

April 2021

Dream Big!

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



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- WERA Rental Assistance
 - More Stuff!
- Drive Thru Job Fair

Dear FSS participants and Community Members,

Don't be a housing fool! You're invited to join our Family Self Sufficiency program. The FSS program has expanded and can now assist residents in the Oshkosh and Winnebago County Scattered site units along with the Housing Choice voucher (Section 8) program. If you know anyone who is living in our Family scattered sites in Winnebago County, please let them know about the FSS program!

FSS has immediate openings! **\$25 Kwik trip gas cards** are available for those that enroll by May 1, 2021.



While you are waiting for warmer weather, check out these cool events in the area:

Oshkosh Habitat for Humanity will be looking to approve families for a Habitat build. A Habitat pre-application will be available on their website starting April 15, 2021. See page 13 for more information.

Free Tax Preparation is available. Please check out page 11 in this newsletter for more details. What will you do with your income tax refund?

I am excited to attend the **Wise Wisconsin Spring Series** about decluttering, compassion, family history and gardening for life. See page 7 for more Information and to register. We are never too old to learn new tricks.

Please read the rest of this newsletter with educational, employment and community opportunities. I wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy April! 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 or emailing me at kayh@ohawcha.org. **Your success is my success.**

Warm Regards,

Kay Hinton

FSS Coordinator





Drive-thru MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Hosted By:



Dates: Wednesdays 3/3-3/24 and 4/7-4/28

Time: 5-7 pm (do not arrive before 4)

**Location: Oshkosh West High School
375 N Eagle Street, Oshkosh Wi.**

How it Works:

- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
- Do not exit your vehicle at any time.
- Follow directions of posted signs.
- Have room in your vehicle's trunk or backseat to accommodate box of food.
- Please wait patiently while others are served.

Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin has partnered with the USDA to distribute healthy food directly to high-need areas, free of charge.

* Quantities are limited and will be given away on a first come, first served basis.

* Limit ONE box per vehicle unless picking up on behalf of a homebound individual.

Each party accepting a box is certifying that they are food insecure, lack money or other resources, and are in need of the Farmers to Families Food Boxes for their household use.

Teen Summer Program



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF OSHKOSH



TEEN SUMMER PROGRAMMING

June 7 - August 20, 2021

Register at the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh

Cost: \$10/wk. per Teen (\$25 annual membership fee required)

Hours: Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

- **Ages: 13 - 18**
- **Tuesdays & Thursdays teens will walk to the Downtown YMCA or be bussed to the 20th Ave. YMCA for programming**
- **Field trips on Fridays!**
- **Includes: breakfast, lunch, and snack**
- **Max enrollment: 50 teens**

**Questions: Contact Liz Karlovich, Teen Center Director
920.233.1414 ext. 112 or elizabethk@bgcosh.org**

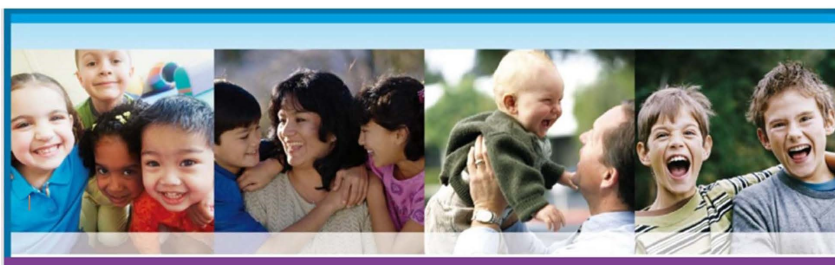


<https://winnebago.extension.wisc.edu/hdr/> • amanda.dornfeld@wisc.edu • 920-232-1973

New Parenting Programs now available, provided FREE by Extension Winnebago County.
"Triple P: Positive Parenting Program" and "The Parent Connect"

Participate from the comfort of your own home on ZOOM.
Attend one or multiple seminars/discussions.

Dates, program and registration information below



Sign Up Today!

