



Between A Rock And A Hard Place

As someone that has worked in Community Action for a considerable amount of time, it isn't unusual that I have been in conflicting circumstances. The one I love to point out is the fact that as an Agency that receives State funding, we are required to assist with voter registration, but as a recipient of Federal funding we are prohibited from doing voter registration activities. (To be more precise, we cannot use Federal funds to do voter registration.) It is one of those things you chuckle about and say "ya gotta love working with the government" and then go about doing your best to meet both requirements within the parameters you are given.

There is, however, a growing conflict that has never been taken lightly and is becoming more and more prevalent and more and more difficult to work within. That is working with people who have a criminal record.

While as a Community Action Agency, we are charged with eliminating the root causes of poverty, (a criminal record clearly falls within this area) in the employment world we are seeing more and more use of background checks as an employment screening tool. As an Agency we worked on Ban the Box, are members of the Second Chance Coalition, and receive funding to help house those who were formerly incarcerated and assist in other reintegration efforts. We also have a greater number of grant requirements, best practices, performance standards and guidance, which have required us to perform background checks on staff and volunteers.

Now, I am not proposing being stupid about hiring, but relying on people's common sense and good judgement in applying the information they garnered from a background check does not seem like a good bet either. With one out of three people of working age having something in their past that would show up on a thorough background check and over 700,000 people in America with criminal backgrounds (not to mention a dramatically shrinking work force), it is a safe bet that employers will get numerous applicants for any one position that will ding on a background check.

One could say we just need to rely on people's good judgement and inherent sense of fairness in making employment decisions about people seeking to reenter mainstream life, but that just hasn't panned out with past forms of discrimination we have chosen to engage in.

Lakes and Pines has in the past, and will continue in the future, given "second chances" to those who may have had a lapse in judgement in the past and guess what: you won't be able to tell the difference between them and anyone else that works here. Except maybe that they are the ones that work a little harder, appreciate their job a little more and show that extra empathy because they fully understand the consequences of a bad decision.

Bob Benes
Executive Director



Fun in the Sun!

In June, an Agency-Wide Advocate (AWA) attended an outreach event at Northpoint Townhomes in Aitkin, Minnesota. This event was a good opportunity for everyone in the community to get together, play games they wouldn't normally get to play and enjoy the sunshine! The outdoor games were available for everyone to participate in and they were a hit! Ladder ball, beanbag toss and a parachute were set up. Root beer floats, Wii games and the computer lab were also available in the community room. The AWA said this was a great group of kids and it was awesome to see them having so much fun! Sometimes we focus on assisting the adults so much that we forget about the kids and their need to have fun too! This event was a success and enjoyed by all!



Lakes and Pines staff organizes and participates in outreach events throughout the Agency's seven-county service area. Please contact 1-800-832-6082, option 4, if your community would be interested in hosting this type of event.

Energy Assistance Program (EAP) 2015-2016

In 2015, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution which sent \$102 million in initial funds for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to the Department of Commerce (DOC). These funds were available October 26th and were quickly made available to service providers.

Low unemployment, a mild winter and low fuel prices resulted in a decrease in applications for assistance, and a new paperless process was implemented this program year. Instead of spending time organizing and tracking down paper files, Energy Assistance applications are scanned into and stored in a central location. This allowed Certifiers to quickly locate files when needed and to process applications in a more efficient manner. Energy Assistance staff have done a great job of adapting to the new certifying process.

The Energy Assistance Program opened October 1st, and the application process was extended one extra month, and ended July 1st, 2016. Since the program opened, 7,709 Energy Assistance applications have been received. This program year, 7,669 applications have been processed; 6,741 have been approved, 776 have been denied, 32 have been closed, 58 have been voided, and 62 are currently incomplete. There are 40 applications logged and waiting to be certified. As of June 30th, 2016, EAP eligible households within our service area have received \$4,334,269 in Primary Heat Benefits for an average benefit amount of \$643 per household.

The Department of Commerce implemented program changes designed to serve more households and serve existing households with more available funding during the current program year. These changes include extending the application deadline to July 1st, 2016 and increasing the maximum Crisis benefit from \$500 to \$1,000. Funds were available for Crisis, Primary Heat, and Energy-Related Repair (ERR) until July 15th, 2016. EAP staff have also increased outreach efforts by sending a letter to senior households and by working closely with vendors to spread awareness of the extended application deadline and crisis funding increase.

