

## Burial Assistance & Services

New York Connects 4/2020

Resource	Web Pag/Info
<p><b>Advocacy Update</b></p>	<p>Senator Schumer and Representative Ocasio-Cortez are pushing FEMA to provide Funeral Assistance to New Yorker's. FEMA has paid for burial costs before including after Hurricane Sandy. FEMA is currently reviewing Individual Assistance for the state of NY. Here is FEMA's most recent Funeral Assistance Fact Sheet to have an idea should it be covered in NY:  <a href="https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1565189678667-0fdafea4dbca363ed6380cf2ae453aa8/FACTSHEET_FuneralAssistanceFINA2019Compliant.pdf">https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1565189678667-0fdafea4dbca363ed6380cf2ae453aa8/FACTSHEET_FuneralAssistanceFINA2019Compliant.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Body Storage &amp; NYC Health/Hospitals</b></p>	<p>NYC Health/Hospitals are required to hold a body for 6 weeks however, because they are at capacity due to COVID-19 crisis, funeral directors are finding that after 1-2 weeks, the hospitals are already processing the body transferring to the city morgue for Hart's Island. If able, families should try to release the deceased's body from the hospital.</p> <p>Once the body is transferred to the city morgue, there is a delay (3 hours) before the body can be released to the funeral home and given the current situation, funeral homes are struggling with this waiting time and may refuse to get involved.</p>
<p><b>1199SEIU Benefits and Pension Fund</b></p>	<p>(646) 473-9200  <a href="https://www.1199seiubenefits.org/funds-and-services/financial-and-socialservices/burial/">https://www.1199seiubenefits.org/funds-and-services/financial-and-socialservices/burial/</a> Qualification is tied to age and length of service.</p>
<p><b>Burial Assistance for Foreign Born Persons</b>            Several organizations provide burial assistance for foreign born, indigent, New Yorkers. If your nationality is not listed, try contacting your country's embassy or Consulate for any programs that may exist for those of your heritage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>GREAT BRITAIN</b> St. George's Society of New York (212) 682-6110 <a href="http://www.stgeorgessociety.org">www.stgeorgessociety.org</a></li> <li>• <b>JAPAN</b> Consular General Of Japan (212) 371-8222</li> <li>• <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b> South African Consulate General (212) 213-4880</li> <li>• <b>SWITZERLAND</b> Swiss Benevolent Society of New York (212) 246-0655 <a href="http://www.sbsny.org">www.sbsny.org</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Catholic Charities</b></p>	<p>Provides burial financial assistance: <a href="https://catholiccharitiesny.org/">https://catholiccharitiesny.org/</a></p>
<p><b>Crime Victims Board of New York State</b></p>	<p>(800) 247-8035  <a href="https://ovs.ny.gov/victim-compensation">https://ovs.ny.gov/victim-compensation</a> If a family member died as a victim of a crime, and the family is determined to be unable to pay for</p>

	funeral and burial expenses, the Crime Victims Board may contribute funds to help offset those costs. All decisions are on a case by case basis, and you can apply online at: <a href="https://ovs.ny.gov/victim-compensation">https://ovs.ny.gov/victim-compensation</a> .
<b>Direct Cremation Company Ltd</b>	Final Price Average for complete cremation services: \$2495.00 Website: <a href="https://directcremationcompany.com/38/Home.html">https://directcremationcompany.com/38/Home.html</a> Call to Plan Cremation: (212) 532-1870 Outside NYC : (800) 649-5050
<b>Direct Cremation in New York offered by City Funeral Service</b>	The average cost of arranging a Direct Cremation in New York with City Funeral Service, Including our basic Direct Cremation Service Fee (\$895.00), Crematory at The Woodlawn Cemetery (\$487.00), NYC Cremation Permit (\$40.00), One (1) Certified Copy of the Certificate of Death (\$15.00 Each), eVital Usage Fee (\$6.75), UPS Fee (\$17.75), and Gratuity (\$10.00) will be : <b>NY Cremation Total - \$1470.75</b>  <b>Call to Plan Cremation Now : (914) 963-4499</b> <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.nycremation.com/cost-cremation-new-york">https://www.nycremation.com/cost-cremation-new-york</a>
<b>Edhi International Foundation</b>	Edhi International Foundation (Muslim) (718) 639-5120 Website: <a href="https://edhi.org/usa/">https://edhi.org/usa/</a>
<b>Funeral Consumers Alliance of Long Island and New York City</b>	(631) 544-0383 <a href="http://www.nyfunerals.org/advice.htm">http://www.nyfunerals.org/advice.htm</a> This organization works with local funeral homes to provide low-cost funeral services to New York City and Long Island residents. Members can join and receive information on funeral services and discounts at participating funeral homes and advice on the funeral planning process
<b>Hebrew Free Burial Association</b>	Hebrew Free Burial Association works w/ Jewish families and helps coordinate burial services at a low cost. They are not a funeral home; however, they coordinate services w/ funeral homes and work to provide a traditional Jewish funeral and burial to families regardless of financial means. The cost of services is based off a sliding fee scale, they take into consideration the family's ability to pay, and the deceased's assets. Ms. Stein informed me that costs vary from min \$0- max \$3,000. All burials take place at Mount Richmond Cemetery in Staten Island, grave sites are included. <b>Due to the severity of COVID-19, they are returning calls rather quickly. Families interested can contact Hebrew Free Burial Association directly at 212-239-1662, the line is operated 24hrs a day and a representative will be able to take down all information.</b> Additional Info can be found on their website: <a href="https://www.hebrewfreeburial.org/">https://www.hebrewfreeburial.org/</a>
<b>HRA Burial Assistance</b>	HRA will provide financial assistance to individuals in need of assistance to meet funeral expenses. Low-income New York City residents may be eligible for up to \$900 in financial assistance to meet

