

# Tri-County Low-Cost Medical Supplies Assistance

Charleston, Dorchester & Berkeley Counties, South Carolina | Updated May 14, 2026

**Use this list for:** wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, bedside commodes, hospital beds, incontinence supplies, diabetic supplies, ostomy supplies, catheters, prescription help and help getting doctor orders for covered equipment. **Always call first.** Inventory, funding and hours change quickly.

**Fastest path:** 1) If the person has Medicaid, call the Medicaid plan and ask for an in-network DME/supply vendor. 2) For donated/borrowed equipment, call AccessAbility, Palmetto H.O.P.E. and SCATP. 3) For prescriptions, diabetic supplies or documentation, call a free clinic or ECCO. 4) If you do not know where to start, call 211.

## Priority Resource List

<b>AccessAbility - Medical Equipment Loan Closet</b>	<b>Area:</b> Tri-county plus Orangeburg/Williamsburg
<b>Contact / Location</b> 7944 Dorchester Rd., Suite 5, North Charleston, SC 29418 843-225-5080   TTY 843-225-0231 info@abilitysc.org	<b>Hours</b> Mon-Fri, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM listed in SC DDSN directory. Call before pickup for inventory and pricing.
<b>What they offer</b> Durable medical equipment, including common assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, Hoyer lifts and related items. Has a free equipment loan path for financial hardship and a low-cost fee-for-service option.	<b>Who may qualify</b> People with disabilities or temporary equipment needs. Free loan program requires a short profile/membership process; no insurance or income verification is described for the hardship loan program.
<b>What to ask</b> “Do you have a wheelchair, walker, shower chair, bedside commode, transfer bench, hospital bed, Hoyer lift, or other DME available through the loan closet?”	
<b>Palmetto H.O.P.E. Foundation - Medical Supply Closet</b>	<b>Area:</b> Tri-county and Midlands
<b>Contact / Location</b> 5900 Core Rd., Suite 104, North Charleston, SC 29406 843-225-5420 hopecloset@palmettohopefoundation.org or info@palmettofamilyhomecare.com	<b>Hours</b> Request/pickup by sign-up or appointment. Public posts list donation hours Tuesday 9-11 AM and Thursday 6-8 PM; call before sending anyone.
<b>What they offer</b> Free medical supplies and equipment when available. Public reporting says they are expanding supplies such as incontinence supplies, hospital beds and wheelchairs. Loan period reported as 4 weeks, with longer loan requests possible.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Elderly residents, disabled adults, caregivers and residents in need. They may require a request form/application and scheduled pickup.
<b>What to ask</b> “Do you have adult briefs/pull-ups, underpads, wipes, gloves, wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, shower chairs, or other supplies available?”	

<b>SC Assistive Technology Program - Equipment Reuse Service</b>		<b>Area:</b> Statewide South Carolina
<b>Contact / Location</b> USC School of Medicine Columbia, Center for Disability Resources 803-935-5273 alli.upchurch@uscmed.sc.edu	<b>Hours</b> Submit the online equipment request form or call/email. Pickup or delivery details vary by availability.	
<b>What they offer</b> Free used assistive technology and durable medical equipment. Donated equipment is cleaned, sanitized and given to individuals who need it.	<b>Who may qualify</b> South Carolina residents needing assistive technology or DME. Inventory is donation-based, so availability changes.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can we submit an equipment reuse request for the specific item needed, and is there a waiting list?”		

<b>SC Medicaid / CLTC - Incontinence Supplies Program</b>		<b>Area:</b> Statewide South Carolina
<b>Contact / Location</b> CLTC Centralized Intake: 888-971-1637 Healthy Connections Medicaid: 888-549-0820	<b>Hours</b> State Medicaid help line commonly operates weekdays; call to confirm. Referrals may also be submitted electronically by providers.	
<b>What they offer</b> Medicaid-covered incontinence supplies for eligible participants. Requires physician certification of incontinence.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Must be at least age 4, have Medicaid, have a doctor who knows about the incontinence, and have seen that doctor within the last year. The doctor must sign the certification.	
<b>What to ask</b> “She has Medicaid and needs adult incontinence supplies. How do we submit the Incontinence Supplies referral and physician certification?”		

<b>Healthy Connections Medicaid + SC Thrive Application Help</b>		<b>Area:</b> Statewide, with local eligibility offices
<b>Contact / Location</b> Healthy Connections: 888-549-0820 SC Thrive: 800-726-8774	<b>Hours</b> Healthy Connections local eligibility offices are listed as Mon-Fri, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM. Medicaid phone support hours can vary.	
<b>What they offer</b> Medicaid can help pay for covered medical equipment, supplies, transportation to medical visits, prescriptions and other care when eligibility and medical necessity are met.	<b>Who may qualify</b> South Carolina residents who meet Medicaid rules based on income, age, disability, pregnancy, household factors and citizenship/immigration status.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can you check if she has full Medicaid, which plan she is on, and which DME or medical supply vendors are in network?”		

