

North Central Community Action Agencies, Inc. (NCCAA) is accepting applications for assistance due to income loss during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the upcoming release of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) CARES ACT funding from the Indiana Housing Community Development Authority (IHCD), NCCAA will have assistance available for utilities (gas, electric) and mortgage/rent payments.

NCCAA was able to offer Covid-19 rental and mortgage assistance during the beginning of the pandemic with funding provided by LaPorte Health Foundation. NCCAA continues to receive funding from the LaPorte County United Way for water bill assistance due to the Covid-19 virus.

CSBG CARES ACT funding will be available throughout the year until funding is exhausted. Housing and water assistance applicants need to contact the office Monday through Thursday for assistance.

LIHEAP CARES ACT funding will be available in conjunction with the regular Energy Assistance season. Therefore this CARES ACT benefit is available until July 31, 2020 and then not offered until the beginning of the 2021 season starting November 1, 2020. NCCAA is still accepting applications for households that have not yet applied for the 2020 program year. New applicants are encouraged to apply online or visit our website for a downloadable application. Households that have already applied for the Energy Assistance Program for the 2020 program year (which began November 1, 2019) need to contact the office to discuss the application process for LIHEAP CARES ACT funding.

Eligibility for all assistance will be limited to those households with combined gross monthly income of up to 60% of the State Median Income. For one person, household gross monthly income of no more than \$2,069; two, \$2,706; three, \$3,343; four, \$3,979; five \$4,616; six, \$5,253; seven, \$5,372; and eight, \$5,492.

Households must have at least one member who has encountered a drastic loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic during the state of emergency defined by the Governor. Currently the income loss would need to fall between March 6, 2020 and July 3, 2020. This will need to be documented in your case file in order for assistance to be given.

All households applying for this assistance must provide the following documentation, WITHOUT exception:

- Photo ID for Head of Household
- Social Security cards for all household members
- Proof of Income for the previous three months
- Current utility bills and disconnection notices, if relevant
- Completed provided landlord form for rental assistance or mortgage statement for mortgage payment
- Completed Request for Employment Information form or proof of drastic loss of income

NCCAA'S CARES ACT funding that is provided by IHCD will be available for 2 years or until granted funds are exhausted. Additional information can be found at [www.nccomact.org](http://www.nccomact.org) or our Facebook page. Applications for all available COVID-19 assistance are available at our office located at 301 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 109 in Michigan City. Call 219) 872-0351 for more information.