EAP staff also worked closely with Community Action Partnership of Scott, Carver and Dakota Counties (CAPSCD) and Community Action Program of Suburban Hennepin (CAPSH) to help process their Energy Assistance Applications. Lakes and Pines EAP staff processed 1,329 EAP applications for the CAPSCD and 436 EAP applications for CAPSH.

Getting a “Head Start” at Lakes and Pines!

Lakes and Pines’ School Readiness Goals have once again been met with exceptional success! Specific assessment of these goals revealed that 88% of children in the three-to-five year old Home Based and Child Care sites are meeting or exceeding age appropriate expectations with regards to school readiness.

School Readiness Domain	Spring Average Outcome
Physical Health	94%
Social Emotional Development	87%
Approaches to Learning	82%
Literacy	86%
Language	89%
Overall	88%

It is through the dedication and talents of Lakes and Pines’ child development staff and the families they work with, that the children have made impressive gains over the course of the year. This collaborative effort has encouraged every opportunity to be a learning opportunity, and reinforces the Head Start philosophy of parents being their child’s *first and most important* teacher.

The following chart depicts a more comprehensive look at the overall successes three-to-five year olds have experienced this year. The data was aggregated from the Teaching Strategies GOLD online assessment, and reflects the percentage of children who are meeting or exceeding expectations for that domain.

Teaching Strategies GOLD domains	All Enrolled Children	Boys	Girls	Children with an IEP*	Children without an IEP*
Social Emotional	84%	78%	90%	68%	84%
Gross Motor	97%	96%	97%	88%	97%
Fine Motor	98%	97%	100%	96%	98%
Language	84%	82%	87%	76%	84%
Cognitive	89%	88%	90%	80%	89%
Literacy	80%	76%	84%	92%	80%
Math	73%	69%	78%	76%	73%
Overall	86%	84%	89%	82%	86%

*IEP: Individualized Education Plan

We would like to extend sincere gratitude to the Policy Council members who were involved in the School Readiness Committee throughout the 2015-2016 program year. Their enthusiastic participation, commitment and insightful input are greatly appreciated.

After-Hours Crisis Situations

Throughout the coldest months of the year, Energy Assistance Program (EAP) staff members are available after regular business hours, including weekends, to address emergency fuel deliveries and/or heating system repairs. They work closely with energy vendors, local furnace technicians, and each County's Emergency Dispatch to address emergency fuel deliveries and/or heating system repairs after regular business hours. Energy Assistance staff members have responded to 53 after-hours calls this program year, with the majority relating to heating system repairs.

LAKES AND PINES EARLY HEAD START AND HEAD START STANDARDS CHANGE

In August of 2016 the Office of Head Start will be releasing a completely revamped system centered on program performance standards. Over the course of the past three years, the Office of Head Start reviewed the existing standards and guidance, took comments, and made revisions. The new standards are a culmination of that work. The new standards are condensed into five areas; the old standards had eleven. The Office of Head Start worked toward eliminating the amount of redundancies in the standards and clear up standards that were confusing or in conflict with new regulations. The standards covering nutrition have been reduced and for guidance the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Child and Adult Care Food Program (USDA/CACFP) regulations have been adopted. For Health and Safety, the Office of Head Start will now defer to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations, the manual "Health and Safety in Child Care Settings," and state licensing regulations. Programs will be required to keep up to date on these documents as they will be the new standard and guidance for many sections in these areas. For health and wellness of children, programs will follow state child and teen check up schedules. All of these things are positives; the new regulations present opportunities for growth.

Grantees will be required to provide center-based services going forward and to work towards providing at least 1020 hours of service per year in these center or partnership settings. The Office of Head Start has set the target of 80% of the Head Start children to be enrolled in center-based settings for 1020 hours by the fall of 2019. Grantees can ask to do a Locally Designed Option (LDO) which would include home visiting, combination, and centers or partnerships operating at less than 1020 hours per year. To operate programming under the LDO, a Grantee will have to provide information from its community needs assessment to support the need for the LDO and will need to demonstrate the capacity to meet the standards in LDO. The regional offices will be approving this type of programming. For the first time, home visitors have required minimum education levels. Lakes and Pines is working toward meeting the changes already and we are hearing compliance for a number of the new standards will need to happen within 60 days of their release date.



