

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR KCHA EXCELLENCE

Our Empower Forward FSS program officially brought home a Community Innovation Award from the NAHRO National Conference in Denver!

Pictured here, Executive Director George Foley accepts the award on behalf of the Kankakee County Housing Authority. This national honor celebrates our program's creative approach to supporting families on their journey toward financial wellness and self-sufficiency. Thank you to the entire team for your outstanding work!



“As we prepare for the winter months ahead, the Kankakee County Housing Authority remains deeply committed to expanding opportunity and stability for all our residents. This quarter, we are focusing heavily on community growth, resident empowerment, and preparing our households for the upcoming colder season. Read on for updates on our newest housing developments, local energy assistance programs, and an exciting multi-event community day happening next month!”

Executive Director

Save the Date: Empower Kankakee Community Day!

Mark your calendars! KCHA is hosting a massive, multi-event community day focused on support, housing partnerships, and career growth. Three incredible events are happening all in one place:

1. FSS Job & Resource Fair: Connecting our ready-to-work program participants, Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), and Public Housing clients directly with local employers and training resources.
2. 100-Bed Giveaway: Distributing brand-new beds to registered Public Housing and Section 8 residents.
3. Landlord Symposium: A live Q&A session for potential landlords to learn about housing partnerships and how to work with our voucher programs.

Saturday, December 5, 2026

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Kankakee High School

(Community Room, Door 11) |

1200 W. Jeffery St, Kankakee, IL 60901



SEASONAL RESOURCES & SAFETY]

Stay Warm: LIHEAP Energy Assistance Open

As winter temperatures approach, utility bills can become a heavy burden. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is actively accepting applications to help low-income households manage home energy costs.

- **Who Qualifies:** Eligibility is based on household size and gross income guidelines set by the State of Illinois.
- **Priority Enrollment:** Seniors, individuals with disabilities, and families with children under the age of six receive priority processing.
- **How to Apply:** Contact the Kankakee County Community Services Inc. (KCCSI) to schedule an application appointment. Bring proof of income, recent utility bills, and Social Security cards for all household members.



Thanksgiving & Holiday Food Resources

No family should worry about a meal during the holidays. Reach out to these local resources for holiday food baskets and pantry distributions this November:

- **The Salvation Army Kankakee 360 Center:** Offering seasonal food assistance and community meals.
- **Fortitude Community Outreach:** Providing support and warm meals for those experiencing extreme transition.
- **Local Food Pantries:** Contact the main office for a comprehensive map of neighborhood pantries operating across Kankakee, Bourbonnais, and Bradley.

Maintenance & Emergency Reminders

With freezing temperatures around the corner, please help us protect your home:

1. **Keep the Heat On:** Never turn your thermostat completely off, even if leaving for the weekend. Keep it set to at least 60°F to prevent pipes from freezing.
 2. **Report Leaks Early:** Small drips become major floods when pipes freeze. Report any plumbing issues immediately.
- **Routine Maintenance:** Call during standard business hours.
 - **Emergency Maintenance Hotline:** Available 24/7 for heat loss, major flooding, or gas smells.

Build Your Credit, Build Your Future!

Join the Kankakee County Housing Authority and financial professionals from Midland States Bank for a practical credit-building workshop. Learn how FICO scores work, how to request and read your credit reports, and discover proven strategies to improve your score and dispute errors. Take your next step toward financial independence and homeownership!

- **Date:** Thursday, November 12, 2026
- **Time:** 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- **Location:** Kankakee County Housing Authority, 185 N. St. Joseph Avenue, Kankakee, IL 60901
- **How to Join:** Scan the QR code on the event flyer to sign up!

