

August 2021

Dream Big!

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



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Dear FSS participants and Community Members,

Happy August!

Our Main Office is open: Oshkosh/Winnebago County Housing Authority is pleased to announce that the Housing Authority's main office at 600 Merritt Ave, Oshkosh is open to the public starting Thursday, June 24th. Masks are required if you have **not** gotten the COVID vaccination.



While you are enjoying the weather, please check this out:

FSS Gradation: I forgot to mention we had an FSS graduation in May 2021. This FSS participant had found full time employment almost immediately when she joined the FSS program in May 2017 and is now graduating May 2021. 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 budget for 3 months, paid off small debts, updated her resume, created a cover letter, increased her credit score from 459 to 601, and found a full time job as a CNA. She is saving her FSS escrow of \$9292 to buy a home. Congrats!

Oshkosh/Winneconne Back To School Fair: The Back to School Fair will be changing this year. We will be limiting contact with family and friends but we will continue to provide school supplies, hygiene, shoes and clothing. If you have already signed up, expect a letter coming the first week in August for your appointment date and time. See you there!

Family Self Sufficiency Outreach Specialist: I am excited to announce the housing authority is hiring for an FSS Outreach Specialist. This is a Limited-Term 48 week position to market the FSS program to families, help families to reach their goals and establish an interest-bearing savings account for each participant. The BONUS is you get to hang out with me and work for a fabulous agency! See page 15 for more information.

Please read the rest of this newsletter with educational, employment and community opportunities. I wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy August! 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





ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO PAY **RENT, UTILITIES, AND OTHER BILLS** DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

The Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program (WERA) assists qualifying households with up to 12 months assistance for current and/or overdue payments:

- ▶ Rent payments
- ▶ Utility and home energy

DO I QUALIFY?

Your household may qualify if at least one or more individuals:

- ▶ Is eligible for unemployment, has experienced a reduction in household income, or has incurred major costs or financial struggles due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ▶ Is at risk of being evicted.
- ▶ Has a household income at, or below, 80 percent of the county median.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact your local
Community Action Agency
VISIT: wiscap.org/wera

OR Energy Services, Inc.
CALL: 1-833-900-9372
EMAIL: support@wera.help

Check your
income here:



<http://bit.ly/WERACMIs>

Wheelchair Wash

FREE

**Wheelchair
Wash & Inspection**

Friends

Fun

Food

**You're cordially invited to the Winnebago County Wheelchair Wash,
join us for a free wash, food, music, and fun!**

When: Saturday, August 7 10a - 1p

Where: J & R AUTO SERVICE, 629 N Main St, Oshkosh

Appointments encouraged, drop-ins welcome.

To schedule please contact:

Making the Ride Happen

920.225.1719 or mth@lswis.org

Music

Sponsored

By:



Public Health
Winnebago County
Health Department

options
for independent living
www.options.org

Community

ADRC
Agency & Disability Resource Center
of Winnebago County

**make the
RIDE happen**

nu motion
mobility standards



FVTC is hosting an event for undecided students to help them with program/career selection and course registration.

When?

FRIDAY, August 6, 2021 from 9am – 3pm

Where?

FVTC Appleton Campus Room A105E (Entrance 1 or 15)

For more info: please contact Renee at:

Phone: (920)735-4778

Email: lezotte@fvtc.edu

Farmers' Market



FARMERS' MARKET TOUR!



Join FoodWise, this Summer, for a tour of the Downtown Appleton Farmers' Market and the Oshkosh Farmers' Market!

You will gain confidence in:

- Navigating the market to find the best prices
- Talking to local farmers and vendors
- Using food assistance benefits at the market
- Selecting healthy food that you and your family will enjoy

**Receive a 'Thank You' gift at the end of the tour!*

For more information, and to register, scan the QR code or follow the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1bEY9b8H-I6PHJwXR4380iCYVz6XJ3fqXNVWIdvFt_3U/edit

QR Code





Photo courtesy of Appleton Downtown Inc.

FoodWise is supported by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), UW-Extension, FoodShare Wisconsin, and local partners. In Wisconsin, FoodShare can help provide a healthy diet. To find out more about FoodShare call 1-888-256-4565 or go to <http://access.wisconsin.gov>. An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.