ECE Caring Members

Caring Members is a program started by East Central Energy (ECE) in 1993 and administered by Lakes and Pines on their behalf. Eligibility for Caring Members is not based on income. Caring Members funds are provided by donations made by ECE customers and matched by ECE. ECE customers interested in donating funds to the Caring Members Program are encouraged to contact ECE at 1-800-245-7944. Lakes and Pines has received \$14,745.24 in program funding from ECE this program year. A total of \$8,524.68 has been used in Caring Members funds to help 45 ECE households resolve an emergency situation with their electric bill.

Volunteers – Good Neighbors needed for Lakes and Pines Senior Chore Services!

Do you have a few hours to help a senior or someone with a disability stay in their home as long as they can? Or, is your club or group looking for a worthwhile project? This used to be considered being a good neighbor. Now, with busy schedules, often times neighbors don't know each other or when someone needs help. It has become a coordinated effort to help out. Volunteers are needed to help with occasional chores that your neighborhood seniors and folks with disabilities are unable to do themselves.

This doesn't have to be a long term commitment. A few hours of your time can make a substantial difference in someone's ability to enjoy living in their home for a while longer.

You could get a small group together to help on a scheduled community chore day or you could wash someone's windows, help organize their garage, or tack down loose carpeting. A wide variety of skills are needed and would be very much appreciated.



A recent Senior Chore Service success story was that a couple having health challenges this past winter discussed the need to move to assisted living, as neither were able to empty the trash or get the mail. They simply needed someone to stop by a few times a week and help with these basic chores, just until they were well again. The couple contacted Lakes and Pines and the Senior Chore Services Program found volunteers to help this couple until they were well enough to do it on their own. The couple was able to remain in their home and were extremely appreciative for this volunteer and the time they donated to help them out!

Please contact Lakes and Pines Senior Chore Services at (320) 679-1800, ext. 171 or ext. 160, email lap@lakesandpines.org or go to the website at www.lakesandpines.org for more information.

A “Community Action” Heart

Often times it is found that those that work in an occupation of helping people also live that type of lifestyle. They can be found “taking action” in our communities, becoming the unsung heroes that live among us. As they go about their days assisting our clients in their roles as a community action employee, one would never know “the rest of their story”. However, in these times when the media floods our minds with distressing tales, it is always a wonderful thing to hear a “good” story.

That being said (and speaking of floods), in the early morning hours of July 12th, one such Lakes and Pines employee was awakened to an emergency notification from the volunteer fire department on which he serves. Leaving the safety of his home he ventured out on the flooded roads and washouts in the area in which he lives to heed the call. There he found a “damsel in distress”, stranded on the rooftop of her vehicle that was nearly submerged in a river. He was soon joined by a fellow firefighter. After reassuring the woman that they would be back in short order, they acquired a canoe at a residence a few minutes away and returned to the rescue site. The fire department, with life vests and ropes, also arrived on the scene and working together, they were able to bring the woman to safety.

After a successful rescue, the staff person arrived back home in time to get his children ready for daycare and made it to work as usual: all in the day of a someone with a “community action” heart.

We were lucky to get this story out of him, and so happy to share it. Lakes and Pines and the community are so lucky and thankful to have these quiet heroes amongst us.

Do you think your car insurance is fairly priced?

A short survey is being used by Lakes and Pines and other organizations across the state to gather information and build awareness about how auto insurance costs affect residents. The goal is to try to make auto insurance in Minnesota more affordable and fair.

Your story may help change how insurance companies set rates. Information you share will be kept private unless you authorize Lakes and Pines to share your information.

The Consumer Federation of America (CFA) recently completed a study on auto insurance rates. CFA visited the websites of the five biggest car insurers to obtain quotes for four hypothetical drivers in 15 U.S. cities coast-to-coast. The premiums included only liability insurance at each state's minimum limits; collision insurance was not included. The study compared car insurance premium quotes for one male and one female driver by plugging in criteria—such as education, occupation, and whether the driver was a homeowner or renter—so that the insurer would consider these drivers to be of either low or high economic status.

