St. Joseph County Reentry Guide

A comprehensive guide for individuals exiting incarceration in St. Joseph County



Dismas Hub mural, painted by Nate Baranowski. 2025

Acknowledgements

St. Joseph County Reentry Guide is published by the Institute for Social Concerns at the **University of Notre Dame**. The **Institute for Social Concerns** is an interdisciplinary institute dedicated to justice education and research for the common good with communities near and far. The institute's commitment to carceral engagement aims to enhance education in prison, foster collaborative research in carceral studies, and reimagine reentry for individuals and communities to flourish.

Limitation Note

The creators of this guide do not endorse any specific organization or website listed here, and we do not intend to give any professional legal, medical, or financial advice. The purpose of this guide is to provide information to aid in your own reentry journey. The information included here is accurate to the best of our knowledge, but we encourage further exploration and research for more information. The landscape of resources is constantly changing, so it is impossible to ensure that every piece of information in this guide will always be current. We plan to update the print and digital guides in the future because up-to-date information is essential.

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Introduction

Leaving jail or prison can create lots of different feelings. You might feel scared about managing responsibilities or meeting your needs. You might feel excited to rejoin your community and family. You might just be ready for a good meal and a soft bed. No matter how you feel, there will likely be lots of uncertainty.

This guide hopes to provide you with a list of resources and programs for St. Joseph County residents. Whether you are a family member, friend, community advocate, or someone returning from incarceration, we hope this guide can help you find the necessary information to ease the transition.

The resources outlined in this guide span from common logistical concerns and how to attend to them to the particular needs and resources for specific groups of people. There is no one right way to use this guide. We hope you will feel free to jump around the sections and read what is most useful to you.

No matter where you are in your life or what your goals are, the residents of St. Joseph County are here to support you.

Getting Your ID

I need my…

Birth Certificate

In person: To purchase a birth certificate in person, please visit the Local Health Department in the county where you were born.

> St. Joseph County Address: County-City Building, 227 W Jefferson Blvd # 825, South Bend, IN 46601

Online: Visit the Vital Health website at https://www.in.gov/health/vital-records/order-now/vital-records-online-vitalchek-network/.

By Phone: To order a birth certificate by phone and pay with a credit card, call 866-601-0891.

Social Security Card

If you need or lost a copy of your Social Security card, you can get a free replacement card. Apply online at https://www.ssa.gov/number-card/replace-card.

If you have never applied for a Social Security card and are over 18, you can request one online at https://www.ssa.gov/number-card/request-number-first-time. After completing the application, you will need to provide your documentation in person.

Address: 602 S Michigan St, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone Number for Appointment Scheduling: 877-274-5415

Driver's License or State ID

Once you have your birth certificate and Social Security card, you can get a state ID or driver's license. You will need to visit the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).

BMV Address and Phone Number:

1139 East Ireland Road, South Bend, IN 46601 / Phone: 888-692-6841

2544 Miracle Lane, Mishawaka, IN 46545 / Phone: 888-692-6841

When you apply for a new driver's license, permit, or identification card, you must present original versions or certified copies of the following documents:

- ☐ One document proving your identity
- ☐ One document proving your lawful status in the US
- ☐ One document proving your Social Security number
- ☐ Two documents proving your Indiana residency

Costs:

Amend or replace credential …….. **$9.00**

Learner's permit (driver's or motorcycle) …….. **$9.00**

Non-voter identification card …… **$9.00**

Administrative penalty for late license renewal ……... **$6.00**

Driver's license 85 and over …… **$7.00**

Driver's license at least 75 but less than 85 …….. **$11.00**

Driver's license under 75 ……... **$17.50**

Applying for Benefits

Leaving incarceration can make it difficult to earn money and find food or housing. If you have a disability, are older than 62, or qualify for government assistance, there are programs that can help you.

Eligibility

The government offers financial assistance to individuals requiring help covering their basic needs. The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) serves as the hub for many government assistance programs. It can be found by visiting https://www.in.gov/fssa/.

Division of Family Resources St. Joseph County:

The Division of Family Resources (DFR) helps establish whether or not you qualify for programs like SNAP, TANF, or Medicaid. You will need to apply for some of these programs through this division.

> Address: 3575 Moreau Court, Suite 300, South Bend, IN 46628 (8:00am – 4:30pm)
> Phone: 800-403-0864
> Website: https://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/

Social Security Programs

The Social Security Administration has other programs that might be useful for someone leaving incarceration. You can apply online or in person. The following includes some of the most important programs:

Medicare: Provides health insurance to people older than 65 and people with a disability.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): Helps people over 65 and people who have a disability. It gives people money every month to help with things like food, clothing, and housing.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI): Gives money to adults and certain family members with disabilities. To use this program, you need to have worked for many years.

Social Security Retirement Benefits: Provides monthly payments for people older than 62 who have worked and paid Social Security taxes for 10 or more years. To get the money, you have to have worked before you were arrested.

Note: Almost all disability applications are rejected at first. If rejected, try applying again. Learn more and apply at ssa.gov, or call (800) 722-1213 for help.

Get in-person or online help by making an appointment:

> **Address:** 602 S Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601 (9:00am – 4:00pm)
>
> **Phone:** 877-274-5415
>
> **Website:** https://www.ssa.gov/locator

Food

Whether finding a hot meal for the night or groceries for the month, there are many programs available in our area to help with food.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Formerly known as food stamps. If you qualify and meet the conditions, you can use this to buy food from most grocery stores. Apply at https://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/snap-food-assistance/.

Local food pantries and soup kitchens can be found using the following website: https://feedindiana.org/food-pantries. Most food pantries require a state ID and proof of address and limit participant's use to once every 30 days. Those that do not are noted.

Most soup kitchens and food pantries are not open every day. Below is a list of what is open on each day of the week in St. Joseph County.

Weekly Schedule of Soup Kitchens and Food Pantries

—

Monday

Soup Kitchens:

Broadway Christian Parish Soup Kitchen

8:00am - 10:00am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Downtown Soup Kitchen at First United Methodist Church

11:30am - 12:15pm

333 N. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9463 x574

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm

423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

574-235-4150

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 10:00am - 1:30pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

St. Augustine Soup Kitchen

11:00am - 12:30pm

1501 W Washington Street, South Bend, IN 46619

574-532-3720

St. Margaret's House

For women and children under age of 12 ONLY.

10:00am - 3:00pm | Breakfast and Lunch Services

117 N. Lafayette Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46601

574-234-7795

Food Pantries:

Clay Church Food Pantry

Individuals can collect from the pantry once each calendar month.

12:00pm - 3:00pm

17646 Cleveland Road, South Bend, IN 46635

574-272-8068

Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

Only serves residents of St. Joseph County. Individuals are only allowed to shop once every 30 days.

9:00am - 4:00pm

702 Chapin Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9463 x129

Monroe Circle Community Center

5:00pm-7:00pm

526 Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46601

574-287-4259

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

Only residents in 46530, 46544, 46545, and 46561 zip codes.

10:00am - 2:00pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

Salvation Army of South Bend Walter A. Meyer Food Pantry

9:00am - 12:00pm

900 W. Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9471

Sunnyside Presbyterian Church Food Pantry

No ID is needed to receive food.

9:30am - 11:30am

115 S. Francis Street, South Bend, IN 46617

574-287-1524

Tuesday

Soup Kitchens:

Broadway Christian Parish Soup Kitchen

8:00am - 10:00am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm

423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

574-235-4150

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

10:00am - 1:30pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

St. Margaret's House

For women and children under age of 12 ONLY.

10:00am - 3:00pm | Breakfast and Lunch Services

117 N. Lafayette Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46601

574-234-7795

Food Pantries:

Broadway Christian Parish Food Pantry

8:30am - 10:30am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Christian Community Food Pantry

Serves residents living in 46574 on the **third Tuesday** of each month.

11:30am - 1:30pm / 5:30pm - 6:45pm

625 Roosevelt Road, Walkerton, IN 46574

219-344-0791

Faith Baptist Church Food Pantry

Pantry serves residents of 46601, 46616, and 46628 zip codes. Proof of address is required. **Closed on the first Tuesday of the month.**

2:00pm - 5:00pm

923 Blaine Avenue, South Bend, IN 46616

574-233-6428

First United Methodist Church Food Pantry

10:00am - 1:00pm

333 N. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9463

MAC Pantry, Albright United Methodist Church

Only serves residents of the 46544, 46545, 46530, and 46561 zip codes.

