

Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana

www.capwi.org

Quarterly Newsletter

March 2019



Helping People.
Changing Lives.

Our Mission is
that simple!

Inside this Issue:

Section 8 Rental Assistance	2
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	2
Individual Development Account	3
Youth Tobacco Use Report	3
Head Start	4
Mission Statement	4



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Indiana KIDS COUNT @ 2019 Data Book

Published annually by the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI), the Indiana KIDS COUNT® Data Book is designed to be a go-to source for the latest research and information on Indiana youth. It provides an in-depth profile on child well-being across the four key areas of Family and Community, Health, Economic Well-Being, and Education. Here's a look at a few of this year's data highlights:



Child Abuse/Neglect

One out of every 11 Hoosier children (9.2%) have lived with someone who had a problem with alcohol or drugs, slightly higher than the national average of 8.5%. In 2017, parental drug and/or alcohol abuse was the primary cause behind the majority of Indiana Department of Child Services cases in which children were removed from their homes, and this rate continued to rise over previous years.

Education

The number of Hoosier three- and four-year-olds who are enrolled in pre-K fell slightly, and Indiana lags when compared to the national average of enrollees. Meanwhile, on average, Indiana 4th and 8th grade students scored better in math and reading than their peers nationally.

The data also shows that the commitment made by schools, community agencies, and the state to make college and career planning a priority has contributed to a slight increase in the number of Hoosier 12th graders (80.7%) planning to pursue education after high school, whether through a college/university, community college, apprenticeship program, or career-technical college. Students and families are also making plans and preparations for college and career earlier than in previous years.

Suicide

Tragically, Hoosier youth are more likely to consider suicide and engage in suicidal behavior than those in other states. Indiana ranks 2nd out of 34 states in the percentage of students who made a suicide plan and ranks 3rd out of 36 states in the percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide.

For the complete Data Book visit: <https://www.iyi.org/indiana-kids-count-data-book/>

Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana is a community partner of the Indiana Youth Institute (IYI).

Section 8—Rental Assistance Program

Section 8 Program, also known as the Housing Choice Voucher, is a federally-funded program designed to assist low-income families, the elderly, and/or the disabled. The main purpose of the program is to allow these families to afford decent, safe and sanitary housing by issuing a voucher to pay a portion of their rent. A family cannot pay more than 40% of their income out in rent and utilities. The family will be issued a voucher once pulled from the waitlist, which will show the number of bedrooms they are allowed to look for. Tenants are free to choose a home that fits their needs and meets the Section 8 guidelines.

Preference points determine where you will be on the waitlist. Preference points are given for: 1) residency of Indiana, 2) resident in an institutional setting, 3) person at risk of institutionalization, 4) homelessness and/or a victim of domestic violence, 5) elderly, 6) non-elderly disabled family, and/or 7) disabled family member

Wait time is dependent on how many vouchers are available for use. The length of time an applicant is on the waiting list can vary or change without notice to the applicant. Time on the waitlist is approximately 1 to 1.5 years. To be pulled from waitlist, preference points must be verified. We will need the following; 1) copies of birth certificates and social security cards for everyone in the household, 2) photo ID's of anyone who is 18 or older, 3) proof of income from all sources, 4) proof of all banking accounts, 5) criminal background checks on all household members 18 or older, and 5) proof of all assets.

Landlords do not have to accept the program. They must abide by the following rules and regulations as set forth in the contract and any addendums. The unit must be kept in good repair. The rent cannot be raised unless notice is given to the tenant and Community Action Program at least 60 days prior to the anniversary date of the initial lease. Then it must be approved by Community Action Program. We serve Benton, Fountain, Vermillion and Warren counties for Section 8.

For more information about the Section 8, Rental Assistance Program contact Haley Robertson at 765-793-4881 or via email at: hrobertson@capwi.org

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

Community Action will be offering FREE tax preparation again this year for both State and Federal Returns (VITA). To qualify your gross household income cannot be over \$55,000. We are looking for volunteers to do part time tax prep from January 28, 2019 thru April 16, 2019. You will get hands on training. Tax preparation will be offered in 3 ways:

- Make an appointment
- Drop off – which can then be picked up within 3 days working days if not sooner
- Or use of our computer lab to file online yourself, with help from office personnel



Both State and Federal taxes will be filed same day they are completed as long as there are no issues with the return. For example: child claimed on another parent's return, incorrect social security number or date of birth, etc. For more information please contact Alice Young at (765) 793-4881 ext. 105 or by email:

ayoung@capwi.org

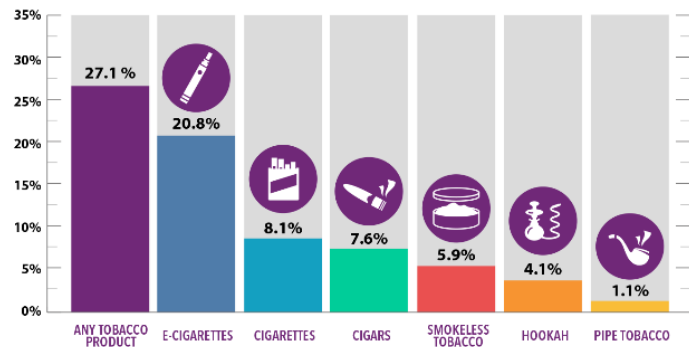
Individual Development Account (IDA)

