



## **Social Service Report 2023**

The Township's mandated responsibility is to provide for individuals in the Township who are in need and qualify for assistance. The 2023 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 fifty-eight completed applications were submitted to the Township requesting assistance.

#### **General Assistance**

- There were zero recipients of General Assistance funds in 2023.

#### **Emergency Assistance**

- Twenty-six households were eligible and received Emergency Assistance.

#### **Denied Assistance**

- Nineteen applications were denied assistance.

#### **Applications Withdrawn**

- Zero applicants withdrew their application for assistance.

**SSI Recovery funds received in 2023 were zero.**

#### **Credit Counseling Workshop**

Libertyville Township continues to partner with the Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Lake County to provide a monthly workshop on Basic Budgeting. All recipients of General Assistance and Emergency Assistance are required to attend one Basic Budgeting Workshop. The classes were held virtually, via Zoom. Thirty-five residents attended the workshops.

### **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 Community Emergency Fund. This fund is administered by the Township Supervisor and assists those with immediate needs who may not otherwise qualify for assistance.

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

- An additional twenty-six households were eligible for both Emergency Assistance and Community Emergency Funds.

### **Food Pantry**

In 2023, a total of 286 households registered to use Libertyville Township Food Pantry. Recipients can use the food pantry weekly and are required to provide proof of residency. Bagged food was delivered to Liberty Towers weekly.

- A total of sixteen adult volunteers and a church organization with numerous volunteers assisted with Food Pantry activities. Volunteers helped unload deliveries, sort food and pack food pantry bags each week.
- The total number of food pantry users in 2023 was 5,447 visits providing food for 12,415 individuals.
- A total of 76 Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes and 70 Christmas Dinner Boxes were donated and distributed during the holiday season.
- School supply kits were purchased and provided to ninety-seven students of fifty-two families who have received financial assistance from the Township and/or utilized the food pantry. In addition, Gold Star Girl Scout Sofia Coury created twenty-five grade appropriate Literacy Kits that were distributed with the school supply kits.
- Through our partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank, we received 3,784 lbs. of Emergency Food and Shelter Program food with an estimated federal dollar value of \$4,413.04.
- Through Direct Connect, Northern Illinois Food Bank's Retail Donation Program, the pantry 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, Vernon Hills Mariano's, and Target in Vernon Hills.
- Three members of the Chicago Bears volunteered to load cars for the food pantry's Thanksgiving Dinner distribution - November 21, 2023.

### **Holiday Giving Program**

- Twelve sponsors provided gifts to twenty families. A total of fifty children received gifts.
- The Holiday Gift Room was visited by twenty-nine families which provided gifts to fifty-four children.

### **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) were completed at Libertyville Township Office for eligible Libertyville Township residents. The Township Caseworker provides the application and conducts the interview for the application process. The funding requested is provided by the identified service provider.

### **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**

Applications were submitted on behalf of eighty-one residents applying for the Heating Grant for low-income families, seniors, and individuals with a disability for financial assistance on their gas and electric bill.

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

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. Five families were referred for funding and received a combined total of \$2,410.00 in assistance.

### **Salvation Army Extension Center**

Six Libertyville Township residents received a combined total of \$3,250.00 in financial assistance to help with the following expenses: utilities, rent, medicine, lodging, and food.

### **St. Vincent DePaul Society/Santa Maria del Popolo**

Ten residents received vouchers for St. Vincent DePaul Society/Santa Maria del Popolo July 10 Annual Rummage Sale

### **Professional Development**

- Liz Heffernan attended a Northern Illinois Food Bank Training, via Zoom - March 15, 2023
- Liz Heffernan attended a Northern Illinois Food Bank Network Quarterly Meeting, via Zoom - April 9, 2023.
- Liz Heffernan attended a Northern Illinois Food Bank Direct Connect Refresher Training, via Zoom - June 22, 2023.
- Liz Heffernan, Alex Rodriguez, and Kathleen O'Connor attended CPR Training at the Township - July 20, 2023.
- Liz Heffernan attended a Salvation Army Regional Service Extension meeting, Waukegan - July 31, 2023
- Liz Heffernan attended a Northern Illinois Food Bank All Agency Webinar - December 1, 2023
- Liz Heffernan Completed the Salvation Army's Safe from Harm Training, via Zoom - December 11, 2023

### **Public Communication and Outreach**

- Kathleen O'Connor served on the Lake County Transportation Alliance and attended meetings held on January 20, April 14, June 15, July 14, and October 20, 2023.
- Kathleen O'Connor and Alex Rodriguez collected donations at the Libertyville High School Girls Basketball's Food Drive – January 21, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor attended a District 70 School Board Meeting honoring a food pantry student volunteer – January 23, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor served on United Way of Lake County's 2-1-1 Advisory Committee and attended meetings held on January 25, May 10, and August 9.
- Kathleen O'Connor served on Lake County's Public Aid Committee – February 9, 2023

- Kathleen O'Connor served on Libertyville Connect and attended meetings held on February 13, March 13, April 10, April 25, May 8, September 11, and December 11, 2023.
- Kathleen O'Connor served on Lake County's Housing and Community Development Commission and attended meetings held on February 22, February 27, March 15, May 10, July 12, August 9, September 13, and October 11, 2023.
- Kathleen O'Connor served on the committee with representatives from the Lake County Haven and Youth and Family Counseling to plan the 5K Tri-Agency Fun Run. Meetings were held on March 24, April 27, June 23, July 26, August 21, September 5, September 28, and October 12, 2023.
- Liz Heffernan met with Marcus Buckley, from the Salvation Army - April 19, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor volunteered at Libertyville High School's Snowflake Event – April 21, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor the Senior Council of Libertyville's Senior Citizens Hall of Fame Event – May 9, 2023
- Alex Rodriguez and Kathleen O'Connor collected donations from the UP Postal Service's Annual Food Drive – May 13, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor attended United Way of Lake County's Annual Premier Leaders Event – May 24, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor attended an event at a Libertyville Sunrise Rotary Meeting – August 2, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor worked at booth at the Stevenson High School Volunteer Fair Event – August 30, 2023
- Liz Heffernan and Alex Rodriguez met with Barb Connet, representative from the Northern Illinois Food Bank, for the annual agency monitoring - September 6, 2023
- Liz Heffernan, Alex Rodriguez, and Kathleen O'Connor assisted with the First Annual Tri-Agency 5K and Fun Run at Independence Grove - October 15, 2023
- Kathleen O'Connor met with representatives from Libertyville High School's Student Council regarding their food drive – October 24, 2023
- Jon Happ, Mickey Cardenas, Bryor Renz, Alex Rodriguez, Kevin Slaybaugh, Mike Zorn, and Kathleen O'Connor attended Libertyville High School's Food Drive Event – November 11, 2020
- Alex Rodriguez, Liz Heffernan, & Kathleen O'Connor provided a tour and led a volunteer event for a third grade Girl Scout Troop – December 5, 2023
- Alex Rodriguez, Liz Heffernan, & Kathleen O'Connor provided a tour and led a volunteer event for Connections Day School Transition Program – December 5, 2023