



# COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.

OF WESTERN INDIANA

Quarterly Newsletter

March 2021

Helping People.  
Changing Lives.

Since 1966

Celebrating our  
55th Anniversary  
in 2021!

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## *COVID-19 Relief Assistance, Office Operations, and Customer Satisfaction Survey*

### **Assistance Available**

Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana has funding available to help those affected by COVID-19. Services include assistance with food, mortgage or rent, utilities, mental health co-pays, emergency medical prescriptions or medical attention, transportation issues, weatherization friendly health and safety repairs, healthcare coverage, and child care payments. If an individual has been affected by COVID-19 and has had a loss of income during the public health emergency, they should contact their local CAP office.

Applicants must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Required documentation and counties served vary for each of the relief programs. An application can be completed on our website at <https://www.capwi.org/services/family-life/uwda-covid-19-relief-assistance/>.

You may email [covid19@capwi.org](mailto:covid19@capwi.org) for additional information.

### **Office Operations**

In response to COVID-19, CAPWI offices are open by appointment only. Please call to schedule an appointment:

- **Benton:** 765-385-0623
- **Fountain/Warren:** 765-793-4881
- **Montgomery:** 765-362-3790
- **Parke:** 765-569-4008
- **Vermillion:** 765-832-7771

Visitors are required to wear a mask to enter our facilities. We have drop boxes available outside at each location for individuals to drop off paperwork.

### **Customer Satisfaction Survey**

We want to ensure that every contact individuals have with CAPWI is positive and pleasant. Our Customer Satisfaction Survey is available online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VCSS2021>. Comments and suggestions are appreciated!



**COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.**  
OF WESTERN INDIANA

We are committed to helping you overcome the challenges created by this health crisis.

Have you had a loss of income or employment?  
Are you receiving unemployment?  
Do you need assistance with childcare payments, utility or rental payments, mental health co-pays, or applying for healthcare coverage?  
Are you experiencing food insecurity?

**IF YOU HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY COVID-19, CALL (765) 793-4881 TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE TODAY!**

[www.capwi.org](http://www.capwi.org)

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



Find us on Facebook!



## *Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)*

WIC has been serving clients remotely over the phone since March 2020. Several USDA waivers to help WIC clients have come and gone, but our staff's commitment to them has remained constant. We were able to go back to the offices in October to serve clients in person only to have huge COVID-19 outbreaks in our areas of service in November. WIC has had increasing participation since the beginning of the 2021. The participation rates are as follows: 1,901 in November, 1,952 in December, and 1,978 for January, thus far.



WIC clients and/or potential clients in any county may call the following phone numbers for WIC services:

- 765-762-2427
- 765-267-1120
- 765-505-4329

## *Head Start and Early Head Start*

Head Start and Early Head Start are accepting applications for the 2021-2022 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. 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. Virtual parent groups and family fun nights are provided to allow for time together as a family and to discuss 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 programs also accommodate children with disabilities. Head Start and Early Head Start programs are offered through CAP-WI in the following Indiana counties: Benton, Boone, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion, and Warren. For more information, please call 765-793-4881 or text 765- 585-1234.



Online applications now available on our website at:

<https://www.capwi.org/services/family-life/>

Online referrals are also available on our website at:

<http://www.capwi.org/services/family-life/head-start/>

## *Covering Kids and Families of Indiana (CKF)*

### **Special Enrollment Period for Marketplace**

By a special White House Executive Order, the [Healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) Marketplace was reopened from February 15<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This special enrollment period will allow hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers access to comprehensive healthcare insurance without waiting for later enrollment opportunities. Even better, the majority of Hoosiers that apply will qualify for reduced premium costs that may make a Marketplace plan a very affordable option.

Since 2019, CKF of CAPWI has been helping Hoosiers get and keep healthcare coverage. Our certified Indiana Navigators are a free, expert resource for Hoosiers exploring health insurance options for themselves and their loved ones. CKF Navigators guide, assist, and support consumers every step of the way from application to coverage. We also assist in deciding if a Marketplace plan, Medicaid, the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Hoosier Healthwise, or other option is the best fit for you.