In both cases, the drivers were considered to have "good" driving records. The CFA found that car insurers charged the blue-collar (low-economic status) drivers 59 percent more per year for coverage than their white-collar (high-economic status) counterparts. The blue-collar penalty varied by city. It averaged from 97% greater costs in Atlanta and was lowest in Los Angeles (9 percent) where California's Proposition 103 requires that insurers prioritize driving record, miles driven per year, and driving experience over non-driving factors such as occupation and education.

Anyone may look for car insurance plans at TheZebra.com, <https://www.thezebra.com/> a website that provides customized premium quotes from 18 to 35 insurers per state. A search for a local household with two drivers and two vehicles returned quotes from 13 insurance companies for 'best' coverage ranging from \$65 to \$188 per month.

The auto insurance survey can be completed at www.lakesandpines.org/auto-insurance or ask that a survey be sent to you by contacting Lakes and Pines, 1700 Maple Avenue East, Mora, MN 55051, 320.679.1800 Option 4, or email lap@lakesandpines.org.



Parade Update

Lakes and Pines' Early Childhood and Family Development (ECFD) Department has participated in multiple parades during the month of June. A few thousand marketing items, namely crayons and Frisbees, have been handed out in Onamia, North Branch, Barnum, Milaca, and Princeton. In July we'll be at parades in Isle, Hinckley, Rush City, Mora, and Carlton to hand out a few more thousand items. In August we are registered to participate in the Ogilvie, Pine City, Aitkin, Sandstone, and Lindstrom parades.

Thank you to the Energy Housing/Weatherization Department for the use of bags to help us carry the marketing items along the route. Thank you to ECFD and Community Services Department staff, as well as others, who have volunteered their time to wait in the hot lineups and walk the long parade routes to hand out crayons and Frisbees to excited children and families along the way.

Energy Related Repair Program (ERR) For Homeowners 2015-2016

The Energy Related Repair (ERR) benefit is a crisis benefit that addresses hazardous and life threatening situations, or cases where a home has no heat due to a malfunctioning or nonfunctioning heating system. If a homeowner has qualified for Energy Assistance and is having furnace problems, Lakes and Pines may be able to help. Energy Assistance Program (EAP) staff work closely with Weatherization staff and local furnace technicians to make repairing or replacing furnaces go as smoothly as possible. This program year, 453 households have been helped with furnace related repairs or replacements for a total cost of \$784,282.

To increase awareness of the ERR benefit, a brief description of the ERR benefit was included in a letter that was mailed to all EAP eligible senior households. The letter explained the importance of contacting EAP staff when furnace issues arise before contacting a furnace technician. As a result, staff have seen a substantial increase in the number of seniors contacting Lakes and Pines with furnace issues. Unfortunately, staff discovered that many EAP eligible senior households made expensive heating system repairs on their own during the colder months because they were not aware of the ERR benefit.

Garden Seed Program

Free vegetable seeds have been planted throughout the Lakes and Pines service area by over 700 households, thanks to the Garden Seed Distribution Program, and some extraordinary volunteers! This is a 10% increase over last year's 643 households.

The Garden Seed Program is intended to help people stretch their food budgets. The seeds are purchased by Lakes and Pines in bulk and repackaged into small packets by Town and Country Garden Club members, a few of the Agency's regular volunteers and staff members on their breaks and lunchtime. Staff members volunteered to deliver seeds to 18 area food shelves and 4 extension offices that generously agreed to be seed distribution sites. There are two or three sites in each of the seven counties that volunteer to distribute the seeds to area low-income residents.



Included with the seeds was a handout of basic gardening info taken from the University of Minnesota Extension website and reminders that SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits may be used to purchase vegetable seeds and plants. A few of the food shelf coordinators mentioned that people new to their food shelf were surprised to be offered free seeds and were planting gardens for the first time in years. The families and individuals who received the seeds shared how satisfying it is to plan to grow their own food; some for the first time! This program not only creates new gardeners, it also frees up money for other needs, provides access to fresh produce, helps people get exercise and promotes a sense of accomplishment and self-reliance.

If you are a member of a garden club with community project funds, know of a community minded garden center or are an individual that wants to donate to improve next year's program, please contact Dawn B. in the Community Services Department at extension 115 or dawnb@lakesandpines.org. A donation may be the difference between a good Garden Seed Program and a great Garden Seed Program!

