

May 2020

Dream Big!

A Publication of Oshkosh/
Winnebago County
Housing Authority's
Family Self Sufficiency Program



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Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54903
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Dear FSS participants,

I don't know about you but this COVID time has been a time to reflect. How do I want to make my life better? What am I doing that is not working for me? What am I **not** doing that I have always wanted to do? Why do I make sure everyone's needs are met but my own? What would I have done before if I knew this was coming? Why do I color my hair? I am getting more sleep, trying new recipes, taking vitamins, dressing more comfortably (sweats), taking time outside to look at nature, and connecting with family in ways I never thought could be done. I am not called a hero by putting my life in danger fighting this virus. But I do know that I will be a changed person and, hopefully, a better person. I hope I appreciate people more, find more comfort in myself, worry less, take care of myself physically, create more, travel more, learn more, and make some changes in my life that give me a good balance of work and play. I hope the same for you. Stay well this May and see you when this blows over!

If you need to report changes in income and assets, please scan or take a picture of the verification and submit it by email at Kayh@ohawcha.org or drop it in the drop boxes outside our offices at 265 Kaukauna St, Menasha or 600 Merritt Ave, Oshkosh.

Congratulations to Andrea who is our newest FSS graduate!

Andrea has found full time employment with Adventures in Advertising (AIA). She has worked hard to better herself and her family while on the FSS program. She ran her credit report, tracked her spending, made a budget, met with FISC for financial management, maintained her budget for 3 months, completed all but one class of her degree, completed her internship at Winnebago County Housing Authority, updated her resume and found full time employment with AIA. She graduates with \$3,189.77 in her FSS escrow account. Please join me in congratulating her on her achievement!

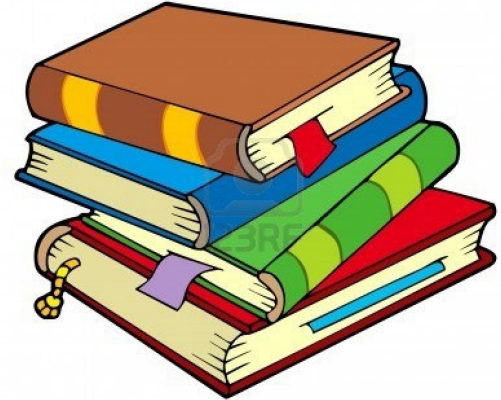
Please read the rest of this newsletter with educational, employment and community opportunities. If you have a question on whether some event is still moving forward, please call the phone number of the event sponsor. I wish you and your family good health and safety. Let's continue to strive to meet your goals and strengthen your self sufficiency. And as always, please let me know how I can help you by calling me at 920-424-1470 ext. 133.

Your success is my success.

Stay well!
Kay Hinton FSS Coordinator



The OSHKOSH LIBRARY OFFERS CURBSIDE PICKUP BY APPOINTMENT: Beginning Friday, April 24, the library will offer contactless, curbside pickup by appointment only. Due dates on all items have been extended to June 1. Staff cannot accept in-person returns. Please return materials to the Mount Vernon Street book drop.



Curbside Pickup

- ◎ Place your holds. You can call 236-5205 to request materials (limit 5 items to keep phone calls short), or place holds through the library's catalog (standard limit of 50). Phones will be staffed during regular business hours.
- ◎ Schedule a time for pickup. When you receive a call that your items are ready, schedule an appointment for pickup.
- ◎ Follow the signs. Drive to your assigned pickup stall and call the number on the sign to let us know you have arrived. Alternate arrangements will be made for people who walk or bike to the library, and for those who don't have a mobile phone.
- ◎ Collect your items. A cart with your checked-out materials will be brought out by a staff member and placed in front of your stall. You also have the option of opening your trunk for items to be placed inside. Please maintain proper social distancing when leaving your vehicle to retrieve your items.

Once books are returned, they will be quarantined for at least three days.

Holds that were filled before the Safer at Home Order will be the first to be available

**Happy
Memorial
Day**



Personal enrichment. Career development. We've got it!

While things are looking a bit different this year, Fox Valley Technical College is still here for you: Community registration for summer and fall 2020 classes starts Monday, April 27.

The coming months are uncertain in terms of social distancing requirements due to COVID-19. While this makes planning classes complicated, we're up to the challenge. As a result, most of our summer 2020 class options are being offered in an online format and will be updated frequently on our website with new options. For this reason, the Summer/Fall Take a Class booklet will not be printed and distributed this year.