The Power of Positive Parenting Friday March 12, 12:00-1:00pm Register: https://go.wisc.edu/fkf9r2 OR Thursday, April 8, 6:30-8:00pm Register: https://forms.gle/Ah4apENR1PfZNfNe7	This seminar introduces the five core principles of positive parenting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • having a safe, interesting environment • having a positive learning environment • using assertive discipline • having realistic expectations, and • taking care of yourself as a parent/caregiver.
Raising Confident, Competent Children Friday March 19, 12:00-1:00pm Register: https://go.wisc.edu/fkf9r2 OR Thursday, April 15, 6:30-8:00pm Register: https://forms.gle/Ah4apENR1PfZNfNe7	This seminar builds on the foundation seminar and shows parents how to teach children important values and skills, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encouraging respect and cooperation • being independent • developing health self-esteem, and • becoming good problem solvers.
Raising Resilient Children Friday March 26, 12:00-1:00pm Register: https://go.wisc.edu/fkf9r2 OR Thursday, April 22, 6:30-8:00pm Register: https://forms.gle/Ah4apENR1PfZNfNe7	This seminar focuses on helping children learn emotional-regulation skills and shows parents how to teach their children about feelings, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognizing and accepting feelings • expressing their feelings appropriately • building positive feelings • dealing with negative feelings • developing coping skills, and • dealing with upsetting or stressful life events.
Dealing with Disobedience Friday, April 16, 12:00- 1:00pm Register: https://go.wisc.edu/fkf9r2	Discussion Group
Bedtime Routines Friday, April 23, 12:00-1:00pm Register: https://go.wisc.edu/fkf9r2	Discussion Group
Managing Fighting and Aggression Friday, April 30, 12:00-1:00pm Register: https://go.wisc.edu/fkf9r2	Discussion Group

April Dates to Remember



Easter is
April 4, 2021!



2020 Income Taxes
are due
April 15, 2021!



Celebrate
Earth Day on
April 22, 2021!



THE PARENT CONNECT

Spring 2021

The Parent Connect is a FREE weekly opportunity for parents and caregivers to talk with each other. Join us via Zoom to learn about resources and gain parenting skills that promote children's growth and learning. Each week an Extension educator will highlight a different skill and lead a conversation about how parents can guide their children.

- April 8 Evaluating Choices
- April 15 Humankind. Be Both
- April 22 Take A Deep Breath
- April 29 Solving Problems
- May 6 What Am I Good At
- May 13 I Make A Difference

Thursday Evening
Schedule

6:30 pm - 8 pm

IMPORTANT

For more information & to register prior to the Parent Connect - click **HERE** <https://go.wisc.edu/r15h82>

Email: hdr-swvi-educators@office365.wisc.edu for more questions.



Wise Wisconsin Spring Series



Join us at 9am on Zoom! Registration required.
Please see details below.

April 7, 2021

Compassion

Divided. Disconnected. Tired. This last year has been a challenge and we sometimes have found ourselves critical of others or ourselves, angry at what is happening, or exhausted from all that we see we have to do or have not gotten done. Learn some skills and techniques of compassion resilience, for others as well as for ourselves as we learn how to connect to others, even if they are different, listen without breaking our boundaries or values, and giving ourselves the grace to be who we are.

April 14, 2021

Decluttering: What do I do with all my stuff?

We live with it, walk around it, we may have drawers, cupboards, garages, and basements filled with lots of stuff! Join us for this one hour "self-starter" to how to begin to deal with the stuff in our lives. We will talk about getting started with the process, looking at important documents, what to keep and what to shred. We will look at various ways to distribute the transfer of our non-titled property. One size does not fit all, but hopefully you will discover some ways to get started!

April 21, 2021

Developing Connection and Belonging through Family History

Whether you know all there is to know about your family history or you're just starting to consider digging in a little deeper, this session is for you! Join us while we learn tips and tricks to uncover meaningful family stories that help you feel more connected to your roots.

April 28, 2021

Gardening for Life

Learn tips and techniques for gardening with ease, protecting your joints, preventing injuries and to enhance your well being. Participants will learn about tools, techniques and plant selection which will allow them to garden throughout life, despite physical challenges whether you are young in age or just young at heart.

Join UW-Madison Division of Extension's Life Span program presents Wise Wisconsin Spring Series! These one-hour sessions will help you increase joy and satisfaction in your life, get you ready for Spring and help you connect with others. Registration is required. **To register, go to: <https://go.wisc.edu/jk8000>.** If you have any questions, please contact, Life Span Outreach Program Manager, Sara Richie at sara.richie@wisc.edu.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

Per the Winnebago County Public Health Department, they recommend that individuals find vaccine information by:

- Visiting the Department of Health Services website:
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm>



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES**

- Sign up for weekly updates from the Department of Health Services and daily COVID-19 updates from the Winnebago County Health Department. You can find the sign-ups for these off the Winnebago County Public Health Website: <https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/health> and click "COVID-19 Vaccine Updates".

