



# COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC. OF WESTERN INDIANA

Quarterly Newsletter

March 2023

Helping People.

Changing Lives.

Since 1966

Celebrating our  
57th Anniversary  
in 2023!

#### Inside this Issue:

New Grants & Programs 2

Highland Manor Underwent Community Room Updates 3

Community Involvement & Employment Opportunities 4



*Hello  
March!*

Find us on Facebook!



## *Continuous Medicaid Coverage is Ending*

**Do you or someone you know have Medicaid?** Indiana Medicaid provides health insurance for low-income children, adults, seniors, expectant mothers, and individuals with disabilities. Medicaid covers one in three Hoosiers—more than two million individuals in Indiana. Everyone with Medicaid will need to renew their coverage. This did not happen the last three years for Hoosiers with the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), Hoosier Healthwise, Hoosier Care Connect, Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicare Savings Program, and traditional Medicaid.

Anyone covered by Indiana Medicaid should ensure the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) has their correct address. They can update their information on the benefits portal by visiting <https://fssabenefits.in.gov> or by calling 800-403-0864. It's very important that they open and respond to all mail from FSSA and their health plan (Anthem, CareSource, MDwise, MHS, or United Healthcare).

Healthcare insurance can be confusing, but free, unbiased help is available from Indiana Certified Navigators. CAPWI's Healthcare Navigator, Elaina Smith, serves Benton, Fountain, Montgomery, Parke, Vermillion, and Warren Counties and can be reached at:

Office: 765-793-4881, ext. 135

Cell: 765-761-0727

Toll-Free: 888-975-4253

Email: [esmith@capwi.org](mailto:esmith@capwi.org)

Appointments may be scheduled  
online at [www.ckfindiana.org](http://www.ckfindiana.org).

If out of the service area above, you  
may find a navigator near you at  
<https://in-fssa.force.com/HCNavi/>.



## Time for Your Health Insurance Check Up?



### Health Insurance Checklist:

- ☒ Learn Your Options
- ☒ Know What's Covered
- ☒ Compare Plan Costs
- ☒ Get Signed Up

Get Expert,  
Unbiased Help  
From CKF!



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

888.975.4CKF

## *New Grants & Programs*

### **Fountain/Warren Head Start to Grow Community Garden**

CAPWI's Fountain/Warren Head Start is honored to announce the Rooted Hearts Community Garden in Covington. The garden is part of the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and the National Head Start Association's GroMoreGood Garden Grants initiative, which seeks to connect one million Head Start children across the country to garden education and fresh food.

Fountain/Warren Head Start received a GroMoreGood garden grant to build raised garden beds for planting fruits and vegetables that will be distributed to their enrolled families. Once the project is complete, they will invite families to help them plant and take care of the garden. This will be a special time when families can bond. It will also provide many learning opportunities along the way.

According to Jessica Gaudry, Head Start Center Manager, "We are honored to receive grant support for our garden. We hope it will improve the lives of the Head Start children and families we serve.



"The research is clear: garden-based learning improves educational outcomes, enhances social and emotional learning, and—perhaps most importantly—engages every child's innate wonder and care for the natural world," said NHSA Executive Director Yasmina Vinci. "NHSA is proud of our continuing partnership with to support experiential learning, foster curiosity, and encourage even more Head Start children and their families to learn and play outside!"

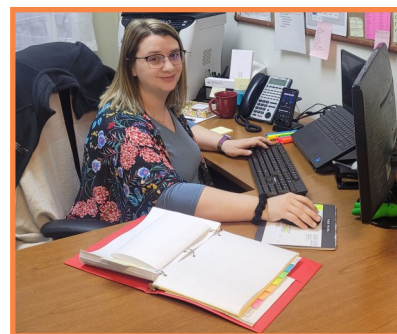
### **Free Lift Program Offered by MAC Van**

MAC Van received a grant and is now involved in the Free Lift Program. Eligible individuals are under the court's supervision with an assigned probation officer. The program covers the Fountain and Warren County areas and was designed to provide transportation to individuals to court appointed appointments, classes, visitation, etc. at no cost to them. "I see how in need they are, and I am so glad I get to participate and help them. It is very rewarding to help someone who is in dire need," said Tammy Nickle, MAC Van Coordinator.

### **The Family Development Program**

The Family Development Program is a new program that focuses on housing stability and is available to any Indiana renter. The program provides support and resources to actively move families towards their vision of housing stability and self-sufficiency. Families will complete an intake assessment with their family development case worker and will be scored on a matrix that covers 12 life areas. The goal of the program is to improve the family's matrix scores on as many life areas as possible and improve their housing stability. The families are encouraged to set and achieve short-term and long-term goals while also meeting with their case worker once a month to track their progress. Counties we serve include: Benton, Fountain, Warren, Vermillion, Parke, and Montgomery Counties.

If you have any clients that you feel would benefit from this program, please reach out to Ashley Ellingwood at [aelingwood@capwi.org](mailto:aelingwood@capwi.org) or call 765-793-4881, ext. 109.



## *Highland Manor Underwent Community Room Updates*

Our Highland Manor Senior Units underwent some exciting updates to its community room. Angela Golia, CAPWI Property Manager, filled us in on how the idea came about:

“I came up with the idea while trying to think of new ways to bring our Highland Tenants together and give them some incentive to get out of their apartments. Most of our Tenants at that property do not have a lot of family or visitors, so I feel it is important to help foster a community mindset there.

During my several visits to the property, I noticed that their library/social space was in dire need of an update and cleanout. I put an email out to all CAPWI staff asking for donations of their gently used books, puzzles, and games. I received several boxes full of books! I spent an afternoon there moving furniture, clearing out old books, and trying to make the space more functional for our Tenants. I also created a puzzle, game, and adult coloring area in the room. While I was there, I had a few Tenants stop in to chat with me and express their appreciation. It was very rewarding to know that my little gesture would possibly bring some joy to them.

My plan there is ongoing. I will be removing the old microwave and replacing it with a donated one. I am also accepting donations of home décor to brighten and freshen the space. Robin and I are reaching out regarding classes or programs that the Tenants would be interested in, as well as possible transportation options.”





418 WASHINGTON ST.  
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.



Find us on Facebook!



## Community Involvement & Employment Opportunities

### Benton Community Food and Service Co-Op

The Co-Op recently hosted a Chili Cook-Off event to raise funds for their cause and help pay for winter coats for their winter coat drive in October. A crowd of over 100 participants attended and were able to taste 13 different kinds of delicious chili.

Aimee Green, organizer of the Chili Cook-Off, presented a check to Chris Sheetz, CAPWI's Benton County Community Services Representative, and Judy Platt in the amount of \$9388. Of that, "\$4500 will go toward purchasing coats and the remaining will purchase food," said Chris Sheetz.



Gick Farms was presented as the winner of the "Best Chili." Congratulations!

### Join Our Team!

CAPWI has the following employment opportunities available:

- Receptionist for our Central Office in Covington
- Breastfeeding Peer Counselor for our Benton and Warren WIC Clinics
- Competent Professional Authority (CPA) for our Vermillion County WIC Clinic
- Bus Driver for our Head Start Centers in Lebanon (Boone) and Covington (Fountain/Warren)

Full job descriptions for each opening can be found at:

<https://www.capwi.org/about-us/employment-opportunities/>.

Our online application for employment can be found at:

<https://www.capwi.org/application-for-employment/>.

CAPWI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



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