



Hello,

Welcome to the 82nd edition of our 211 newsletter—your source for updates on services, impact, and ways to help more people connect to the support they need.

Honoring Our Veterans: Resources and Support

As Veterans Day approaches on November 11, we recognize and honor the dedication and sacrifice of those who have served our country. Across Lake County, many organizations are committed to supporting veterans, active-duty service members, and their families by providing essential services and care.

Midwest Veterans Closet

Based in North Chicago, Midwest Veterans Closet serves as a “one-stop shop” providing clothing, household goods, furniture, and food to veterans, active-duty personnel, and their families—all at no cost. By helping meet day-to-day needs, the organization ensures that those who have served can access the essentials and stability they deserve.

Additional Organizations Serving Veterans:

- **Veterans Assistance Commission of Lake County (VACLC)** – Offers free guidance from accredited Veteran Service Officers on VA disability claims, appeals, survivor and burial benefits, and emergency financial assistance.
- **Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA)** – Helps veterans and their families navigate federal, state, and local benefits, providing long-term care and connecting them to resources for education, mental health, housing, and employment.
- **Lake County Veterans and Family Services Foundation (LCVFSF)** – Provides peer support, family services, and alternative therapies, including equine-assisted activities and community gatherings.
- **Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (Lovell FHCC)** – A partnership between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense offering comprehensive healthcare, including medical, dental, and mental health services.

If you or someone you know is a veteran in need of assistance, 211 Lake County can help connect you to these and other local resources.



Bring Warmth to Lake County: Winter Clothing Drive

Winter is fast approaching, and many of our community members are in need of warm clothing. **You can help ensure that children and families in Lake County have the clothing they need to stay warm this season.**

Donations not only provide warmth and comfort but also help families redirect limited resources toward essentials like food and heating.

We are collecting **new or gently used winter clothing for all ages, with the greatest need in sizes infant through teen.** Please ensure gently used items are freshly laundered and in good condition.

What to Donate:

- Winter coats
- Sweatshirts
- Hats
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Boots

Accepting donations through December 5.

Donation Dropoff: United Way of Lake County office, Mon-Thu | 9AM – 4PM

Questions? Contact Bobbi Selvik: bobbi.selvik@uwlakeco.org or (847) 775-1022



211 in the Community

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage

The 211 team was honored to join local celebrations of Hispanic Heritage Month while raising awareness about the resources available to support our community. From music and dance to delicious food, each event was a vibrant reminder of how honoring our diverse roots strengthens our communities.

We are grateful to our hosts: **Great Lakes Credit Union, Lake County Forest Preserves, Cook Memorial Public Library District, and the Round Lake Area School District**. Together, we continue to keep our community connected, make support more accessible, and build a more resilient Lake County.

For more free community events, visit our [Hot Topics & Community Events page](#).

Woodland School District BPAC Kickoff

211 was proud to participate in the first Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting of the school year at Woodland School District. Families received valuable tips on supporting their children's school success from Martha Lucía Aristizábal, bilingual therapist at Warren Township Youth & Family Services.

211 also shared how we connect community members to essential services—from mental health and family support to healthcare—while removing barriers like language and technology. By meeting people where they are, we help make support accessible for everyone.

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!
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