







Updates March 2024

What's happening?!

Highlights:

- National Financial Capability Month Celebration Monday, April 29
- Housing Stability Navigator Intake Days and Community Engagement
- Next Step[™] Financial Opportunity Center® Workshops
- Open Positions at MCCA (Marketing and Community Engagement Coordinator, CDV FT Residential Advocate)
- Donation Opportunities
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Green Newsletter
- MCCA Marketing Materials

Donate now

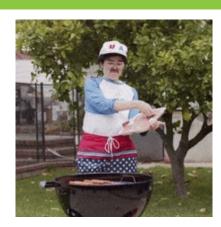
Donate Monthly

National Financial Capability Month

Financial Capability Celebration

April is National Financial Capability Month. Our Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center® works to empower individuals and families with needed resources to achieve healthy relationships, finances, homes, and neighborhoods through financial goals.

Join us in celebrating:



When: April 29, 2024 Time: 5:30-7:30

Location: MCCA, 1301 W Washington, Bloomington

Join us for family friendly activities, games, face painting, and hamburgers/hot dogs! Let your little ones have some fun while you get direct access to our HUD Certified Housing Counselors and Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center® staff.

Enter drawings for a \$50 gift card or a \$100 gas card.

Share our **flyer** far and wide!

Housing Stability Navigator Intake Days

In an effort to better serve those in need, MCCA has two walk-in days per month scheduled from now through November.

It is our hope, in doing so, that we will be able to get a better understanding of both the unhoused and the precariously housed populations, as well as the lack of affordable housing in McLean County.

Those seeking assistance must be income eligible (see below) AND have a stable source of income:

- Social Security
- Income from employment
- Steady, documented, unearned income
- Other primary source of verifiable income

The current dates take place at our McLean County location, 1301 W Washington, Bloomington, from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm and 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Dates are listed below and subject to change:

March 29 April 12 & 26 May 10 & 24 June 7 & 21 July 5 & 19 August 2,16, & 30 September 13 & 27 October 11 & 25 November 8 & 22



In February, we met with 28 individuals in Bloomington-Normal who are unhoused or precariously

housed.

Additionally, Janet Hood, our Housing Stability Navigator, met with 18 different contacts by attending meetings, as well as meeting with partners, faith-based organizations, local government municipalities, and more to increase our community's awareness of those who are unhoused or precariously housed.

Learn more about our Housing Stability Navigator.

Upcoming Workshops

Through our Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center®, we have upcoming workshops including:

April

Money Matters - April 1, 2024 (5:30 PM – 7:00 PM)

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.

May

Home Buyer's Club Series*

Mid Central Community Action, Inc. is a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency. Our HUD Housing Counselors will walk you through each of the steps of the home buying process. Our workshops offer potential homeowners the chance to gain skills necessary to prepare for a mortgage, obtain a loan, as well as sustain their home over the life of the mortgage.

Money Matters - May 6, 2024 (5:30 PM – 7:00 PM)

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.

Working with a Lender - May 13, 2024 (5:30 PM – 7:00 PM)

Participants 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.

Working with a Realtor - May 20, 2024 (5:30 PM – 7:00 PM)

Participants 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.

Community Involvement - May 21, 2024 (5:30 PM – 7:00 PM)

Participants can expect to learn about opportunities available in their communities for neighborhood involvement, as well as what to expect at a closing.

*All four workshops must be taken together. Each participant that completes the series will receive invaluable information, a certificate of completion, and a \$50 Walmart gift card.

Please **register**.

Open Positions at MCCA

To be a part of Mid Central Community Action's team is to be a part of change in this world. We pride ourselves in making a difference in the community through hard work, dedication, and action! If you're looking for an active, hands-on role where your actions help individuals and families in McLean and Livingston Counties, please consider applying for an employment role at Mid Central Community Action.

Mid Central Community Action is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We are deeply committed to providing a diverse and inclusive environment for our staff and clients.

We are currently seeking applicants for:

Marketing and Community Engagement Coordinator

Position Level: 5, Full-Time, Salaried, Exempt **Supervision Received:** Executive Director

Supervision Exercised: Vistas, Volunteers, and Interns

Job Summary:

The Marketing and Community Engagement Coordinator facilitates all aspects of the agency's community-wide and neighborhood specific revitalization efforts with guidance from the Executive Director. These efforts will include community building and resident engagement activities; fundraisers, adult and youth resident leadership training, development, and mobilization; and community stakeholder collaborative efforts and partnership support and development. The work will align with MCCA's vision and mission. This position will ensure compliance with outcome standards from Community Engagement funders.

Please see full job description here or apply online.

Residential Advocate - CDV

Position Level: 3, Full-time, hourly, non-exempt

Supervision Received: Residential Services Coordinator

Supervision Exercised: None

Job Summary: Responsible for providing quality services to individuals and families experiencing domestic violence.

Please see full job description here and apply online.

Registration for Golfers and Sponsors Open!

Unfortunately, we had to cancel Mulligans for Mayors Manor, but we are still looking for sponsors for our 11th Annual Drive Out Domestic Golf Outing!

Stay up to date by bookmarking our calendar page.

Open for registration and looking for sponsors for the Drive Out

Domestic Violence Golf Outing



11th Annual Drive Out Domestic Violence

Last year alone, our advocates received 4,428 calls to the 24-Hour Hotline, sheltered 160 adults and children at Neville House, served 884 clients, and assisted in filing 447 orders of protection.

Sponsorships begin at \$250.

Early bird registration is open for individuals (\$150) and teams (\$580) until May 10. Registration beginning May 11 will be \$170 for an individual and \$660 for teams.

Register or sponsor now.

Watch for details!



We outgrew Lil Beaver Brewery! So, this year's Happy Hour event will be hosted at



Our first Wine Down Wednesday was such a success that we have already booked the

June 28, 2024

McLean County Arts Center for another year!

December 4, 2024

Donation Opportunities

We are asking you to help us support our friends and neighbors, and help us expand our impact.

Mayors Manor combats homelessness, providing shelter and support.

Our Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center® teaches vital skills for workplace development, homeownership, and financial stability.

Our Countering Domestic Violence program helps survivors when they need it most.

You too can help:

- Contribute monetarily
- Purchase off of our **Amazon Wish Lists**
- Round up purchases on Walmart.com
- Attend events
- Engage in <u>peer-to-peer fundraising</u>

Be a beacon of hope - donate today and help us make a lasting difference in our community!

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.

Green Gazette

Did you know that MCCA is part of NeighborWorks® America and is designated a Green organization? As such, we have a quarterly Green Newsletter, the Green Gazette.

This newsletter serves as a valuable tool for, both, our staff and community members, offering insights into our environmental initiatives. The Green Gazette is packed with tips on green living, healthier cleaning practices, gardening advice, strategies for enhancing home efficiency, and more. It aims to inspire sustainable habits.

Additionally, it educates readers on green holidays, endangered species awareness, and offers PSAs about combating invasive species.

Interested in past issues? Check the newsletter page on our website. Would you like to receive our Green Gazette? Sign up here.

MCCA Marketing Materials

If your organization would like to have MCCA marketing materials to further support your clients, we have created an easy <u>request form</u>.

Materials that we have available include:

- Brochures (MCCA, Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center®)
- Postcards (MCCA, Mayors Manor, Next Step™ Financial Opportunity Center®, CDV)
- Volunteer Information Flyer
- Donation Information Flyer
- Committees Information Flyer
- Board Committee
- Housing Stability Navigator
- And more

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

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Keep in Touch!









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Donate Monthly

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

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