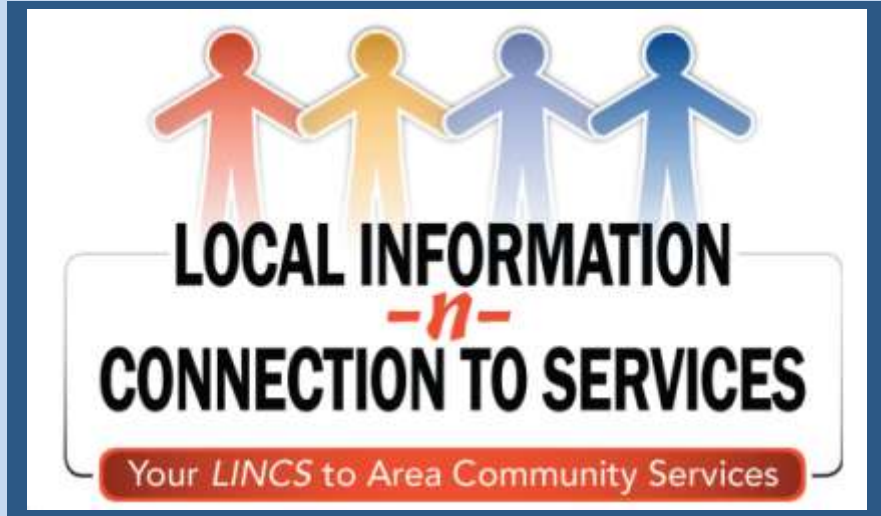


LINCS September Newsletter



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: Volunteer Solutions Website

Muscatine Community Volunteer Solutions is a program that connects volunteers to volunteer opportunities in the area. In the past, the program served as a middle-man between agencies and volunteers to coordinate opportunities. The program also lined up volunteer transportation, mostly for medical appointments.

With a change in Medicaid procedures that made it mandatory that all clients use the same 800 number for transportation to these medical appointments, that portion of the

volunteer coordination was discontinued.

Now, a new website has been launched for Volunteer Solutions. This site will allow volunteers to register and to view volunteer opportunities that have been posted by area agencies. With this change, the Volunteer Solutions program can focus on education and training, as well as raising awareness in the community.

You can find the new volunteer site at www.volunteermuscatine.org.

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 **Public Housing Department** of the **City of Muscatine** has announced that they are opening the **Section 8 waiting list** for qualifying families. Families with children or elderly or disabled families earning **below 30% of median income** are eligible. The waiting list will close on **September 23rd at 5pm**. There will be a lottery of eligible applicants to determine who gets the voucher. Applications may be picked up at **Muscatine City Hall**.

The **West Liberty Dream Catchers** will be holding their **2nd Annual Golf Tournament** at the West Liberty Country Club Golf Course on **October 1st**. Cost is **\$60 per person**. There are also hole sponsorships available. All proceeds will benefit the **West Liberty Dream Catchers Foundation**. For more information, contact **Roberto** at **319-430-9896** or by email robertomoreno.dds@gmail.com.

The **Muscatine CROP Walk for Hunger** will be held on **Sunday, October 2nd at 2pm**. The walk will start by the **Pearl City Station** on the riverfront. Contact **Judy Brotherton** at Wesley United Methodist Church at **263-1596** for more information.

The **Muscatine Community Y** will be holding a **Fire Safety Workshop** on **Thursday, October 6th** from **6:30-8pm** in the **Y Parlor Room**. The Muscatine Fire Department will be sharing fire safety information and a template for a safety plan for their home. This workshop is **free** to the public and child care will be provided. Please contact Diana Broderson at **263-9996** if you have any questions.

Super Parents Actively Responding for Kids' Safety (SPARKS) is for non-offending parents and child care providers whose kids have been hurt. Meetings will be **every Thursday** from **October 13th** to **November 20th** from **5:30-7pm**. **Free** child care and dinner will be provided. Meetings will be held at the Miss. Valley Child Protection Center at **1600 Mulberry Ave**. This is a joint effort of the **MVCPC** and **Family Resources**. Call **264-0580** to register.

Muscatine Statistics (as of publication)

Free/ Reduced Lunch Rate: 48.63%

Unemployment Rate (Musc. Co.): 6.0%

Households Receiving Food Assistance: 3265

Coat Connections



The Coat Connections program is still accepting donations of coats, mittens, gloves or hats. These donations will be distributed to those in need beginning in the Fall. 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
The Salvation Army - 1000 Oregon Street
United Way of Muscatine - Pearl Plaza, 2nd floor

.....and many more participating businesses. Look for the Coat Connections box.

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

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

Day of Caring 2011

Wednesday marks United Way's 5th Annual Day of Caring! We will, again, have 800+ volunteers completing projects throughout the community. For a community the size of Muscatine, that is truly remarkable (Quad-Cities Day of Caring has 1200 volunteers). A big thank you to everyone who will help on that day. United Way of Muscatine as well as all of the other non-profits that are having projects completed on Wednesday, realize the tremendous impact that these volunteers make on our community.

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.