Applying for help can feel overwhelming.



Lakes and Pines staff can help by screening you for potential eligibility and also help you fill out the application for SNAP (food support).

Lakes and Pines trained navigators can help you enroll for health insurance through MNsure for:

- Medical Assistance
- MN Care
- Qualified Health Plan if you've had a recent life event that affected your health insurance.

For more information or to make an appointment

**Call Lakes & Pines
at 800-832-6082 - Option 4
or Email**

lap@lakesandpines.org

or go to the website

www.lakesandpines.org

Foster Grandparents

For many years now the Lakes and Pines Head Start program has had the privilege of working with the Foster Grandparent program. During this time, they have provided children with skilled, sweet, loving, grandparents who spend one-on-one time with children in various partner sites. These grandparents do everything from reading books to children, to helping them write their names. The reward for the providers we work with, the children who they sit with, and the grandparents themselves have been an invaluable experience for them all.

The Foster Grandparent Program has been around as long as Head Start and cut from the same cloth. Born under President Johnson's War on Poverty, this program has worked to help those 55 or better continue to share their skills and knowledge with young people everywhere.

As one provider shared: "There is so much that my 'grandmas' have given to these children over the past 11 years that I have had the foster grandparent program here. I couldn't imagine them not being here. Thank you for letting them be here." The impact has been far reaching.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Foster Grandparent, call Dawn van Hees at 320-679-1800, ext. 108, and she will put you in contact with the Area Supervisor for your area. Feel free to view the Foster Grandparent program website at <http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/senior-corps/foster-grandparents>.

Reach Out For Warmth (ROFW)

The Reach Out For Warmth (ROFW) Program continues to be an important resource for households experiencing an energy-related crisis. Up to \$400 in Reach Out For Warmth funds are available to qualifying households when other programs are not available. Because funding is so limited there is currently a once per lifetime restriction to using ROFW funds.

The Reach Out For Warmth Program is funded solely through donations. Recent donations include \$2,847.10 from Hope Lutheran Church of Moose Lake, \$250 from Frandsen Bank and Trust, and \$50 from a private donation. We have used a total of \$600 in ROFW funds to help two households resolve an energy-related emergency. There is currently \$3,640.11 in the ROFW fund available to help qualifying households in need.

Now that the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) has ended, these funds become the only resource available to households in emergency situations.

LAKES AND PINES RECEIVES PATHWAY II SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

Lakes and Pines will receive \$75,000 in Pathway II Scholarship funding from the Minnesota Department of Education this year. Pathway II Scholarship funding is available to Parent Aware 4 Star rated, licensed child care programs. The money can be used to add children (typically in Head Start or School Based programs), or to add staff and services to licensed child care sites. Lakes and Pines received scholarships for the Mora and Cloquet sites and will use the money to hire additional staff.



Vehicle Donation

In June Lakes and Pines' Vehicle Donation Program was able to donate a 2004 Ford Explorer to a local family because of the generosity of a stranger. This single mom has a disability and was referred to the Vehicle Donation Program by her Vocational Rehabilitation counselor. The counselor said that Mary (not her real name) is determined to find a job. Mary has had a few interviews, but was not able to accept the jobs because she didn't have reliable transportation to get to work every day.

The Vehicle Donation Program can only continue to be a success if additional vehicles are donated. Vehicles that need repairs are welcome. Donated vehicles are repaired by the Sandstone Federal Prison's Vocational Automotive Training 'students'. These men learn a skill that they will be able to use to make a living upon their release and have a great sense of accomplishment to be able to contribute something like this back to society.

Vehicle Donation Program participants apply because they need a car to get to work. They must be referred by an employment specialist or another professional they are working with who believes they will be a good fit for the program and use the car to get or keep a job. Lakes and Pines' primary focus is improved money management. Staff worked with Mary to improve her money management skills to adjust her budget to cover the costs of having a car such as insurance, gas, oil and maintenance, to be prepared for future repair costs and to start saving for her next car.

This is a win-win-win-win-win program.

- The person that donated the Explorer may include the value of the vehicle when itemizing their 2016 tax deductions.
- The Sandstone Prison's Vocational Training Automotive class members learn a skill that will benefit them and society when they leave prison.
- Employment Specialists and Vocational Rehabilitation staff have one more resource to offer someone to improve their chances of meeting their employment goals.
- The person granted the car is able to get and keep a job, as well as get to the grocery store, medical appointments, school events and all the other places we all need to visit.
- Lakes and Pines assists one more person or family find a way on the path out of poverty.

