

Updates

November 2023

What's happening?!

Highlights:

- Annual General Meeting
- Wine Down Wednesday
- Giving Tuesday
- Round Up at Walmart.com
- Events and Community Engagement
- Upcoming Workshops
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Committee Positions

Upcoming Closings

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving.

[Donate here.](#)

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Annual General Meeting

Mid Central Community will elect board officers for 2024, share our FY23 annual report, and present the results of our 2023 McLean and Livingston Counties Community Needs Assessment.

There will be an opportunity for residents of McLean and Livingston Counties to provide input.

The meeting will be held at our Corporate Office located at 1301 W Washington, Bloomington, from 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM on November 15.

Wine Down Wednesday

Get ready for an evening of indulgence as we uncork the magic of art, wine, and community! Sip and savor while you sample a selection of delectable appetizers and explore the creative

atmosphere of the McLean County Arts Center, where local artists showcase unique gifts for guests to discover and purchase.

Feeling lucky? We will have a raffle for a chance to win gift baskets overflowing with treasures from our beloved local businesses. It's a celebration of community, support, and a touch of luck!

Connect with fellow wine enthusiasts, art lovers, and supporters of both Mid Central Community Action and the McLean County Arts Center. Share stories, make new friends, and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals.

[Purchase tickets.](#)



Save the Date!

DECEMBER 6, 2023
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM

MCLEAN COUNTY ARTS CENTER
**WINE DOWN
WEDNESDAY**
BENEFITING MID CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION

SIP AND SAVOR WHILE YOU SAMPLE A SELECTION OF DELECTABLE APPETIZERS, AND EXPLORE THE CREATIVE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MCLEAN COUNTY ARTS CENTER, WHERE LOCAL ARTISTS SHOWCASE UNIQUE GIFTS FOR GUESTS TO DISCOVER AND PURCHASE.

McLean County Arts Center, 601 N. East St. Bloomington IL

Giving Tuesday

This Giving Tuesday let's celebrate the spirit of generosity that transcends borders and connects hearts. Originating in 2012, this global movement has grown into a force for positive change.

This year, we're taking it virtual! Join MCCA in making a difference through online donations, Amazon Wish Lists (see a snapshot below), and volunteer initiatives (see further down in this newsletter for opportunities). Embrace the power of digital giving to create real-world impact. Together, we can turn the virtual space into a hub of compassion and change lives for our neighbors who rely on Mid Central Community Action to *Educate, Equip, and Empower.*

Let's make this Giving Tuesday a testament to the collective strength of kindness in the digital age.

If you prefer to mail or drop off gift cards, we are seeking card donations for gas stations, grocery stores, home improvement stores, Once Upon A Child, Plato's Closet, and Star Uniforms. These can either be mailed or dopped off to our Corporate office at 1301 W. Washington, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Watch your inbox on Giving Tuesday for more details.



JOIN US

GIVING TUESDAY

November 28, 2023

We will be doing a virtual push for donation and items for our Amazon Wish Lists:

Countering Domestic Violence

- Travel sized toiletries
- Body puffs
- Hand soap
- Sleeping bonnets
- Shower caps
- Chapstick
- Feminine hygiene products
- Cleaning supplies
- Womans underwear - all sizes
- Mens sweatshirts and hoodies - all sizes
- Essential oils

Mayors Manor

- Painting kits
- Craft paint and brushes
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Cooking utensils
- Cleaning supplies
- Mixing bowl sets
- Silverware sets
- Plates and/or cup sets
- Swiffer mop, wet and dry refills
- Brooms
- Wall decor items

Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center®

Income Supoprts

- Pens
- Notebooks
- Large boxes of chips
- Disposable plates, cups, napkins
- Bottled water cases
- Packaged snacks
- Kitchen cooking utensil sets
- Tools (hammer, screwdriver, wrenches)
- Travel sized hygiene kits
- Monthly budget books



Donate Now

Round up at Walmart.com

Are you a frequent Walmart.com shopper? Did you know you can make your banking tidier by rounding up your total purchase to the next dollar, and donate the spare change to Mid Central Community Action? You can!

It might not sound like much, but if we all do it, we can make a huge difference. Learn more [here](#).



Round up
for
MCCA

Walmart.com and on
the Walmart app



Mid
Central
Community
Action

Your spare change will
help your neighbors:

- Promote financial security
- Counter domestic violence
- Combat homelessness



Learn More 

October Engagement Events

October was a busy month for engagement!

