



Hello,

Welcome to the 79th edition of our 211 newsletter—your source for updates on services, impact, and ways to help more people connect to the support they need.

Resource Spotlight: Back to School

Back-to-school season is here, and many families are getting ready for the new school year. From supply giveaways to health checkups, here are a few ways to prepare and help students start the year strong.



Local Events with Free Supplies and Resources

ZION BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Monday, August 4 | 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Zion-Benton Township High School Parking Lot

Free backpacks, school supplies, food, games, and community resources.

[Learn more](#)

HACES - SOARING INTO SCHOOL

Friday, August 8 | 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

820 W. Greenwood Ave., Waukegan

A fun-filled day with school supply giveaways, family-friendly activities, and access to community resources.

[Learn more](#)

Resource Fairs

Many schools and school districts host their own back-to-school events, including supply giveaways, physicals, and registration assistance. Visit our [Community Events page](#) to find upcoming events throughout the area. Check your child's school website for specific dates and details about events they may be hosting. Be sure to review any residency or school enrollment requirements that may apply.

Pro tip: Supplies may be limited at some events. Arriving early is the best way to ensure your child receives what they need.

Vaccines, Physicals, & More

Most schools require up-to-date physicals, sports physicals, and immunizations before students can start school or participate in athletics.

Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center has compiled a helpful list of providers offering **vaccines, dental, vision, and hearing services** for children and families.

[View the resource list](#)

These events offered meaningful insight into the challenges families face and strengthened our connection with the communities we serve.

Note: This list is provided for convenience and does not constitute an endorsement or guarantee of services. Please contact each provider directly to confirm services, costs, and eligibility.

Build Healthy Routines Early

To ease the transition back to school, consider helping your child re-establish healthy habits like:

- Going to bed and waking up earlier
- Planning healthy meals and snacks
- Limiting screen time before bed
- Talking about any worries or excitement about the new school year

Together, we can help every child in Lake County start the school year ready to learn, grow, and thrive.

211 in the Community: Outreach & Training Highlights

Supporting Families at Back-to-School Events

This summer, 211 Lake County joined Catholic Charities and other community partners at registration events in Highwood, Round Lake, and Waukegan, helping families prepare for the new school year.

Alongside Family First, Roberti Community House, Equal Hope, and Fenix Family Health Center, our team helped connect families to local services and shared how 211 can support them beyond school supplies—with access to food, housing, healthcare, and more.

These events offered meaningful insight into the challenges families face and strengthened our connection with the communities we serve.

Training to Support Victims of Human Trafficking

211 Lake County recently provided specialized training to the Human Trafficking Taskforce – Victim ID Subcommittee, part of the State's Attorney's Office, on how 211's data and referral network can assist victims of trafficking.

We also provided training to the State's Attorney's Office Chief Support Services team, equipping them with tools to connect people to help at critical moments.

These collaborations reflect our continued focus on building a safer, more responsive community through shared knowledge and strong partnerships.

Help Us Keep 211 Information Current

Accurate listings help community members find the services they need—and ensure your programs reach those who need them most. We rely on our partner agencies to keep their 211 profiles up to date.

If you've recently:

- Added a new program
- Changed office hours or locations
- Updated eligibility or contact info
- Discontinued a service

Please review and **submit updates to 211LakeCounty@icfs.org**.

Thank you for helping us keep Lake County connected to vital resources!

Need Training or Materials?

We can provide 211 training and promotional materials for your organization! To schedule a training session, contact us at 211LakeCounty@uwlakeco.org.

You can easily **order free printed materials**—like bilingual rack cards, wallet cards, posters, and table tents—through our online 211 toolkit. The toolkit also offers **downloadable resources**, including multilingual videos, flyers, graphics, and more.

Visit our **211 toolkit** to explore available materials and place your order. Thank you for helping us spread the word so that more people can find the support they need!

Get 211 Materials

Promote Your Event on the 211 Website

Nonprofits serving Lake County are invited to submit upcoming community events for promotion on the 211 website. Please email event details to 211LakeCounty@uwlakeco.org.

How to Support 211

1. **Spread the Word:** Share this email and invite your network to [sign up for 211 updates](#).
2. **Donate:** Make an [online gift](#) to help connect more people to essential services.
3. **Stay Connected:** Follow us on social media and help amplify our message.



Best regards,

United Way of Lake County's 211 team

Welcome New Subscribers

A big welcome to our new subscribers this month!
Find links to previous newsletters so you don't miss out, [here](#).

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