2021 TOUR DATES & LOCATIONS!



Appleton Farmers' Market

- Saturday, July 10
- Saturday, August 14
- Saturday, September 11
- Saturday, October 16

**With Nutrition
Educator
Miranda**



Oshkosh Farmers' Market

- Saturday, June 26
- Saturday, July 17
- Saturday, August 21
- Saturday, September 25
- Saturday, October 23

**With Nutrition
Educator
Kristine**



FoodWise is supported by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), UW-Extension, FoodShare Wisconsin, and local partners. In Wisconsin, FoodShare can help provide a healthy diet. To find out more about FoodShare call 1-888-256-4565 or go to <http://access.wisconsin.gov>. An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

EXTENSION CONNECTION

***Join us for 15 minutes of
wellness designed for YOU!***

*Focus on your overall wellness and develop
a positive framework to start your day.*

***July 7 - September 3, 2021
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays
8:30am - 8:45am
(Attend ANY or ALL of these sessions!)***

**REGISTER HERE to stay up to date on this
opportunity!**

Join Zoom Meeting HERE:

Meeting ID: 996 0648 1361
Passcode: 4321

Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Please call the Extension Main Office: at
920-232-1970 for more information .



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA/504 requirements. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service or activity.

Help Is Here

Monthly payments for families with kids

Raising kids can be expensive, and the Child Tax Credit is here to help. President Biden's American Rescue Plan increased the amount of the 2021 Child Tax Credit to support families with children.

The full benefit of the Child Tax Credit is now \$300 per month per child under age 6 and \$250 for each child age 6 to 17.

Did you file taxes in the last 2 years? Then you don't have to do anything to get the money you're already owed!

If you filed your 2020 taxes this year or filed your 2019 taxes last year, or used the IRS "Non-Filer Portal" to get a stimulus check last year, you don't need to do anything. The IRS will automatically send you a monthly payment by direct deposit or check starting on July 15, 2021.

The Child Tax Credit is \$3,000 to \$3,600 per child with advanced monthly payments.

In order to get money to families quickly, the IRS will pay half of the credit as monthly payments now and the other half when you file your taxes next year. In total, you'll receive a total of \$3,600 for each child under 6 and \$3,000 for each child between 6 and 17.

Didn't file taxes in the last 2 years? There's 1 easy step to start getting your Child Tax Credit payments.

Just fill out a simple form to begin receiving your monthly Child Tax Credit payments. You can access it by going to childtaxcredit.gov

You'll need this information to apply:

- Social Security Numbers for you and your children
- A reliable mailing address
- E-mail address
- Your bank account information (if you want to receive your payment by direct deposit)

Eligibility: Most families, even those with little to no income, can receive the full amount. If you are a single parent making less than \$112,500 or a married couple making less than \$150,000—and have children under age 18 who will live with you for more than half of 2021—you are likely eligible for the full benefit. These benefits do not affect your eligibility for other federal benefits like SNAP.

Learn more and check out resources to help you fill out your form at [**ChildTaxCredit.gov**](https://ChildTaxCredit.gov)

**FREE
ENTERTAINMENT!**

Family Events

2021

at the Leach Amphitheater

Major Institutional Sponsor of the Leach



FRIDAY MOVIE NIGHTS

June 25

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

Bubble Night!



July 9

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

Beach Ball Night!

Sponsor:



July 30

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

Mascot Night!!!

Sponsor:



August 13

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

**ATW Airport Ice Cream Truck
& Youth Sports Night!**

Sponsor:



August 27

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT:

**Meet Our Community
Helpers Night!**

Sponsor:



**NEW IN
2021**

MOVIES BEGIN AT DUSK

**GATES OPEN AT 6:30 PM
FAMILY FUN BEFORE THE MOVIE!**



KIDS FROM WISCONSIN

FREE July 18

**Kinsella Irish Dancers - 1:30pm
Kids From Wisconsin Concert
3-5pm**

Sponsor:

Community Arts Grant through
Oshkosh Area Community Foundation

TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT

10AM-2PM SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Children can expect to see dump trucks,
mowers, police vehicles, tractors, diggers and
more! Family entertainment, interactive stations,
games and much more!



www.leachamphitheater.com

Rent Smart



Rent Smart

Taught by Extension Educators

Helping to make renting a great experience for you!

Upcoming Class Dates & Times:

May: 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27; 7-8 PM

August: 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27; 9-10 AM

September: 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23; 7-8 PM

October: 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21; 1-2 PM

November: 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, Dec 1; 11 AM-12 PM

Location: Live instruction via Zoom; link sent after registering

To register complete this online form:

<https://go.wisc.edu/Rentsmartregister>

Cost: FREE!

