



# FSS Newsletter

## What will this Spring bring for you?

**As spring brings warmer temperatures and sunny days, what goals are you focusing on?**

- For some, it has been challenging to complete their GEDs or high school diplomas. Others are interested in pursuing a college degree. Is this your year to accomplish one of those goals?
- Is preparing for homeownership your goal? We have someone you can talk to about getting on the road to owning your own home!
- Need a job? A better job? We receive job leads that could put you in the right direction and start or grow your escrow account!

**Your FSS Coordinator has many options that can help you with your goals and is here to support you through the process!**

## Your Money, Your Goals Workshop

**When bills are piling up, it's important to remember that you're still in control.** The small steps you choose to take can lead to big changes. April's workshop will focus on helping you handle money emergencies, cut down on stress from mounting bills, and build your finances to where you want them to be. You will receive a small handbook: "Behind on Bills? Start with One Step." This booklet includes tools to help with income and expense tracking and managing bills. A second part to this workshop will be provided in May with additional information to come! Please find the enclosed flyer with information on April's workshop for your county!

### Reminders

MCHA Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:30

Friday 8:00-Noon

Contact your FSS Coordinator with any updates, questions or concerns. Remember to make monthly contact!

### FSS Coordinator

Lindsay Wilken

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start here...



...go anywhere

## Illinois workNet Center—American Job Center

The Illinois workNet Portal System was launched in June 2005 by the Governor's Illinois Workforce Innovation Board (IWIB) as the state's workforce development portal. Since then, Illinois workNet has evolved to not only continue as the online source for local and statewide resources and tools to help individuals, employers, and workforce/education partners achieve their training and employment goals, but also as the source for facilitating statewide programs. Some

of the most recent examples of statewide programs include the EPIC Program, Disability Employment Initiative, and many others.

Illinois workNet is sponsored by Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and made possible through state, local, and private sector partnerships.

Illinois workNet can provide resources for training, funding assistance and employment.

[www.illinoisworknet.com](http://www.illinoisworknet.com)

### *Illinois workNet Center "Training \* Connecting \* Developing Illinois' Workforce"*

#### Funny Days of the Month in April

**April 1st**—April Fools' Day

**April 14th**—Ex Spouse Day AND International Moment of Laughter Day

**April 18th**—International Jugglers Day (applies to multi-taskers)

**April 23rd**—National Karaoke Week



## Container Gardening

Pots, tubs, and half barrels overflowing with flowers add appeal to any garden, but container gardens can serve a practical purpose too. Gardening in containers is ideal for those with little or no garden space. In addition to growing flowers, gardeners limited to a balcony, small yard, or only a patch of sun on their driveway can produce a wide variety of vegetable crops in containers.

Put a quirky spin on container gardening with thrifty, repurposed items from your local dollar store or thrift store. You can use old rubber boots, unique china dishes, wheelbarrows, and old cleaned tin cans. You can put casters on the container for mobility. You can plant your vegetables in planters with casters and place them to follow the sun.

#### **Good to Know**

Vegetables need 7 to 8 hours of full sun daily. Cool season vegetables get by on 6, some can even be planted in partial shade.

You can still conserve water and keep your container garden lush and productive by watering during the cooler parts of the day.



Menard County

Housing Authority

**MISSION STATEMENT**

“To promote and provide quality housing while encouraging upward mobility and a better quality of life.”

**VISION STATEMENT**

“Creating housing that families and communities can be proud of.”

## Free Homebuyer Education Workshop

Springfield Housing Authority, Community Resources of Sangamon County and Menard County Housing Authority are sponsoring a free Homebuyer Education workshop! The first workshop will be held on Saturday, April 21st and the second one will be held on Saturday, April 28th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lincoln Library, Multi Purpose Room— 326 S. 7th Street in Springfield. This workshop is open to the public and lunch will be provided. Certification will be given upon completing both sessions.

RSVP Required:

Call Deborah at 217-753-5757 Ext. 209 or Email [DEBORAHL@sha1.org](mailto:DEBORAHL@sha1.org) to register

Menard County

Housing Authority

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