We encourage you to check out the many classes that are available this summer and fall - explore opportunities for a new career, get ready for college or maybe learn a new skill.

Online registration for Summer & Fall 2020 classes begins Monday, April 27.

Emotional CPR Listener Warm line

LEAVEN Fox Cites has been training volunteers to Emotional CPR over the past few years. In light of the current state, they are mobilizing their network to provide emotional support.

If you are feeling alone or afraid or just want to connect with another human being, our Emotional CPR Warmline is now LIVE!

We are not clinicians but every day people who want to listen to what you are going through.

Please give us a call at 920-931-2572.





Wisconsin Works

SUPPORTING
JOB-SEEKING
PARENTS



Having a great career is an important part of being a strong parent, but there's a lot more. Our caring team is here to provide you with one-on-one support through it all.

- map a path to your dream
- find reliable transportation
- train for a bright future
- build your network
- secure childcare
- be the best parent possible

✓ I love my children. ✓ I live in Wisconsin. ✓ I want to take care of my family.
AND/OR ✓ I am an at-risk pregnancy. ✓ I am taking care of an infant.

CALL 1-855-733-1311 TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY.

Wisconsin Works Eligibility
1-855-733-1311

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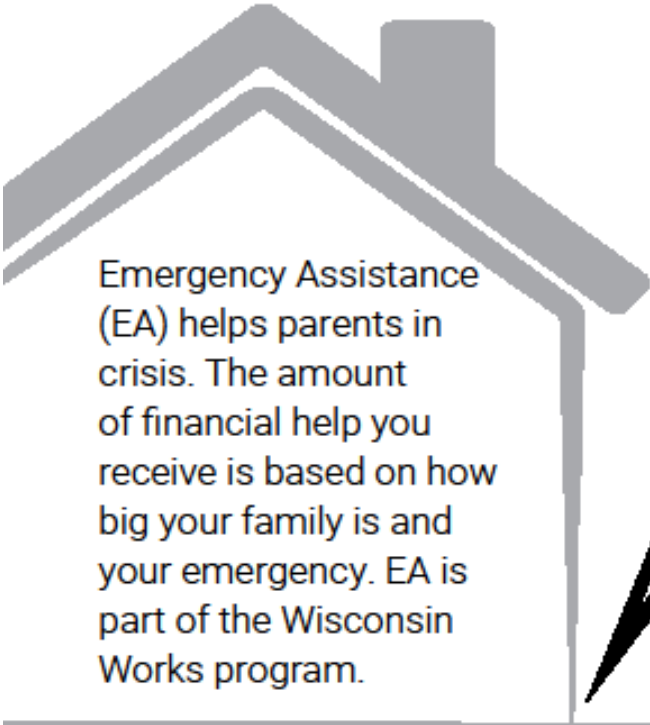
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Emergency Assistance



Emergency Assistance (EA) helps parents in crisis. The amount of financial help you receive is based on how big your family is and your emergency. EA is part of the Wisconsin Works program.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR EA IF:

- Your family includes at least one adult and one minor child.
- You are a low-income family.
- You have not gotten EA within the last 12 months.
- You are behind on rent or utilities, are homeless, or have received an eviction notice.

\$ ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED | CALL 1-800-771-8420

 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420	 Emergency Assistance 1-800-771-8420
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COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Did you lose your job and need health insurance?

- ☐ Learn about all your options
- ☐ Make an appointment with a health insurance expert at www.coveringwi.org/enroll

BadgerCare Plus

Also called State of Wisconsin Medicaid and ForwardHealth.

This program is for lower-income adults, parents, and children.
You can sign up for BadgerCare Plus at any time.



Adults



Parents



Children



Go to www.access.wi.gov
to see if you qualify

Healthcare.gov

Also called the Marketplace, Affordable Care Act, and Obamacare.

Almost everyone can get a Healthcare.gov plan, but financial help is based on income.

You can sign up within 60 days of:

- Losing your health insurance
- Moving to a new county
- Change in household size
- Citizenship or lawful presence in the U.S.
- Release from incarceration or jail



Go to www.healthcare.gov
to see what you qualify for

COBRA

When you lose health insurance from your job, you may be offered a COBRA plan. You will pay the full monthly cost of insurance. Before you choose COBRA, you should consider other insurance options.

Get Free Help from an Expert

A health insurance expert will help you understand your options and enroll in a plan.

