

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



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Dear FSS participants (and community members),

Happy St Patrick's Day and Happy Easter!

A big welcome to these new FSS participants: **Britney and Narielle.** Please wish a **Happy March Birthday to Holly and Narielle!** I hope your birthdays are fabulous and you are finding a little time to take a step towards your goals.



Ranked #1: Our FSS program scored the best in WISCONSIN! Rated #1 according to graduation numbers, participation and increased earnings at graduation. On average, FSS graduates increased their income by \$8,764/year while on the program. Thanks for all your help in making this program the best in the state!

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

FSS Connection Group Meeting is on Monday, March 11th at 9:00 am. Molly Yatso-Butz, Executive Director, will be giving a presentation on the Day by Day Warming Shelter and what they are doing! Everyone is welcome to attend! See page 16 for more details.

FREE Tax Preparation is available. Please check out page 7 in this newsletter for more details. What will you do with your income tax refund?

<u>Daylight Savings Time Starts 3/10/24.</u> Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night or Sunday morning. Spring ahead!

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





2024 Winter/Spring Online Class Dates & Times

February: 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23 @ 9:00AM-10:00AM; Wed/Fri

March: 9, 16, 23 @ 9:00AM-11:30AM; Saturday

April: 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19 @ 1:00PM-2:00PM; Mon/Fri

May: 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 @ 9:00AM-10:00AM; Tue/Thurs

June: 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 @ 7:00PM-8:00PM; Mon/Wed

Location: Online, live instruction via Zoom; links will be sent after registration

To register, use this link <u>OR</u> scan this QR Code:

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 todd.wenzel@wisc.edu (920-232-1982)

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

Important March Dates:

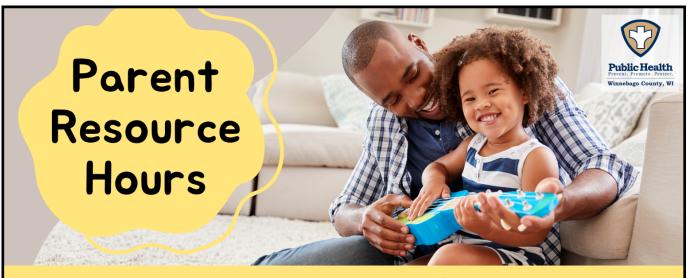
Daylight Savings Time Starts March 10, 2024

March 17, 2024 St. Patrick's Day March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday





Parent Resource Hours



Have kids? Have questions? We're here to help!



Developmental Screenings: Our staff can help with childhood screenings that look at milestones in playing, speaking, behaving, and moving.



Nursing Expertise:
Our nurses can
support you to give
your baby the
highest level of care!



Breastfeeding: Get one-on-one support with our lactation specialist.



Safe Sleep: Learn how to create a safe sleep environment for your child.



Lead Screening:*
Learn how to prevent lead poisoning and get your child screened for lead exposure.



Vaccines:* Protect your child with routine vaccines from public health.



Car Seat Checks:* Learn the correct way to install a car seat and keep your child safe.



Health and Community Resources: Learn about programs like prenatal health care, WIC, and Head Start.

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY

1-4 PM OSHKOSH 112 Otter Ave

EVERY 4TH THURSDAY

11 AM-2 PM NEENAH 211 Commercial St



*Appointment needed for car seat checks, lead screening, and vaccines. Scan or call to schedule.

Drop in any time during Parent Resource Hours! All are welcome. Services are FREE!

920-232-3000 / health@winnebagocountywi.gov

WWW.WINNEBAGOPUBLICHEALTH.ORG

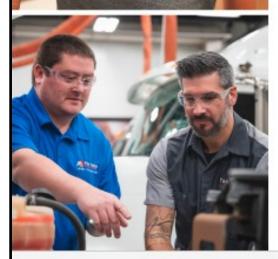
Updated 11/23



Personalized Job Training and Support Services to Transform Lives

A collaborative program from Goodwill NCW, Fox Valley Technical College and Rawhide Youth Services





Launch a lasting career!

Career EXCELerate Wisconsin is a highly personalized training program offered at no cost to individuals who want to find a career pathway but are struggling and would benefit from individualized support.

Career educational certificate options:

Choose from eight certificate programs that range from approximately two months to two semesters.

Educational and Health Services

- Nursing Assistant
- Early Childhood Teacher Aide

Construction

- Woodworking Technician
- Pipe Trades

Manufacturing

- Welding Fundamentals
- Industrial Manufacturing Technician

Truck Driving and Maintenance

- Professional Truck Driving Class A and B CDLs
- Heavy-Duty Vehicle Maintenance Diesel Technology Assistant

Get started or refer someone today!