What you will learn:

- Planning for and meeting monthly expenses
- Tips for finding and maintaining affordable housing
- How to complete an application and why landlords screen applicants
- Strategies for building positive relationships with landlords and neighbors
- Responsibilities and rights of landlords and tenants
- **Participants must complete all 6 modules to earn the Rent Smart certificate**
- For more information, please contact rentsmartwi@office365.wisc.edu or call 262-741-4951

An EEO-Affirmative Action Employer, UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA requirements.



Young Women's Initiative: Starting Point 2.0

The Women's Fund is leading a project using a Two-Generation approach which will address the life-long economic security of single parent women and their children. This project creates a collaboration between FVTC's Starting Point Workshop and the college's educational resources combined with B.A.B.E.S. Inc. and their child development/parenting programming. By serving two-generations and creating a new stable environment for single-parent families, individuals struggling to survive will see the opportunities and potential that exist beyond their circumstances. This workshop and services provided are free to participants and children.



Participant Criteria:

- 18-35 year old single parent woman
- Income level must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline
- Must have at least one child under the age of 11
- Must reside in one of the following counties: Calumet, Outagamie, Shawano, or Waupaca, and communities of Neenah & Menasha

Project Details:

Parent and any child under the age of 5 will attend B.A.B.E.S. Inc. together. School age children under 11 will participate through take home activities. Wednesdays, September 15, 2021 through December 1, 2021 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The last 4 weeks parents will transition to class at Fox Valley Technical College-Appleton Campus while the children remain at B.A.B.E.S. Inc.

"Starting Point 2.0 has helped me build skills I didn't have and to sharpen skills I already had."

Women Will Learn

"I felt like I had some control over my life and where it was going."

Time Management

Self-Esteem

Goal Setting

Coping Strategies

Empowerment Topics

course runs from
9/15/21 to 12/1/21

Career Development

Decision Making

Assertiveness

Healthy Relationships



Grants available for moving forward with education without financial stress

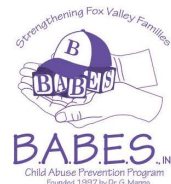


FVTC ID available for free busing on Valley Transit

Starting Point 2.0



WOMEN'S fund
for the fox valley region, inc.



Contact Information: Kara Nowak (920) 735-5722 nowakk@fvtc.edu
To find out if you are eligible and have a staff member contact you, fill out this survey: www.fvtc.edu/StartingPoint.

EmpowHER



Are you 18 to 35 years old (without children) and looking for direction in the areas of education, employment and a healthy lifestyle?

Do you live in Calumet, Outagamie, Shawano, or Waupaca Counties or communities of Neenah & Menasha?

Do you think about your future and wonder what your path will look like?

If so there is a new program for you!

The Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region has partnered with Fox Valley Technical College to bring you EmpowHER! A **FREE** 12 week workshop focused on topics young women in their teens and twenties face in our community today!

Workshop Details:

Tuesdays, September 14, 2021 through December 1, 2021
from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at Fox Valley Technical College-Appleton Campus

• Community Resources

• Support From Other Women

• WISE choices in college

• Job vs. Career

• Goal Setting

• Paying for College

• Money Management

• Time Management

• Self Esteem & Body Image

• Mental Health

• Self Motivation

Topics You will learn:

course runs from
9/14/21 to 12/1/21

• Healthy Relationships

"I learned a lot of life skills I was missing, like budgeting. Now I finally know how to grow my finances and save money!"



WOMEN'S fund
for the fox valley region, inc.

"Through this course I have gained more self confidence, motivation, and have learned more than I ever hoped for."

Contact Information: Kara Nowak (920) 735-5722 nowakk@fvtc.edu
To find out if you are eligible and have a staff member contact you, fill out this survey: www.fvtc.edu/EmpowHER.

We are excited to share information about a new benefit program called the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program, that's designed to help low-income Americans connect to the internet!

This federal benefit program helps qualified households by providing

- Up to \$50/month discount for broadband service
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider if they contribute more than \$10 but less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

Time is limited to access these funds! The EBB program will end when the fund runs out, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the COVID-19 health emergency, whichever is sooner.

