

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



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Dear FSS participants (and community members),

Please wish a **Happy May Birthday** to **Carrie, Jamie, and Athena**!! I hope your birthdays are fabulous and you are finding a little time to take a step towards your goals. Congrats to **Narielle** for **publishing her book** on Amazon called "Societies Maybe; a Mother and an Unborn Baby". Please check it out!



This year, I've been focusing on self-improvement, taking care of myself physically, emotionally, and mentally. I've noticed that some of you have been facing challenges with maintaining positive mental health. Perhaps you're on a similar journey?

I've found great support in listening to podcasts on Spotify, or YouTube especially Mel Robbins' podcast. Her weekly episodes are free and packed with advice, stories, and tools to help you create a better life.

Sometimes, small changes can make a big difference. For instance, I've started cleaning my kitchen counters before bed, and waking up to a tidy space gives me a sense of accomplishment every morning.

Remember, when you feel good, you do good. Put in the effort and invest in yourself—it's beneficial for your energy and overall well-being.

Please read the rest of this newsletter with educational, employment and community opportunities. I wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy May! 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 920-424-1450 ext. 133 or emailing me at <u>kayh@ohawcha.org</u>.

Your success is my success.

Warm Regards, Kay Hinton FSS Coordinator Stop ignoring yourself. Fix your posture. Get a fresh hair cut. Take care of your skin. Drink water. Eat food that gives you energy. Get fit. Stop looking sloppy. When you look good. You feel good. When you feel good. You do good. Put in the effort. Invest in yourself. It's good for your energy.

FREE Rent Smart



Rent Smart Taught by Extension Educators

Helping to make renting a great experience for you!

2025 Winter/Spring Online Class Dates & Times

December 2024: 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19 @ 7:00PM-8:00PM; Tue/Thurs February: 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 @ 9:00AM-10:00AM; Wed/Fri March: 15, 22, 29 @ 9:00AM-11:30AM; Saturday April: 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 @ 7:00PM-8:00PM; Tue/Thurs May: 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 @ 1:00PM-2:00PM; Mon/Fri June: 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 @ 9:00AM-10:00AM; Mon/Wed

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

To register, use this link *OR* scan the QR Code: <u>https://go.wisc.edu/Rentsmartregister</u>

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.



Family Self Sufficiency

Oshkosh Job Fair



Looking for a job that aligns with your skills? Join us at the Oshkosh Area Employment Fair 10 am – 1pm, Wednesday, May 7 Sunnyview Expo 500 East County Y, Oshkosh, WI

Companies will be searching for a wide range of talent in a number of industries and occupations. For a list of registered companies after April 15, visit <u>http://www.foxvalleywork.org/jobfair.html</u>. Registration is not required but available at <u>https://tinyurl.com/2025OshJF</u>. Stop by sponsor booths to be entered into a drawing to win debit cards!

Need help to prepare for a job fair? Contact your local job center http://www.wisconsinjobcenter.org/directory/.



The Fox Valley Workforce Development Board is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need assistance with this information, please dial 7-1-1 for Wisconsin Relay Service or at 800-947-3529. At no cost, you may request information in an alternate format, including language assistance or translation information to your preferred language by contacting us at (920) 594-3655.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training sponsored by NAMI Oshkosh

YMHFA is a free class that teaches adults how to support a young person (age 12-18) experiencing a mental health challenge or crisis.

The class will be taught by Cindy Czarnik-Neimeyer and Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer. Thursday, May 22 9am-4pm NAMI Oshkosh 525 N. Main St. Oshkosh

© NAMI Oshkosh

Register by email info@namioshkosh.org or call 920-651-1148



Connect Through Tech

Connect Through Tech

Building North (N) South (S)



Connect Through Tech is offering drop-in hours for people who need simple answers or help with "quick fix" issues. Time slots are 15 minutes max. If issues cannot be resolved in 15 minutes, a tech appointment can be booked.

<u>Drop-In Hours</u> Tuesdays, 11 am-12 pm Thursdays, 11 am-12 pm or when sign is posted outside tech room 1 & 2



Drop-In is free, but please consider a donation when using the drop-in service.

One-on-one tech sessions are available Monday through Friday with Stephanie and Christie by appointment! Call 920.232.5301 to schedule.

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

Stephanie and Christie welcome all levels of expertise. Meet with an instructor oneon-one to tackle any technology problem you may be experiencing. Common issues we deal with—passwords, setting up new devices, email issues, voice features, navigating social media, texting, camera questions or more! Keep in mind it's not always a "one and done" appointment but we will work with you until you are a pro!

