

Community Services Block Grant

CSBG funds are used to develop programs and services designed especially to meet local needs. These are the programs offered by the Will County Center for Community Concerns.

Prescription Drug Assistance

Provides vouchers for prescribed medications to qualified clients for use at participating pharmacies.

Emergency Services

Provides assistance to individuals or families who are facing eviction or are threatened to have their water or sewer service disconnected.

CSBG Loan Program

Provides funds for small business start up or expansion. The business owner must be working with a bank or other financial organization and be willing to employ low-income individuals.

CSBG Scholarship Programs

Awards scholarships each year to low-income and disadvantaged students of high academic achievement or potential. Students must be enrolled or enrolling in an institute of higher education in the State of Illinois.

Housing Counseling

Provides training and counseling to low-income renters and homeowners in areas including landlord/tenant relations, budgeting, and family and life skills. HUD approved. By appointment only.

Family and Community Development

Provides intensive case management by key staff members who are certified as Family and Community Development Specialists to promote self-sufficiency in the family. Together the case manager and family formulate goals and steps needed to achieve these goals. By appointment only.

Employment Support

Assists eligible heads of households to obtain/maintain employment with such items as: daycare, transportation and work supplies.

Certified Renters

Provides training for Emergency Services participants to better manage households and strengthen landlord/tenant relationships.

When applying you will need:

1. Social Security cards for all household members.
2. Proof of gross income for 90 days prior to the date of application.
3. 30 day late/eviction notice from landlord or shutoff notice from water utility.
4. Copy of lease or mortgage.
5. For Employment Support - proof of employment and hours worked per week, valid drivers license and employer.

Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP)

The Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP) is designed to help low-income residents save fuel and money while increasing the comfort of their homes. The program provides heating system inspections, caulking, insulation of exterior walls and attic areas, weather-stripping and other conservation measures depending on the needs of the home.

Homeowners / Landowners:

Materials and labor are free of charge to qualified owner-occupied households. **No Liens are attached to the property. It is of no cost to the homeowner.** Landlords are required to pay 50% of the estimated material and labor costs prior to the work being performed on their rental property.

When applying you will need:

1. Social Security cards for all household members.
2. Most recent gas/electric bill.
3. Income from 12 months prior to the date of application
4. Proof of ownership (deed, tax bill, mortgage statement or title).
5. Landlords must provide a copy of property deed as proof of ownership.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is designed to assist Will County low-income eligible households pay for winter energy services.

LIHEAP will provide a one-time benefit to eligible households to be used for energy bills. The amount of the payment is determined by income and household size. An overdue bill or shut-off notice is not required. You do not have to own your own home or pay energy bills directly to be eligible for assistance. Your source of fuel does not have to be natural gas or electric in order to receive assistance. This assistance may be either:

A one-time payment made directly to your gas and/or electric supplier

— or —

A one-time cash payment to you when both of your utilities are included in the rent, but only if your rent exceeds 30% of your income.

When applying you will need:

1. Identification card for all members of the household. (Social Security card, driver's license or other official document.)
2. Proof of gross income (before taxes) from all household members for 30 days prior to the day you apply.
3. Your current gas and/or electric bills (if you pay directly), or if heating costs are included in your rent, your lease or current rent receipt along with your landlords name and telephone number.

The program is open September* through May or until all funding is gone.

**During September and October, applications are accepted only from seniors, persons with disabilities or those with disconnected service.*

Emergency furnace repair or replacement is also available for income eligible homeowners (occupants only). Furnace must be non-operational or red tagged.

Will County Continuum of Care

The Will County Continuum of Care is a consortium of government entities, elected officials, non-profit organizations and homeless support service providers that work in partnership to build a comprehensive service delivery system that leads individuals and families from homelessness to self-sufficiency. WCCCC provides coordination and administrative services to the Continuum, as well as maintaining the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) project. Nine committees provide planning to address many identified needs of the homeless and at-risk persons that include Education, Employment, Grants/Funding, Housing, Ranking, Support Services, Technology and Transportation.

FirstHome Program

FirstHome Program is a first-time homebuyer program designed for the economically challenged residents of Will County. The Program helps to close the gap between income and housing affordability for full-time working households who are projected to be under 70% of the area median income for the upcoming 12 months.

With the coordination of local banks and IHDA low interest financing, the Program takes potential homebuyers through the process of repairing their credit, pre-approval of financing and pre-purchase seminars prior to signing a sales contract.

Prospective homebuyers who have resided in Will County for 12 consecutive months and reside outside of the City of Joliet may apply.



Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Applications taken on a first come, first serve basis.



Will County's Community Action Agency

Will County Center for Community Concerns was established in 1987 to serve as the Community Action Agency for Will County. It is one of the 36 Community Action agencies which together serve the entire State of Illinois. Community Action's goal is to provide opportunities to enable low-income persons to become self-sufficient. We design and conduct both short and long term programs for the benefit of Will County's low-income citizens.

The services we provide to those in need would not be possible without the strong support of volunteers and donors. We count on your time and donations. The Will County Center for Community Concerns is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

We welcome your ideas in the development or expansion of programs and services. Please contact us at any time.

Thank You!



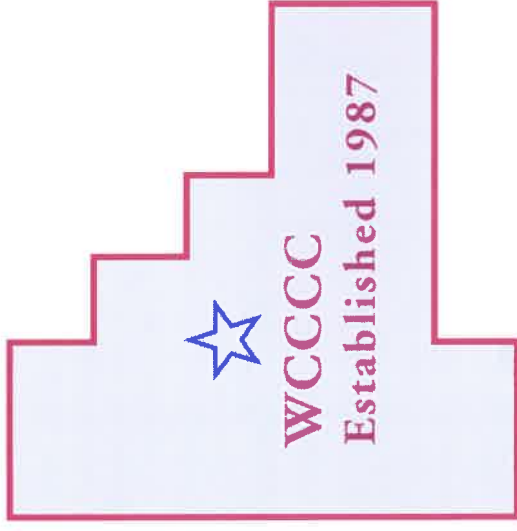
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