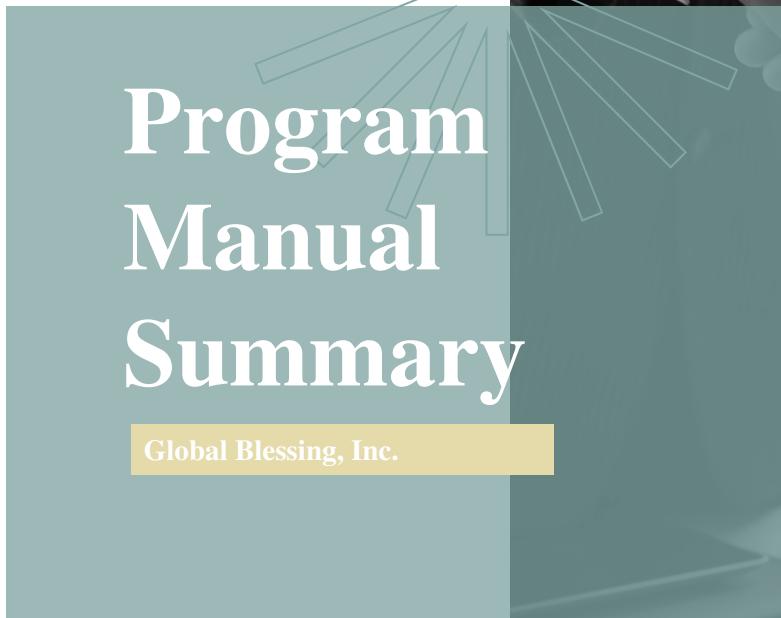


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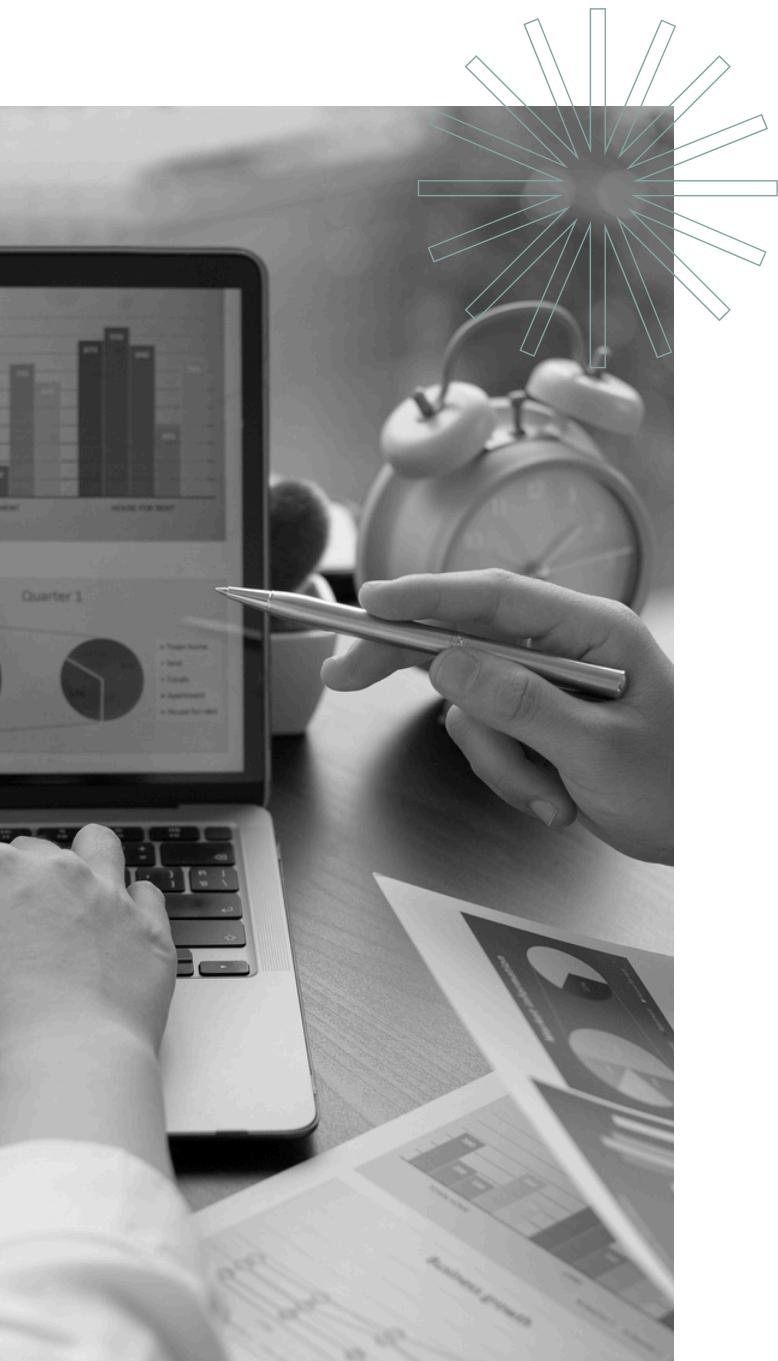
Brief