Our CDV program had a great time spreading awareness at the dine to donate events at The Bistro, BloNo Pizza, and Gill Street Sports Bar and Restaurant, who all allowed us to set up a dine to donate.

MCCA made the long trek across the street and set up a table next to Kyle Knowers of the BPD for the Heartland Head Start Trunk or Treat.

Tami Foley, our ED, had the opportunity to share our mission and vision with the congregations at both First and Second Presbyterian churches and had a fantastic turnout.

Check out pictures on our [Facebook Page](#).



Upcoming Workshops

Let the team at Mid Central Community Action help you gain confidence through our **workshops!** Whether you have an upcoming job interview, need to form good financial habits, or want to learn tips to best prepare yourself prior to purchasing a home, Mid Central Community Action has you covered! Join us for an upcoming workshop and feel confident in your next steps in life!

Click on each picture for a PDF view.

LISC Financial Opportunity Center® Workshops

- November 6** Money Matters 5:30pm - 7pm
Participants can expect to discuss the importance of a monthly budget, as well as, how to create a budget based on income, debt, and expenses. Participants will also learn what credit is, why credit is important, how credit is built and re-built, and what makes up a credit score.
- November 8** Career Exploration 2pm - 3:30pm
Customers can expect to discover their professional interests and explore various career paths. They will complete an interest profiler, explore 2-3 career paths, and tap into personal and professional values through a values activity.
- November 13** Working With A Lender 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to learn the mortgage loan application process, lender terminology, and what documents to submit to a loan officer. They will also gain an understanding of how income, credit, and ratios qualify a person for a mortgage loan.
- November 14** Financial Opportunity Center™ Orientation 9:30am - 11am
Customers can expect to begin their Next Step Journey with a group orientation facilitated by all Coaches (Employment, Financial, and Housing). An introduction to Bundled Services and long-term coaching are shared at the orientation, along with an interactive money management activity.
- November 15** Resumes and Cover Letters 2pm-3:30pm
Customers can expect to review and build their history to create a modern resume. Customers will also learn how to obtain the attention of hiring managers, as well as learn how to effectively market their skills.
- November 20** Working With A Realtor 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to learn what a realtor's responsibilities are when representing someone through the home buying process. They will also learn negotiation tools, the difference between a purchase agreement and a sales contract, as well as how to inform a realtor on what they are looking for in a property.
- November 21** Interview Readiness 2pm - 3:30pm
Customers can expect our Employment Coach to walk them through a skills assessment to review where their strengths and skills are, practice common interview questions, assist with mock interviews, and discuss Dress for Success.
- November 27** Community Involvement 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Customers can expect to learn about opportunities available in their communities for neighborhood involvement, as well as what to expect at a closing.
- November 28** Financial Opportunity Center™ Orientation 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to begin their Next Step Journey with a group orientation facilitated by all Coaches (Employment, Financial, and Housing). An introduction to Bundled Services and long-term coaching are shared at the orientation, along with an interactive money management activity.

Call for Volunteers

Do you have some extra time and want to give back? Mid Central Community Action would love your help:

- Data Entry/Return Calls
- Basic landscaping duties
- Basic building maintenance items
- Cleaning duties (floors, walls, surfaces, etc.)
- Visiting with residents at Mayors Manor

Please visit our [Volunteer page](#) to see what would be a good fit.

MCCA Committee Openings

Joining a committee allows you to actively contribute to our mission and make a tangible difference in the community. Committees provide a platform for individuals to collaborate, share ideas, and participate in decision-making processes that shape our programs and initiatives.

Currently, we have openings on the Planning and Evaluation Committee. This committee has the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Work with the Executive Director and designated staff to develop Agency programs and services,
2. Advise the Board on strategic organizational matters of the Agency,
3. Review, evaluate, and monitor all programs through consultation with the Executive Director and designated staff to ensure contract compliance, and
4. Conduct all program evaluations and reviews as may be required by funding sources.

Please [email us](#) if you are interested in knowing more.

Mid Central Community Action
Bloomington Office: 309-829-0691
Pontiac Office: 309-834-9283

[Send Us A Message](#)

Keep in Touch!



Mid Central Community Action | 1301 W. Washington St., Bloomington, IL 61704

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