Complete a short online form at careerEXCELeratewi.org

Call: 920-204-7002

Email: careerEXCELerateWI@goodwillncw.org











Self-Love Workshops



If-Love DRKSHOPS

Are you ready to ignite your self-love and self-confidence? Join us for a dynamic workshop dedicated to strengthening the most important relationship in your life - the one with yourself.

What's your spark?

These 3-hour workshops for women will provide practical strategies to boost self-esteem, develop self-compassion, and cultivate a deeper love for the mind, body, and spirit. Join us for:



Confidence in Motion Stephanie Pereira da Silva



Kate Harrell



Self-Love Yoga Stephanie Duwe



Your Self-Care Plan Katie Jaegly

Adults (18+)

1:00-4:00 PM 625 E County Road Y Oshkosh, WI 54901

BBB

Young Adults (12-18)

1:00-4:00 PM 625 E County Road Y Oshkosh, WI 54901

MAR

Mothers & Daughters

1:00-4:00 PM 625 E County Road Y Oshkosh, WI 54901







Register today!

Cost: \$10 per participant* | Limited Spaces Available Sign up today at pdsfusion.org to secure your spot!

*No participant will be turned away due to inability to pay. Contact pdsfusioninc@gmail.com to discuss your options.

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. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service, or activity. For communicative accommodations in languages other than English, please contact oaic@extension.wisc.edu. For communicative accommodations based on a disability, please contact Heather Lipinski Stelljes at: heather.stelljes@wisc.edu for the public.

2023 Income Tax Assistance Family Self Sufficiency

What is VITA?

VITA = <u>Volunteer Income Tax Assistance</u>

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides free, quality tax preparation from IRS-certified preparers to individuals and families earning up to \$60,000 annually. Taxpayers who were previously



Ineligible for tax credits, and those who do not have a filing requirement, may not realize they need to file a tax return to claim these tax credits. These credits are: Earned Income Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Child Care Credit. Let VITA help you file for free and get all your money.

<u>UW-Oshkosh site:</u> Appointments available from February 5 to March 27, 2024. 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 students and other community volunteers. You can call <u>920.424.1454</u> to schedule an appointment.

<u>AARP Free Tax assistance</u> with a special focus on taxpayers who are age 50 years old or older. Call **(920) 215-1040** for an appointment.

OR

• File online with help:

- Go to GetYourRefund.org for online tax preparation by IRS-certified preparers OR
- Go to MyFreeTaxes.com to prepare your own tax return with assistance from IRS-certified preparers

These IRS-certified options are not only free, but also accurate and convenient. How much of your refund is going into *your* pocket this year?



consumerfinance.gov/free-filing-flyer

Alternatives to ACP

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) funds are projected to run out in April 2024. Here are some <u>alternative internet options</u>:

- 1. **Spectrum Internet Assist** is "an affordable, reliable Internet option for low-income households." Limited bandwidth, 50 megabytes of download (Standard is 300), and 10 of upload. Prices are estimated at **\$24.99** if you bring your own Router, or **\$32.99** with a Router provided by Spectrum. To qualify for Spectrum Internet Assist, you must be receiving at least one of the following programs:
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the NSLP
- Supplemental Security Income (for applications age 65+ only)



2. Access from AT&T is "a low cost home internet service available to eligible limited

income AT&T Internet and AT&T Fiber households". Access from AT&T has a standard cost of **\$30.00 per month**, but based on the application you may be approved for a lower price. If you already have ACP, Access from AT&T may be free. To qualify for Access from AT&T, you must be receiving at least one of the following programs*:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- Have a household income below 200% of federal poverty guidelines.

*All households that qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and apply the benefit to AT&T Internet or AT&T Fiber service are also eligible for Access from AT&T.

Next Pop-Up Food Pantry is Saturday, March 16, 2024

491 Old Oregon Road, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902 DAYS AND HOURS

3rd Saturday of the Month Registration begins at 9:30 AM Food bundles available 9:30-11:00 AM Hosted by: St. John's Lutheran Church of Nekimi. For a \$25 bundle donation, you will receive \$150+ in groceries.



