

Community Services Programmatic Report

CSBG:

- 2025 CSBG Annual Report has been completed and submitted on February 27, 2026.
- Below is the breakdown by the CSBG Work Programs of the services that our department provided in. Please note it reflects dates as of March 2, 2026.

CSBG 2026
January -December

Work Programs	Target	Quarter 1 Jan 1-March 31	Quarter 2 April 1-June 30	Quarter 3 Jul 1- Sept 30	Quarter 4 Oct 1-Dec 31	Total	Percent to Target
Work Program 01.011: Skills Training Goal: 26 income eligible persons will complete training in a field that provides a living wage.	23	10				10	43%
Work Program 02.062: Scholarship Goal: 12 income eligible persons will receive scholarship	10	0				0	0%
Work Program 03.011: Training (Getting-Ahead) Goal: 10 income eligible persons will graduate.	8	0				0	0%
Work Program 04.031: Utility Assistance Goal: 10 Income eligible persons will apply for utility assistance. 10 of those who apply will have their needs met through Community Action.	10	2				2	20%
Work Program 04.041: Housing Goal: 85 income eligible persons will apply for deposit/rent for up to three month for financial assistance. 73 households will successfully stabilize their housing.	73	17				17	23%
Work Program 04.051 Life Safety Goal: 30 income income eligible households will apply for home repair. 27 of those will have their met through Community Action.	27	4				4	15%
Work Program 07.021 Eligibility Determination Goal: 150 household will be screened for risk factors and linked to appropriate services.	145	8				8	6%
*Figures reflect up to 3/2/2026							

- The 2026 Spring Getting Ahead workshop will begin on April 1, 2026, and will run weekly through June 3, 2026. This workshop provides an interactive experience for individuals facing life stressors and helps them envision and build their desired futures. We are currently reviewing applications to determine the final participants. **Flyer attached.**
- The 2026 Scholarship applications were released to the public on March 2, 2026. Completed applications must be returned to our office no later than 3:30 pm on Friday, April 3, 2026. **Flyer attached.** We will be requesting volunteers from the CAA Board to review applications and provide funding recommendations. Additional details will be shared via email.

HOMELESSNESS:

03/04/2026	Total
Veterans	4
Chronically homeless	2
Youth (16-24)	22
Families w/children	26
Single adult(s)	203
Total	257

- **Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (IMPACT) program**— Still down 2 employees. Positions are posted. Scheduled for an on-site visit on 4/22/2026.
- **HUD CoC grants**— HUD NOFO FY25 was released 11/14/25 with significant, negative changes and two court cases. Most recently another NOFO was released on 1/9, due on 2/9. WE submitted what was needed to get all of our renewals funded, as is. However, HUD went back asking courts to vacate their previous order to allow them to drop another FY25 grant now for the 3rd and 4th quarter renewals but the court said “no”. We assume this means that we should be done with FY25 and are now awaiting the FY26 NOFO to come out this spring. We assume they will again try to implement all of the changes and cuts proposed in FY25 so the CoC is trying to prepare.
- **State grants**—ESG, Rapid Rehousing, and Shelter Diversion, and Medical Respite FY26 started 7/1/25 and are all in progress. Recently submitted all Q2 reports. Also working on mods for most of these grants.
- **Street outreach**— With the warming center being open, we were still having one group continue the regular Thursday nights outreach. Another group was working at the Overnight Cafe on Tuesday evenings, helping with intakes and doing SPOE intakes. The church closed for the season on 3/1, so we will be going back to two groups on Thursday nights. As you can see in the numbers above, our “unsheltered” numbers are quite high currently but that is due to the people at the warming center counting as “unsheltered”. We will be working to determine which of them returned to some type of housing situation versus who has gone back to the streets. We expect those numbers will go back down within the next 90 days.
- Our Youth Advocate has left for other employment opportunities. Position is posted and will close soon. Trying to start interviews asap.