This document serves to detail the programs developed through Global Blessing, Inc. to further the mission and goal to reduce elder impoverishment, homelessness, and housing insecurity. This manual assists all Global Blessing, Inc. personnel and its supporters in obtaining a consistent understanding in which the nonprofit operates to achieve its mission and goals while also providing clarity to potential applicants while also providing clarity to potential applicants.



About Us

Established in 2020, Global Blessing is a nonprofit serving low income seniors by doing our best to help them age gracefully in place. Through our financial programs, strategic community partnerships, and resource education and connection services, we exist to provide the metro Atlanta community the services needed to better help our residents live life comfortably.



Mission

The mission of Global Blessing, Inc. is to work with communities to help reduce housing insecurity and homelessness within the senior citizen population to provide a stable, quality standard of living.

Who We Serve

Global Blessing, Inc serves the low income senior population aged 55+ and their families in the metro Atlanta area counties of Gwinnett, Cobb, Fulton, and Forsyth.

Definition of Low-Income: For the purposes of Global Blessing's programs, "low-income" is generally defined as an individual or household whose gross annual income does not exceed 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for their respective county, as determined annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Specific program eligibility may further define or adjust this threshold. Proof of income will be required for all financial assistance programs.

Program List

- Rental Assistance
- Caregiver Wellness Program
- Seniors at-home Utility Assistance
- Seniors at-home Housing Repair Financial Assistance



Our Core Values

Global Blessing is guided by the following core values in all our interactions and programs:

- **Dignity:** Upholding the inherent worth and respect of every individual we serve.
- **Compassion:** Approaching all situations with empathy, understanding, and kindness.
- **Integrity:** Operating with honesty, transparency, and accountability in all our endeavors.
- **Empowerment:** Fostering independence and providing tools that enable seniors to thrive.
- **Community:** Building strong connections and collaborative partnerships to create a supportive environment.

General Program Eligibility & Application Process

Disclaimer: All programs offered by Global Blessing are subject to the availability of funds, adherence to eligibility criteria, and placement on a first-come, first-served waitlist. Program availability may vary throughout the year.

Important Notice Regarding Communication & Emergency Assistance:

Due to the nature of Global Blessing's operations, which rely on part-time staff and dedicated volunteers, our communication response times are not immediate. Our case manager is not available every day and can only review cases a few times per week. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we diligently process all inquiries.

Global Blessing, Inc. is not equipped to provide immediate or urgent assistance, nor can we guarantee a 24-hour turnaround on assistance upon approval of a case. If you are in need of immediate or urgent support, please reach out to appropriate local emergency services or social organizations specifically designed to handle crisis situations.

General Eligibility Criteria (Applicable to All Programs Unless Otherwise Stated):

- **Age Requirement:** Applicant or the senior on whose behalf the application is made must meet the specified age requirement (55+ or 65+).
- **Income Requirement:** Applicant or the senior must meet the "low-income" definition as specified by Global Blessing, typically based on Area Median Income (AMI) or Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- **Residency:** Applicant or the senior must reside permanently within Global Blessing's service area (Gwinnett, Cobb, Fulton, and Forsyth counties in metro Atlanta, Georgia).
- **Proof of Identity & Residency:** Valid government-issued identification and verifiable proof of current residence will be required.
- **Financial Caretaker Eligibility:** If applying as a financial caretaker, proof of legal authority (e.g., Power of Attorney, guardianship) or verifiable financial responsibility for the senior's living within the residence will be required.