Local Vaccine Clinic Information:

- **Sunnyview Expo Center Vaccine Clinic, Oshkosh**
 - NOT open right now for first doses of the vaccine.
 - They are working on getting the first batch of people their second vaccine.
 - For more information on future clinics, you can call the Winnebago County Public Health COVID-19 hotline at 920-232-3026 or visit <https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/health/>.
- **Fox Cities COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic, Appleton**
 - Appleton Exhibition Center
 - Register at: <https://foxcitiescovidvaccine.com/>
- **Culver Family Welcome Center, Oshkosh**
 - UW Oshkosh
 - Register online at <https://uwosh.edu/titans-return/vaccination/> or call (920) 424-2019 if you are not able to use a computer.
 - The registration form will open around 3pm each Friday and close when capacity has been reached.
- **Prevea, Green Bay**
 - Register online at <https://www.prevea.com/For-Patients/COVID-19-Vaccine-Resources> or call (888) 277-3832.
 - Will vaccinate even if you are not patient of Prevea.
- **Contact your local Walgreens** or visit <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>
- **Omro Pharmacy** at (920) 685-5041
- **Contact your local Pick 'n Save** or visit <https://www.picknsave.com/rx/guest/get-vaccinated>
- **Visit the websites for your health care system:**
 - Aurora - <https://www.advocateaurorahealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019/covid19-vaccine/>
 - Ascension - <https://healthcare.ascension.org/COVID-19/Covid-Vaccine>
 - Thedacare - <https://thedacarecovid19.org/vaccinations/>



HOW OUR BODIES RESPOND TO THE COVID-19 VACCINE



HOW VACCINES WORK

Vaccines provide protection against bacteria or viruses that make us sick. They work by triggering our immune system to recognize a particular bacteria or virus and build immunity to defend against it if it return.

HOW THE COVID-19 VACCINE WORKS

Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are **mRNA vaccines**, while the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a **viral vector vaccine**. These vaccines use a different technology but produce the same response in our bodies. None of these vaccines can give you COVID-19.

- Pfizer and Moderna vaccines contain mRNA that instruct our body to make the coronavirus spike protein, the same protein that is found on the surface of the COVID-19 virus.
- The Johnson & Johnson vaccine uses a harmless virus to deliver the instructions to a cell on how to make the coronavirus spike protein.
- The coronavirus spike protein is harmless on its own.
- By making the spike protein, it allows our immune system to produce specific antibodies that can defend against COVID-19. This helps protect us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies because our immune system can now recognize the spike protein to defend itself from infection.

SIDE EFFECTS ARE NORMAL

Our immune cells work throughout the body and produce side effects like:



Pain and swelling
of arm



Fever



Chills



Tiredness



Headache

WHY SIDE EFFECTS OCCUR

Side effects are caused by our body's immune response and are **common after vaccination**.

- When our immune response is triggered, the cells of our immune system get to work.
- Some of our immune cells act fast to swarm the injection site. This is what causes **pain and swelling of the arm**.
- Other immune cells continue to gather throughout the rest of the body producing side effects like **fever, chills, and tiredness**.
- These side effects typically only last a few days.

When you feel run down or sick after getting the vaccine, it is because your body is putting a lot of energy towards an immune response. This preparation is what protects you if your body comes into contact with COVID-19.

GET THE BEST PROTECTION

- Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines require two doses.
- The Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine requires one dose.
- If you get the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine it is important you get both doses for the best protection.
- Whichever vaccine you get, your body's immune system will be able to defend itself against COVID-19.
- By getting vaccinated, we all move closer to getting back to normal and doing the things we love.

Side effects are a sign that your immune system is working and building lasting protection against COVID-19.

**YOU
STOP
THE
SPREAD**



What is VITA?

VITA = Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

The mission of the program, which is coordinated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), is to provide free basic tax return preparation for low-to-moderate income and elderly taxpayers. The VITA program has operated for over 50 years, offering free tax help to qualified individuals:

- People who generally make \$56,000 or less
- Persons with disabilities;
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.



