

COMMUNITY RESOURCES OF SANGAMON COUNTY

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<http://sangamonil.gov/departments/a-c/community-resources>



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Mission Statement

The Sangamon County Department of Community Resources strives to improve the quality of life for people in-need through department programs, services and referrals that promote economic stability.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The LIHEAP program is designed to assist low-income households with winter energy services. A one-time benefit is provided to eligible households to be used for energy bills. Community Resources served over 5,000 households in program year 2024 - 2025 with LIHEAP, PIPP and furnace assistance.

Appointments will be accepted starting October 1, 2024 Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Copies of gas and electric bills, disconnect notices (if applicable), social security cards for everyone in the home, and proof of household income from the last 30 days are required to determine eligibility.

Income Guidelines for LIHEAP 2024 - 2025

Family Size	200% 30 Day Income	200% Annual Income
1	\$2,510	\$30,120
2	\$3,407	\$40,880
3	\$4,303	\$51,640
4	\$5,200	\$62,400
5	\$6,097	\$73,160
6	\$6,993	\$83,920
7	\$7,890	\$94,680
8	\$8,427	\$101,127
9	\$8,611	\$103,326
10	\$8,794	\$105,524
11	\$8,977	\$107,723
12	\$9,280	\$111,360
13	\$9,953	\$119,430
14	\$10,625	\$127,500
15	\$11,298	\$135,570
16	\$11,970	\$143,640
17	\$12,643	\$151,710
18	\$13,315	\$159,780

For families with more than 18 persons, add \$673 for each additional person. \$8,070

These figures are based on the 2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines published in the US Department of Health and Human Services in the Federal Register/Volume 89/Number 11/January 17, 2024. Given that HHS allows 150% of FPG or 60% of SMI, where 200% of FPG is lower than 60% of SMI the program will be using 200% of FPG as our highest category. However, for the household size of 8 to 11 members, the benefit at 200% would exceed the allowable 60% SMI. For households larger than 11 members, the 150% will be set as the maximum income eligibility criteria. The state reserves the right to adjust these levels based on the availability of federal appropriations.

Illinois Home Weatherization Program (IHWAP)

IHWAP provides energy conservation services (such as attic and wall insulation, caulking, glazing, weather stripping etc.) to income eligible clients based on income for the preceding twelve months for all members in the household. Furnace tune-ups, retrofits and repairs are included with dollar limits for all work done. (A computerized energy audit is done to determine what items can be accomplished within the limit.) We anticipate weatherizing 97 homes in Sangamon and Macon County. Calls to be added to the Weatherization waiting list may be made at any time. Currently, there is a 1-2 year wait.

2024 - 2025 Program Year Income Guidelines (Same as LIHEAP)

Family Size	200% 30 Day Income	200% Annual Income
1	\$2,510	\$30,120
2	\$3,407	\$40,880
3	\$4,303	\$51,640
4	\$5,200	\$62,400
5	\$6,097	\$73,160
6	\$6,993	\$83,920
7	\$7,890	\$94,680
8	\$8,427	\$101,127
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Low-Income Sewer Assistance Program

Income-eligible Sangamon County Residents living in the Sangamon County Water Reclamation District, may qualify for a one-time sewer rebate of \$100.00 in program year 2024-2025. Sangamon County residents in the Sangamon County Water Reclamation District may call 535-3120 for an application any day during business hours until funds are depleted.

Who is eligible?

You are eligible if you can answer yes to all of the following questions:

- You live within the limits of the Sangamon County Water Reclamation District and have a current SCWRD sewer bill to submit.
- The 30-day gross income of your household is within the same limits of LiHeap.

What is “Gross Income of Household”?

This is the income received by EVERY member of your household (related or not) in the previous 30 days before your appointment who was at least 18 years old. This includes but is not limited to wages, salaries, gross amounts of pensions and annuities, retirement benefits, Social Security benefits, unemployment, TANF, disability, child support, general assistance and any other form of income.

What Documents are Required?

For all members of your household we require:

- Photo I.D. for Head of Household.
- Most recent utility bills reflecting sewer charges.
- Social Security cards for all members of the household.
- Any medical cards.

Documentation for all sources of income for all household members over 18 years old. Copies of pay stubs or proof of income for the past 30 days for anyone in the household that is over 18 years of age. If no income has been received, applicant and all household members over 18 years of age must provide one of the following documents:

- Denial letter for social security benefits.
 - Denial letter for unemployment benefits.
 - Denial letter for workman’s compensation.
 - Medical card (copy of front and back) with the clients name on it. Proof of application for food stamps, cash/medical.
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Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

CSBG is designed to provide services that assist low-income people to attain the skills, knowledge, and motivation necessary to achieve **self-sufficiency**.

Components of the program include:

- Housing Assistance: for FT employed people (30 hours or more per week) and those on disability who have experienced a circumstance out of their control). Financial Literacy class is required and provided by Sangamon County Community Resources.
- Emergency Services (work clothing, car repair, re-certification test fees for FT employed people)
- C.N.A., Phlebotomy and P.C.A. funded courses may also offer transportation assistance.
- GED Test Funding Assistance through Lawrence Education Center and LLCC GED Education Program.
- High School Summer School Tuition Assistance
- Financial Literacy Workshop
- Senior Food Boxes

2025 INCOME GUIDELINES

Family Size	100% of Poverty	100% 30-Day	200% of Poverty	200% 30-Day
1	\$15,650	\$1,304	\$31,300	\$2,608
2	\$21,150	\$1,763	\$42,300	\$3,525
3	\$26,650	\$2,221	\$53,300	\$4,442
4	\$32,150	\$2,679	\$64,300	\$5,358
5	\$37,650	\$3,138	\$75,300	\$6,275
6	\$43,150	\$3,596	\$86,300	\$7,192
7	\$48,650	\$4,054	\$97,300	\$8,108
8	\$54,150	\$4,513	\$108,300	\$9,025

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$5,500.00 for each additional member to arrive at yearly amounts for 100%. At 200% yearly amounts are increased by \$11,000.00 for each additional member.