Application Process Overview:

- **Application Submission:** Complete and submit the required application form for the specific program.
- **Initial Review:** Global Blessing staff will conduct an initial review of the submitted application and supporting documents to determine preliminary eligibility.
- **Communication & Follow-Up:** Due to our operational model with part-time staff and volunteers, our case manager is not available daily. We kindly ask for your patience and understanding as we may require time between communications.
- **Documentation Request:** Additional documentation may be requested to verify eligibility, income, residency, and specific needs.
- **Approval/Denial Notification:** Applicants will be notified of the decision regarding their application.
- **Disbursement of Funds (if applicable):** Approved financial assistance will be disbursed directly to vendors, landlords, or service providers, not directly to individuals, unless explicitly stated otherwise for specific programs.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Global Blessing, Inc. is committed to providing services and opportunities without discrimination. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of our activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, clients, volunteers, subcontractors, and vendors.

Data Privacy & Confidentiality Statement

Global Blessing, Inc. is committed to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all applicant and client information. All personal and financial data collected is used solely for the purpose of assessing program eligibility, delivering services, and for internal reporting and compliance. We adhere to strict data security protocols and will not share your information with third parties without your explicit consent, except as required by law.

Right to Deny Services

Global Blessing, Inc. operates with limited resources and is committed to ensuring that assistance is provided to those who best meet our program criteria and whose needs align with our mission and available funding. Therefore, Global Blessing, Inc. reserves the right to deny any application for services or assistance.

Reasons for denial may include, but are not limited to:

- Failure to meet one or more of the established eligibility criteria for a specific program.
- Submission of incomplete, inaccurate, or unverifiable application information or supporting documentation.
- Lack of available funds for the requested program at the time of application review.
- Program capacity limitations or a full waitlist.
- Requests for assistance that fall outside the defined scope or purpose of Global Blessing's programs.
- Misrepresentation of facts or fraudulent activity.
- Inability to verify applicant information through reasonable means.
- Inability to process payment directly to the residential company: In instances where a residential company (e.g., landlord, property management) does not allow partial payments or lacks the necessary software/procedures to accept direct partial payments from Global Blessing, Inc. toward an individual's balance, the application may be denied.

All decisions are made after careful consideration of the application and available resources. Global Blessing, Inc. is not obligated to provide assistance to any applicant. All decisions regarding eligibility and service provision are final.

01. Rental Assistance

Emergency Rental Assistance is a temporary supplemental rental assistance program for low-income seniors needing financial assistance with rental payments.

Who Qualifies

- Seniors age 65+
- Meet Global Blessing's low-income definition (typically 80% AMI or lower, with verifiable proof of income).
- Financial caretaker of a senior living within residence w/ proof of responsibility.
- Are currently facing temporary economic hardship that jeopardizes their ability to make rental payments (e.g., sudden medical expenses, unexpected income reduction, or challenges during a living situation transition/downsizing).
- Proof of residence
- Valid United States ID
- Reside in the metro Atlanta area

Details

- Maximum potential assistance of \$1,500 per approved application.
- Payments are made directly to the landlord or property management company.
- Must provide estimate of monthly income and sources of income (e.g., bank statements, social security statements, pension statements, tax returns, pay stubs).
- Offered annually March - September
- Subject to availability and waitlist
- One-time application approval per 365-day period

This program serves as assistance to seniors facing times of temporary economic hardship such as sudden medical expenses, economic changes, or transitioning/downsizing living situations. For individuals that qualify for government assistance but have not begun the process, these supplemental payments will take effect during the application process.

To view your Medicaid eligibility, visit the link provided here:

<https://medicaid.georgia.gov/how-apply/basic-eligibility>

To view the Medicaid application process, visit the link provided here:

<https://georgia.gov/apply-medicaid>

To view the VA application process, visit the link provided here:

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/Applying.asp>

For assistance with the VA application process, visit the link provided here:

<https://www.patriotangels.com/>



01. Rental Assistance

Types of Residences Included:

This program is primarily intended for seniors residing in traditional rental housing, including:

- Apartments
- Houses
- Condominiums
- Mobile Homes (rented lot)
- Nursing Homes or Personal Care Homes: Assistance may be provided if the facility allows for direct payments or partial payments from Global Blessing, Inc. towards the senior's rental portion of their bill.