Participants who have experienced job loss, or currently use lifeline program (such as Medicaid and SNAP), can apply for the benefits through the [FCC-created Web site](#). Thanks to our partnership with Comcast, Goodwill beneficiaries can use their EBB benefits to access discounted internet and equipment through the Internet Essentials program. Please access a flyer using [this link](#) to learn more about the program, or use the [registration link](#) to RSVP for a Mission Possible webinar on Thursday (July 15th) from 3 – 4:30pm ET, where our Comcast partner will share more information about the program.

Other eligibility details

If You Experienced a Job Loss or Furlough

If you experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020 because you lost your job or were furloughed, you may qualify for the EBB Program.

If You Use SNAP, Medicaid, or Other Programs

You can receive the Emergency Broadband Benefit if you (or someone in your household) participates in one of these federal assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- [Tribal Specific Programs](#):
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance,
 - Tribal Head Start (only households meeting the relevant income qualifying standard),
 - Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
 - Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
- Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, including at US Department of Agriculture Community Eligibility Provision schools
- Received a Federal Pell Grant in the current award year

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the team at OppAccelerator@goodwill.org or call (240)333-5217.

FSS Outreach Specialist Job Opening Family Self Sufficiency

FSS Outreach Specialist

Oshkosh / Winnebago County Housing Authority

Term: Limited-Term 48 week position (1800 hour)

July 28, 2021

Start: August 2021

Hours: 37.5 per week. Flexible schedule with hours Monday through Friday between 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.

Location: Based in Oshkosh with satellite office in Menasha. Position serves residents in Winnebago County. Some weekly travel may be required.

Nature of work:

Provide direct support to FSS Coordinator with special attention to marketing FSS Program to HCV participants and Public Housing tenants in Winnebago County.

Examples of work may include:

- Scheduling and facilitating meetings with families that may include in-person meetings, telephone and/or video meetings, meetings in resident homes and in an office setting, and meetings at community partner sites.
- Outreaching and recruiting of potential FSS participants with the goal of 15 families enrolled by limited term end date.
- Updating FSS forms.
- Creating FSS letter templates.
- Developing action plans for enrollment in FSS Program.
- Engaging families in goal planning and strategies to support completion of FSS Program.
- Providing budget development and following through guidance to families.
- Guiding residents through the required steps for completion of FSS Program application.
- Maintaining detailed and organized records.
- Calculating income numbers and account balance updates.

This nature of work and examples provided are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by the incumbent of this job. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and activities required of the position. This position description does not reflect an employment contract or guarantee.

Compensation:

The FSS Outreach Specialist position pay range is \$17.50 - \$22.50 per hour based upon qualifications. No benefits are available for this limited term position.

Apply through one of these methods:

1. Submit Resume (two page maximum) and Cover Letter (one page maximum) to:

OSHKOSH HOUSING AUTHORITY
FSS OUTREACH SPECIALIST
PO BOX 397
OSHKOSH, WI 54903-0397

2. Drop off at 600 Merritt Avenue, Oshkosh, WI using the 24 drop box. Enter first door set at southwest entrance.

3. Emailed to: kal@ohawcha.org (please email as a PDF)

4. Through the Housing Authority LINKEDIN job posting portal:

www.linkedin.com/company/oshkosh-winnebago-county-housing-authority.



FamilyWize Prescription Card

FAMILYWIZE PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS CARD

The FamilyWize Prescription Savings Card can help everyone

The Uninsured

Individuals and Families who:

- Have no insurance
- Aren't covered by a family member's insurance

Employees who:

- Work for businesses that don't offer insurance.
- Have declined coverage
- Work part-time
- Are laid off and not on COBRA

The Underinsured

Individuals and Families who:

- Have high deductibles or waiting periods
- Need medication not covered by their plan
- Have a co-pay higher than the FamilyWize discounted price
- Are on a limited or catastrophic plan.

Employees who:

- Have high deductibles or waiting periods
- Need medication not covered by their plan

Seniors who:

- Are enrolled in Medicare Part D Prescription Plan without a MediGap plan

WHO NEEDS A CARD?



How It Works:

1. Get your free card — **available three different ways:**

- **Print** your card from familywize.org
- **Download** the FamilyWize app on your smartphone
- **Call** FamilyWize at 800-222-2818 to have a card mailed to you

2. Show your pharmacist the FamilyWize card every time you fill a prescription

3. Get the lowest price possible — from FamilyWize, from the pharmacy, or from your insurance

FamilyWize also provide a free **Drug Price Look-Up Tool**, available on the app and on familywize.org — use it to search local pharmacies for the lowest FamilyWize price on your prescription!