



COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.

OF WESTERN INDIANA

Newsletter

January 2025

Helping People.

Changing Lives.

Since 1966

Celebrating our
59th Anniversary

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Joan E Cline Memorial Scholarship

Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana (CAPWI) is offering a Joan E. Cline Memorial Scholarship to graduating high school students in all of our six-county service area: Benton, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion, and Warren. This scholarship is in memory of Joan E. Cline who was the Executive Director of CAPWI from 1970 until her passing in December of 2004. Through this scholarship, we continue Joan’s work in helping an outstanding young person attain his/her educational and career goals. Preference will be given to low-moderate income families. The recipient will receive \$1,000 for each year the student attends higher education up to a maximum of 4 years.



Visit <https://www.capwi.org/about-us/joan-cline-memorial-scholarship/> for eligibility information and the scholarship application. Completed applications must be received by CAPWI by the close of business on March 3rd.

Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance Program Closed

The Indiana Emergency Rental Assistance (IERA) Program contract has come to a close with CAPWI. We were able to provide rental assistance and counseling services to many in our service area. The portal is still active for those receiving services and individuals needing counseling services at www.indianahousingnow.org. For individuals still needing rental assistance, applications can be completed by calling Indiana 2-1-1. Families focused on meeting life’s basic needs, setting goals in those life areas, and achieving stability in the home as they worked on financial skills that helped them propel forward. The program has provided up to 18 months rental assistance, initial utility assistance, valuable skills for budgeting, and managing finances. Successes in the program have ranged from obtaining a safe, reliable vehicle to obtaining a safe, reliable home. Others were able to pay for health procedures that were put off due to not having additional funds. Families have learned to manage their budgets, use couponing to shop smarter, and some achieved a small savings in case an emergency should arise. A few tenants sought higher education with the goal of increasing their income.

“This program has been beneficial to many in our communities. It has been a pleasure to work with these tenants.”

-Ashley Ellingwood, Section 8 Caseworker

New Program Offering for the Agency

We are excited to have received a Short Term Rapid Re-Housing and Homelessness Prevention grant from IHCD! This one year grant in the amount of \$214,500 will be used to assist eligible families who are either experiencing homelessness or are at imminent risk of homelessness with rental and utility assistance. Along with this housing assistance, families will participate in case management services specifically tailored to reduce the risk of homelessness in the future. Ashley Ellingwood will be overseeing this grant with similar services that were available for IERA clients. She will be working within the communities and schools to locate families that best fit these eligibility criteria. If you know of families with children under 18 who are homeless or near eviction, please feel free to reach out to Ashley at the Montgomery County CAP Office: 765-362-3790.

EXCITING NEWS

Grants Awarded by Local Community Foundations

In collaboration with Covering Kids and Families of Indiana, CAPWI helps uninsured residents in Benton, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion, and Warren counties access healthcare coverage. Our goal is to simplify the enrollment process for obtaining and maintaining coverage, providing support to individuals and families every step of the way. CKF of CAPWI is required to secure a 50% match of its total budget each year, making fundraising critical for the program's continuation. We are extremely grateful to have received the following grant awards:

Parke Community Foundation: \$10,000

Warren Community Foundation: \$2,500

Thank you for these generous grants. Your support is appreciated and allows us to continue educating individuals on the importance of having healthcare coverage as well as helping them with the application and enrollment process.

Providing Safe and Reliable Senior Transportation

Our MAC Van program provides transportation services for elderly and disabled individuals living in Fountain and Warren counties. Transportation services are fundamental to our clients' independence, physical health, and basic needs. Our goal is to help them remain independent and active while ensuring they get to essential appointments. The program aims to increase the amount of riders receiving this free service. Please help us spread the word by sharing our information with clients, friends, and family. Rides can be scheduled by calling 765-793-3000, and additional information can be found on our website: <https://www.capwi.org/services/elder-adults/>.



418 WASHINGTON ST.
PO BOX 188
COVINGTON, IN 47932

PHONE: 765-793-4881
FAX: 765-793-4884

Our Mission
CAP of Western
Indiana empowers
individuals and families
toward self-sufficiency
by addressing
challenges through
comprehensive
services, support, and
education.

Visit our website at
www.capwi.org
for information
about all services
offered by
Community Action
Program, Inc. of
Western Indiana.



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Aging-in-Home One Ramp at a Time

You may remember from last year that the agency received formal approval notification for the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority's Ramp Up grant. With this grant, and in partnership with Servants at Work (SAWS), our incredible team was able to install ramps for several homeowners. Those individuals now have the freedom to safely exit, enter, and age-in-place in their own homes. Here are some pictures of those constructions. For more information, reach out to Terri Poynter: 765-793-4881.



Babies Bloom When Breastfed

Did you know that WIC provides lactation services? We currently have four Certified Lactation Specialist on staff. One of those staff members is Taylor Jackson, who is our breastfeeding peer counselor. She can provide support and be a cheerleader for our breastfeeding moms. She also offers Breastfeeding Classes in all of our five counties. We have access to a WIC IBCLC, who is willing to meet with moms in Benton and Warren counties as well. If you are interested in WIC and/or our breastfeeding services, please visit www.capwi.org for clinic locations, telephone numbers, and hours of operation. For the last quarter (October - December 2024) our breastfeeding initiation rates for all five counties was at 75.3%. We are excited to be able to help moms and families meet their breastfeeding goals.



Employment Opportunities

Full job descriptions for all openings and our online application can be found at: <https://www.capwi.org/about-us/employment-opportunities/>.



Save the Date!!
Indiana School Health Network Conference 2025: June 10 & 11
More info coming soon!