Now, with hundreds of thousands across Indiana experiencing unemployment, loss of income, and the loss of health insurance through their employer, CKF is here to help our Hoosier neighbors through this unprecedented time. Hoosiers need healthcare coverage to get healthy and stay healthy throughout this crisis and beyond.

- Virtual appointments with a certified Indiana Navigator are available statewide.
- CKF offers assistance with a wide variety of coverage options. Not sure what you need or which programs you qualify for? We will help you figure that out. Many Hoosiers' life circumstances have changed, and we will make sure you know what your choices are.
- Appointments with CKF are easy to make. Just visit us at [www.ckfindiana.org](http://www.ckfindiana.org) or call us at 1-888-975-4CKF, and we will get you started on your path to coverage.

Contact Covering Kids and Families today to learn more about how we are helping Hoosiers get covered and stay covered . . . now and into the future. Interested in becoming a part of our efforts? Contact Elaina Smith, Healthcare Navigator, at [esmith@capwi.org](mailto:esmith@capwi.org).



### ***Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)***

Our VITA program is offering FREE State and Federal tax preparation and filing assistance to eligible families and individuals. All returns are prepared and processed by an IRS-certified volunteer by mailing or hand delivering documents to our Central Office in Covington. A list of required documents and forms can be found on our website at <https://www.capwi.org/services/money-management/volunteer-income-tax-assistance/>.



Contact Alice Young at 765-793-4881, ext. 105 or email [ayoung@capwi.org](mailto:ayoung@capwi.org) for additional information and further instructions prior to mailing/dropping off documents. This will help ensure that there are no delays with preparing and/or processing returns.

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PO BOX 188  
COVINGTON, IN 47932

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

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

Visit our website at  
[www.capwi.org](http://www.capwi.org)  
for information  
about all services  
offered by  
Community Action  
Program, Inc. of  
Western Indiana.



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## Community Involvement

### **Benton Community Food and Services Co-Op**

In exchange for a monthly fee or volunteer service, members of the Benton Community Food and Service Co-Op have the ability to shop for their needs. The Co-Op offers many items that are found in local grocery stores: bread, dairy products, pasta, cereal, toiletries, canned fruits and vegetables, and much more. Beyond the products offered, membership provides an opportunity to build relationships. The Co-Op community can be a support system for members, whether needing assistance on a job search, transportation to work, couponing lesson, or a good conversation. The Co-op empowers individuals to be a part of their own journey to self-sufficiency.

In 2020, with the pandemic and regular shoppers, the Benton Community Food and Service Co-Op served 8,169 individuals from January through December 2020. The Co-Op family memberships increased to 775. Through community, private donations, organizations, and businesses the Co-Op brought in \$172,628 in donations and a \$25,000 grant from United Way. The Co-Op is truly blessed with community support!



In the photo is the Co-Op crew that has worked tireless hours keeping the Co-Op operating under these pandemic times.

### **Salvation Army**

Salvation Army is a non-profit organization that assists families in case of emergencies. One of the main projects of Benton County Salvation Army is their annual coat drive. They provide warm winter coats, hats, and gloves to children in need. In 2020, 115 coats were provided to children in the preschool to elementary grades. Along with Salvation Army volunteers, Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana staff and the Benton Community Food and Service Co-op workers help to organize, shop, and distribute the coats. The collaboration of these groups work well to help those children in need. Salvation Army was awarded a \$4,000 grant from the Benton Community Foundation "Cookie Jar" to help purchase coats for the 2021 coat drive. Thanks to the Foundation Cookie Jar, the coat drive can expand the age group of children needing coats in 2021.

Fowler State Bank helped to contribute to the Salvation Army Coat Drive by collecting gently used coats and money to purchase coats.

Pictured is Cindy Eberhardt with Fowler State Bank and Chris Sheetz with CAPWI.



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