To make an appointment:

- Go to www.coveringwi.org/enroll
- Call 608-261-1455

Look out for scams! There are a lot of COVID-19 health insurance scams.
Work with a licensed expert and ask questions.

covering
Wisconsin
Connect to Care, Engage in Health
www.coveringwi.org



Have you been laid off or
lost wages due to the
Coronavirus outbreak?

Did you know? You may be eligible for different
health insurance options.

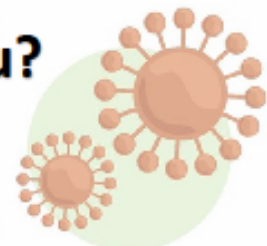
If you (or someone in your
household) have lost a job or
are working less, you may
qualify for **BadgerCare Plus**.



HealthCare.gov

If you recently lost health
insurance through a job, you
can sign up for Marketplace
health insurance.

Which option is best for you?
We can help!



Call **920-882-6420** or United Way's **2-1-1** for free assistance





Unsure of Your Career Path?

Attend a **VIRTUAL** Career Development Workshop
and create a plan to achieve your career goals!

Assess your skills, values, and interests while learning how they relate to different career paths. Explore occupations, job outlook information, and educational programs. Each workshop is FREE, and scheduled for a total of six hours. Individual appointments with a career counselor are included as part of each workshop.

Upcoming virtual workshops:

Day	Workshop Dates	Time	Class #
Wednesday	April 15, 22, 29	10 AM–12 PM	96155
Monday	April 20, 27 May 4	2–4 PM	96156
Thursday	April 30 May 7, 14	12–2 PM	96157
*Flexible	*May 1–31	*Self-Paced	*96158
<i>*Students may complete the workshop at their own pace. Class opens on May 1. All work must be completed by May 31.</i>			

To register for a workshop, call 920-735-5645.



Oshkosh Housing Authority Winnebago County Housing Authority

600 Merritt Avenue
P.O. Box 397, Oshkosh, WI 54903-0397
(920) 424-1450 • Fax (920) 424-1474
www.ohawcha.org • www.winnebagohomebuyer.org



Date: April 22, 2020

To: Landlords participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program

From: Susan van Houwelingen, Executive Director

Subject: COVID-19 and HCV Landlords

On March 27, 2020, the President signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) into law. The federal CARES Act affects most federal Housing programs. They include but are not limited to the following:

- Section 42 - the low-income housing tax credit program
- Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Public Housing
- Project-based Section 8

An eviction moratorium prevents owners of the covered properties from filing new evictions actions for nonpayment of rent and prohibits "charging fees, penalties or other charges to the tenant related to such nonpayment of rent" from March 27, 2020 to July 24, 2020 (the 120-day moratorium period).

Please note that late fees, etc. are not permitted from March 27, 2020 to July 24, 2020.

The federal moratorium also provides that an owner of a covered property may not evict a tenant after the moratorium expires except on 30 days' notice, which may not be given until after the moratorium period ends.

However, the federal eviction moratorium does not affect cases:

- That were filed before the moratorium took effect or that are filed after it sunsets;
- That involve non-covered tenancies; or
- Where the eviction is based on another reason besides nonpayment of rent or nonpayment of other fees or charges.

If a voucher holder is not paying their rent, please notify the Housing Authority. If necessary, the Housing Authority can do an interim re-calculation of income which changes to the participant's portion of the rent. For April 1st the Housing Authority processed over 20 interim income changes for participants in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (920) 424-1470 extension 112.



Back to School Fair Referrals Available

As the school year is winding down, community partners are organizing resources for the 2020-2021 Back to School Fair. The BTSF is August 13, 2020. To determine the quantity of school supplies, hygiene products, and clothing needed, the Oshkosh Community and Neenah/Menasha Back to School Fairs are looking for referrals to be completed and returned as soon as possible.

Please submit a request in writing for assistance with school supplies and include the following questions answered:

Parent Name
Address
Phone number
Cell phone number
Email Address
Children's Names
Genders
Grade 2020-2021 school year
Name of school attending
Clothing and shoe sizes



Upon receipt of this information, the Housing Authority will complete a referral sheet and contact you with follow up questions that you may need to answer about your household.

Please submit your written requests with information about each child you are requesting assistance for by:

Friday, July 3rd, 2020

Referrals are limited by first come, first serve so please submit your request as early as you're able.

If you have any other questions regarding the Back to School Fair,
please contact Kay at (920) 424-1450, ext. 133.