<b>East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO) - Medical and Prescription Help</b>		<b>Area:</b> Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties
<b>Contact / Location</b> 1145 Six Mile Rd., Mount Pleasant, SC 29466 Main: 843-849-9220   Medical services: 843-416-7130 medicalservices@eccocharleston.org	<b>Hours</b> Client services: Mon-Wed 10 AM-4 PM, Thu 10 AM-4 PM, Fri by phone 8 AM-noon. Medical clinic: Tue 1-4 PM and Thu 10 AM-1 PM.	
<b>What they offer</b> Primary care for uninsured adults, help with chronic conditions, prescription assistance at reduced or no cost, lab/diagnostic referrals, client navigation and care planning.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Current ECCO clients who are uninsured tri-county residents and meet income guidelines, listed as 250% of the federal poverty guideline or below.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can your medical services or prescription assistance team help with monthly prescriptions, diabetic supplies, or documentation for DME?”		

<b>MUSC CARES Medical Clinic</b>		<b>Area:</b> Charleston area
<b>Contact / Location</b> 1145 Six Mile Rd., Mount Pleasant, SC 29466 843-876-7097	<b>Hours</b> Clinic nights: Mon, Tue and Thu 6-8 PM. Appointment calls: Mon, Tue or Thu 11 AM-2 PM.	
<b>What they offer</b> Free medical care, primary care, patient education, women's health, immunizations, referrals and specialty nights. Can help document medical necessity and refer for labs, imaging or specialty care.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Uninsured adults age 18+; those with active Medicare or Medicaid do not qualify for regular CARES clinic care.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can she be seen for a no-cost visit and get documentation/orders needed for medical supplies or DME?”		

<b>Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic</b>		<b>Area:</b> Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties
<b>Contact / Location</b> 3226 Maybank Hwy., Johns Island, SC 29455 843-266-9800 info@bifmc.org	<b>Hours</b> Patients are seen Mon-Fri, 9 AM-4 PM. Call ahead for same-day appointment possibilities.	
<b>What they offer</b> Free ongoing medical care for uninsured adults, including chronic disease care. Useful for medical documentation, prescriptions, referrals and help connecting to care resources.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Adults who live or work in Charleston, Berkeley or Dorchester counties and do not have health insurance, Medicare or Medicaid.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can you help with a medical visit, prescription needs, and referral/order paperwork for low-cost medical supplies?”		

<b>Shifa Free Clinic / ICNA Relief</b>		<b>Area:</b> Lowcountry / Charleston area
<b>Contact / Location</b> 668 Marina Dr., Suite A-5, Charleston, SC 29492 843-352-4580 shifa.sc@icnarelief.org	<b>Hours</b> Clinic by appointment. Public social listing says Mon-Fri, 9 AM-3 PM; call first.	
<b>What they offer</b> Free comprehensive care including acute, chronic and preventive care, pediatrics, gynecology, prenatal, primary care and vision. Diabetes awareness and hunger-prevention support are also listed.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Uninsured and low-income/under-resourced community members. Call for current intake rules and documentation needed.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can the patient apply for clinic care, diabetes support, vision care, diapers, or help connecting to medical supplies?”		

<b>Palmetto Community Care</b>		<b>Area:</b> Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties
<b>Contact / Location</b> 5064 Rivers Ave., North Charleston, SC 29406 843-747-2273	<b>Hours</b> Agency hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Free HIV/STI testing hours vary by day.	
<b>What they offer</b> HIV/AIDS case management, connection to medical care, financial assistance, nutritional assistance, legal assistance, free condoms/lubricant, HIV/STI testing and PrEP/PEP support.	<b>Who may qualify</b> People living with HIV/AIDS or needing HIV/STI prevention/testing and related support services in the tri-county area.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Can case management help with medical supplies, medication access, transportation, or financial barriers related to HIV care?”		

<b>Palmetto Seating &amp; Mobility - Insurance/DME Route</b>		<b>Area:</b> Charleston/Lowcountry and other SC areas
<b>Contact / Location</b> 7311 Pepperdam Ave., North Charleston, SC 29418 843-927-8358	<b>Hours</b> Website pages list Mon-Fri 8 AM-5 PM; contact page lists Mon-Thu 8 AM-5 PM and Fri 8 AM-noon. Call first.	
<b>What they offer</b> Custom manual and power wheelchairs, seating systems, adaptive strollers, gait trainers, standers, safety beds, car seats, urinary catheter supplies and related special-needs DME. Not a charity, but may help with insurance obstacles and medical supply ordering.	<b>Who may qualify</b> People with prescriptions/orders and insurance/Medicaid or private pay. Best for complex mobility equipment or specialty supplies.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Do you accept her Medicaid/insurance, and what prescription or certificate of medical necessity is needed?”		