6:00pm - 7:30pm

504 W. Mishawaka Avenue, Mishawaka, IN 46545

574-259-1975

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

Serves residents in 46530, 46544, 46545, and 46561 zip codes only.

10:00am - 2:00pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

Portage Pantry

For Township residents and only once a month.

1:00pm - 3:00pm

340 Columbia St., South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-2126

Salvation Army of South Bend Walter A. Meyer Food Pantry

9:00am - 12:00pm

900 W. Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9471

St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County Food Pantry

Residents in 46601 and 46617 zip codes may visit the pantry. All other zip codes call to order for delivery.

10:00am - 2:00pm

100 W South Street, Suite 100, South Bend, IN 46617

574-234-6000

Wednesday

Soup Kitchens:

Broadway Christian Parish Soup Kitchen

8:00am - 10:00am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Downtown Soup Kitchen at First United Methodist Church

11:30am - 12:15pm

333 N. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9463 x574

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm

423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

574-235-4150

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

10:00am - 1:30pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

St. Augustine Soup Kitchen

11:00am - 12:30pm

1501 W Washington Street, South Bend, IN 46619

574-532-3720

St. Margaret's House

For women and children under age of 12 ONLY.

10:00am - 3:00pm | Breakfast and Lunch Services

117 N. Lafayette Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46601

574-234-7795

Food Pantries:

Broadway Christian Parish Food Pantry

8:30am - 10:30am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Catholic Charities South Bend Food Pantry

Serving residents of St. Joseph County only.

10:00am - 12:00pm / 4:30pm - 6:30pm

1817 Miami Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-234-3111

Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

Only serves residents of St. Joseph County once every 30 days.
10:00am - 6:00pm
702 Chapin Street, South Bend, IN 46601
574-233-9463 x129

Kingdom Life Christian Cathedral

Serves St. Joseph County residents only.
11:00am - 1:00pm
707 Sherman Avenue, South Bend, IN 46616
574-246-9110

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

Only residents of the 46530, 46544, 46545, and 46561 zip codes.
10:00am - 2:00pm
315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544
574-220-6213

Needs for Neighbors Food Pantry at Praise Fellowship SDA Church

Residents of St. Joseph County with a valid ID on the **fourth Wednesday of the month only.**
5:00pm - 7:00pm
54301 Maple Lane, South Bend, IN 46635
574-271-7378

River Park United Methodist Church Food Pantry

Residents of the 46615 zip code only.
10:00am - 12:00pm
920 S. 23rd Street, South Bend, IN 46615
574-288-6243

Thursday

Soup Kitchens:

Broadway Christian Parish Soup Kitchen

8:00am - 10:00am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm

423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

574-235-4150

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

10:00am - 1:30pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

St. Margaret's House

For women and children under age of 12 ONLY.

10:00am - 3:00pm | Breakfast and Lunch Services

117 N. Lafayette Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46601

574-234-7795

Food Pantries:

Broadway Christian Parish Food Pantry

8:30am - 10:30am

1412 Carroll Street, South Bend, IN 46613

574-289-0333

Clay Church Food Pantry

9:00am - 12:00pm

17646 Cleveland Road, South Bend, IN 46635

574-272-8068

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

Serves residents in 46530, 46544, 46545, and 46561 zip codes only.

10:00am - 2:00pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

St. Paul's Memorial Church Food Pantry

Serves 46616 zip code residents on the **fourth Thursday** of the month only.

10:00am - 12:00pm

1001 W. Colfax Avenue, South Bend, IN 46616

574-234-6940

St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County Food Pantry

Residents in 46601 and 46617 zip codes may visit the pantry. All other zip codes call to order for delivery.

10:00am - 2:00pm

100 W South Street, Suite 100, South Bend, IN 46617

574-234-6000

Sunnyside Presbyterian Church Food Pantry

No ID is needed to receive food.

9:30am - 11:30am

115 S. Francis Street, South Bend, IN 46617

574-287-1524

Friday

Soup Kitchens:

Downtown Soup Kitchen at First United Methodist Church
- 11:30am - 12:15pm
- 333 N. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601
- 574-233-9463 x574

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen
- Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm
- 423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601
- 574-235-4150

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen
- 10:00am - 1:30pm
- 315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544
- 574-220-6213

Our Lady of the Road
- 8:00am - 11:30am
- 744 S. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601
- 574-334-7387

St. Augustine Soup Kitchen
- 11:00am - 12:30pm
- 1501 W Washington Street, South Bend, IN 46619
- 574-532-3720

St. Margaret's House
- *For women and children under age of 12 ONLY.*
- 10:00am - 3:00pm | Breakfast and Lunch Services
- 117 N. Lafayette Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46601
- 574-234-7795

Food Pantries:

Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

9:00am - 4:00pm

702 Chapin Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9463 x129

First Brethren Church, Inc.

Open on the **first and third Fridays** of the month only.

10:00am- 12:00pm

4909 S. Ironwood Road, South Bend, IN 46614

574-291-4909

MAC Pantry, Albright United Methodist Church

Only serves residents of the 46544, 46545, 46530, and 46561 zip codes.

10:00am - 11:30am

504 W. Mishawaka Avenue, Mishawaka, IN 46545

574-259-1975

Mishawaka Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen

Serves 46530, 46544, 46545, and 46561 zip codes only.

10:00am - 2:00pm

315 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544

574-220-6213

New Carlisle Community Food Pantry

10:00am - 12:00pm

300 E. Compton Street, New Carlisle, IN 46552

574-217-5327

Salvation Army of South Bend Walter A. Meyer Food Pantry

9:00am - 12:00pm

900 W. Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46601

574-233-9471

Saturday

Soup Kitchens:

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm

423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

574-235-4150

Our Lady of the Road

8:00am - 11:30am

744 S. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-334-7387

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen

Third Saturday of the month.

11:00am - 1:00pm

53720 Ironwood Road, South Bend, IN 46635

574-243-0632

Food Pantries:

God's Grace Food Pantry at Laymen Chapel

Only open on the **second and fourth** Saturdays of the month.

Must live in 46619 zip code.

11:00am - 1:00pm

303 S. Kenmore Street, South Bend, IN 46619

574-287-2500

Hope for the Hungry Food Pantry

Only open on the **third Saturday** of the month.

11:00am - 1:00pm

1007 Portage Avenue, South Bend, IN 46616

574-514-6308

Kingdom Life Christian Cathedral

Serves St. Joseph residents only on the **first and third** Saturdays of the month.

11:00am - 1:00pm

707 Sherman Avenue, South Bend, IN 46616

574-246-9110

Osceola United Methodist Food Pantry

Open on the **third** Saturday of the month.

10:00am - 1:00pm

431 N. Beech Road, Osceola, IN 46561

574-679-4435

River Park United Methodist Food Pantry

Residents of the 46615 zip code only.

10:00am - 12:00pm

920 S. 23rd Street, South Bend, IN 46615

574-288-6243

West Side Church of Christ Food Pantry

Third Saturday of the month only.

9:00am - 10:30am

22987 Edison Road, South Bend, IN 46628

574-234-3866

Sunday

Soup Kitchens:

Hope Ministries Soup Kitchen

Lunch: 11:45am - 12:30pm / Dinner: 6:45pm - 7:30pm

423 S. Lafayette Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

574-235-4150

Our Lady of the Road

8:00am - 11:30am

744 S. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-334-7387

Food Pantries:

Berean Food Pantry

St. Joseph County residents can access the pantry twice a month, only on the **first and third Sunday** of each month.

4:00pm - 7:00pm

623 S St. Joseph Street, South Bend, IN 46601

574-234-2784

Housing

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Emergency Housing

Center for the Homeless: Emergency and transitional housing facility for individuals and families in the South Bend area. The weather amnesty program from November 1 to April 30 provides emergency safe shelter from 8:00am to 8:00pm with an opportunity to shower. They provide meal service for Center guests: breakfast (7:00am), lunch (11:30am), and dinner (4:30pm).

> Stipulations: No unaccompanied minors; no sexual or arson convictions allowed; must have clean drug and alcohol tests; substances, paraphernalia, and weapons of any kind are not allowed on the premises.
>
> Address: 813 S Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601
>
> Phone: 574-282-8700
>
> Website: https://www.cfh.net/

Hope Ministries: Residents are provided 3 meals a day at no cost with breakfast from 6 a.m. to 7:30am, lunch at 11:15am to 11:45am, and dinner from 6:15pm to 6:45pm. Emergency men's housing starts in a large 10 man bunk room, but a resident can move into transitional housing with the possibility of their own room.