Non-Qualifying Residences:

The following types of residences are generally not included for assistance under this program:

- Commercial Properties: Assistance is not provided for commercial leases or properties used primarily for business purposes.
- Non-Primary Residences: The property for which assistance is sought must be the senior's primary, permanent residence.
- Temporary Housing: This includes short-term rentals, hotels, motels, Airbnbs, or other accommodations not intended for permanent residency.
- Properties Owned by the Applicant or Immediate Family: This program is specifically for rental assistance; homeowners seeking repair assistance should refer to the "Seniors at-Home Housing Repair Financial Assistance" program.



02. Caregiver Wellness Program

Caregiver Wellness Program is a one-time financial assistance to informal caregivers, such as family members, friends, POAs, etc., to cover costs associated with respite care or day care for their senior loved ones for up to 5 days to allow space for a mental and emotional break associated with caring obligations that can contribute to caregiver burnout.

Who Qualifies

- Seniors receiving care must age 55+
- Applicant must be an informal caregiver to a senior
 - Relative (e.g. spouse, child, sibling)
 - Friend
 - Power of Attorney (POA)
 - Private caregiver
- Caregiver must reside in the metro Atlanta area

Details

- Respite or day care financial assistance up to a potential \$100 for five (5) days
- Payments are made directly to the approved senior care facility.
- Offered annually March - September
- Subject to availability and first come first serve waitlist
- One-time application approval per 365-day period

This program aims to aid in preventing caregiver burnout by providing temporary relief. Caregivers can temporarily place their senior loved ones in a pre-approved senior care facility, allowing the caregiver time for personal well-being activities, rest, or other obligations.

To qualify for this program, caregivers must be able to provide the following:

- Proof of care for senior: Verifiable documentation demonstrating the caregiver's responsibility for the senior's daily care. Examples:
 - Doctor's note confirming need for care
 - Affidavit of caregiving duties
 - Shared residency documentation
- Senior Care Facility Information:
 - Full contact information for the senior care facility (Point of contact, Address, Phone Number).
 - An unsigned contract or official quote from the respite or day care facility detailing the total number of days and the daily charge for services.

For more information on Caregiver Burnout, visit the link provided here:

[John Hopkins Medicine - Causes and Symptoms of Caregiver Burnout](#)

For information on how to avoid Caregiver Burnout or cope, visit the link provided here:

[AARP - How to Avoid Caregiver Burnout and Manage Stress](#)



03. Seniors at Home Utility Assistance

Seniors at Home Utility Assistance is a one-time emergency financial assistance with utility costs for seniors living at home on fixed incomes.

Who Qualifies

- Senior age 55+ occupying the place of residence
- Meet Global Blessing's low-income or fixed-income definition (typically 80% AMI or lower, with verifiable proof of income).
- Are a financial caretaker of a senior aged 55+ living within the residence, with verifiable proof of financial responsibility.
- Reside permanently in the metro Atlanta area within Gwinnett, Cobb, Fulton, or Forsyth counties.
- Are facing a temporary financial hardship preventing them from covering a specific utility bill for the current month.

Details

- Emergency 1-month utility assistance for one (1) utility cost.
- \$500 maximum potential assistance
- Payments are made directly to the utility provider.
- Offered year round, subject to availability of funds and waitlist.
- Subject to availability and first come first serve waitlist
- One-time application approval per 365-day period

This program provides financial relief to seniors living at home by assisting with the cost of a utility bill they may be unable to cover due to other unexpected costs or temporary financial strain. To qualify for this program, seniors or those financially responsible for a senior must be able to provide the following:

- Valid government-issued ID and a current utility bill in their name at the residence.
- A Caretaker: Verifiable proof of senior permanently living within residence
- Current Utility Bill: A recent (within 30 days) utility bill for one of the following services.
 - Water
 - Heating/Cooling
 - Electricity/gas
 - Trash/recycling
 - Landline phone
 - Internet/cable

For more information on utility assistance programs provided in the state of Georgia, visit the link provided here:

[Ga Public Service Commission - Utility Assistance Programs](#)

04. Seniors at Home Housing Repair Financial Assistance

Seniors at Home Housing Repair Financial Assistance is a one-time emergency financial assistance for seniors living at home in need of immediate repairs to continue living in their current place of residence.