- We are currently involved in two separate “challenges”:
1. **100 Day Shelter Diversion Challenge**—sponsored by the State of Illinois. Our goal is to divert 60 families (30 families with teen children & 30 people over the age of 51) from homelessness. We are working to streamline our rental assistance process between our CSBG housing advocates and our homeless Housing Advocates to ensure we are helping those who are most in need and most likely to enter the homelessness system. We are working with several other community partners. This challenge just started this week and we will be having our next stakeholder meeting next Wednesday at 8:30.
 2. **Unsheltered Sprint**—started a couple weeks ago. Also working with stakeholders for this with the goal of getting 10 unsheltered people housed each month. This is something we are working with our “coaches” at Built for Zero on. They have made money available to us for things that are gaps or barriers in our current system to getting people housed. We are awaiting word from them to see if we got the funds. This “sprint” will be on-going at least for the next 6 months.

LIHEAP:

- As of Mar 1, we have provided benefits to 7108 households and have taken 7406 applications for the 2026 Program Year.
- This program year, to address the known community needs, we held remote OUTREACH activities two days weekly. Our OUTREACH activities continue to be limited to the first 50-60 applicants with all of their documentation. We have switched Outreach locations to better coordinate with our Police Department. We are utilizing the Community Rooms at each police station, as well as Loves Park City Hall. For a few weeks in February the Outreach attendance waned, but this usually happens in February, and the dates were especially cold. The 3 days of the week not at OUTREACH, staff address file completions and submissions, as well as calling customers with special circumstances that prevent them from attending an OUTREACH event. The reason we continue to provide this OUTREACH, is that it is a grant requirement to offer Walk-In activity at a minimum of 1 day per week. The volume of people that come to OUTREACH as walk-ins cannot be handled at the 612 N Church office.
- Partner sites are open and running. However; several of them are done with the bulk of their applications for their residents which reduces our monthly totals going forward.
- **PIPP**
PIPP/COMED issues from the COMED billing system conversion of 2 years ago are mostly resolved, but we continue to find individual issues that have to be sorted out. As of Mar 1, we have 791 households enrolled in PIPP. We continue to neutralize all missed payment interventions because of all the confusion in billings this year. We continue working on a pipeline of PIPP customers who need to re-enroll for various reasons (move, accidental drops, appeals), as well as approving over 270 already completed Recertifications.

- **LIHEAP Furnaces**

We have 55 Vouchers issued to the vendors. We now have our 2026 HHS funding in LIHEAP.net, and have plenty of funds to successfully take the program through its completion May 1, 2026.

WEATHERIZATION:

- We continue to run 2 tracks as we did last program year. Track A being our traditional weatherization process and Track B specific to RHA duplex properties. Between both tracks, we have 16 jobs closed out and 17 in progress with a total of 50 homes served.
- The States IWX system continues to throw barriers causing delays throughout the process.
- We have met our Work Experience Program candidate and she is eager to begin learning the job.
- We have asked for a FLEX MOD across the 3 traditional Weatherization grants. The MOD was to move funds from Material and Labor to Health and Safety.
- We have a Weatherization Specialist I position open.

Scholarships Available

Education and Occupational
Training

Accepting Applications starting
March 2, 2026 – April 3, 2026

Scholarship awards up to \$7,500

- Residents of Winnebago or Boone County with proof of valid Illinois photo id
 - Illinois Accredited Schools only
 - Applicants must be income eligible

Applications will be available at:
612 N. Church St.
Rockford, IL 61103

Or

Call 1-844-710-6919 for more information



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity



THE CITY OF
ROCKFORD
ILLINOIS, USA

GETTIN-AHEAD PROGRAM

REGISTER NOW!

An empowering 10-week workshop to help you break barriers and build the life you want.



START DATE:
Wednesday, April 1st



TIME:
03:00-5:30 pm



Location:
CITY HALL, 425 E State St.
Rockford, IL 61104, 2nd Floor



Earn While You Learn:
\$25/week - up to \$250 in gift cards



Receive a Certificate of Completion
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Deadline 3/20 by 4 pm