UW-Oshkosh site: Appointments available from February 13 to April 3, 2021. UW-O offers the VITA program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) that provides free basic tax return preparation for low-to-moderate income and elderly taxpayers. The program is run by student and other community volunteers. Please call **920.424.3486** to schedule an appointment.

Goodwill Menasha site: Valet VITA in-person assistance. Schedule a 20 minute drop-off appointment online at: <https://www.goodwillncw.org/vita/valet/schedule/>. Meet with an intake specialist and let our IRS-certified volunteers prepare your return. Pick up your return when it's ready (typically 5-7 business days). We are located inside the Goodwill Retail Store and Training Center at 1800 Appleton Road, Menasha, WI 54952. If you need more info, call (920) 968-6044.

[MyFreeTaxes.com](https://www.myfreetaxes.com)

For the 12th year, United Way is providing **MyFreeTaxes**, a free online tax filing software to help taxpayers easily and accurately file simple federal and state tax returns from their computer or smartphone. United Way provides the service as part of our fight for the financial stability of every person in every community.

Key features include:

1. Screening for credit and deduction eligibility such as the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit to ensure you receive your maximum tax refund
2. Showing how and why your refund amount is changing in real time
3. Live tax assistance from IRS-certified specialists
4. Opportunity to claim any missed stimulus payments

Go to [MyFreeTaxes.com](https://www.myfreetaxes.com) for more information.

FSS Open Enrollment

ATTENTION:

LOOKING TO SAVE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?



ENROLLMENT IS OPEN FOR THE FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM. THE FSS PROGRAM CAN NOW SERVE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER (SECTION 8) AND PUBLIC HOUSING SCATTERED SITES IN ALL OF WINNEBAGO COUNTY

How Does the FSS program work?

Participant Enrolls and sets personal goals



Participant Meets Goals



Increases Income and Saves in the Escrow Account



Graduates and Celebrates!



Services Available:

- ♦ Employment Search
- ♦ Education
- ♦ Credit Counseling
- ♦ Money Management
- ♦ Homeownership
- ♦ Health Care
- ♦ Child Care

Please contact Kay Hinton at

(920) 424-1450, ext. 133 or

kayh@ohawcha.org

**\$25 Kwik trip gas cards are available
for those that enroll by May 1, 2021.**



Habitat for Humanity[®] of Oshkosh, Inc.

Are you interested in becoming a Habitat Home Buyer?

Habitat for Humanity Oshkosh builds new construction homes within the city of Oshkosh and sells them to qualified families at no profit.

Families help build their home and make monthly mortgage payments. Homes are made affordable through volunteer labor; down payment assistance programs and 0% interest mortgages provided by Habitat.

Visit us at the Oshkosh ReStore
(1640 S Koeller St.) or online:



HABITATOSHKOSH.ORG/HOME-BUYER-PROGRAM/

Pre-Applications available April 15th - June 15th

Interested applicants must meet the below qualifications:

Need for Adequate Housing

Based on current housing conditions, there must be a demonstrated need in order to qualify for a Habitat home. Some examples of need include overcrowding, structural/mechanical problems, mold, insects, etc.

Ability to Pay

Ability to pay is determined through the information provided on the application, pay stubs, benefit statements, previously filed federal tax returns, and credit reports. Gross income must fall within 30-60% of the median income. Applicants must have a steady, reliable source of income and demonstrate financial responsibility.

Willingness to Partner

Habitat Home Buyers must be willing to complete "Sweat Equity" hours. Sweat Equity is when a family takes part in building their home, working at our ReStore, or other Habitat activities.

Residency

Qualified candidates will have lived in or worked in the City of Oshkosh for at least six months prior to submitting an application.

Contact Elizabeth Last for more information 920-235-3535 or elast@habitatoshkosh.org.

We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support affirmative advertising and marketing in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.





Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program

What Kind of Help is Available?



Utility and Home Energy Payments



Rent Payments



Services to help you stay in your home

Eligible households may receive up to 12 months of assistance to help with current and/or overdue bills.

Does My Household Qualify?

Your household may qualify if at least one or more individuals in your home meet the following :

1) Qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, experienced major costs, or experienced financial struggles due to COVID-19;

2) Demonstrates a risk of being evicted or losing your home; and,

3) Has a household income at or below 80 percent of the county median. You may received assistance even if

you receive housing subsidy.