Stipulations: Referrals from another agency preferred; men with custody of children preferred; must be 18 or older or accompanied by a guardian; no violent, sexual, or arson convictions; addiction treatment meetings required if applicable; no pets; and no drugs or violence of any kind.

Address: 432 S Lafayette Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-235-4150

Website: https://hopesb.org/

YWCA of North Central Indiana: Emergency safe shelter for victims of domestic violence and abuse. Available to men, women, and children.

Address: 1102 S. Fellows Street, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 866-937-9922

Website: https://ywcain.squarespace.com/

Youth Service Bureau: Emergency shelter for 12-17 year-olds up to 21 days. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Address: 411 Caterina Street, South Bend, IN 46615

Phone: 574-235-9396

Website: https://www.ysbsjc.org/safestation

Transitional Housing

This type of housing normally lasts anywhere from a couple of weeks to two years. It helps people have a safe place to live while making a plan for the future. Some programs may also support those experiencing recovery, reentry, or home insecurity as a veteran.

New Day Intake Center: Low barrier shelter that provides safe housing for adults experiencing chronic homelessness through the Motels4Now (M4N) program. Guests are placed in a single or double-occupancy room with a bathroom. Bed / bath accessories and products are also provided. Serves daily lunch and dinner with a snack and breakfast pantry. Guests also have access to onsite services including those assisting with addiction and mental health disorders, food insecurity, lack of access to healthcare, transportation barriers, and disabilities. It has the capacity to house 120+ individuals at a time, but aspiring residents must join a waitlist (8-12 months long) at Our Lady of the Road on a Friday morning between 8:00am - 10:00am.

Stipulations: The only rule is no violence with residents or staff.

Address: 744 S Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601 (Our Lady of the Road)

Phone: 574-222-0417

Email: Motels4Now@gmail.com

Website: https://www.newdaysouthbend.org/

Center for the Homeless: Emergency and transitional housing facility for individuals and families in the South Bend area. The largest provider of transitional housing. They provide meal service for breakfast (7:00am), lunch (11:30am), and dinner (4:30pm).

Stipulations: No unaccompanied minors; no sexual or arson convictions; clean drug and alcohol screen; and no substances, weapons, or paraphernalia of any kind.

Address: 813 S Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-282-8700

Website: https://www.cfh.net/

Hope Ministries: Emergency and transitional housing facility. Residents are provided 3 meals a day at no cost with breakfast from 6:00am to 7:30am, lunch at 11:15am to 11:45am, and dinner from 6:15pm to 6:45pm. Transitional housing varies based on the size of the family, but a single adult can expect their own room. Most family apartments are two-bedroom. To begin the application process, call Hope Ministries between 8:00am and 5:00pm.

Stipulations: Referrals from another agency preferred; men with custody of children preferred; must be 18 or older or accompanied by a guardian; no violent, sexual, or arson convictions; addiction treatment meetings required if applicable; no pets; and no drugs or violence of any kind.

Address: 432 S Lafayette Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-235-4150

Website: https://hopesb.org/

Life Treatment Center: Supportive housing for individuals undergoing recovery from gambling or substance addiction. Breakfast served from 7:00am to 10:00am, lunch from 11:00am to 11:45am, and dinner from 4:00pm to 4:45pm. Offers 80 beds total with 68 men's beds and 12 women's beds at Jane's House. Most rooms have only 2 beds per room, with 3 of the men's rooms at 5 beds each. To begin an application, call Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:00pm.

Stipulations: Priority given to pregnant women, women with children that have a substance use disorder, IV drug users, and United States Veterans; residency fees based on income; required to search for employment Monday through Friday; clean drug test required; required to attend treatment meetings; and absolutely no drugs, alcohol, or violence.

Address: 1402 S. Michigan St., South Bend, IN 46613

Phone: 574-233-5433

Website: https://lifetreatmentcenters.org/

Youth Service Bureau Beating the Odds Program: Provides free transitional housing for young adults 18-21 years-old who need extra financial, emotional, or medical support while transitioning to independent living.

Address: 411 Caterina Street, South Bend, IN 46615

Phone: 574-292-5209

Website: https://www.ysbsjc.org/tlp

Miller's Veterans Center: Transitional and supportive housing for United States Veterans. There is a kitchen that residents may use to prepare their meals, or they may go next door to the Center for the Homeless and eat in their cafeteria at meal times. Residents stay in 3-person bunk rooms. Residents may stay up to 2 years with the average stay being 6 months. To begin the entry process, contact the VA from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Stipulations: Must be referred by the VA; no sexual or arson convictions; both honorable and dishonorable discharges welcome; no National Guard or Army Reservists; must attend group meetings; no clean drug test required for entry, but must test negative for rest of stay; and absolutely no drugs, alcohol, or violence.

Address: 747 S. Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-272-9000

Website: https://www.cfh.net/mvc

YWCA of North Central Indiana: Supportive housing program for victims of domestic violence and abuse.

Address: 1102 S. Fellows Street, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 866-937-9922

Website: https://ywcain.squarespace.com/

The Upper Room: Supportive housing for individuals undergoing recovery from substance addiction. Six residents per room in the men's house and 2-3 per room in the women's house. There is no maximum time a resident may stay, but after a year, goal orientation takes priority. Fill out an application on the website.

Stipulations: No individuals with violent or sexual convictions; no minors, or women with children; must be 18 or older; base rent is $400 a month but financial aid available; employment required; house and recovery meetings required; and must have a 12 steps fellowship sponsor upon entrance.

Address: 333 N. Main St., South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-707-0856

Website: https://upperroomrecovery.org/

Catholic Worker: Long-term and transitional housing facility. Dinner is provided every evening at 5:30pm on weekdays and 5:00pm on weekends. Breakfast and lunch can be made by residents from the houses' stocked pantries. Get more information at Our Lady of the Road on Wednesdays between 1:00pm and 5:00pm.

Stipulations: Must be 18 years or older or with a guardian; no married couples; must attend nightly dinners and weekly house meetings; must remain sober; and no violence allowed.

Address: 518 S St Joseph St., South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-235-0623

Website: https://www.southbendcatholicworker.org/home / https://www.olrsb.org/home

Dismas House of Indiana: Transitional and supportive housing for formerly incarcerated individuals reentering society. There is an open kitchen for residents to make their own meals. Monday through Thursday dinner is served for the residents from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. 2-3 beds per room. Residents must stay at least 90 days to complete their reentry program. A typical stay is 6 months. Maximum stay is 2 years.

Stipulations: Must have been incarcerated in the last calendar year; no women with children, minors, or individuals with sexual or arson convictions; resident fees are $460 a month, but Recovery Works is accepted; employment or volunteering required; must follow curfew; no violence, drugs, or alcohol allowed; and must pass random drug tests.

Address: 521 S St Joseph St., South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-233-8522

Website: https://www.dismashouseofindiana.org/

Permanent Housing

Permanent housing is a stable place to live for the long-term. There are many places in St. Joseph County that can help you find this type of housing.

Public Housing: Housing owned by the government. People who meet income requirements can live in public housing for a reduced rent. Contact the St. Joseph Housing Authority (SJHA), the Housing Authority of the City of Mishawaka (HACM), or the Housing Authority of South Bend (HASB) for further information. As of August 2026, the SJHA waitlist is closed.

St. Joseph Housing Authority: 574-656-3545

Address: 107 W. Center Street, North Liberty, IN 46554

Housing Authority of the City of Mishawaka: 574-258-1658

Address: 601 E 11th Street, Mishawaka, IN 46546

Housing Authority of South Bend: 574-235-9346

Address: 501 Alonzo Watson Drive, South Bend, IN 46601

Section 8 or Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program: The federal government's major program for assisting low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. To get help with your voucher, contact the above housing authorities.

Project-Based Subsidized Housing or Affordable Housing: Housing owned by private property owners who receive money from the government to make their housing options more affordable. This link

will show you to a list of these properties in St. Joseph County: https://www.myhousingsearch.com/dbh/SearchHousingSubmit.html?ch=IN&type=rental&region_id=30317&text_search=St.+Joseph+County

Public Housing with a Felony Record:

The requirements or restrictions for access to public housing differs by location. To find out if you are eligible for public housing, you may reach out to the following contacts:

IHCDA Housing Choice Opportunities Program:

Phone: 317-232-7788 / Email: Section8@ihcda.in.gov

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Indianapolis Field Office:
Phone: 317-226-6303 / Email: IN_Webmanager@hud.gov

Applying:

Public and subsidized housing programs often have long waitlists. You should apply as early as you can. Call your local Public Housing Authority (listed above) and ask for instructions.