For more information or to donate a vehicle contact Tina H at 320.679.1800 extension 170, email lap@lakesandpines.org, go to the website www.lakesandpines.org or like us on Facebook.



**You Can Help People
Get To Work
By Donating Your Vehicle**

LakesAndPines.org
800.832.6082

Lakes & Pines
COMMUNITY SCHOOL, INC.

Crisis Benefits 2015-2016

When a household qualifies for Energy Assistance, they also qualify for Crisis benefits. Due to available funding, the Department of Commerce made the decision to increase the maximum crisis benefit available to each household from \$500 to \$1000 for the remainder of this program year. Crisis benefits were available until July 15th, 2016. Energy Assistance Program (EAP) Crisis benefits are used to prevent the shut-off of residential energy sources, to reinstate service of residential energy sources, and to enable delivery of residential fuel. Crisis benefits may be used after a household has used all of their Primary Heat Benefit, has a disconnect notice, is disconnected, is out of fuel, or is low on fuel. Senior households (60+) can also access crisis benefits to pay on current heat or electric bills. This program year 2,350 eligible households have accessed \$1,259,914 in crisis benefits.

To increase awareness of the senior household crisis benefit 2,315 letters were mailed to EAP households that met the senior guideline. The letter explained how to access crisis benefits without having a disconnect notice and also increased awareness of the Energy Related Repair (ERR) Program. As a result, we have seen a substantial increase in the number of seniors contacting us to use their crisis benefits on current heat or electric bills.

Dental Day

Lakes and Pines' Head Start program hosted its fourth Dental Day on May 25th, 2016. The event took place at the Lakes and Pines office located in Mora, Minnesota. As part of an initiative to offer dental care opportunities in all seven counties served by Lakes and Pines, we are excited to have already offered Dental Days in three counties (a fourth county that had been scheduled, however, was cancelled because the dentist was ill).

Since January of 2016, Lakes and Pines' Dental Days have provided services to 79 children. These services have been made possible through partnerships with Children's Dental Services and the Medica Foundation. Such partnerships afford Lakes and Pines' Head Start program the opportunity to provide dental services to insured and uninsured dependent children up to the age of 26.

With more dentists reaching their maximum capacity to handle medical assistance and other state funded reimbursements, our partnerships with Children's Dental Services and the Medica Foundation have been an important tool in meeting Head Start requirements.

Lakes & Pines CAC, Inc.

Mission Statement

*To build prosperous communities by
serving local families and individuals
in their pursuit of self-reliance.*

Partnering to End Poverty



Be Cautious When Inviting Anyone to Stay At Your Home!

Whether it is an adult child who never moved out or a person taken in temporarily by family or friends, there are many reasons a person may be living in another's home without a lease. Problems arise when the guest has overstayed his or her welcome. When you allow people stay in your home overnight they can become tenants without you realizing it. Lakes and Pines has encountered at least two cases in the past month of people letting friends and/or relatives stay with them, as guests, and ended up with them not leaving the premises! The guests were using drugs and were asked to leave, but they refused. Law enforcement was called, but could not determine whether they were guests or tenants. In these extreme cases, the person with the lease ended up leaving their own home in order to avoid a bad situation.

The owner/renter and guest may agree to a date when the guest will leave. The owner should attempt to get any agreement in writing in case the guest does not follow it. An agreement could save the parties the cost of going to court and would prevent the dispute from affecting the owner's or the guest's criminal or civil record. Another option could be for the owner/tenant to give a written notice to the guest that states, "I am withdrawing my consent for you to live in my home. Please take your belongings and leave by [a reasonable date]." The owner should keep a copy of the letter.

Law enforcement is trained to deal with emergency situations and can help deescalate a volatile situation. Law enforcement may be able to remove a guest who has become violent from the premises. Absent of an emergency situation, law enforcement will often decline to take action without a court order showing who has a right to be in the home. The owner may claim that the guest is a trespasser and provide evidence that the owner has revoked permission for the guest to remain in the home, but the guest may try to show that he or she had been living with permission on the premises, which creates a factual dispute that courts are better equipped to handle. If the guest begins paying any money to offset expenses, they may be looked at as a tenant of the person on the lease/mortgage. The renter/owner should be wary of potential legal issues that arise when a landlord-tenant relationship exists.