Community Events



Sat., March 30 8 am to 11 am MUST PURCHASE IN ADVANCE

Pancakes, Sausage, OJ, Milk or Coffee Ages (13 & Older): \$5

Children (2-12yrs): \$3 Infants (1yr & under): FREE



Special Pricing If You Attend Both Events \$9-Youth (13-17yrs) \$5-Children (2-12yrs)





Games, Prizes, Egg Hunt, Bunny Photo Opportunities Followed By Bunny in the Barn

Bunny in the Barn Only Pricing

Ages (18 & Older): FREE Youth (13-17yrs): \$5

Children (2-12yrs): \$3

Infant (1yr & under): FREE

Sat., March 30

11 am to 3 pm ORDER IN ADVANCE-OR AT GATE

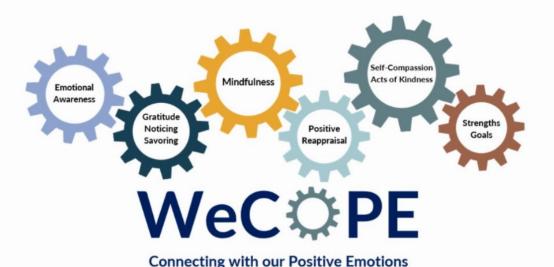
Online and Advance Ticket Sales March 11 to March 28

Online - oshkoshwi.gov/Parks
Purchase in person at the
Oshkosh Parks Department Office
805 Witzel Ave. (920)236-5080





WeCOPE Sessions



Managing life's challenges in healthy ways allows us to take better care of ourselves and others.

WeCOPE is a FREE evidence-based program that helps adults cope with daily stress. WeCOPE has been shown to reduce stress and depression, increase positive affect, and improve health behaviors in randomized trials.

Fridays, 12:00-1:00PM, February 23-March 29 (6 Sessions)

- February 23: WeCOPE Overview, Emotional Awareness
- March 1: Gratitude, Noticing and Savoring Positive Events
- March 8: Everyday Mindfulness, Mindfulness Meditation
- March 15: Positive Reappraisal
- March 22: Self-Compassion, Acts of Kindness
- March 29: Personal Strengths, Attainable Goals

Sign up today for this FREE program!



Scan the QR Code

https://forms.gle/BP hdK5LcTq5DWniw6



OR



Contact Us

Katie Jaegly jaegly@wisc.edu 920-232-1979



After you register, we will share a Zoom link via email.

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Stay Connected to Age Well

One on One Tech Appointments

Programs are designed to improve your digital literacy (all levels of expertise are welcome).

Meet with an instructor one-on-one to tackle a technology problem you may be experiencing. Common issues we deal with—passwords, setting up new devices, navigating Facebook or certain apps, saving pictures, exploring features on your devices, texting, talk features and more. Keep in mind it's not always a "one and done" we will work with you until you are a pro! We are even available to help you purchase and upgrade your devices.

Mondays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25 9 am, 10:15 am, 11:30 am, 12:45 pm

Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 9 am, 10:15 am, 11:30 am, 12:45 pm

Wednesdays, March 6, 13, 20, and 27 9 am, 10:15 am, 11:30 am, 12:45 pm

Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21, and 28 9 am, 10:15 am, 11:30 am, 12:45 pm

Cost: R \$2/NR \$2.75 per class By Appointment Only 920.232.5301

Wi-Fi Access (S) Cost: FREE

Bring your own device to access the Oshkosh Seniors Center's WiFi. Find a cozy spot in the Great Room, M-F, 8 am to 4 pm, and enjoy the high-speed internet service. No password is required.

One on One with Sandy Toland (S)

Sandy is from the Oshkosh Public Library and can not only answer questions about the library online services, but any other technology challenges you are experiencing.

Mondays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25 9:15 am, 10:30 am, 11:45 am, 1 pm

Cost: R \$2/NR \$2.75 per class By Appointment Only 920.232.5301





HELP

Homelessness, Evictions, & Loss Prevention

*Are you struggling with unstable housing? Struggling to keep up on rent/mortgage payments?

*Is your housing instability leading to a possible eviction/foreclosure?

*Have you received a Notice to Vacate by your landlord and are having difficulty finding a new place?

*Do you need assistance getting connected with local community resources?

If your answer is **yes** to any of these, please reach out as soon as possible to allow HELP time to brainstorm ways to better assist with your housing needs

Winnebago County Human Services 220 Washington Ave P.O. Box 2187 Oshkosh, WI 54903

Monday-Friday FROM 8 AM - Walk-In's Welcome
4:30 PM *Appointment
preferred

HELPProgram@winnebagocountywi.gov

HELP On Call Phone 920-509-7629

Winnebago



County

WWBIC Business ownership Family Self Sufficiency









Recovery in our Community



Anger & Emotional Management for Parents



Our children bring us incredible joy. Yet there are times we find ourselves crabby, frustrated or angry with the people we love. Learn how to manage anger to improve your relationships. Learn the five stages of anger & the top ten anger producers. Get to know your own anger, anger style & how to manage it to create a more harmonious home.