Private Housing

Private housing offers more options than public housing, but you might run into barriers because of your background and it may take a while to find a landlord who will rent to you. Large property management firms almost always conduct background checks, so you may have better luck with units in smaller complexes or in private homes. Sadly, we are not aware of any lists of landlords that rent to people who have been incarcerated. Others who have come home from prison before you may be your best source of information. If you are part of a reentry program, use it as a resource. Use your network of friends and family. They may know of places where you

can stay.

Help with Rent or Utilities

If you require help with paying rent or utilities, call 211 for more information or contact one of the programs below.

South Bend Utility Assistance Program: Reduces your water and sewer bill by up to $25.50 per month if you qualify.

Phone: 311

Website: southbendin.gov/uap

REAL Services: Apply to receive help with electrical and heat support.

Address: 1151 S. Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601 (8:00am - 4:30pm)

Phone: 574-233-8205

Email: info@realservices.org

Portage Township Trustee: Provides utility and rent-assistance to Portage Township residents.

Address: 340 Columbia Ave South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-233-2126

Email: info@portagetownship71.in.gov

Catholic Charities: Apply online for financial assistance on the first or third Monday of the month at 8:00am or 3:00pm.

Address: 1817 Miami Street, South Bend, IN 46613

Phone: 574-234-3111

Website: https://www.ccfwsb.org/west-region-form

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Offers financial assistance through their Financial Assistance Program.

Address: 100 W. South Street, Suite 100, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-234-6000

Website: https://www.svdpsb.org/financial-programs

United Way of St. Joseph County: Provides access to financial management services and rent/utility assistance.

Address: 3517 E Jefferson Blvd, South Bend, IN 46615

Phone: 574-232-8201

Salvation Army Family Resource Center: Call on a Monday morning starting at 8am to apply for financial aid and utility assistance.

Address: 900 W Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-367-2358 ext. 2206

Little Flower Catholic Church: Provides money to prevent utility disconnections. Must fill out an online application.

Phone: 574-272-7070

Website: https://littleflowerchurch.org/outreach

Your Legal Rights

Important Housing Laws:

Federal Fair Housing Act: Cannot discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), family status, or disability.

HUD Fair Housing Act Guidelines: Arrest records and convictions can be used to deny people housing, but landlords cannot automatically refuse someone with a criminal record. The landlord must prove that they are refusing someone to protect their property or the safety of people living in their housing.

Housing Discrimination within St. Joseph County: If you feel you have been discriminated against in the process of finding housing within St. Joseph County, contact the South Bend Human Rights Commission at humanrights@southbendin.gov or by phone at 574-235-9355.

Eviction:

If you are worried about being kicked out of your apartment, resources within St. Joseph County can help you navigate the process. See the **Legal Matters** section of this guide for more information.

Housing for People on the Sex Offender Registry

Unfortunately, there are fewer housing options available to people on the sex offender registry. The reality is that it is hard for people on registries to find housing. You may be able to live with family members, or there may be transitional houses in your state that serve people on the registries. You also may be able to find private housing.

Employment

Your time in jail may have caused you to lose employment or shift hours. Having a stable source of income increases your chances of staying free and can help you pay any fees or fines you still have, so it is important to look for a good job.

If you spent time in prison, you might be worried about background checks. They are used by 94% of employers, according to the Professional Background Screening Association, and are a standard step in the hiring process. But, these checks don't mean there are no employment opportunities for people with felony convictions. Increasingly, there is a recognition of the value of second chance hiring – a concept that emphasizes potential and skills rather than past mistakes.

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Learn About Careers

As you look for jobs to meet your basic needs, it’s good to explore different careers. Find out what careers match your interests and skills. Look for careers that are in demand where you can earn good money. Learn about the training that you will need.

Below are a few of the many websites that can help you explore different careers:

CareerOneStop: Explore careers, find training, check out their toolkit, search for jobs, and more. Visit the site at: https://www.careeronestop.org/

My Next Move: Explore careers and get information about what you can do to get a job. Visit the site at: https://www.mynextmove.org/

mySkills myFuture: Find out how your skills, experiences, and interests can lead to a new career. Visit the site at: https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/

You can also request a **free** copy of "Take Charge of Your Future", a career guide for formerly incarcerated people, by calling 877-433-7827 or emailing edpubs@edpubs.ed.gov. Access the free online version here: https://lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2025-07/take-charge-of-your-future-revised-2025.pdf.

Job Searching

Job Websites: Indeed, LinkedIn, and Google Jobs are the most common websites to find and apply for jobs.

WorkOne Center: Staff will help you find a new or better job, choose a career, access training, or get the information needed to succeed in today's job market.

Address: 220 W. Colfax Avenue, South Bend IN 46601
Website: https://www.gotoworkone.com/

CareerOneStop for Justice-Impacted Job Seekers: Has online resources by state for those with criminal convictions.
Website:
https://www.careeronestop.org/JusticeImpacted/default.aspx.

The Library of Congress: Has reentry and employment resources for justice-involved individuals. Website:
ttps://guides.loc.gov/reentry-resources/employment.

Unemployment Benefits

Most people who leave prison and jail are not able to get unemployment benefits, but you may be eligible if you have been working for a while. You must have lost your job through no fault of your own, such as a layoff, and you need to have made at least $1600 in the 12 months prior to filing the claim. You cannot receive unemployment directly after you return home if you lost your previous job due to your incarceration or if you were in prison or jail for more than twelve months.

You can get information on the unemployment program from Indiana's Department of Workforce Development (DWD) by visiting https://www.in.gov/dwd/indiana-unemployment/.

Starting a Business

There are many steps to starting a successful small business. The Small Business Development Center can help you.

Address: 1700 W Misawaka Avenue, South Bend, IN 46615
(8:30am-4:30pm. Appointments encouraged)
Phone: 574-520-4126
Email: northcentral@isbdc.org

Education

A lot of people think about going back to school after they leave jail or prison. Going to school helps you learn more about the world, meet new people, and get better jobs.

It is never too late to learn or go to school or college. Any classes you took or certificates you earned while incarcerated mean you are already taking steps for your education! Learning can even make you feel happier and more fulfilled. If you are still in jail or prison, try to take classes before you leave.

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Adult Basic Education and High School Equivalency

Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs can help you get better at reading, writing, math, listening, and speaking. Usually, you can find ABE programs at adult schools, career centers, libraries, and community colleges. They are free of charge.

The ABE program in St. Joseph County can be found below:

South Bend Community School Corporation Adult Education: Offers High School Equivalency, English Classes, & Career Training.

Address: 3206 Sugar Maple Business Court, South Bend, IN 46628
Phone: 574-393-5801

The High School Equivalency (HSE) test is like a high school diploma (formerly called the GED). If you did not graduate from high school, you can take this test and it will count on your résumé as a diploma. The test will have questions about things you would learn in high school. A HSE or high school diploma is a requirement for many jobs. If you don't have your HSE, you should try to get one. Testing sites in or near St. Joseph County are listed below:

Juvenile Justice Center:

Address: 1000 S. Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601
Phone: 574-393-5816

South Bend Community School Corporation:

Address: 3206 Sugar Maple Business Court, South Bend, IN 46628
Phone: 574-393-5816

Brandywine Bell Education Center:

Address: 1830 S. 3rd Street, Niles, MI 49120
Phone: 269-683-8805

The HSE is not an easy test. You will probably need to study. A lot of places have free preparation programs that can help you get ready.

An adult learning center willing and able to help is listed below:

South Bend Community School Corporation Adult Education:

Address: 3206 Sugar Maple Ct South Bend, IN 46628
Phone: 574-393-5801

Vocational Training and Apprenticeship Programs

Vocational programs help you learn how to do a job. They can teach you things like welding, car repair, plumbing, and more. You can go to community and technical colleges, as well as trade schools to take vocational classes. Some community-based organizations also offer vocational training. A lot of prisons have vocational classes. Take them if you can. Vocational classes help you get some experience and see if you like the work. Once you leave, you can get an entry-level position or an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships help you get training and experience. You'll also get paid through an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships are usually offered through trade unions.

You can find a vocational program directory by visiting https://www.indianacareerconnect.com/vosnet/default.aspx or https://www.in.gov/dwd/job-seekers/.

Workforce Ready Grant: If you want to get a certificate or associate's degree paid for fully by the state, it is worth checking out the Workforce Ready Grant. To apply and learn more, visit: https://www.in.gov/dwd/nextleveljobs/workforce-ready-grant/.