For more valuable information please visit <https://www.vlnmn.org/> and search for: "Guests who overstay their welcome".



LAKES AND PINES OPENING THREE HEAD START CENTERS THIS FALL AND FIVE COMBINATION SITES

Lakes and Pines will begin operating 3 Head Start Centers serving 17 children at each site this fall. Centers will be located in Cloquet at the former All We Can Be Child Care site, in Mora at the former Head Start office site, and at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chisago City. Lakes and Pines plans on offering programming Tuesday through Friday for six hours each day. Head Start staff are working with the Office of Head Start and applying for additional funding opportunities that will enhance or expand center-based services to bring Lakes and Pines into compliance with new Head Start regulations. Lakes and Pines will be offering Combination Programming this fall in partnerships with local schools. In some of the partnerships, children will attend the classroom setting one day a week for three hours a day and participate in three home visits per month: in other partnerships, children will attend the classroom setting four days a week for three hours a day and participate in one home visit per month. All of the school districts in Lakes and Pines' service area receive funding for Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) and School Readiness, and now all but a small handful is accessing Pathway II scholarships. Many of the school districts have applied for the new Universal Pre-K funding passed by the legislature this spring. With the large influx of funding going to schools to operate half-day, Pre-K programming, partnering in the context of this option in smaller communities makes a lot of sense. Lakes and Pines is adapting different types of programming and funding to meet families where they are at and we are building communities of young learners.

Domestic Violence Partners

If you are looking for Domestic Violence Services, the following list represents those available in our seven county service area:

Aitkin County

Advocates Against Domestic Violence	888-276-1720	www.advocatesagainstdomesticabuse.org
Aitkin County Child Abuse Prevention Council	218-927-6226	
Sexual Violence Resource Center – Aitkin	218-927-6226	

Carlton County

Carlton County Domestic & Sex Abuse Program	800-910-1810	
Fond du Lac Advocacy Program (Police Department)	218-878-8040	Sheriff will give referral for services
Window Victim Services	218-499-8088	www.window4victims.com

Chisago County

The Refuge Network	800-338-7233	www.therefugenetwork.org
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Isanti County

The Refuge Network	800-338-7233	www.therefugenetwork.org
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Kanabec County

The Refuge Network	800-338-7233	www.therefugenetwork.org
Window Victim Services	320-384-7113	www.window4victims.com

Mille Lacs County

Domestic Violence Crisis Line	800-933-6914	
Pearl Crisis Center	800-933-6914	www.pearlcrisiscenter.com
Sexual Violence Crisis Line	800-522-2055	

Pine County

Window Victim Services	320-384-7113	www.window4victims.com
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Statewide Domestic Violence

Safe at Home	866-233-1111	
	866-723-3035	Provides a secure mailing address for victims

Go Green! Lakes and Pines CAC, Inc. aims to operate and administer programs in the most cost-effective manner. Please consider receiving the FYI Quarterly Newsletter via email and help us save on printing and postage costs.

Send us an email to sign up: lap@lakesandpines.org





stands for "FOR YOUR INFORMATION." It is a quarterly newsletter provided to the area's seven county officials and personnel of Lakes and Pines CAC, Inc.

We hope our Newsletter will present you with timely, interesting, and sometimes lighthearted information. In turn, we hope that you will present us with your thoughts and suggestions.

For further information, please contact:

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1700 MAPLE AVE E
MORA MN 55051
320-679-1800
Toll Free 1-800-832-6082
lap@lakesandpines.org

For the Agency to continue savings in postage, it is important to maintain current addresses on file.

Please take a moment to review your address label and notify Lakes and Pines of any appropriate corrections.

If you are interested in receiving the FYI electronically in the future, please email: lap@lakesandpines.org.

CORRECTION IN MAILING ADDRESS

PLEASE PRINT: NAME:
ORGANIZATION:
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CITY, STATE, ZIP+ 4 DIGITS

Mail to: Agency Administration, Lakes and Pines CAC Inc., 1700 Maple Ave E., Mora MN 55051

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