



Hello,

Welcome to the fourteenth edition of our 211 newsletter, where we share information on 211 services and benefits, funding updates, and opportunities for you to become an advocate for 211.

211 Helpline Now Live in Lake County!

United Way of Lake County is proud to announce the launch of 211 services for Lake County! Now, everyone in Lake County has access to 211—a free, confidential, 24-hour information and referral helpline to connect people to available health and human services in our community.

“Through 211, the people of Lake County will get the help they need, when they need it,” said Kristi Long, President and CEO of United Way of Lake County. “United Way of Lake County is proud to fulfill this decades-long vision, joining with the Lake County government and our many community partners to deliver a best-in-class, robust solution for Lake County—the largest county in Illinois to implement 211.”

Watch our video to see how 211 works:



To access 211, simply call 211 or text your zip code to 898211. Resource navigators at the 211 contact center, who are experienced, trained specialists, will guide you to the help you need. The comprehensive 211 service is multi-lingual with English and Spanish speaking staff, as well as interpretations to more than 150 languages.

211 works with many health and human services providers in Lake County to provide accurate, concise information and referrals for anyone looking to get connected to critical resources.

“As long-time service providers in Lake County, Catholic Charities knows the importance of providing people the help they need quickly and competently,” said Maureen Murphy, Associate Vice President at Catholic Charities. “211 will make a significant difference in ensuring residents are connected to that support when they need it most.”

We look forward to sharing a 211 update and some early results in our October newsletter!



Celebrating the Launch of 211

Last week, on September 24th, United Way of Lake County hosted a 211 launch celebration at Independence Grove in Libertyville with nearly 250 community members who came out to support and learn about this critical service. Attendees included people from all across the county

representing business, government, and nonprofit sectors, as well as our media partners.

Thank you to WGN-TV's Jackie Bange for being such an engaging emcee and moderator. We also thank our distinguished panel, including Lake County Board Member Steve Carlson, A Safe Place CEO Pat Davenport, North Shore Gas Director Polly Eldringhoff, Heart of the City Director Scott McLellan, and Lake County Board of Health President Tim Sashko, who shared from their perspectives how 211 will help improve and save lives in Lake County.

Listen in as Pat Davenport with A Safe Place shares a recent real-life story of how 211 already helped a domestic violence victim, as well as how 211 supports their agency's clients with services they don't provide:



United Way is grateful to the incredible support and collaboration of so many individuals, employers, community leaders and partners who have joined with us to bring 211 to Lake County. We look forward to sharing more soon about the impact 211 is making now that the service is live for everyone in our community.

Help Spread the Word about 211!

We need everyone's help spreading the word about 211 so that anyone in Lake County who needs help gets connected to resources.



United Way of Lake County has created a promotional toolkit and materials to make it easy to promote 211. Check out 211LakeCounty.org where you'll find materials you can request like printed rack cards, wallet cards, and posters, as well as materials you can download like flyers, FAQs and videos. We are continuing to build out the toolkit and add new resources as they become available. If you have questions, please contact Sara Martinez at sara.martinez@uwlakeco.org.

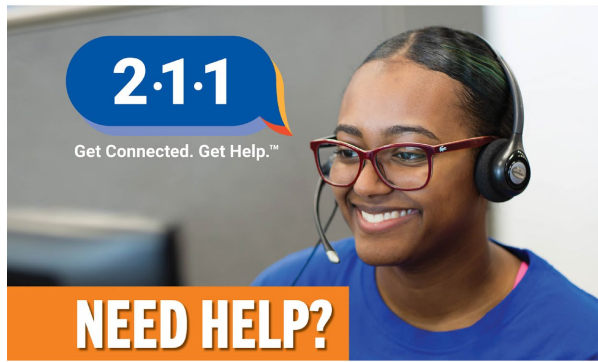
Supporter Spotlight



"Lake County 211 is an incredibly valuable resource for Lake County residents and Metra is happy to assist such a worthy program."

-Jim Derwinski, CEO/Executive Director, Metra

A BIG thank you to Metra for helping us spread the word about 211 by partnering with us to promote 211 on train platforms throughout Lake County. Watch for these signs coming to a Metra station near you in mid-October!



Call 211 OR
Text your zip code to 898211

Expert navigators guide you to local health and human services.

Free, Fast & Confidential

24/7 Helpline

150+ Languages

211LakeCounty.org



Our Community of 211 Donors

Thank you to the following community partners and individuals for their generous financial support in bringing 211 to our community:

- Advocate Aurora Health
- Astellas USA Foundation
- AT&T
- Avon Township
- Benton Township
- BMO Harris Bank
- Comcast
- First Midwest Bank
- Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County
- Lake County Government
- Lake County Health Department
- Lake County Workforce Development
- Libertyville Township
- Lundbeck
- MacLean-Fogg Component Solutions
- Metra
- Chuck and Teresa Bartels*
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- Monica Burmeister*
- Nancy Coolley*
- Irene Hrusovsky*
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- Mark and Sarah Schweitzer*
- Karen and Andrew Warrington*
- Mike Zafirovski*

**211 Club Members*

- Moraine Township
- NorthShore Highland Park Hospital
- Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital
- Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Community Fund
- Sysmex America, Inc.
- Trustmark Companies
- United Way of Lake County
- Vernon Township
- Village of Gurnee
- Warren Township
- Wauconda Township
- Waukegan Township
- West Deerfield Township
- Zion Township

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- Diana Nielander
- Karen Nordgren
- Kathleen O'Connor
- Sami Porter
- Justice Mary Schostok
- Terry and Cindy Simmons
- Tejal Vakharia
- Mary Sue Welch
- Carla and Rudy Zuniga

How Can You Help?

1. Share this email and encourage your network to [opt-in to 211 communications](#).
2. Follow United Way of Lake County on social media to receive more timely 211 updates.
(Click the social icons below.)
3. [Help to sustain 211 in its second year!](#)
4. Invite us to present 211 to your company. [Click here to submit a request](#).



Best regards,

Deanna Olmem

Manager, Safe & Stable Families
