Hello!

Welcome to the sixth 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 Improves Health Outcomes

Studies have shown that the social conditions in the places where people are born, grow up, live, learn, work and age affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.

Social Determinants of Health
Resources that enhance quality of life can have a significant impact on health outcomes, including access to health care and mental health services, addiction support and rehabilitation, crisis counseling, supplemental food programs, shelter and affordable housing options, employment and education opportunities, financial support, disaster information and relief, and other critical needs.

In communities across North America, 211 services are providing a vital link for people to easily access information, tools and community resources essential to good health for all. In 2017, over 14 million people connected with 211 services across the country.

Soon, individuals and families in Lake County will simply be able to call 211 to improve their own health outcomes. United Way of Lake County’s free, confidential, county-wide 211 service will provide a vital connection to local health and human service resources—24 hours a day, every day of the year. The new 211 service will connect residents to highly-trained, multilingual experts for personal assistance in navigating through not only health care options but a wide variety of community resources to help improve and save lives.

Watch for more information soon about our 211 implementation plans in Lake County!

**How 211 Connects People to a Range of Services**

Today, 211 reaches 94 percent of the United States, plus Canada. Here’s a closer look at how our neighbors to the north at [211 Ontario](#) are helping health care providers connect people to the services they need to improve their overall health.
Thank You, 211 Partners!

Thank you to our amazing partners and the individuals who have helped bring 211 to Lake County:

- Astellas
- AT&T
- Benton Township
- BMO Harris Bank
- Comcast
- Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County
- Lake County Government
- Lake County Workforce Development
- Libertyville Township
- MacLean-Fogg Component Solutions
- Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Community Fund
- Trustmark Companies
- United Way of Lake County
- Chuck and Teresa Bartels
- Judy and Larry Berliant
- Irene Hrusovsky
- Joe and Sherry Pray
- Mark and Sarah Schweitzer
- Karen and Andrew Warrington
- Mike Zafirovski
Partner Spotlight

“*The new 211 system will help us address the social determinants of health and improve health outcomes by conveniently connecting more residents to health services in Lake County, like our Crisis Care Program. Anyone experiencing a mental health crisis will be able to dial an easy to remember phone number and be connected to a counselor for crisis support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*”

– Mark Pfister, Executive Director at the Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center

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, Community Investments and Safe & Stable Families

P.S.

“I’m excited about 211’s implementation in Lake County! This will provide the citizens of Lake County with enhanced range, depth, and value of the information and referrals to those looking for health and human services…and more. Having accurate and timely information is critical in
providing quick and efficient services, and something we lack in the county. In my 38-year career in the fire service we moved from 10-digit emergency phone numbers to call fire, police and emergency medical services to what we know now as the 'norm' with 'Dial 9-1-1.' 211 will become the single point of contact in creating the new norm for finding special services outside of emergencies. No more memorizing phone numbers, websites or other contact information…Dial 2-1-1!"

– Tim Sashko, President of Lake County Board of Health, Retired Fire Chief and Public Safety Consultant