



## **Social Service Report 2017**

The Township's mandated responsibility is to provide for individuals in the Township who are in need and qualify for assistance. The 2017 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 63 completed applications were submitted to the Township requesting assistance.

#### **General Assistance**

- 5 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**

- 24 households were eligible and received Emergency Assistance.

#### **Denied Assistance**

- 22 applications were denied assistance.

#### **Applications Withdrawn**

- 2 applicants withdrew their application for assistance.

**SSI Recovery funds received in 2017 was \$8,000.**

#### **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.
  - 15 recipients attended.
  - 7 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 Community Emergency Fund. This fund is administered by the Township Supervisor and is used to assist those with immediate needs who may not otherwise qualify for assistance.

- 22 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 2017, a total of 264 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 29 adult volunteers and a church organization with numerous volunteers assisted with Food Pantry activities. In addition, 4 high school students, one church youth group, one 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class, one Boy Scout troop, one Girl Scout troop, one elementary school service club, 10 employees of a private company and 2 individuals needing community service hours 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 2017 was 2,278 visits providing food for 6,553 individuals.
- A total of 78 Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes and 85 Christmas Dinner Boxes were donated and distributed during the holiday season.
- A total of 35 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 97 students of 43 families who have received financial assistance from the Township and/or utilized the food pantry.
- Through our partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank we received 2,019 lbs. of Emergency Food and Shelter Program food with an estimated federal dollar value of \$1,922.44.
- Through Northern Illinois Food Bank's retail donation program, Direct Connect, we 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.
- SNAP Outreach Worker from Northern Illinois Food Bank made one visit to our food pantry to meet with recipients to see if they qualify for food stamp benefits and to assist them in the application process.

- Oak Street Health made one visit to our food pantry to inform our recipients of their health care services for adults with Medicare.
- Rockland Cares held 2 volunteer outings for students grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 5th to learn about the food pantry and volunteer.
- Audibel Hearing Aid Center held free hearing screening on June 6<sup>th</sup> for Libertyville Township residents.

### **Holiday Giving Program**

- 7 sponsors provided gifts to 10 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 Social Worker 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.
  - 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.
  - 164 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.
  - 2 families was referred

### **Salvation Army Extension Center – 2017**

- 4 Libertyville residents received assistance with utility, rent, medicine, lodging, food needs.
  - A total of \$ 800 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 2 applications for Share the Warmth

### **Professional Development**

- Linda Blatnik and Alex Rodriguez completed webinar training for Direct Connect/Meal Connect Program – November 2, 2017

- Linda Blatnik attended The Service Extension Center, Salvation Army Fall 2017 Regional Meeting - November 3, 2017
- Linda Blatnik attended the Meal Connect Program online training program – November 17, 2017

### **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 attended Lake County United's Celebrate Affordable Housing Event – January 15, 2017
- Food Pantry Volunteer Appreciation Brunch was held - Thursday, March 9, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor attended Catholic Charities' Champions for Meals Event – March 20, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor provided paratransit and local government presentation to Lake County Center for Independent Living – April 20, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor and Linda Blatnik visited Pregnancy & Life Resources – April 21, 2017.
- Kathleen O'Connor on the Township's social services to the staff at St. Joseph Parish – May 2, 2017
- Linda Blatnik met with a leadership member of St. Vincent de Paul at Mary of the Annunciation – May 12, 2017
- Linda Blatnik met with the Legislative Aide for 51<sup>st</sup> District Office of State Representative Nick Sauer – May 18, 2017
- Kathleen was a co-presented on the Ride Lake County Central Service Update to the Village of Mundelein – May 22, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor provided paratransit presentation to Libertyville Sunrise Rotary – July 5, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor and Linda Blatnik met with the new Executive Director of Career Resource Center – July 7, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor provided presentation on Township's social services and food pantry to Utopia, Inc. – November 15, 2017

- Kathleen O'Connor participated in Cross Country Challenge Food Drive to benefit the Libertyville Township Food Pantry – November 17, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor presented to Lake County's Public Works and Transportation Committee – December 6, 2017
- Kathleen O'Connor attended Heather's Gym Food Pantry Event – December 15, 2017