Our Individual Development Account (IDA) program is a four-year savings plan intended to help families with limited income to develop a budget, set goals, establish savings habits and invest money in an asset. Some of the requirements of the program are that you must be a resident of Indiana, have earned income and are able to put a small amount into the program on a monthly basis. For each dollar saved, up to \$500 a year, the program will match it with three dollars. This means, if you successfully save \$500, then the program will match it with \$1,500, totaling a combined savings of \$2,000 each year. If you complete the three-year program at the current rate of match you would have approximately \$6,000.00 to invest in an asset (start a business, education, homeownership, rehab of current home, or car for use to school or work). For more information about the program and/or to obtain an application, contact Alice Young at 793-4881 or by email at ayoung@capwi.org



Vital Signs Report on Youth Tobacco Use

In 2018 about 4.9 million middle and high school students were current users (used in the past 30 days) of some type of tobacco product, up from 3.6 million in 2017. This increase, driven by a surge in e-cigarette use has erased past progress in reducing youth tobacco product use, according to a new Vital Signs report published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). With the exception of e-cigarettes, no change was found in the use of other tobacco products, including cigarettes, resulting in a net increase in overall tobacco product use during 2017-2018. There were 1.5 million more youth e-cigarette users nationally in 2018 than 2017, and those who were using e-cigarettes were using them more often. Frequent use (defined as more than 20 days in the past 30 days) of e-cigarettes, increased from 20 percent in 2017 to 28 percent in 2018 among current high school e-cigarette users. For the fifth year in a row, e-cigarettes (20.8%) were the most commonly used tobacco product among high schoolers nationally, followed by cigarettes (8.1%), cigars (7.6%), smokeless tobacco (5.9%), hookah (4.1%), and pipe tobacco (1.1%). Among middle schoolers nationally, e-cigarettes (4.9%) were also the most commonly used tobacco product, followed by cigarettes (1.8%), smokeless tobacco (1.8%), cigars (1.6%), hookah (1.2%), and pipe tobacco (0.3%). Many youth tobacco product users are also using multiple products. Among current tobacco users, about 2 in 5 (1.68 million) high school students and 1 in 3 (270,000) middle school students used two or more tobacco products in 2018. The most commonly used tobacco product combination was e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes among both middle and high school students. This Vital Signs report is based on data from the 2011–2018 National Youth Tobacco Surveys analyzed by CDC, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). This annual survey assesses current use of cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, hookah, pipe tobacco, and bidis among a nationally representative sample of middle and high school students. For more information about this report, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/youth-tobacco-use/index.html>



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**OUR PROGRAMS
AND
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THROUGH
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REVITALIZING
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AND HELPING
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SUFFICIENT.**



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NEW CAPWI Mission Statement

To empower communities, families and individuals toward self-sufficiency by removing the causes and conditions of poverty through services, support, and education

Head Start and Early Head Start

Head Start and Early Head Start are accepting applications for the 2019-2020 program year. Head Start is a child and family development program for



income eligible preschoolers (ages 3-5) and their families. Children receive a high quality early education opportunity through participation in either our center-based preschool or our home-based option. All children receive a physical, dental, and numerous other health and developmental screenings to assure that the child is healthy and ready to learn. Transportation is provided to and from the child's home for children enrolled in our center-based program. Home-based children receive 1 1/2 hour home visits in their home each week. Early Head Start offers a home-based option for infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families. Families are visited each week for 1 1/2 hours. These visits focus on working with the parent to help the child to explore, learn, and grow. Home visitors work with the parents to assure that all well-baby checks and immunizations are on track. These families come together two times each month for play groups. In Montgomery County, Early Head Start has a toddler classroom as part of their CAP Kids Child Care. This program offers full-day/full-year child care services for toddlers from 18-36 months. All families are assisted in setting goals and referrals to needed social services to assist them in becoming more self-sufficient. Parent groups and family fun nights are provided to allow for time to spend together as a family and discuss issues and topics that affect parenting and family life. Family incomes must be at or below 100% of the federal poverty level, and children must be age eligible to be considered for enrollment. The program accepts children with disabilities. Head Start and Early Head Start programs are offered through CAPWI in the following Indiana counties: Benton, Boone, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion, and Warren. For more information, please call (765) 793-4881. Online referrals are also available on our website at: <http://www.capwi.org/services/family-life/head-start/>

All services are provided without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, or status as a veteran.