Higher Education

Community College

If you haven't been in school for a while, you might want to start at community college. Community colleges are inexpensive and offer many different classes. A lot of them offer programs where you can get your HSE and college credit at the same time.

The state community college is listed below:

Ivy Tech Community College - South Bend:

Address: 220 Dean Johnson Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601
Phone: 574-289-7001
Email: asksouthbendelkhart@ivytech.edu

Four Year College

Many people go to community college for a year or two and then transfer to a four-year college to finish their bachelor's degree. You'll save money for the first two years because community college costs significantly less than a four-year institution.

Marian University welcomes people who were previously incarcerated to take classes online. Through Marian's Adult Programs, you can work toward your Associate's or Bachelor's Degree completely online anywhere in the state. To learn more about their opportunities, visit https://www.marian.edu/online/.

There are also many four year colleges in South Bend: Bethel University, Goshen College, Holy Cross College, Indiana University South Bend, St. Mary's College, and the University of Notre Dame.

Healthcare

Community health clinics and dental clinics provide affordable or even free care. You can also use them if you do not have health insurance. Contact the clinics directly for further information on their offerings and costs. If you are having a medical emergency, call 911.

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Free or Reduced-Cost Clinics

Navari Student Outreach Clinic: Offers free health care to the uninsured and underserved South Bend community. They provide basic health screenings, health physicals, chronic disease consultation and management, STI screenings, pregnancy testing, wound care, a limited pharmaceutical dispensary, referrals to other medical practices within the community, and social services support.

Address: 2015 West Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46619

Phone: 574-400-5660

Website: https://medicine.iu.edu/south-bend/service-learning/outreach-clinic

HealthLinc: Offer reduced-price health care to uninsured or underinsured residents of Northern Indiana. Call 888-580-1060 to learn more and schedule an appointment. There are multiple locations in South Bend:

621 Memorial Drive #402, South Bend, IN 46601

420 W. 4th Street, Mishawaka, IN 46544

1708 High Street, South Bend, IN 46613

1960 Northside Blvd, South Bend, IN 46615 (medical)

1002 South Esther Street, South Bend, IN 46615 (dental)

Indiana Health Centers: Offer comprehensive medical care regardless of one's ability to pay. There are two locations in South Bend:

IHC South Bend: 574-234-9033
1901 Western Avenue Suite B, South Bend, IN 46619

IHC Community Health Center of Bendix: 574-245-4980
1010 N. Bendix Drive, South Bend, IN 46628

Substance Use Treatment

For individuals who have struggled or are struggling with substance use disorders, resources such as support groups and treatment programs are available for management and recovery. See the section on recovery that starts on page 51.

Health Insurance

Getting medical care is costly. Health insurance can help pay for doctor's visits, medications, vaccines, laboratory tests, and emergencies. Health insurance can also be expensive, but medical care can cost hundreds or thousands of dollars if you are not insured. There are many plans that can help you pay these bills or reduce prices.

Medicaid and Medicare

Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) Medicaid: Program to help pay medical fees for people with little to no money.

Medicare: Program for people 65 and older to help pay for medical bills.

Division of Family Resources St. Joseph County: Establishes eligibility for Medicaid and Medicare. Visit this address or contact the DFR to apply for health insurance.

Address: 3575 Moreau Court, Suite 300, South Bend, IN 46628 (open 8:00am - 4:30pm)
Phone: 800-403-0864

Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP 2.0): A health-insurance program for qualified low-income adults. The plan is offered by the State of Indiana. It pays for medical costs including hospital, mental health, substance use disorder, physician services, prescriptions, diagnostic exams, and preventative care.

Phone: 877-438-4479

Healthcare Marketplace: An option for anyone who needs to get health insurance, but may not be able to get Medicare, Medicaid, or insurance through their employer. It is a federal program that works with health insurance companies to offer plans for individuals and families. After you are released from prison, you have 60 days to enroll. You can also enroll right after major life events or during the open enrollment period. Call for more information and assistance in completing an application.

Phone: 800-318-2596

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Some insurance plans will help you pay for expensive medical prescriptions while others do not. If you are having trouble paying for your prescriptions, here are a few options:

- Ask your doctor or pharmacist if there is a generic version of the drugs you need. Generic drugs are much less expensive.
- Go to GoodRx to compare prices of prescription medications. It tells you where you can go for the best price. You can download their app on a smartphone.
- Stores like Target, Walmart, Costco, and Sam's Club often have special programs where you can purchase generic drugs for very cheap ($4 for 30-day quantity or $10 for a 90-day quantity).
- Go to RxAssist to find out if the medication you need is offered for free to people who qualify.

HIV/AIDS and Other Diseases

Being incarcerated (especially in prison) increases the risk of getting some diseases. If you have been in prison or jail for a long time, you

should be tested for HIV, Hepatitis C (HCV), Hepatitis B (HBV), and tuberculosis. HIV, HBV, and HCV can be detected by a blood test. Tuberculosis can be tested by blood or by a skin test; if these tests are positive, the disease is confirmed by a chest X-ray.

If you test positive for HIV or another serious disease, know that you can still live a long and meaningful life. You should make an appointment to see a healthcare provider to stay healthy and possibly begin treatments. You should still be cautious if the test comes back negative. It is possible that the tests cannot yet detect the virus in your body. You can request another test at a later date.

Locations for testing within St. Joseph County are listed below:

Imani Unidad:

Address: 2806 Lincoln Way West, South Bend, IN 46628
Phone: 574-404-2392

IHC Community Health Center of Bendix:

Address: 1010 N. Bendix Dr, South Bend, IN 46628
Phone: 574-245-4980

IHC South Bend:

Address: 1901 Western Avenue Suite B, South Bend, IN 46619
Phone: 574-234-9033

Health Plus Indiana:

Address: 201 S. William Street, South Bend, IN 46601
Phone: 574-234-2870

Healthlinc Centennial Clinic:

Address: 621 Memorial Dr. Suite 402, South Bend, IN 46601
Phone: 574-400-4550

Healthlinc Southeast Clinic:

Address: 1708 High Street, South Bend, IN 46613

Phone: 574-406-6180

IUSB Medical Clinic:

Address: 1960 Northside Blvd, South Bend, IN 46615

Phone: 574-231-7228

Healthlinc Mishawaka Clinic:

Address: 420 W. 4th Street, Mishawaka, IN 46544

Phone: 574-307-7673

NIMCHN Health Center:

Address: 413 W. McKinley Avenue, Mishawaka, IN 46545

Phone: 574-282-3230

Trauma and Mental Health

Know that if you are struggling with trauma or mental health symptoms, you are not alone. Most people who are incarcerated have experienced trauma. Most people also experience mental health symptoms or have experienced them in the past. Being in jail or prison can trigger mental health concerns or make them worse. Your time incarcerated may also cause trauma that affects your mental health long after you leave.

You deserve to be happy.

I am having…

A mental health emergency or crisis:

If you are having an emergency, we urge you to contact these lines:

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Call 988; available 24/7, or chat online.

Crisis Text Line: Text IN to 741741, available 24/7.

Call 911 and ask for a C.I.T. (Crisis Intervention Trained) officer if you or someone you know is in immediate danger or go to the nearest emergency room.

Community Health Crisis Line: Call 317-621-5700 for phone screenings or face-to-face evaluations for psychiatric emergencies. Available 24/7.

Oaklawn Crisis Centers: Walk in anytime, no appointment required.

Phone: 574-283-1234 (available 24/7)

Addresses:

320 Lakeview Drive, entrance A, Goshen, IN 46527 (open 24/7)

420 N. Niles Avenue Suite 100, South Bend, IN 46617 (open 8:00am - 8:00pm)

Memorial Epworth Center: Offers 24/7 mental health crisis services. Services provided include short-term stabilization and support to people who are experiencing a psychiatric emergency that cannot be managed in an outpatient setting. Costs vary based on treatment, but the center accepts Medicare, Medicaid, and private health insurance to manage expenses for services such as inpatient detox and mental health treatment.

Address: 420 N Niles Avenue, South Bend, IN 46617

Phone: 574-647-8400

Website: https://locations.beaconhealthsystem.org/in/south-bend/memorial-epworth-center

Mental health struggles that are not an emergency:

If you need help, but it's not an emergency, find a community provider for treatment. When you call, ask for a mental health assessment or intake with a therapist or counselor (for talk therapy) or psychiatrist (for medication).