Pandemic Bingo

BINGO

Post a photo or video of you doing one of these activities using **#keeponwi**

PLAYING
ON
KEEP

Ordered takeout or delivery from a local restaurant.	Chalked encouraging messages on your sidewalk or driveway.	Displaying a Keep On sign in your window.	Did something nice for a neighbor.	Hosted a virtual dinner with family or friends.
Ate cheese at all three meals in single day.	Thanked a grocery store worker.	Cleaned out a junk drawer.	Took a virtual tour of a famous museum or art gallery.	Did the Jump Around.
Grilled brats.	Donated to a local food pantry.	Keep On Staying Home	Livestreamed a concert.	Completed a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle.
Sent an encouraging note to a healthcare worker.	Tried meditating.	Watched a pre-recorded Packers, Bucks, Brewers or Badgers game.	Called a former classmate or colleague you haven't spoken to in a while.	Thanked a teacher.
Watched a zoo cam.	Attempted an art project.	Worked or attended online school in your pajamas.	Ordered a gift certificate from a local business.	Learned a TikTok dance.

COVID-19 Update: Children Who Receive Free or Reduced Price Meals Through Their School Will Receive Food Benefits

Background

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services, has approved Wisconsin's request to issue Pandemic EBT or P-EBT benefits. These benefits will ensure children who normally receive free or reduced price meals through their school continue to have access to nutritious meals while schools are closed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. A [detailed list of food that can be bought with these benefits](#) is available on the Food and Nutrition Services website.

Benefit Availability

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is working with the Department of Children and Families and Department of Public Instruction to issue these benefits based on information on file for children receiving free and reduced price meals. Benefits will be issued in a phased approach, and, if information is not available through existing data, parents or guardians will be able to apply for the benefits through a streamlined application process:

Enrollment Status	Benefit Availability	Benefit Distribution
People enrolled in FoodShare	- March and April: April 27 - May and June: End of May	Existing QUEST card
People not enrolled in FoodShare but enrolled in other public benefit programs	- March and April: May 10 - May and June: End of May	Existing QUEST card or P-EBT card
People whose information is not available through existing data	Can apply for benefits in early May	P-EBT card

Benefit Amounts

The benefit amount for March and April combined is \$176.70 per child who receives free or reduced priced meals. For May and June combined, the benefit amount is \$148.20 per child who receives free or reduced priced meals. The benefits must be used within one year of being issued.

Day by Day Warming Shelter is opening at 9am on Monday, May 4th, 2020, for emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness and with no other housing options.

Here are some details:

Our capacity will still be 25 individuals.

We will be providing emergency shelter for 24/7 from 9am Monday 5/4/2020 through to 8am on Monday 6/1/2020.

Guests of the shelter have to be 18 years or older in order to stay.

Guests may stay at the shelter no matter their criminal backgrounds, mental health conditions, and may be under the influence of drugs and alcohol as long as they can care for themselves, be independent, and abide by shelter rules.

Guests will be required to have their temperature checked before being checked into shelter. Any guest who arrives with a temperature or displays any other COVID-19 symptoms will be instructed to wait outside in the entrance and DBD is working with another agency for transportation to one of the local hospitals. Any individuals who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have tested positive for COVID-19 will NOT be allowed to stay for shelter, and will need to provide a negative test result in order to receive shelter services.

Guests who do not comply with their temperatures being taken will not be allowed to stay at DBD. Guests will also be asked to follow social distancing measures put into place, follow proper hand hygiene, and will be asked to wear a mask.

If you are aware of any individuals your agency may be serving that are experiencing homelessness and meet our requirements. Please send them over to Day by Day on Monday, May 5th, 2020, at 9am. They can also call the shelter (920-203-4865) tomorrow or Thursday between the hours of 9am-5pm, someone will be available to answer their questions.



Skills to Succeed Academy

The Skills to Succeed Academy is a free, online learning program focused on building your skills and confidence so you can make career choices, find a job and keep it.

The program consists of three courses and 36 modules — about 15 to 30 minutes each — that use role-based simulations, videos, quizzes and other interactive exercises to help individuals try out real-life work scenarios such as a job interview or first day of work and experience the consequences of on-the-job decisions.

Training is personalized and can be taught in a classroom, online only or a combination of both.