	<p>funeral expenses for a deceased low-income New York City resident family member or friend who lacks resources and not by any community organization. (other than the charities listed)</p> <p>What can be covered:  HRA will pay up to \$900 towards burial expenses, but total burial expenses must be no more than \$1,700. The cost of cremation or grave and grave opening charges are excluded, however, the cost of burying the ashes, after cremation is not excludable in calculating the \$1,700 total cost. If the total remaining funeral bill expenses are more than \$1,700, HRA will not approve payment.</p> <p>Application can be found here:  <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/burial-assistance.page">https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/burial-assistance.page</a>  The individual who makes the funeral arrangements or his/her representative must file an application within sixty (60) days from the date of the decedent's death with the Office of Burial Services by mail, in-person at 33-28 Northern Blvd., 3rd Fl., Long Island City, NY 11101, by email at <b>BurialServices@hra.nyc.gov</b>, or by fax at 917-639-0476</p>
<p><b>John Vincent Home for Funerals</b></p>	<p>No cost Funerals - This offer is to bury those coronavirus victims with no financial means or family.  The person must have lived and died on Staten Island, and Richmond County.  The no-cost funerals will be held at Resurrection Cemetery.  The Funeral Home is working closely w/ the county's Public Administrator Edwina Frances Martin to confirm eligibility and receiving referrals.  <b>The referral must be made through the public administrator's office.</b>  Funeral Home:  John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Inc  Address: 28 Eltingville Blvd. Staten Island, NY 10312  Email: ScaliaFH@scaliahome.com  Telephone: (718) 356-6363  Toll-free: (800) 727-0700  Website: <a href="https://www.scaliahome.com/">https://www.scaliahome.com/</a></p> <p><b>Richmond County Public Administrator:</b>  Edwina Frances Martin phone (718-876-7228) or by email (<a href="mailto:info@richmondpa.nyc.gov">info@richmondpa.nyc.gov</a>) should you need any assistance.</p>
<p><b>Metropolitan Funeral Service</b></p>	<p>Metropolitan Funeral Service, a family-owned firm, is a fully registered and licensed New York State provider of direct cremations and other low-cost funeral services and funeral service alternatives.</p> <p><b>They offer direct cremation services starting at 3,200. They are currently requiring embalming services as they are at capacity.</b></p>