Want to Apply?

Information about the Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program, including how to apply for assistance, is available in two convenient ways:

Your Local Community Action Agency

Visit: wiscap.org/wera

Energy Services, Inc.

Call: 1-833-900-9372 or

Email: support@wera.help

Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration

Another **Meal-A-Thon**
FREE SACK LUNCHES
FRIDAY, March 19TH
3:30pm to 5:30pm

Robyn's Taste the Goodness Muffins

If you are a senior citizen, disabled, homeless, a veteran, or unemployed because of a business shut down, and experiencing financial hardship due to the current economy, as a result of the pandemic,

Receive a FREE Sack Lunch
by TEXTING the word: "SACKLUNCH"
To: (920) 203-7749

Please include your NAME, # of LUNCHES, and the TIME you will pick it up. Wait for a REPLY TEXT that will include your FREE Lunch Pickup Code. All orders MUST be made 24 hrs in advance, or sooner, to ensure availability.
FIRST RESPONDERS CAN RECEIVE THIS FREE LUNCH SIMPLY AS A THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

DELI STYLE
COLD CUT SANDWICH

Served with a side of fruit, vegetables, and dessert.

DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED **PICKUP LOCATION** **DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED**
 374 S. KOELLER STREET, OSHKOSH, WI 54902

Annual 2021 Father Carr's EASTER MEAL
Drive-thru

Sunday, April 4 | 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Father Carr's campus (1062 N Koeller St)

Advance reservations are required and must be made by Monday, March 29.
To register call 920.231.2378

Donations of canned corn, brown sugar, packaged Easter treats, candy and cookies, and handmade Easter cards are needed. Donations can be dropped off at the Mother Teresa Center.

(No in-person dining or residential deliveries this year.)

www.fathercarrs.org | 920.231.2378 | info@fathercarrs.org

Father Carr's Place

Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity

We're Hiring!

- Construction Supervisor
- Warehouse & Logistics Coordinator

Visit [www.https://foxcitieshabitat.org/about/careers](https://foxcitieshabitat.org/about/careers) for details

Covey
Regular Part Time

20-29 hours a week

Paid time off

Paid holidays

Competitive wages starting \$12+

Flexible Scheduling

Building connections with clients and coworkers

Retirement plan with company match

Paid training

Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas off

"The afternoon shift was typically filled with snack time and conversations sharing about their day."

Working every other weekend was great, to get hours while going on fun outings with our clients & coworkers/friends. I also enjoyed the opportunity of 3 different shifts which a lot of jobs don't offer"

FREE TRANSPORTATION
to COVID-19 vaccine appointments in
Calumet, Outagamie, & Winnebago Counties

Residents of **Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties** that have COVID-19 vaccination appointments in any of these three counties can use these free transportation options:

- GO Transit (Oshkosh) and Valley Transit (Fox Cities) bus systems
- Paratransit rides through GO Plus (Oshkosh) and Valley Transit II (Fox Cities) for certified paratransit riders
- MTM for BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid members who are eligible for non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT)
- If unable to use transit or paratransit, call Make the Ride Happen at 920-225-1719 to schedule a free ride by cab, Uber, or Lyft

For information: www.bit.ly/COVID19VaccineTransportation

Need transportation help?
Call Make the Ride Happen at 920-225-1719
Monday - Friday from 8:30am - 4:30pm

Public Health

Drive Thru Job Fair



DRIVE THRU JOB FAIR

We want to help you with your job search and want to keep you safe!

- You won't need to exit your car.
- You'll receive a bag with positions available at local companies that are **HIRING NOW!**
- When you arrive, follow the traffic flow and wait patiently while others are served.

April 22 3-6 pm
**Oshkosh Chamber
of Commerce**
120 Jackson St, Oshkosh

Head south on Division St and turn right into the Chamber parking lot.
When you leave, turn right onto Jackson Street heading north.
Questions about this fair? Call 997-3272 or 929-3900.

*Manufacturing
Office
Construction
Healthcare
Professional
Transportation/Logistics
And More!*

Sponsored by:



*Wisconsin Workforce Boards and job center partners are Equal Opportunity Employers and Service Providers.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.*

A proud partner of the **AmericanJobCenter** network