THE BENEVOLENT FUND OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MIDWIVES TRUST

'SUGGESTIONS OF WHERE TO GO FOR ADDITIONAL HELP'

Community Care Service

Community care services are care services that are arranged or provided by the local authority social services department mainly to adults who have care needs. (Referred to as Social Work Department in Scotland and the Health and Social Services Trust in Northern Ireland). Community care services include help in securing a place in a care home or services to help you carry on living in your home.

You may need community care services because of your age or because you are disabled or physically or mentally ill.

Services which may be available

There is a wide range of community care services that you may be entitled to. The following list gives only the main examples:

- a place in a care home
- home care services
- home helps
- adaptations to the home
- meals
- recreational and occupational activities

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

The CAB is a charitable organization which helps people to resolve their money, legal and other problems. CAB advice and help is available to anyone, is free, impartial, confidential and provided by trained volunteers. There is a branch in most medium to large towns and the telephone number can be found in Yellow Pages. The main website address is: **www.citizensadvice.org.uk.** There is a further website for information and advice at **www.adviceguide.org.uk.**

Charities Digest

This reference book contains a list of more than 5000 organizations, including charities of national stature, voluntary organization, sources of legal advice, hospices etc. There are charities that support children with serious illnesses and for most professions. A hard copy can usually be found in your local library**.**

Websites which contain a comprehensive list of charities are:

www.guidestar.org.uk

'GuideStar UK' is an independent charity set up to provide a single, easily accessible source of detailed information about every charity and voluntary organization in the UK. Several organizations are listed which may ide assistance in some form to midwives.

www.benevolencetoday.org

'Benevolence Today' is a campaign aiming to raise awareness of benevolent charities. They provide grants for individuals, care, help overcoming debt and support in times of crisis or illness.

SSAFA

Noteable amongst leading charities is (The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association), whose web address is: **www.ssafa.org.uk.** Anyone with a connection to the armed forces or relative with a military connection may make contact.

Nurse Aid

The website for Nurse Aid is **www.nurseaid.org.uk.** Apart from information on the help they can offer their website also provides a list of alternative support for nurses.

Professional Classes Aid Council is a charity who may be able to assist financially. Telephone: 020 7935 0641

Benevolent Fund for Nurses in Scotland is a Scottish charity for nurses and **midwives.** Applicants must have either worked or trained in Scotland at some time. Contact them at **www.bfns.org.uk.** Telephone: 01698 252034.

Elizabeth Finn Care - telephone: 020 7396 6700

Launched www.turn2us.org.uk to check on welfare benefit entitlement and to search for charity based on need. Email to: info@turn2us.org.uk

National Benevolent Institution - telephone: 01666 505 500

The Department of Works and Pensions

Provides help and support for the following groups:

- children
- people of working age
- pensioners
- disabled people and their carers

The department is split into two main groups:

- Working Age and Children
- Pensions and Disability

The Department of Works and Pensions is split into the following areas:

Jobcentre Plus

Provides an integrated service to people of working age. It offers help to people looking to move into work and support for people who can't. Jobcentre Plus also provides a range of services to help employers fill their vacancies quickly.

For more information visit: **www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk**

The Pension Service

Is a dedicated service for current and future pensioners. It provides state financial support to over 11 million pensioners delivered at a national and local level and in partnership with other organizations. It also helps people to plan and provide for retirement. For more information visit: **www.thepensionservice.gov.uk**

Child Support Agency

Is responsible for running the child support system. It assesses, collects and pays Child Support Maintenance, ensuring that children whose parents do not live together are financially supported. For more information visit: **www.csa.gov.uk**

Disability and Carers' Service

Supports disabled people and their carers, whether or not they work. It is responsible for delivering Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance and Carers' Allowance. For more information visit: **www.dwp.gov.uk/dcs**

The Health and Safety Commission and Health and Safety Executive

Protect people's health and safety by ensuring risks at work are properly controlled. For more information visit**:** **www.hse.gov.uk**

The Rent Service

Provides a rental valuation service for housing benefit purposes, fair rent valuation for landlords and tenants, and advice to customers within the public and private sectors on these issues. For more information visit**:** **www.therentservice.gov.uk**

Debt Management

Provides a debt management service to the Department, from overpayment calculation through to recovery of debt. For more information visit: **www.dwp.gov.uk/debtmanagement**

PLEASE NOTE:

- If you do not have your own computer or have access to a computer, your local library usually have computers for public use.
- If you prefer to speak to someone in person, your local Job Centre will be able to assist you with any aspect of the Department of Works and Pensions. A social worker can be accessed via your local Town Hall, local hospital or medical centre.

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