	<p><b>As of 4/27/2020 the earliest they can offer cremation services is the middle of June.</b></p> <p>Metropolitan Funeral Service serves Nassau and Suffolk counties, Manhattan, Brooklyn, The Bronx, Queens and Staten Island. Our affordable direct cremation services are also available to residents of Westchester.</p> <p>Read more about <a href="#">the arrangement procedure</a> after the process has started. You may also contact us directly by emailing Michael Cecere: metropolianfs@optonline.net or by calling Toll Free: 1-800-332-1880.</p> <p>For complete price information, please <a href="#">click here to view our various cremation packages</a>.</p>
<b>Muslims for Humanity</b>	<p>Offers assistance with funeral costs:  <a href="https://www.icnarelief.org/">https://www.icnarelief.org/</a></p>
<b>National Philoptochos Society (Greek Orthodox)</b>	<p><a href="http://www.philoptochos.org/">http://www.philoptochos.org/</a> (212) 744-4390</p>
<b>NYC Death Certificates</b>	<p><b>NYC Death Certificates</b>  Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person ordering of NYC death certificates is suspended until further notice.  You may order a death certificate online or by mailing a copy of the certificate application.  Website: <a href="https://www.vitalchek.com/death-certificates/new-york/new-york-city-dept-of-health-and-mental-hygiene?click_id=855402888016363522&amp;ppc=0">https://www.vitalchek.com/death-certificates/new-york/new-york-city-dept-of-health-and-mental-hygiene?click_id=855402888016363522&amp;ppc=0</a>  Please Note due to COVID-19 pandemic there are longer wait times for death certificates. More Info can be found here:  <a href="https://www.vitalchek.com/content/What-You-Should-Know">https://www.vitalchek.com/content/What-You-Should-Know</a></p>
<b>NYC Funeral &amp; Burial Guidance during COVID-19</b>	<p>FAQ : <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/get-help/funeral-burial-guidance.page">https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/get-help/funeral-burial-guidance.page</a></p>
<b>Society of St. Vincent de Paul for the Archdiocese of New York (Catholic)</b>	<p>(212) 755-8615 <a href="https://svdpnyc.org/">https://svdpnyc.org/</a>  The Society provides its services to families in need located in Manhattan, the Bronx, and Staten Island.</p>
<b>SSA Lump Sum Death Payment</b>	<p><b>Social Security Lump Sum Death Payment</b>  A surviving spouse or child may receive a special <b>lump-sum death payment</b> of \$255 if they meet certain requirements.  You can apply for benefits by calling the national toll-free service at 1-800-772-1213  Additional Info: <a href="https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-8.html">https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-8.html</a></p>
<b>Susan B. Brown Deputy Public Administrator Queens County - City</b>	<p>88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Rm. 61  Jamaica, NY 11435  (718) 526-5037  (718) 526-5043 Fax</p>

<p><b>of New York</b></p>	<p><a href="mailto:mail@queenscountypa.com">mail@queenscountypa.com</a></p> <p>*The very last resort is a City burial by the office of the Chief Medical Examiner on Hart's Island (aka Potter's Field.) If the individuals have little to no resources and are either Catholic or Jewish, there is the St. Vincent de Paul and the Hebrew Free Burial Society noted below. They will work with the Human Resources Administration's Burial Claims Unit for payment to the funeral home.</p>
<p><b>The Actors Fund Funeral &amp; Burial Assistance</b></p>	<p>ELIGIBILITY: To receive financial assistance toward the cost of a funeral and application, documentation of earnings and cost of the funeral is required. In general, eligibility for financial assistance is based on: A minimum of five years of industry paid employment, with earnings of at least \$6,500 for three out of the last five years, or Twenty years of industry paid employment with a minimum of ten years of earnings of at least \$2,000 for each of those years, and Financial need. Contact Info: 212.221.7300, ext. 119 Email: <a href="mailto:intakeny@actorsfund.org">intakeny@actorsfund.org</a></p>
<p><b>The Jewish Heritage for the Blind</b></p>	<p>(718) 338-4999 Free burial plots for the handicapped. Burial plots are available throughout the United States and abroad.</p>
<p><b>United States Department of Veterans Affairs</b></p>	<p>Veterans Benefits Administration (800) 827-1000 M-F 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m. <a href="http://www.vba.va.gov">www.vba.va.gov</a></p> <p><b>*If the individual (or their spouse) is/was a Veteran and has no family and/or resources, the NYC Dept. of Veterans Services (Ines Adan 212-416-5250.)</b></p> <p>Numerous benefits are available to veterans from any branch of the military who received a discharge other than dishonorable. Among the benefits included are burials at national cemeteries, headstones and markers, monetary assistance, burial flags and bereavement counseling if a loved one has passed away.</p>
<p><b>VOLS Burial Guide Volunteers of Legal Services</b></p>	<p><a href="https://volsprobono.org">https://volsprobono.org</a> *Elderly Project Resources 40 Worth Street, Suite 820 New York, NY 10013-2904 212-966-4400 *Though it has not been updated since April of 2011, it has many resources listed on this sheet and many more.</p>