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, May 5, 12, 19 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

Family Self Sufficiency

Community Resources



Online Job Searching Lab

Wednesdays Fox Valley Job Center 1802 Appleton Rd, Menasha 1:00pm to 4:00pm *Fridays available by appointment*



STRUGGLING WITH YOUR ONLINE JOB SEARCH?

Looking to reduce the amount of time it takes to complete your work search?
Want to learn how to navigate the keyboard?

- Don't know the difference between left click and right click?
- Need to know how to attach your resume to a job application?

The lab covers a particular topic that you can learn and practice to become an independent computer user. Topics run weekly.

Class 1 – Basic Computer Skills/Email - Meet your mouse and keyboard. Learn how to use and be friends with your computer equipment. Everything you want to learn about email. Setting up, storing usernames/passwords, sending, and replying to emails. ^{*}Guidet tutaria formst with practice session <u>1.5-hour class</u>

Space is very limited. Call 920-997-3272 to reserve your spot TODAY!



Class 2 – Navigating JCW and **Online Applications** – Using JCW tools to strengthen your work search activities. Learn about skills match and different search features, Skill explorer and other Labor Market Info. Open forum for questions on applying online through Job Center of Wisconsin, Indeed, and specific employers' websites including attaching resumes from smart devices. 1.5-hour class *MUST BRING 2 ONLINE APPLICATIONS TO COMPLETE TO ATTEND THIS CLASS.

DWD is an equal opportunity employer and service provider: If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact (608) 266-2134, 4For city rights questions, call (608) 266-6889 or (866) 275-1165 (voice/TTY).

Next Pop-Up Food Pantry is

Saturday, May 17th, 2025

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.



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



Use Your Tax Refund To Boost Your Credit Score

Tax season isn't just an opportunity to get a refund—it's a chance to improve your financial future. If you've been looking for ways to strengthen your credit score, your tax refund can be a powerful tool to help you get there.

Five Ways to Use Your Tax Refund to Improve Credit

Here are a few ways you can use your tax refund to strengthen your credit score and build financial stability:

1. Catch Up on Late or Missed Payments

 If you've fallen behind on bills, use your refund to bring your accounts current. Even one late payment can impact your credit score, so making ontime payments moving forward is key.

2. Pay Down High-Interest Debt

 Focus on credit cards or loans with the highest interest rates. Reducing these balances lowers your credit utilization and helps you save money on interest.

3. Reduce Your Credit Utilization

 Keeping your credit card balance below 30% of your total credit limit is a good rule of thumb. Paying down balances with your refund can quickly improve this ratio.

4. Start an Emergency Fund to Avoid Future Debt

 Using part of your refund to build an <u>emergency fund</u> means you'll be less likely to rely on credit cards or loans for unexpected expenses in the future.

5. Consider a Secured Credit Card or Credit-Builder Loan

 If you're working on <u>establishing</u> or rebuilding credit, using a portion of your refund to open a secured credit card or credit-builder loan can help you create positive payment history.

Commit to a Stronger Financial Future

Your tax refund is a valuable financial opportunity. By using it strategically, you can take important steps toward <u>reducing debt</u>, improving your credit score, and building financial security.





7

Shred Event

Friends of

entitie. Stay social. Stay information

FOSC is offering a FREE SHRED FVFNT

Sponsored by

Rohan Meier & Morgan, LLC

MAY 17, 2025

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Oshkosh Seniors Center North Parking Lot • 234 N. Campbell Rd

- Stay safely in your car and drive right through.
- Personal (not business) shredding only, please.
- Limit of FIVE full paper bags/person.
- What can be shred?
 - All paper, file folders, hanging files, computer paper, note pads, and envelopes. Staples, paper clips, and bull clips do not need to be removed.
- What cannot be shred?
 - Three ring binders (remove pages for shredding), batteries, small E-waste items, garbage, plastic cups, paper plates, food wrappers, etc.
- CDs, DVDs, Data Tapes, Hard Drives, Microfilm and X-Rays
 - If you need these items destroyed, PROSHRED is happy to schedule this work for you.
 Please contact their office at 262.369.0922.

Make a monetary donation to The Friends of the Oshkosh Seniors Center or bring a canned good for a local food bank!

Job Assistance

Family Self Sufficiency

WISCONSIN SENIOR **EMPLOYMENT** PROGRAM



TELL ME MORE

- · Train with an employer in your community to learn new skills.
- Earn minimum wage, \$7.25/hour, and train up to 20 hours per week.