Programs offered to increase family self-sufficiency include:

- financial literacy workshops
- life skills/goal setting workshops
- Funding for 4 week Personal Care Assistant and 8 week C.N.A. program in partnership with Fishes and Loaves Outreach Ministries.

Employment Through Education – Fishes and Loaves Outreach Ministries Personal Care Assistant and Certified Nursing Assistant Program

The admission process at FLVLC Institute is selective. Generally, applicants for the training center must demonstrate that they will be able to benefit from the vocational training programs and/or adult continuing education classes in which they are enrolled. The specific goal of the vocational training programs is to prepare applicants for employment or to enhance their employability. Job placement is the desired outcome of all programs, and job placement services are available free of charge to applicants.

The Fishes and Loaves SMART MOVE program has identified a pool of clients who are interested in working as Personal Care Attendants. The focus of this class is to prepare individuals to obtain entry-level employment. The information and skills presented are needed to provide personal care and homemaking skills to individuals and families in the home environment. This class is a preparatory, pre-employment/pre-bridge readiness class for adults interested in entry-level health care careers. Once individuals are employed employers provide a complete orientation and review of information and skills needed to be a Personal Care Attendant. The CNA program is a 7 week course inclusive of 124 hours of Basic Nurses Aid Training (82 hours of theory and 42 hours of clinical). We serve students who demonstrate a 8.5 Reading level and a 5.0 math level. The morning classes are from 8:00am to 12:00pm; night classes are from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.

GED Test Funding Assistance

In partnership with LLCC and Lawrence Education Center (LEC) Community Resources provides up to \$120.00 for the four parts of the new GED test to students who have passed the GED practice tests and are referred to Community Resources by LLCC or LEC instructors.

Financial Education Workshops

Take advantage of the Financial Education Workshops offered by area professionals at the Sangamon County Department of Community Resources. You will learn ways to help you live within your means and manage debt so it doesn't manage you. You will also learn how to develop a spending plan that will help you reach your goals and better manage your credit. In addition, you'll learn why banks and credit unions are a great choice for your money, and be shown how to manage expenses if you have children and other tips on deductions you may be able to take on your taxes. Calls to reserve a seat on Tuesdays for Wednesday classes. Walk-ins welcome if space allows. No late arrivals over 10 minutes will be allowed to participate that day and must attend another day. The class cannot accommodate children. For persons who work and cannot attend the day class, arrangements will be made to accommodate the schedule. Certified Family Support Specialists (FSS) will offer eligible customers opportunities in the form of appointments centered on goal setting, agency services and community partner referrals to use when a service is provided. ***Customers who do not follow through with referrals and obtain tools to progress toward self-sufficiency will be ineligible for services until they can verify progress toward self-determination.*** Services provided will be incentivized with opportunities to set goals for self-improvement through FSS appointments, short term training, job-search workshops and assistance, financial literacy workshops and volunteer opportunities.

Programs to continue to increase family self-sufficiency or stabilize families will include:

All callers for Housing Assistance appointments must attend the 3-hour financial literacy workshop before applying for this service. The next time customers call for a housing or employment support service and are eligible, they must show evidence of further progress toward self-sufficiency to verify self-determination.

Housing Assistance is defined as households who face eviction due to extenuating circumstances out of their control. Emergency examples are fires, floods, tornados. Families with children will be the priority for the emergency rent program. Other Housing assistance is defined as households who need rent or mortgage if current circumstances out of their control and put them at risk for eviction (guardians of children whose parents are incarcerated, divorce, death of a spouse, job loss, bills from illness).

Able-bodied parents of children who are on disability and are not working are not eligible for housing assistance and will be referred to job search, education, organizations that need volunteers, financial literacy workshops, etc. programs to complete. If parent calls again and receives appointment, he/she must show evidence of a certificate(s) or other progress toward self-sufficiency to receive rent. Otherwise, he/she will be ineligible for CSBG services until progress is verified by documentation. Progress is determined by case manager and coordinator. Housing assistance eligibility is every 24 months unless approved by Executive Director.

Community Services Block Grant Programs

<i>Program/Service</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Housing and Emergency Services (Rent/mortgage assistance, car repair, work clothing, certification test fees)	Housing and Emergency Services appointments held daily.		Financial Literacy Workshop 9:00 am-12:00 pm		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GED vouchers 	These appointments will be held as needed when time is available seasonally or throughout the year by any staff available.				
Summer School Tuition Assistance (classes held mid-June to late July.)	Calls taken any time after June 1.			Summer School Appts. Early June-Late July.	
Scholarships	Appointments for CNA tuition fees daily	.			
Summer Recreation and After School Art School	Appointments for summer tuition fees daily				
Max-Out Summer Recreation Basketball Camp at Lanphier H.S./week in early June Nike Basketball Camp	7:30-9:30 on- site registration Dates TBA	7:30-9:30 on- site registration	7:30-9:30 on-site registration		
Family Self-Sufficiency (Family Functioning/Goal Setting) Required for all eligible Housing and Employment Support	Initial appointments –90+-min.				
	duration or attend workshop.				
	Follow up appointments - 30+ minute duration				
Financial Literacy Workshops			Wednesdays – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		
Senior Food Boxes	If list is full, you will be placed on a waitlist. Taking applications and/or placement on waitlist daily.				