<b>Joint Base Charleston Military &amp; Family Readiness Loan Closet</b>		<b>Area:</b> Joint Base Charleston families
<b>Contact / Location</b> 1005 Jefferson Ave., Building 755, Goose Creek, SC 29445 843-794-7480	<b>Hours</b> Call front desk to coordinate item pickup. Related base thrift shops have limited posted hours and require military ID.	
<b>What they offer</b> Loan closet resources for service members, families and loved ones, especially while waiting for household goods. Availability varies by base program.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Military-connected households. Military ID or base eligibility may be required.	
<b>What to ask</b> “Is the family military-connected, and can they borrow a needed item short-term through the loan closet?”		

<b>SC 211 / Trident United Way Resource Navigation</b>		<b>Area:</b> Statewide 211; tri-county navigation through Trident United Way
<b>Contact / Location</b> Dial 2-1-1   Text HELP or AYUDA to 211-211 Trident United Way: 843-740-9000	<b>Hours</b> 211 is available 24/7/365 by phone/text/online. Trident United Way office hours vary by program.	
<b>What they offer</b> Referral line for health and human services, including medical supplies, durable medical equipment, clinics, transportation, food, housing and utility help.	<b>Who may qualify</b> Anyone seeking non-emergency help. Referrals depend on ZIP code, need, income, age/disability status and available programs.	
<b>What to ask</b> “I need medical supplies or durable medical equipment assistance in Charleston, Dorchester or Berkeley County. What programs are open right now?”		

## Special Supply Needs

Need	Where to start
Ostomy supplies	UOAA Information Line: 1-800-826-0826, Mon-Fri 9 AM-3 PM EST. Ask about Greater Charleston Ostomy Association and emergency supply options. Also ask a social worker about Kindred Box or manufacturer assistance such as Convatec Ostomy Access Program.
Diabetes supplies	Start with Medicaid/insurance first. If uninsured, call ECCO, CARES, Shifa, Barrier Islands or 211 for free clinic/prescription assistance. Medicaid plans may cover meters, strips or CGMs when ordered by a provider and prior authorization rules are met.
Catheters, ostomy, incontinence by insurance	Ask the Medicaid plan for an in-network DME/supply vendor. Vendors may need a doctor order, certificate of medical necessity and diagnosis documentation.
Bed, wheelchair, walker, commode, shower chair	Try AccessAbility first, then Palmetto H.O.P.E., then SCATP Equipment Reuse. Inventory is donation-based, so call all three.

## Simple Phone Script

“Hi, I am helping someone in **[county/ZIP]** who needs **[specific supplies/equipment]**. They are **[uninsured / on Medicaid / on SSI / disabled / elderly]**. Do you have this available for free, loan, low cost, or through Medicaid? If not, who should I call next?”

## Documents to Gather

- Photo ID, Social Security card if available, Medicaid/Medicare/private insurance card
- Doctor order, prescription, discharge paperwork, diagnosis list or certificate of medical necessity if required
- Proof of income or SSI/SSDI award letter if applying for charity programs
- Proof of address/ZIP and phone number for follow-up
- Exact size/type needed: brief size, bed size, wheelchair width, walker type, ostomy brand, catheter size, etc.

## Important Notes

- Donation-based closets cannot guarantee inventory. Call more than one place the same day.
- For Medicaid-covered supplies, the doctor order and correct vendor matter. Ask the Medicaid plan for an in-network DME/supply provider.
- If someone is leaving the hospital or rehab, ask the discharge planner/social worker to send referrals before discharge.
- If the person is unsafe without equipment, tell the agency it is a fall risk, discharge barrier or safety issue.
- Hours are publicly listed when available, but small programs often change hours. Call before sending a client or volunteer.

## Source Note

**Sources checked:** AccessAbility medical equipment and loan closet pages; SC DDSN provider directory; Palmetto H.O.P.E./Palmetto Family Homecare pages and public posts; WCSC report, Nov. 17, 2025; SC Assistive Technology Program Equipment Reuse Service; SCDHHS incontinence supplies and Medicaid help pages; ECCO medical services and location/hours pages; MUSC CARES clinic and appointment pages; Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic eligibility/contact/location pages; Shifa Free Clinic/ICNA Relief contact and service pages; Palmetto Community Care contact page; SC 211 / Trident United Way resource pages; Palmetto Seating & Mobility Charleston and contact pages; Military OneSource Joint Base Charleston Loan Closet page; UOAA and manufacturer/program pages for specialized ostomy support