Free Childcare Available

Registration Required

Choose One Session from these Three Options:

Thurs, Feb 22 | 12:00-2:00 pm

In-Person in Appleton Tue, March 19 | 6:00-8:00 pm

Thurs, May 23 | 12:00-2:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00 per person per session



Register Online:

Family Services Website: www.familyservicesnew.org/parenting-classes

Parent Connection Facebook Events: www.facebook.com/ParentConnectionWI

Questions?

Contact the Workshop Team at: workshops@familyservicesnew.org 920-739-4226 ext. 127



Parent Connection is a program of Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc. Fox Cities: 1810 Appleton Road, Menasha WI 54952 | (920) 739-4226 Oshkosh: 36 Broad Street, Suite 150, Oshkosh 54901 | (920) 233-6630 Shawano: 607 E. Elizabeth Street, Shawano, WI 54166 | (715) 853-0923 www.familyservicesnew.org/parent-connection



Positive Discipline Parenting



This course will talk about discipline as structure, routine, communication & being our children's role models. Build up your children's positive behaviors & sense of self-esteem. We will talk about how we can start Positive Discipline Parenting in our homes today.

Free Childcare Available for In-Person Sessions

Choose One Session from these Three Options:

Online

Thurs, Feb 29 | 12:00-2:00 pm

In-Person in Appleton Tue, March 26 | 6:00-8:00 pm

Online

Thurs, May 30 | 12:00-2:00 pm

Cost: \$10.00 per person per session

Registration Required



Register Online:

Family Services Website:

Parent Connection Facebook Events: www.facebook.com/ParentConnectionWI

Questions?

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Active Parenting of Preteens & Teens



This workshop is for parents who want to prepare for or are experiencing the changes of teenage development & want to help prepare their preteens & teens to survive & thrive in society.

Topics will include:

Active Parenting, Winning Cooperation, Responsibility & Discipline, Building Courage & Redirecting Misbehavior, Drugs & Sexuality, Violence & Reducing Risks

Join us In-Person

In Appleton

Free Childcare Available Registration Required

Mondays, March 18, 25 & April 1 6:00-8:00 pm | Cost: \$15.00

Plan to attend all 3 sessions



Register Online:

Family Services Website:

www.familyservicesnew.org/parenting-classes

Parent Connection Facebook Events: www.facebook.com/ParentConnectionWI

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Parent & Caregiver Support Group



NAMI Fox Valley (National Alliance on Mental Illness) in collaboration with Parent Connection

Fox Valley be kind

@nami

Monthly Parent & Caregiver Support Group

for parents and caregivers of school-aged children with behavioral or mental health challenges

Our Parent & Caregiver Support Group provides participants with a relaxed, trusting and safe environment to share with and support others who can empathize with their experiences. Participants share strategies and coping skills, discover community resources and experience the benefits of mutual compassion.

Join us the 2nd Monday of Every Month

In-Person - Appleton

Free Childcare Available Registration Highly Recommended

6:00-7:30 pm | Cost: FREE Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 11, Apr 8, May 13 Community Early Learning Center (CELC) 313 S. State St., Appleton

For questions about this group Contact Vivian Flanagan

NAMI Fox Valley Family Program Coordinator vivian@namifoxvalley.org or (920) 740-3499 Walk-Ins are Welcomed

Register On-line: Family Services Website:

www.familyservicesnew.org/parenting-classes Parent Connection Facebook Events:





Parent Connection Fox Cities: 1810 Appleton Road, Menasha WI 54952 | (920) 739-4226

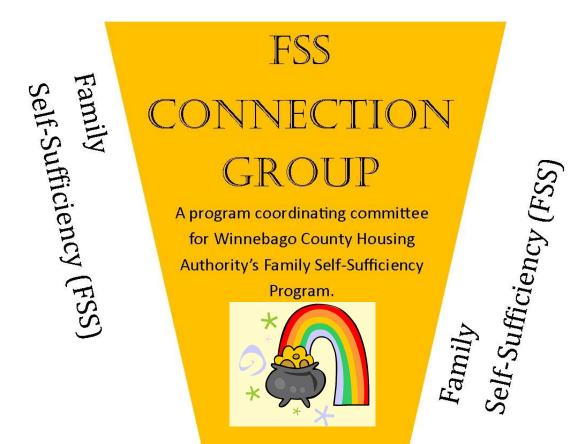
NAMI Fox Valley: 211 E Franklin St, Appleton, WI 54911 | (920) 954-1550



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FSS Connection Meeting

Save the Date!



Date: Monday, March 11, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Please join me on March 11, 2024 at 9am. Molly Yatso Butz, Executive Director, will be speaking about the good things that are happening at the Day by Day Warming Shelter. Everyone is welcome to come! Let's also share agency updates.

Join the Teams meeting with this link:



