



LCDJFS E-Newsletter

Winter 2010

A newsletter from the Lorain County Department of Job & Family Services

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Fuel Funds

By Sue Goins
Social Service Administrator

In the fall of 2009, LCDJFS was one of several counties in Ohio awarded an Ohio Fuel Fund Grant. This 3-year grant is available to customers of First Energy/Ohio Edison who are behind in their electric bills.



Individuals and families who earn under 200% of the federal poverty level may be eligible for up to \$300 to assist with their past due Ohio Edison bill. Those interested need to apply at LCDJFS and may apply only once per year. Special arrangements can be made for those clients unable to get in to our office to apply.

Applicants should bring the following with them:

- Proof of income
- Photo I.D. or Birth Certificate or Social Security card.
- Past due First Energy/Ohio Edison electric bill or disconnection
- Proof of application for HEAP (during winter months when HEAP is available)

In order to get help clients must have made at least one payment in the past 90 days.

In 2009, the Fuel Fund helped 410 families in Lorain County with approximately \$100,000 in electric bills.

Census Partnership

By Natalio Rodriguez
Program Administrator

Once every decade the federal government conducts a census to determine the number of all people living in the United States. The distribution of billions of dollars in government funding is based on the outcome of the census across the United States. It is important that people living in Lorain County participate in the count.

Lorain County Department of Job and Family Services has teamed up with the local census leaders to make sure that the people who enter our doors understand the Census counts and to complete the census questionnaires that will be hand-delivered or mailed to their households. The population served by the county departments of Job and Family Services across Ohio are usually the people who get missed in the count. That is why every county is passing the word about Census 2010.

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Voter Registration

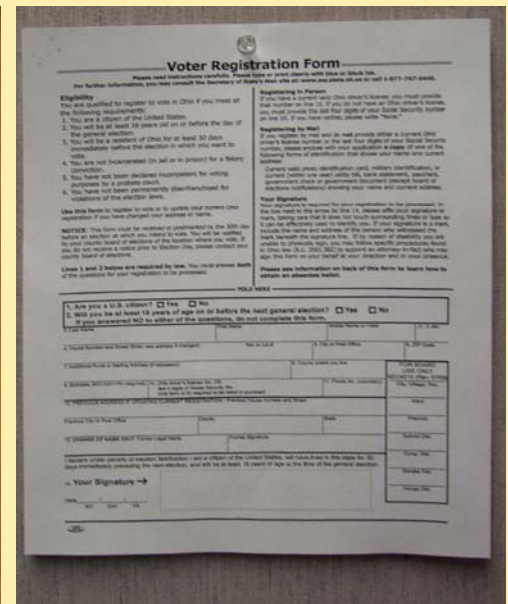
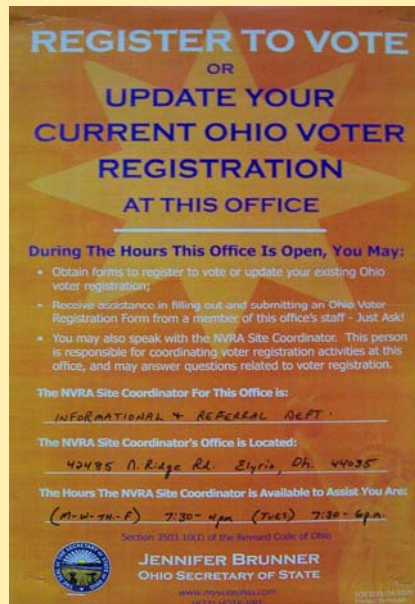
By Sue Goins
Social Service Administrator

Did you know that you can register to vote at LCDJFS?

The front desk staff keeps voter registrations on hand for anyone who requests. And, if you have any trouble understanding or completing the form, social services workers are available to help you fill it out. We'll even make sure that the registration is delivered to the Board of Elections.

Voter registration forms are also attached to most of our applications. When caseworkers receive completed registrations back in the mail, they are forwarded to our Voter Registration Coordinator, Sue Bossinas. She ensures that these are delivered to the Board of Elections in a timely manner.

In 2009, we delivered over 3,300 voter registrations to the Board of Elections.



Census Partnership (Continued from page 1)

By Natalio Rodriguez
Program Administrator

Here at LCDJFS there are Census 2010 signs around the agency but especially in the lobbies. In the main lobby, a special table has been set up with Census articles which people can pick up, read, and take home with them. Census volunteers work the table a couple times a month, speaking to those people sitting in the lobby or standing in the lines. The Census volunteers pass out pencils, pens, mugs, magnets, cards all displaying the Census logo in the hope it will remind the person to complete the questionnaire and tell their friends about the census. The volunteers show and explain samples of the questionnaire.

LCDJFS caseworkers are getting into the act by reminding their customers to complete any Census forms that come to their homes and include everyone living in the home in the household count. Caseworkers will remind their customers that all information is confidential, even LCDJFS will not know the information written on the forms. LCDJFS does have a homeless population. Those individuals and families pick up their mail at our agency. The Census 2010 committee plans to target those people to make sure they are counted.

LCDJFS has 2 employees who have attended all Census meetings held in Lorain County. LCDJFS will do all it can to make sure our customers are counted.

Family Employment Supportive Services - New Delivery Systems

By Sandra Moraco
Program Administrator

Case Banking Updates....

As of 2/01/10 the agency completed rolling out the Case Banking for all IM Units. Each case-bank has been named by the majority of benefit types that are received by the individual and/or families in each bank.

ABD Casebank CB1:

Houses 6,934 cases.

Assisting single adults 18 years of age or older, couples without minor children.

Benefits types: Food Assistance, Medicaid for the Aged and Disabled, Medicare Cost Sharing Programs, Medicaid Benefits for the Working Disabled, Disability Financial Assistance, cases pending disability review with Social Security while pursuing DDA at the county/state level.

Family Casebank CB2:

Houses 5,963 cases.

Assisting families with minor children in the household.

Benefit types: Food Assistance, Healthy Families, Healthy Start, Transitional Medicaid, Medicaid for the disabled, and Non Jobs Cash

Combo Casebank CB4:

Houses 4,677 cases.

Assisting families with minor children in the household and single adults 18 years of age or older, and couples without minor children.

Benefit types: A combination of benefit types from the ABD Casebank and the Family Casebank. This unit also works closely with Lorain County Children Services with Children in Care and the KEY in order to assist individuals in need of benefits while in their programs.

CASH Casebank CB5:

Houses 5,518 cases.

Assisting families with minor children in the household.

Benefit types: Food Assistance, Healthy Families, Healthy Start, Transitional Medicaid, OWF JOBS mandatory cases.

As with all major overhauls of systems, it is a work in progress, and we are continually making changes to better service the individuals and families of Lorain County.

Job & Family Services Statistics for Lorain County

By Sandra Moraco, Program Administrator

Families receiving on-going cash assistance			
March 2009	June 2009	September 2009	December 2009
2,196	2,245	2,396	2,509

Individuals receiving health insurance through Healthy Start/Healthy Families Medicaid			
March 2009	June 2009	September 2009	December 2009
40,628	41,885	43,045	44,236

Individuals receiving food stamps			
March 2009	June 2009	September 2009	December 2009
32,366	34,707	35,717	37,285

Disabled individuals receiving on-going cash assistance			
March 2009	June 2009	September 2009	December 2009
317	308	276	263

Aged, Blind or Disabled individuals receiving health insurance through Medicaid			
March 2009	June 2009	September 2009	December 2009
8,752	8,907	8,972	9,025

Disabled individuals receiving Nursing Home or Home and Community-Based Service Waivers assistance			
March 2009	June 2009	September 2009	December 2009
2,059	2,154	1,994	1,968

Contact LCDJFS

42485 North Ridge Road
 Elyria, Ohio 44035-1057
 Phone: 440-323-5726
 Fax: 440-323-3422
 TTY/TDD: 440-284-4125
 Child Support Office: 440-284-4401
 Hours of Operation:
 7:30-4:15 Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
 7:30-6:30 Tue