Even if you are seeing a non-emergency provider, **you should still use emergency services if you are in an emergency.**

Oaklawn Psychiatric Center: Offers outpatient mental health services. Open to all and covers costs for those unable to pay. You do not need an appointment to begin treatment.

Addresses and Phone Numbers:

415 East Madison Street, South Bend, IN 46617 ; 574-283-1234

1411 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka, IN 46544 ; 574-259-5666

330 Lakeview Drive, Goshen, IN 46527; 574-533-1234

Website: https://oaklawn.org/

Memorial Epworth Center:

Address: 420 N Niles Avenue, South Bend, IN 46617

Phone: 574-647-8400

For a complete list of community mental health centers in IN, visit https://www.in.gov/fssa/dmha/files/DMHA_SOFs_and_CMHCs.pdf

Substance Use Disorders

Drug and alcohol problems can make it much harder to get or keep a job, form and maintain healthy relationships, find housing, and stay out of jail. We urge you to get help. Your reentry success and even your life depends upon it!

For many, jail or prison is a time to get clean from drugs or sober from alcohol. But just because you were clean and sober while incarcerated doesn't mean that you are fully recovered. Many people find that problems with drugs or alcohol return upon release.

Where to Get Help

Below is a list of recovery centers in the St. Joseph County area:

Victory Clinical Services: Offers treatment for opioids (prescription or heroin). Accepts Medicaid, Medicare, cash, and insurance.

> Address: 4218 Western Avenue, South Bend, IN 46619
> Phone: 574-233-1524

Center for Positive Change: Treatment for opioids (prescription or heroin), alcohol, PCP and other hallucinogens, cocaine/crack, methamphetamines and other amphetamines/stimulants, marijuana/hashish, barbiturates and other sedatives/hypnotics, benzodiazepines and other tranquilizers, and inhalants. Accepts Medicaid, cash/self-payment, and insurance.

> Address: 611 Lincolnway East, South Bend, IN 46601
> Phone: 574-360-4066
> Website: https://www.centerforpositivechange.org/

Oaklawn Psychiatric Center - South Bend: Offers treatment for opioids (prescription or heroin), alcohol, PCP and other hallucinogens, cocaine/crack, OTC medications (e.g., cough syrup), tobacco, methamphetamines and other amphetamines/stimulants, marijuana/hashish, barbiturates and other sedatives/hypnotics, benzodiazepines and other tranquilizers, and inhalants. Accepts Medicaid, Medicare, Tricare, cash/self-payment, and insurance.

Address: 415 East Madison Street, South Bend, IN 46617
Phone: 574-283-1234
Website: https://www.oaklawn.org/

Clarvida of Indiana (formerly Dockside Services): Offers treatment for opioids (prescription or heroin), alcohol, PCP and other hallucinogens, cocaine/crack, OTC medications (e.g., cough syrup), tobacco, methamphetamines and other amphetamines/stimulants, marijuana/hashish, barbiturates and other sedatives/hypnotics, benzodiazepines and other tranquilizers, and inhalants. Accepts Medicaid, cash/self-payment, and insurance.

Address: 2420 Viridian Drive Suite E, South Bend, IN 46628
Phone: 574-299-8595
Website: https://www.clarvida.com/indiana/

Zinnia Healing Indiana: Offers treatment for opioids (prescription or heroin), alcohol, PCP and other hallucinogens, cocaine/crack, OTC medications (e.g., cough syrup), methamphetamines and other amphetamines/stimulants, marijuana/hashish, barbiturates and other sedatives/hypnotics, benzodiazepines and other tranquilizers, and inhalants. Accept Medicaid, cash/self-payment, and insurance.

Address: 3606 East Jefferson Boulevard, South Bend, IN 46615

Phone: 844-951-4970
Website: https://cardinalrecovery.com/

Indiana Center for Recovery South Bend: Offers treatment for opioids (prescription or heroin), alcohol, PCP and other hallucinogens, cocaine/crack, OTC medications (e.g., cough syrup), tobacco, methamphetamines and other amphetamines/stimulants, marijuana/hashish, barbiturates and other sedatives/hypnotics, benzodiazepines and other tranquilizers, and inhalants. Accepts Medicaid, cash/self-payment, Tricare, IHS/Tribal/Urban (ITU) funds, and insurance.

Address: 215 West 4th Street, Mishawaka, IN 46544
Phone: 574-325-5961
Website: https://www.treatmentindiana.com/

Peer Support Groups

If you are struggling with drug or alcohol use, join a support group to get help and encouragement from others. These groups are usually free and have saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) are the oldest and largest peer recovery organizations with chapters throughout Indiana and the world. Visit aa.org or na.org to find a meeting or online group.

Local AA meetings: https://www.michianasober.com/local-meetings-1

Local NA support groups: 260-667-9863

There are also other support group options that focus on helping people find the motivation within themselves. Here are a few options:

Self-Management and Recovery Training (SMART): Peer support groups help participants resolve problems with any addiction. Go online at https://smartrecovery.org/meeting or call 440-951-5357 to find a meeting or online community.

Women for Sobriety: A peer-support program for women overcoming substance use disorders. Go online at https://womenforsobriety.org/ or call 215-536-8026 to find an in-person or online meeting.

Secular Organizations for Sobriety: A network of peer groups to help people maintain sobriety/abstinence from alcohol and drug addictions, food addiction and more. Call 314-353-3532 to find a meeting.

LifeRing Secular Recovery: An organization of people who share practical experiences and sobriety support. They focus on empowering you to overcome your addiction. Go online at https://lifering.org/ or call 800-811-4142 to find a meeting.

Recovery Works

A program: 1) designed to provide support services to those without insurance coverage who are involved with the criminal justice system, 2) dedicated to increasing the availability of specialized mental health treatment and recovery services in the community for those who may otherwise face incarceration, 3) intended to supplement community supervision strategies to decrease recidivism.

To qualify, you must be an Indiana resident, at least 18 years of age with an annual income that does not exceed 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, and have current or prior involvement in the state of Indiana's criminal justice system.

For more information, contact Recovery.Works@fssa.in.gov by email or call at 317-232-7911.

Technology

Getting a Phone

Lifeline and SafeLink

If you have Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, or Public Housing Assistance, you should also be able to get a free or discounted phone or internet. SafeLink will provide you with one of these for free:

Smartphone: A mobile phone that performs many of the functions of a computer, typically having a touchscreen interface, internet access, and an operating system capable of running downloaded applications.

SIM card: A SIM card lets your phone connect to their mobile network. If you buy your own phone, they will give you a SIM card to put in it.

Phone plan: A phone plan lets you text, make calls, and use data. Their basic phone plan limits how much you can do, but you can add more for a fee.

To Apply

When you apply for public benefits (such as SNAP or Medicaid), ask if you can apply for SafeLink and Lifeline as well. You can also get help applying for SafeLink by calling 800-723-3546. To apply for Lifeline online visit https://www.lifelinesupport.org/. To apply for these services, you will need your contact info, mailing/home address, and Social Security number. You will also need proof that you meet the income requirements. You can find SafeLink phones and service

plans at many stores around the state, including Walgreens, CVS, Family Dollar, and Schnucks.

Using the Internet

If you feel the world of technology is changing too fast and you have trouble keeping up with it, you might need help with technology.

You can visit the following sources to help navigate the process:

Northstar Digital Literacy: Program designed to help you test your skills and learn more. You can access the program online by visiting https://www.digitalliteracyassessment.org/.

LearnFree: Provides free courses on technology you can access by visiting https://www.learnfree.org/.

Computer Access

If you need to get on a computer to communicate with people or apply for a job, all of the St. Joe County Public Library branches have free access to computers. You can also schedule an appointment to get one-on-one support from a technology specialist.

Address: 304 S. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601 (main branch)

Phone: 574-282-4646

Website: https://sjcpl.org/services/computers/

Transportation

Transportation Options

Buses and Metro

Save money by using public transportation. If you use the bus or metro often, you can buy a pass for a month or a year. This will make the cost of each ride cheaper. Students, older people, veterans, and persons with disabilities can get discounts.

Find more information about the transit system in St. Joseph County by visiting https://sjcta.info/# and https://www.sbtranspo.com/. You could also call 574-233-2131. A map of routes is on the following page.