Serving Green Lake, Fond du Lac & Winnebago Counties Maureen Bryden Program Coordinator mbryden@fvwdb.com 920-229-5557 **CALL TODAY!** www.foxvalleywork.org

Job Tip

Tuesday

Did you know?

JÖB CENTERS

Series



work experience in community service EARNINGS DO NOT AFFECT

FOODSHARE OR SUBSIDIZED HOUSING BENEFITS!

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

- 55 + YEARS OF AGE
- UNEMPLOYED AND WANT TO WORK
- LOW INCOME
- **RESIDENT OF COUNTIES** SERVED



WHAT SKILLS CAN I LEARN?

LIBRARY AIDE RETAIL/CASHIER JANITORIAL CUSTOMER SERVICE ADULT /CHILD CARE CLERICAL/OFFICE ADMINISTRATION AND MORE



Assistance available at the Public Library!

Looking for assistance with your resume? Struggling with Interview skills? Have general job searching questions?

- Fond du Lac Public Library
- ***Appointments are required***
 <u>NEW!</u> Monday 9:30 to NOON
 Tuesday 9:30AM to 4PM
- <u>NEW!</u> Thursday 9:30 to NOON 920-322-3930

Oshkosh Public Library Wednesday 1PM to 4PM 920-236-5205

Call or go online to schedule an appointment!

1802 Appleton Rd. Menasha, WI - (920) 997-3272



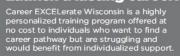
Career EXCELerate Wisconsin Personalized Job Training and Support Services to Transform Lives

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









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







Parenting Workshops

Parent Connection



Upcoming Parent Education Workshops, Support Groups & Community Events

April

Saturday, April 26 | 10:00am-noon Triple P: Hassle-Free Shopping with Children (Virtual)

May

Friday, May 2 | 9:00am-2:00 pm 36th Annual Parent Resource Fair

Saturday, May 10 | 10:00am-noon Triple P: Developing Good Bedtime Routines (Virtual)

Monday, May 12 | 6:00-7:30 pm NAMI Parent & Caregiver Support Group

Wednesday, May 14 | 6:00-8:00 pm Triple P: Hassle-Free Mealtimes with Children Saturday, May 17 | 10:00am-noon Triple P: Managing Fighting & Aggression (Virtual)

June

Monday, June 9 | 6:00-7:30 pm NAMI Parent & Caregiver Support Group

Wednesday, June 18 | 6:00-8:00 pm Triple P: Hassle-Free Shopping with Children

On Demand

January 1st - Dec 31st 2025 Potty Training Workshop (Recording)

Cost: FREE

FREE Onsite Childcare during most workshops & groups

Limited spots so register soon

Questions Contact: workshops@familyservicesnew.org



Prevention Board

See our Current Workshops & Register Online at: www.familyservicesnew.org/parenting-classes

See our Family Fun Events & Register Online at: www.familyservicesnew.org/family-fun

FIRST 5



Parent Resource Fair

Family Self Sufficiency



36th Annual

Parent Resource Fair

"Empowering Your Parent Journey"

May, 2nd 2025

FREE event for parents, expecting parents, and caregivers, including information and resources from community partners. Join us for all of this event, or any part you can. Pre-register to use FREE drop-in childcare and request transportation assistance.

Parenting, Child Safety & Development, Family Legal Information, Community Assistance, Education & Employment, Advancement, and Developmental Milestones.



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Enter for a chance to win a prize. Grab a bite to eat - Our Treat!

> Registration: 8:30am - 9am Speaker Session: 9am - Noon Resource Fair: Noon - 2pm

Registration Preferred, Walk-Ins Welcome

Register Online: https://bit.ly/ParentResourceFair2025



Contact For Questions: (920) 739-4226 ext. 127 or workshops@familyservicesnew.org

Thank You Sponsors!

Fox Valley Technical College 1825 N. Bluemound Dr, Appleton Use North Parking Lot, Entrance 16





Back to School Fair Referrals



Mom's Night Off



GIVE MOM AN EARLY MOTHER'S DAY GIFT WITH A NIGHT FOR HERSELF!

ADDS NIGHT ATTHE Y. FOR AGES 8-14

GIVE MOM TIME FOR HERSELF

by letting her take the night off.

Send your kids to the YMCA where they will be fed dinner and be guided in various art projects to create a special Mother's Day gift to bring home.