Who Qualifies

- Senior aged 55+ permanently occupying the home place of residence
- Financial caretaker of a senior living within residence
- Meet Global Blessing's low-income or fixed-income definition (typically 80% AMI or lower, with verifiable proof of income).
- Reside permanently in the metro Atlanta area within Gwinnett, Cobb, Fulton, or Forsyth counties.
- Must be owned by the senior or their immediate family member (e.g., spouse, child, legal guardian) and serve as their primary residence.
- Residence must be a structure where permanent upgrades requiring construction are permissible and compliant with local zoning and building codes.

Details

- Maximum potential assistance of \$1,500.
- Payments are made directly to the licensed and insured contractor/vendor.
- Two (2) year period between subsequent applications.
- Offered annually from March - September.
- Subject to availability and first come first serve waitlist



04. Seniors at Home Housing Repair Financial Assistance

This program serves to assist senior residents to age in place by aiding in emergency costs of living such as housing repairs that can act to remove seniors from their current residence in turn adding stress.

Qualifying home repairs include:

- Roofing replacement or repair (e.g., leaks, structural damage)
- Water Damage (e.g., burst pipes, significant leaks affecting habitability)
- Mold Removal (when affecting health and safety)
- HVAC Replacement or Repair (when essential for heating/cooling and habitability)
- Foundation Issues (structural integrity concerns)
- Flooring Repairs (e.g., tripping hazards, significant damage)
- Unsafe Electrical (e.g., exposed wiring, frequent shorts, fire hazards)
- Handicap Accessibility Modifications (e.g., ramps, grab bars, widening doorways for mobility, but typically for immediate safety/access needs rather than major renovations)
- Plumbing Problems (e.g., severe leaks, non-functional essential fixtures)
- Correct Code Violations (repairs required to bring the home into compliance with local housing codes that impact safety or habitability).

Non-Qualifying Housing Repairs/Improvements (Examples - not exhaustive):

- Cosmetic improvements: Painting, landscaping, aesthetic upgrades, minor drywall cracks not related to structural issues.
- Non-essential upgrades: Kitchen/bathroom remodels that are not addressing immediate safety hazards or code violations.
- New additions or expansions: Building new rooms, garages, or significant structural additions.
- Appliances: Replacement of functional appliances (refrigerators, stoves, washers/dryers) unless part of a larger, qualifying repair (e.g., electrical issue requiring new appliance).
- Routine maintenance: Gutter cleaning, window washing, general upkeep.
- Rental Properties (where the applicant is a tenant): This program is specifically for homeowners.
- Commercial Properties or Non-Primary Residences: The property must be the senior's primary, owner-occupied residence.



04. Seniors at Home Housing Repair Financial Assistance

To qualify for the program, applicants must be able to provide:

- Proof of Residence and Homeownership:
 - If the senior is applying for themselves: Valid government-issued ID, a current utility bill in their name at the residence, and a property deed or tax assessment statement showing their ownership.
 - If a financial caretaker is applying: Verifiable proof of the senior permanently living within the residence AND a property deed or tax assessment statement showing ownership by the senior or immediate family member.
- Proof of Senior Permanently Living within Residence: Documentation verifying the senior permanently resides at the address (e.g., mail, utility bills, other official documents).
- Written Estimate: A written estimate from a licensed and insured contractor detailing the scope of work and cost of the qualifying repair.

For more information on available GA home repair grants, visit the link provided here:

[81+ Georgia Grants for Home Repairs and Improvements](#)





CONTACT US

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 www.myglobalblessings.com



thank
you

Your contributions and support make our programs possible. Thank you for believing in us and contributing to bettering the lives of seniors.

For more information on how to donate,
visit our page:

<https://myglobalblessings.com/get-involved>