Trains and Longer Distance Buses

Amtrak: Offers train service around the country.
Station: 2702 W. Washington Street, South Bend, IN 46628

South Shore Line: Connects South Bend and Chicago.
Station: 4477 Progress Drive, South Bend, IN 46628

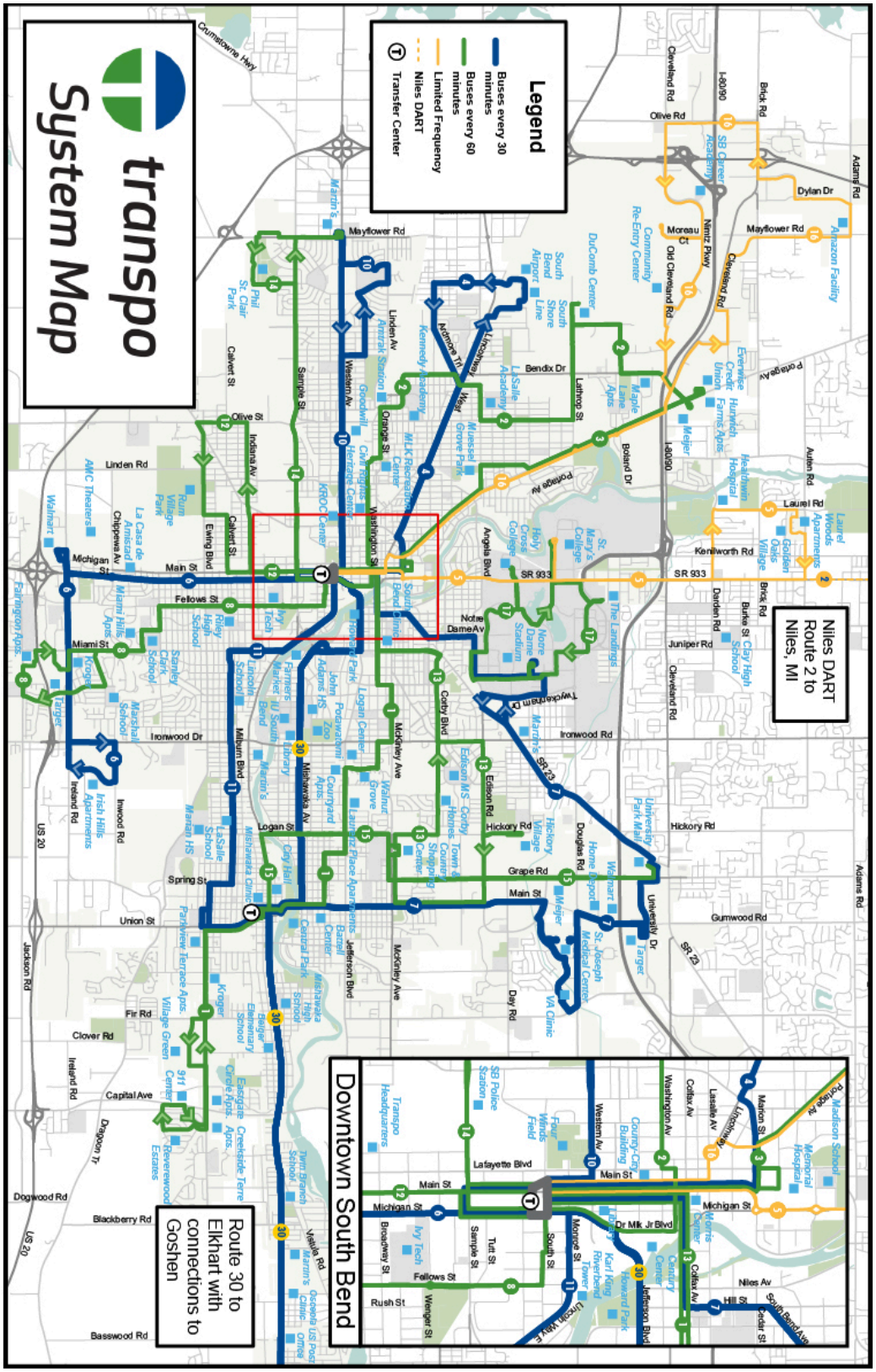
Greyhound, FlixBus, and MegaBus: Long distance bus companies.
Station: 100 W South Street Suite 120, South Bend, IN 46601

Driving

Indiana residents must register every vehicle they own. To register your vehicle, renew your license, or get a license, you can visit the BMV. The addresses and phones for BMVs in St. Joseph County are:

1139 East Ireland Road, South Bend, IN 46601 / Phone: 888-692-6841

2544 Miracle Lane, Mishawaka, IN 46545 / Phone: 888-692-6841


transpo
System Map
Legend
Buses every 30 minutes
Buses every 60 minutes
Limited Frequency
Niles DART
Transfer Center
Niles DART Route 2 to Niles, MI
Route 30 to Elkhart with connections to Goshen
Downtown South Bend
Crumstowne Hwy
Cleveland Rd
Olive Rd
Brick Rd
Adams Rd
Dylan Dr
Amazon Facility
Mayflower Rd
Moreau Ct
Old Cleveland Rd
Nimtz Pkwy
SB Career Academy
Community Re-Entry Center
DuComb Center
South Bend Airport
South Shore Line
Bendix Dr
Lathrop St
Maple Lane Apts
Everwise Credit Union
Hurwich Farms Apts
Meijer
Portage Av
I-80/90
Boland Dr
Auten Rd
Laurel Rd
Laurel Woods Apartments
Golden Oaks Village
Healthmark Hospital
Kenilworth Rd
SR 933
Brick Rd
Darden Rd
Burke St
Clay High School
Juniper Rd
Cleveland Rd
Martin's
Phil St. Clair Park
Calvert St
Sample St
Linden Av
Amtrak Station
Goodwill
Western Av
Orange St
Kennedy Academy
Monroe TH
Lincolnway
Weaver
Mussel Grove Park
MLK Recreation Center
Civil Rights Heritage Center
Washington St
KROC Center
Olive St
Indiana Av
Linden Rd
AMC Theaters
Walmart
Rum Village Park
La Casa de Amistad
Chippewas Av
Ewing Blvd
Michigan St
Main St
Fellows St
Miami St
Miami Hills Apts
Fairington Apts
Riley High School
Stanley Clark School
Kroger
Target
Ironwood Dr
Ireland Rd
Irish Hills Apartments
Inwood Rd
US 20
Jackson Rd
Marshall School
Milburn Blvd
Lincoln School
Ivy Tech
Howard Park
John Adams HS
Farmers at South Bend
Potawatomi Zoo
Logan Center
Courtyard Apts.
Mishawaka Ave
Mishawaka Library
Marian's
Marian HS
LaSalle School
Logan St
City Hall
Spring St
Union St
Parkview Terrace Apts.
Fir Rd
Clover Rd
Village Green
911 Center
Capital Ave
Dragoon Tr
Riverwood Estates
Dogwood Rd
Blackberry Rd
Basswood Rd
Kroger
Elementary School
Eastgate Creekside Terr.
Mishawaka High School
Central Park School
Jefferson Blvd
Bampil Center
Laurel Place Apartments
Walnut Grove
McKinley Ave
Day Rd
Corby Blvd
Edison MS
Edison Rd
Hickory Rd
Hickory Village
Heinen's Town & Country Shopping Center
Grape Rd
Douglas Rd
Home Depot
Walmart
University Park Mall
Meijer
St. Joseph Medical Center
VA Clinic
University Dr
Target
Gumwood Rd
SR 23
Adams Rd
Ironwood Rd
Mishawaka Rd
Twyckenham Dr
The Landings
Notre Dame Av
Notre Dame Stadium
Angela Blvd
Holy Cross College
St. Mary's College
Portage Av
Meijer
Hurwich Farms Apts
Everwise Credit Union
Maple Lane Apts
Bendix Dr
Lathrop St
Olive Rd
Cleveland Rd
Nimtz Pkwy
SB Career Academy
Dylan Dr
Mayflower Rd
Amazon Facility
Adams Rd
Brick Rd
Auten Rd
Laurel Rd
Laurel Woods Apartments
Golden Oaks Village
Healthmark Hospital
Kenilworth Rd
SR 933
Brick Rd
Darden Rd
Burke St
Clay High School
Juniper Rd
Cleveland Rd
Transpo Headquarters
SB Police Station
Four Winds Field
Lafayette Blvd
Main St
Michigan St
Western Av
Washington Av
County-City Building
Colfax Av
LaSalle Av
Lincolnway
Marion St
Madison School
Portage Av
Memorial Hospital
Dr Mlk Jr Blvd
Monroe St
South St
Tutt St
Sample St
Broadway St
Fellows St
Rush St
Wenger St
My Tech
Century Center
Howard Park
Karl King Riverbend
Tower
Niles Av
Hill St
Cedar St
South Bend Ave
Lincoln Way E
Jefferson Blvd
Yellow Rd
Marian's
Osceola
US Post Office

As of 6/2026

Legal Matters

To access Indiana-specific legal help, visit https://indianalegalhelp.org/.

I need help with a(n)…

Criminal Case……..……60

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Domestic Violence Case……...…61

Housing or Eviction Case……...….61

Immigration Case……..62

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Family Case……....63

Child Support Case……..….64

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Criminal Cases

Public Defender:

The court will appoint you a public defender if your income qualifies. You can find out whether you qualify and get more information at 574-245-6585.

Hire a Defense Attorney:

If you need to hire a criminal defense lawyer, you can find one at this

website: https://inbar.reliaguide.com/home.

Criminal Record Expungement

Indiana Legal Services (ILS):

ILS will help you file your expungement claim, often for free or for a reduced fee.

Address: 227 South Main Street Suite 200, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-234-8121

Website: https://www.indianalegalservices.org/expungement/

Domestic Violence Representation

Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence:

Provides legal and housing support for survivors of domestic violence in Indiana.

Phone: 317-917-3685

Website: https://icadvinc.org/what-we-do/direct-legal-services

Eviction and Housing

Indiana Legal Services:

Address: 227 South Main Street Suite 200, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-234-8121

Website: https://www.indianalegalservices.org/eviction/

Notre Dame Law School Eviction Clinic:

This clinic accepts new cases in August and January.

Phone: 574-631-6704

Email: ndevictionclinic@nd.edu

Volunteer Lawyer Network:

Phone: 844-243-8570

Website:https://www.volunteerlawyernetwork.net/what-we-do-1

Email: vlnsouthbend@probonoindiana.org

Immigration

La Casa de Amistad:

La Casa's immigration legal services support those who need legal help with citizenship, work permits, green cards, and more.

Phone: 574-233-2120

Website: https://www.lacasadeamistad.org/legalclinic.html

Notre Dame Law School Immigration Clinic:

As of June 2026, this clinic is full and not accepting new cases. For more information or to find out about openings, you can contact them in the following places.

Phone: 574-631-7795

Email: immigrationclinic@nd.edu

Exoneration

Notre Dame Law School Exoneration Justice Clinic

Address: 806 Howard Street, Suite 111, South Bend, IN 46617

Phone: 574-631-0677

Email: ndejc@nd.edu

Family Law

Indiana Legal Services:

Address: 227 South Main Street Suite 200, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-234-8121

Website: https://www.indianalegalservices.org/family-law/

Volunteer Lawyer Network:

Phone: 844-243-8570

Web: https://www.volunteerlawyernetwork.net/what-we-do-1

Email: vlnsouthbend@probonoindiana.org

Child Support

For individuals facing child support payment issues, there can be a multitude of consequences so it is important to make sure these issues are dealt with in a timely manner. For support and guidance on these issues, hiring a lawyer can be a helpful next step.

You can visit https://www.in.gov/dcs/child-support/contact-us/local-child-support-offices/st-joseph/ for more information. The following places might also be useful to call or visit for further clarification and help navigating child support:

Child Support Prosecutor:

Address: 227 W. Jefferson Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-235-9786

County Clerk:

You can pay your child support payment at these in-person locations. Payments at these locations are cash-only.

Addresses:

101 S. Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601

1000 South Michigan Street, South Bend, IN 46601

219 Lincolnway West Mishawaka, IN 46544

Phone: (574) 235-9635

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556; available 24/7.

Fees and Fines

There are many different fees and fines you may have to pay. You might have court fees or fines that can make it hard to get back on your feet. Still, it's important to plan for how you will pay them. Not paying your fees or fines can make your problems worse.

Some programs might be able to help. To learn more about specific programs, you might contact the St. Joseph County Prosecutor's Office by calling 574-235-9544.

Finances, Credit, and Taxes

How to Repair Your Credit

1. Check your credit report
2. Dispute credit report errors
3. Bring past-due accounts current
4. Set up autopay
5. Maintain a low credit utilization rate
6. Pay off debt
7. Avoid applying for new credit
8. Keep unused credit accounts open
9. Apply for a secured credit card
10. Consider a credit-builder loan (Everwise Credit Union)
11. Get credit counseling

Taxes

W-4 Form

When you start a new job, you are asked to fill out an IRS Form W-4. This form helps your employer know how much of your paycheck should be withheld in taxes. It is important to fill out this form so that you can arrange to pay taxes month by month. If you don't fill it out you'll have to pay them all at once at the end of the year. To learn how to fill out a W-4 form, visit this website: https://www.wikihow.com/Fill-Out-a-W%E2%80%904.

Filing Taxes

Every year, you will need to file both federal and state taxes by April 15. Many people choose to file their taxes in January so that they can get their tax refund sooner.

You may have missed the deadline while incarcerated or not had an opportunity to file. You should still file your taxes as it is a legal requirement.

To file taxes, you will need a W-2 form from your employer(s). Employers will usually give you W-2 forms in January. Because filing taxes can be confusing, many people get help from a tax professional called a certified public accountant, or CPA. You can file online or with an accountant. To find free tax help near you, visit https://freetaxassistance.for.irs.gov/s/sitelocator.

Voting

After a conviction, you get your right to vote back the day you leave prison in Indiana. People who have been previously incarcerated should check their registration and re-register to vote if it has been canceled.

Register to Vote

You can register to vote online at indianavoters.in.gov. You have to provide your Photo ID to register. If you have any questions, volunteers at the Election Protection hotline 866-687-8683 can help you for free. After registering online or by mail, you should receive a voter card. It will have your name and will tell you where to vote and when.

Vote

Remember, to vote you will need to bring your documents, find a ride, and don't forget to take your time.

Veterans

This section covers Veterans Administration (VA) benefits and services. Although you can't access your VA pension while incarcerated, there are many veteran programs and benefits on the outside that can help you.

Transferring Benefits to Your Family

While you can't get your benefits in prison, you can transfer your pension to your family. This includes a spouse, children, or parents who rely on you for money. They must have financial need to get the benefits. This is called apportionment.

You (or an adult you are giving your benefits to) should apply for apportionment within one year of the day you were incarcerated. To apply, mail a letter to your VA Regional Office (VARO). For St. Joseph County, this office address is 575 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

You must also complete and mail VA Form 21-0788. To get this form you can ask a case manager or download at the following link https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0788-ARE.pdf.

Reinstating Benefits After Release

You can have your benefits start again 30 days before your scheduled release date. If you are in prison, ask your counselor or someone on the outside to help you contact the IDVA to get your benefits restored. Call 800-393-0865 or go to VA.gov for help.

Additionally, all VAs have reentry staff. Contact the nearest VA Medical Center to start receiving benefits. Below is the information for the nearby VA clinic:

Jackie Walorski VA Clinic:

Address: 1540 Trinity Place, Mishawaka, IN 46545

Phone: 574-272-9000

VA Health Connect: 833-940-1624

Mental Health: 574-272-9000, ext. 49623

Website: https://www.va.gov/northern-indiana-health-care/locations/jackie-walorski-va-clinic/

Filing Disability Claims

You can file a disability claim online or in-person. To file an online claim, visit https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/Applying.asp and create an eBenefits account by clicking “Register.” You will need to provide some personal information to open an account. Then, click “Apply for Disability Compensation” to apply.

You can also file a claim by visiting the VA clinic listed above.

Health

After you leave prison, you can get care at VA medical centers. You can enroll in their system by visiting a VA medical center or by phone at 877-222-8387. You can only receive care if you were honorably (or generally) discharged. You can receive treatment for injuries unconnected to your military service.

Housing

The VA's Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) program provides help for veterans that are homeless. This includes benefit help, case management services, and help getting housing. Contact the VA Medical Center listed above to get services.

Employment

The VA has employment help for honorably (or generally) discharged people. Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Representatives (DVOP) help veterans find jobs.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment services help veterans with disabilities related to military service. They offer help finding a job and give job training and advice. To connect with this program, call 800-827-1000 or visit https://www.usa.gov/veteran-job-programs?utm_source=usa_benefits-gov&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=redirect_benefits-gov&modal=b-welcome-1899.

Indiana Veterans Transportation Service Locations

The Veterans Transportation Service (VTS) is designed to ensure that all qualifying Veterans have access to care through convenient, safe, and reliable transportation. You can schedule a ride by visiting https://www.vetride.va.gov/app/home.