There are two options! You can send the kids for a few hours, or an overnight option that will include movies, games, and breakfast in the morning.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Call 920–230–8439, stop at the front desk of either location, or register online!

QUESTIONS? Email Taylor Douglas at taylordouglas@oshkoshymca.org.

A FEW HOURS:

FRIDAY, MAY 2 • 5:30–8:30 p.m. Will include dinner, and various craft projects.

FEE: \$20 per child for Members \$30 per child for Non–Members

SLEEPOVER OPTION:

FRIDAY, MAY 2 @ 5:30 p.m. through SATURDAY, MAY 3 @ 8:00 a.m.

Will include dinner, various craft projects, movies, games, and breakfast in the morning. Please bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and pajamas.

FEE: \$35 per child for Members \$50 per child for Non-Members

OSHKOSH COMMUNITY YMCA • www.oshkoshymca.org DOWNTOWN 236-3380 324 Washington Avenue • 20TH AVENUE 230-8439 3303 W. 20th Avenue

Starting Point



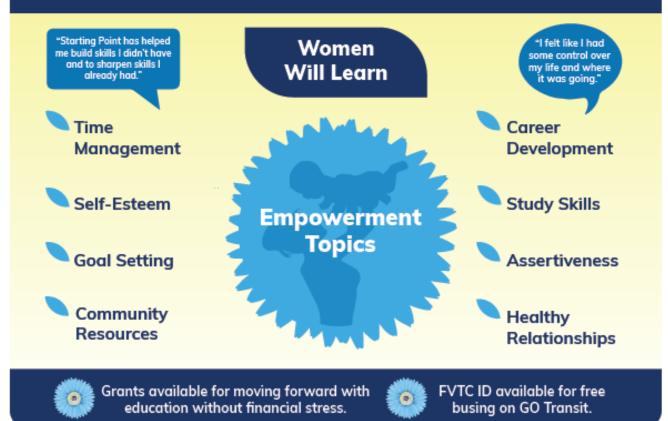
Starting Point is designed to help women ages 18 and older in the areas of financial planning skills, empowerment, and career planning that will lead to further education and/or a new career. Women will gain the necessary skills to go to college, learn how to network and access available resources, meet other women with similar life experiences, gain confidence and build self-esteem, and learn how to manage finances and relationships. This program is open to mothers and women without children. Women must be a resident of Outagamie, Calumet, Shawano, Waupaca, or Winnebago County.

Fall 2025 Dates & Times

Appleton: 9/10/25 to 12/3/25 Wednesdays 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, Childcare Provided Oshkosh: 9/13/25-12/3/25, Saturdays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Childcare Provided Virtual: 9/10/25 to 12/3/25, Wednesdays 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm, No Childcare

Spring 2026 Dates & Times

Appleton: 2/11/26 to 5/13/26, Wednesdays 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, Childcare Provided Oshkosh: 2/14/26 to 5/13/26, Saturdays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Childcare Provided Virtual: 2/11/26 to 5/13/26, Wednesdays 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm, No Childcare



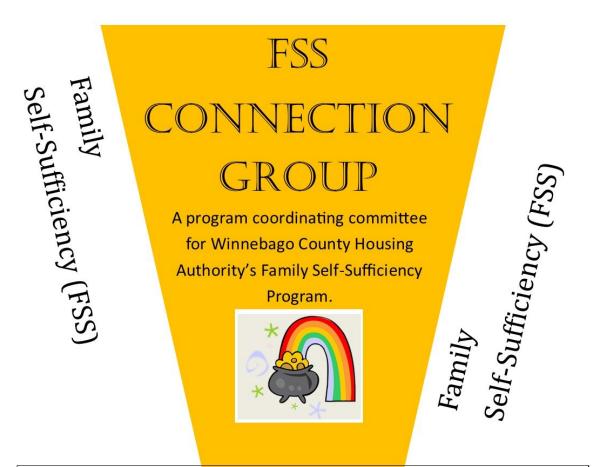
Starting Point



Contact Information: Kara Nowak | (920) 735-5722 | kara.nowak7593@fvtc.edu To find out if you are eligible and have a staff member contact you, fill out this survey: www.fvtc.edu/StartingPoint

FSS Connection Meeting

Save the Date!



Date: Monday, June 9th, 2025 Time: 9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

FSS Connection Group Meeting is on Monday, June 9th at 9:00 am. Al Rolph, Salvation Army Social Worker, will join us to talk about the Salvation Army and what they can do for you and your community! Everyone is welcome to attend! Let's also share agency updates.

Save the Date! Al is a great presenter!