Training Courses

You and Your Career

Learn how to make informed career choices

- Explore career options
- Consider personal skills and interests
- Do your research
- Develop an action plan to get started

Getting a Job

Learn how to prepare for and find a job

- Identify your unique skills
- Create a tailored resume
- Research and apply for the right jobs
- Prepare for a successful interview

Success in Work

Learn how to prepare for a new job and grow into a career

- Learn key tips for success
- Clarify job expectations
- Set goals and have the right attitude
- Stay motivated and continue growing





Getting Started

Pre-assessment

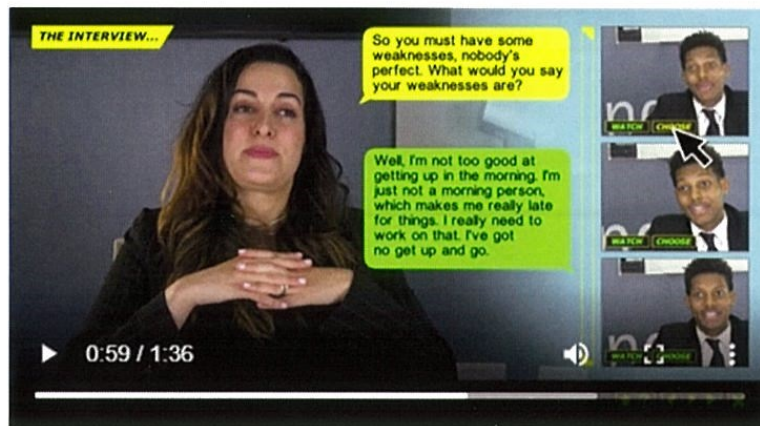
A quick, online pre-assessment creates a personalized learning plan based on your individual needs.

Learning Recommendations

After completing the pre-assessment, you will receive a list of recommended learning modules to help you on your journey.

Personalized Training

Next, get started on the recommended learning modules, which are highly interactive and offer actionable information as well as real-life scenarios to help you succeed.



Skills to Succeed Academy

920-213-0547



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM

Goodwill Industries of North Central Wisconsin
1800 Appleton Road, Menasha, WI 54952
www.goodwillncw.org



WHAT IS COVID-19?

AND HOW DOES IT RELATE TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT?

Doctors first discovered coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) at the end of 2019. It is an illness related to the lungs. It's caused by a virus that can spread quickly from person to person and can be picked up from surfaces. In some people, it can be severe, leading to pneumonia or even death. Since COVID-19 is new, there is no cure or vaccine for it at this time.

Source: [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/coronavirus.html)

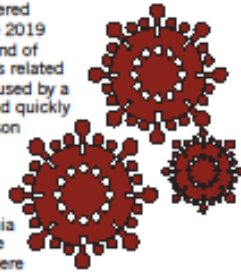


Illustration of coronavirus, magnified



Children can't go to school or daycare. Families may lose pay because adults can't go to work. These changes can be very stressful. That's why it's important to learn how stress can affect us. We can also learn what we can do about it.

Because the virus spreads so quickly, many places have banned large groups of people. Schools, houses of worship, and workplaces are closed.

PROTECTING AGAINST INFECTION AND TOXIC STRESS

Losing a job would be stressful normally. So would having to homeschool at the drop of a hat. But these things are even more stressful when there's a dangerous virus in the world. It's important for all of us to stay away from others physically. This will help keep the virus from spreading in our communities. But it's also very important to stay connected to people we care about. This is true for children and adults.



Video chatting with a friend or loved one is a good example. Or saying 'hello' to a neighbor who's more than six feet away. These connections can make the stress feel easier to bear.



Taking a minute to close your eyes and breathe in and out can also help. That's because slow breathing tells your body's stress system to ease up a bit. This can help you respond better at even the most difficult times.

When we as adults feel better, it can help us connect better with the children we care for. This connection can help protect all of us, adults and kids, from the effects of stress. It also supports kids' healthy growth.



SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH THE CRISIS, AND BEYOND

A worldwide virus is a stressful time for everyone. But the stress gets worse for those who were already dealing with things like poverty, racism, or violence. There are still resources that can help in these challenging times: crisis hotlines, food banks, and relief funds. There is no shame in seeking help if you need it.



We all want to build up the long-term wellbeing of children and families in our communities. That's why we as a society need to support responsive caregiving everywhere. This includes caregiving in homes, schools, and childcare centers. Together, this will allow us to weather whatever storms we come up against, now or in the future.

Center on the Developing Child | HARVARD UNIVERSITY
For more information: <https://developingchild.harvard.edu/covid19>