

# Social Service Report 2018

The Township's mandated responsibility is to provide for individuals in the Township who are in need and qualify for assistance. The 2018 annual report is a summary of the assistance the Township provided through the various programs.

# **Assistance Provided Funded Through the General Assistance Levy**

## **Number of Total Completed Applications Submitted**

• A total of 60 completed applications were submitted to the Township requesting assistance.

# **General Assistance**

• 4 individuals were eligible and received General Assistance (GA). The clients receiving General Assistance are seen on a monthly basis for review and determination of continued eligibility. There were a total of 17 monthly GA allotments.

#### **Emergency Assistance**

• 25 households were eligible and received Emergency Assistance.

#### **Denied Assistance**

• 33 applications were denied assistance.

#### **Applications Withdrawn**

• 3 applicants withdrew their application for assistance.

#### SSI Recovery funds received in 2018 was 0.

#### **Credit Counseling Workshop**

- Libertyville Township continues to partner with the Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Lake County to provide a monthly 90 minute workshop on Basic Budgeting. All recipients of General Assistance and Emergency Assistance are required to attend one Basic Budgeting Workshop.
  - o 15 recipients attended.
  - o 4 recipients attended a one on one session on personal finances.
- Office space was also provided on a weekly basis to the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Lake County to meet with area residents on an individual basis by appointment only.

# **Assistance Provided Through Private Donations to the Township**

#### **Community Emergency Assistance Fund**

Libertyville Township has a Community Emergency Fund funded by private tax deductible donations to the Libertyville Township Gift Fund. The fund is administered by the Township Supervisor and is used to assist those with immediate needs who may not otherwise qualify for assistance.

 8 households who through the application process were determined not eligible for General Assistance or Emergency Assistance but were provided help through Community Emergency Assistance Funds.

## **Food Pantry**

- In 2018, a total of 303 households registered to use Libertyville Township Food Pantry. Recipients are allowed to use the food pantry twice a month and are required to provide proof of residency.
- A total of 22 adult volunteers and a church organization with numerous volunteers assisted with Food Pantry activities. In addition, 1 college student, one church youth group, one 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class, one Daisy Girl Scout troop, one elementary school service club, 1 individual needing community service hours, a summer camp group, a Girl Scout and her mother, and a two family groups provided volunteer service. These areas of service included sorting donated food, packing bags to be distributed weekly on food pantry day, picking up and delivering bread and baked goods from Mariano's weekly, handing out food to recipients and assisting with our book fair in December.
- The total amount of our food pantry use in 2018 was 2,221 visits providing food for 6,115 individuals.
- A total of 74 Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes and 62 Christmas Dinner Boxes were donated and distributed during the holiday season.
- A total of 36 families attended our Book and Toy Fair in December to pick out donated gifts and books for their children.
- School supply packs were purchased and provided to 76 students of 33 families who have received financial assistance from the Township and/or utilized the food pantry. In addition, Girl Scout Sofia Coury created 80 grade appropriate Literacy Kits that were distributed with the school supplies for her Girl Scout Gold Star Project.
- Through our partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank, the pantry received 1,172 lbs. of Emergency Food and Shelter Program food with an estimated federal dollar value of \$713.92.
- Through Northern Illinois Food Bank's Direct Connect retail donation program, the received weekly donations of such items as meat, produce, dairy, deli foods, shelf stables, non-food products, bread and baked goods directly from Libertyville Jewel and bread and baked goods from Vernon Hills Mariano's.
- Oak Street Health made one visit to our food pantry to inform our recipients of their health care services for adults with Medicare December 13, 2018

• RTA held two Mobility Management Resource Days at the food pantry to inform clients about their public transportation options – October 16 and December 13, 2018

#### **Holiday Giving Program**

• 8 sponsors provided gifts to 17 families through the Holiday Giving Program.

# **Assistance Provided Through Community Resources**

Applications for financial assistance from Share the Warmth, Salvation Army Extension Center and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) are taken at Libertyville Township Office for eligible Libertyville Township residents. The Township Caseworker provides the application and conducts the interview for the application process. Funding is provided by the identified service provider.

# Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

- Cooling Grant (electric) offered for seniors and individuals with a disability.
  - o Program was closed due to State and Federal Funding Cuts.
- Heating Grant for low income families, seniors and individuals with a disability for financial assistance on their gas and electric bill.
  - o 105 recipients

#### **Mother's Trust**

- It provides benefits and opportunities available which cannot be obtained from other sources. Their goal is to assist children in trouble or crisis, raise awareness of children's needs, link needs with community resources and provide opportunities for volunteers to be involved.
  - o 3 families were referred.

# **Salvation Army Extension Center – 2018**

- 4 Libertyville residents received assistance with utility, rent, medicine, lodging, food needs.
  - A total of \$ 795 in financial assistance was provided.

#### **Share the Warmth**

- An Energy Assistance Program through North Shore Gas provides financial assistance for gas bills to low income families and individuals through a matching grant. The application process varies each year.
  - There were 4 applications for Share the Warmth.

#### **Professional Development**

- Kathleen O'Connor attended a presentation on the Coalition to Reduce Recidivism at Waukegan Township January 17, 2018
- Liz Heffernan completed one on one training for Direct Connect/Meal Connect Program with Scott Jewitt from Northern Illinois Food Bank February 5, 2018
- Liz Heffernan attended the General Assistance Training Institute in Bloomington March 16, 2018

- Kathleen O'Connor and Liz Heffernan attended a presentation on Lake County's Early Intervention Program at Libertyville Township March 21, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor and Liz Heffernan attended a presentation on SOAR (SSI/SSDI) Outreach, Access and Recovery at Zion Township May 16, 2018
- Liz Heffernan and Alex Rodriguez attended Food Safety Training with the Northern Illinois Food Bank June 6, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor attended ServicePoint training at the Lake County Health Department June 19, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor and Liz Heffernan attended ServicePoint training at Lake County Court house July 13, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor and Liz Heffernan attended a presentation from the Lake County Health Department on the Opioid Crisis held at Libertyville Township – August 15, 2018
- Liz Heffernan participated in a Salvation Army training conference call implementing their new system September 5, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor and Liz Heffernan attended the PADS Summit on Homelessness at College of Lake County October 19, 2018

#### **Public Communication and Outreach**

- Kathleen O'Connor serves as a participant in the Lake County's LHS Drinking Prevention Coalition.
- Kathleen O'Connor participated in the Lake County Strategic Planning Meetings related to public transportation.
- Kathleen O'Connor serves on the Lake County Coordinated Transportation Services Committee (LCCTSC).
- Kathleen O'Connor serves on the Lake County Transportation Alliance.
- Kathleen O'Connor attended Libertyville Noon Rotary's Social Service Grants Luncheon January 18, 2018
- Food Pantry Volunteer Appreciation Brunch was held Friday, February 16, 2018
- Rockland Cares held 1 volunteer outing for students grades 1<sup>st</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> to learn about the food pantry and volunteer March 12, 2018

- Kathleen O'Connor attended the Area on Aging's Strategic Planning Stakeholder Meeting at the Libertyville Civic Center April 19, 2018
- Liz Heffernan and Alex Rodriguez attended the Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards of the Senior Council of Libertyville – May 17, 2018
- Liz Heffernan met with Jenny Ugalde, Mundelein Police Department Social Worker- May 21, 2018
- Libertyville Daisy Troop held 1 volunteer outing to learn about the food pantry and volunteer May, 4, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor and Ashley Lucas from the Lake County Division of Transportation presented to the Lake County Center for Independent Living on public transportation in Lake County – May 24, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor met with staff from St. Joseph Parish to discuss the Township's process for determining applicant eligibility for financial assistance August 14, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor provided information on Libertyville Township's services at the Senior Health Fair at the Libertyville Sports Complex August 28, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor attended Libertyville Police Department's "Law Enforcement Interactions with the Homeless" training at the Libertyville Sports Complex October 3, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor participated on a panel discussion for the United Way of Lake County's 211
  Initiative October 18, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor and Alex Rodriguez attended Cook Memorial Library's "Touch the Truck" event October 20, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor attended Erie HealthReach's Open House and presentation November 7, 2018
- Kathleen O'Connor provided presentation on Township's social services and food pantry to Utopia, Inc. – November 19, 2018