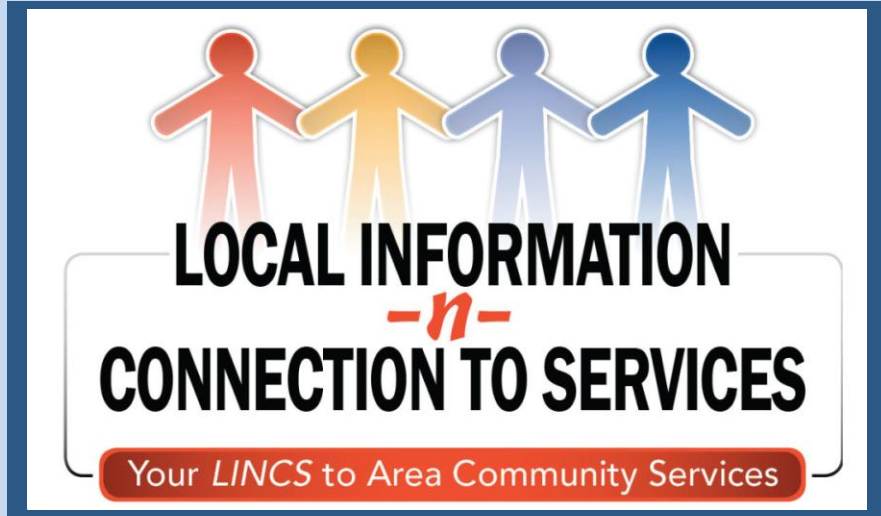


LINCS November Newsletter



Welcome to the LINCS newsletter!

The purpose of the LINCS newsletter is to help keep you updated on changes that are happening with agencies and programs throughout Muscatine.

We hope that this will allow all of you to stay better connected and to be more efficient since you won't have to spend your valuable time tracking down this information yourselves.

Of course, the only way that this information will make it into the newsletter is

if we know about it. So if you have changes going on in your own office send us an email and let us know. That way we can include them in the next newsletter! Also contact us with any suggestions for layout or content.

To contact LINCS

by phone at 563-263-5963 or

by email at:

lincs@unitedwaymuscatine.org

Program Spotlight: United Way Community Investment

Now that the United Way campaign is underway, Community Investment time is right around the corner. The Community Investment process is how United Way determines which agencies receive grant funding.

It all starts with volunteers from around the community who are formed into teams. Each team focuses on grant applications that fall under several categories specific to the types of work the programs do. These teams are responsible for going on agency tours and listening to presentations about

the program and its budget. These volunteers then come together to make the decision on where United Way invests in the community. If you are interested in becoming a Community Investment volunteer, contact [Sarah](#).

Community Investment Proposal Training will be December 6th and 8th at 8am at Central State Bank. Please plan to attend one of these sessions if you are interested in applying for funding.

Call 263-5963 if you have questions.

2011 UNITED WAY COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

United Way of Muscatine is proud to announce our grants to the following agencies for 2011:

American Red Cross

Boy Scouts

Family Resources

Flickinger Learning Center

Girls Scouts

Lutheran Services in Iowa

MCSA

Mississippi Valley Child Protection Center

Muscatine Community Y

Muscatine Legal Services

The Salvation Army

Senior Resources

Trinity Muscatine Public Health

To learn more about our investment in these agencies, click [here!](#)

Upcoming Events

The **Blue Zones Project** is geared to ignite and lead communities to improve the well-being of Iowans. The Blue Zone public forum will be held **Thursday, November 17** from **5:15-6:30 p.m.** at the **Muscatine Community School Board Office**. For questions about the public forum or how to get involved please contact **Adriana McMullan** at **264-9550**.

Friends of the Muscatine Art Center will be hosting the annual **Festival of Wreaths: A Holiday Salon** on **Saturday, November 19th** from **5:30 to 8pm** at the **Musser Mansion**. The event will feature catered refreshments, a silent auction, live music and an Artist's Salon. **Tickets are \$25** for non-Friends members or **\$20 for members** and are available at the Muscatine Art Center or at the door.

Muscatine Communities **Two Weeks of Love** begins at the end of this month. From **November 28th to December 3rd**, the Hawkeye Hauler will be in the **HyVee parking lot** at 2400 2nd Avenue collecting **non-perishable food items**. Then, from **December 5th to December 10th**, the Hawkeye Hauler will be in the HyVee parking lot again, collecting **toys** for area children. All collections will be taken to **The Salvation Army** in Muscatine. Over 1200 families will benefit from the campaign, and all food and toys stay in Muscatine County.

The Salvation Army will be taking applications at **1000 Oregon Street** for their **Christmas basket program**. Applications will be accepted from **November 28th to December 2nd** from **10am-Noon** and **1-3pm**. To sign up, clients will need a photo ID, proof of residency and proof of household members. Many agencies are taking applications on behalf of The Salvation Army. These will need to be submitted by **December 6th**. Angel trees will be at Walmart and the Muscatine Mall, but agencies wishing to sponsor a family can also contact The Salvation Army. All families will receive food boxes for a holiday meal. Children 17 and under will also receive a clothing item and gift.

Muscatine Statistics (as of publication)

Free/ Reduced Lunch Rate: 50.59%

Unemployment Rate (Musc. Co.): 5.9%

Households Receiving Food Assistance: 3300

Coat Connections



The Coat Connections program has teamed up with the AEA's Coats for Kids program to make sure that no child goes without a coat in Muscatine. Coat Connections is still accepting donations of coats, mittens, gloves or hats. The distribution points will be The Salvation Army and Community Action of Eastern Iowa.

Drop-off Boxes are located at:

Community Action - inside Muscatine Mall
Taco Johns - 506 Grandview Ave
The Salvation Army - 1000 Oregon Street
United Way of Muscatine - Pearl Plaza, 2nd floor

Cash donations are also welcome. Make checks payable and send to:

Coat Connections
United Way of Muscatine
PO Box 797
Muscatine, IA 52761

Medicare Part D

October 15 – December 7
Is the NEW
Medicare Part D
Open Enrollment Period

You can:

- Choose a different plan for 2012.
- Enroll if you don't have a plan.
- Apply for extra help with drug costs.

Call 263-7292 with questions.

The hope is that this newsletter will provide you with valuable information on the changes that are taking place in agencies and programs throughout Muscatine. Feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone who might find it useful. To be added to the mailing list, please contact lincs@unitedwaymuscatine.org with your email address and contact information.