



COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.

OF WESTERN INDIANA

Quarterly Newsletter

September 2023

Helping People.

Changing Lives.

Since 1966

Celebrating our
57th Anniversary
in 2023!

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Grants Received & Updates

Social Impact Partnership Program Received

For the third year in a row, Covering Kids and Families (CKF) of CAPWI has been awarded funding from the Franciscan Health Social Impact Partnership Program (SIPP). SIPP focuses on improving the health and well-being of those most vulnerable in the community. CKF's mission is to facilitate and advocate accessible and equitable health for all Hoosiers with a primary focus on healthcare coverage and children's development. Our CKF program is part of a statewide network of agencies that help individuals, children, and families enroll in and retain healthcare coverage. We also educate the general public about the importance of healthcare coverage, provide helpful information and resources, connect and refer individuals and families to services and programs offered by CAPWI and other community agencies, and build partnerships and collaborations.



Franciscan
HEALTH

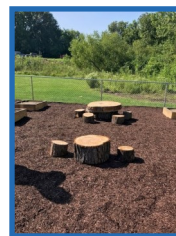
We are very thankful for our partnership with Franciscan Health SIPP and are looking forward to working together to empower individuals and families to manage their health and well-being. Thank you, Franciscan Health!

If you would like more information on partnering and collaborating with CKF, please visit www.ckfindiana.org or email jpettit@capwi.org.

Rooted Hearts Community Garden Update

At the beginning of the year, CAPWI's Fountain/Warren Head Start program received a GroMoreGood Garden Grant to build raised garden beds for planting fruits and vegetables to be distributed to their enrolled families.

This project has been a labor of love. With the help of the Purdue Extension office, Head Start families, and staff, they were able to make nine raised beds, weeded, put down mulch, and logged tables and stools that added just the right touch. Staff and children are planning and looking forward to planting in the spring.



TALKS Kicks Off the School Year

TALKS mentoring started off the 2023-2024 school year with another kick-off event graciously hosted by Twin Lakes Camp and Conference Center on September 28. Over 30 children, mentors, and camp counselors were able to enjoy a gorgeous fall day, while playing outdoor team building games. A crowd favorite was the ball toss: a team building game involving numerous sized beach balls that the children were in charge of keeping from hitting the ground. We also had time for our mentors and students to get their contracts signed to establish an expectation of “conducting the business of learning wisdom.”



TALKS is an acronym for Transferring A Little Knowledge Systematically. TALKS is a systematic approach to sharing critical knowledge with young people and consists of three strategic elements: minimal time commitment, a triadic model, and content-based curriculum. Mentors and students meet in a school setting for no more than 30 minutes once per week throughout the school year. There are never any weekends or evening times. The specific day of the week is determined by the school and availability of the mentor. Mentoring at this level requires minimal investment of the mentor's time and engages young people who are receptive and appreciative of their efforts. This purposefully limits the amount of time the mentor and students meet and regulates the kind of interaction that takes place. Mentors begin their journey with grade school students and follow them through each grade. Thirty minutes per week can have a tremendous influence on young people.

The TALKS triadic model is one mentor and three students. This creates a dynamic group that can discourage manipulation and unhealthy bonding. It also creates a positive and structured environment for the mentor and students.

The content-based curriculum is designed to help adults communicate effectively with the students in regards to relevant issues. Some examples of the curriculum include: self-discipline, the power of a positive attitude, and things you can't change.

Our TALKS program seeks to make children keenly aware of three important things:

- ♥ Influence and outcomes
- ♥ Decisions and consequences
- ♥ Direction and destination



After a shutdown of the program during the public health emergency, this is Elaina Smith's second year as coordinator of the program. In order to continue to grow the program, she is actively seeking more mentors for Covington Elementary School and Southeast Fountain Elementary. All mentors must complete an application and be subjected to a background check prior to entrance to the school or any off-campus events. If you, or anyone you know would like to join our team of mentors, please contact Elaina Smith at 765-793-4881, ext. 135 or email esmith@capwi.org.

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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
for information
about all services
offered by
Community Action
Program, Inc. of
Western Indiana.



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WIC Vendor Training, Community Involvement, & Employment Opportunities

WIC Vendor Training

We are so thankful for our local grocery stores that accept WIC benefits. From October 2022 through July 2023, the Indiana WIC Program served approximately 142,000 individuals per month across the state. During this period, Indiana WIC clients redeemed approximately \$115 million in food and formula from 589 stores through the Indiana WIC Program's retail food delivery system. Every September, local vendors attend local WIC Vendor Trainings throughout the state. Melody Jones and Kristy Frier provided this training locally. Thank you for all you do for our clients.



Community Involvement

CAPWI has had a great time getting out and about within the community, meeting new partners, and helping individuals across our six-county service area. You may have seen us at: Dan Patch Days, Crawfordsville Community Baby Shower, National Night Out, and the Volunteer & Student Organization Fair.



Keep a look out for us! There's more to come, and we're sharing a lot of program information, resources, and community referrals. If you have any events you'd like us to attend, email Robin Curry at rcurry@capwi.org or Julie Pettit at jpettit@capwi.org.

Employment Opportunities

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

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.