

**North Kent Community Services
2016 MEAP Grant**

Grant Award: \$50,300

Service Area: Northern Kent County

Anticipated Reach: 25-30 Households

North Kent Community Services (NKCS) will administer the NKCS Utility Assistance Program to those that are willing to commit to six months of meeting weekly in a group environment while focusing on building resources for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Program Details

- Over-the-phone interview with NKCS Program Director to explain the NKCS Utility Assistance Program and to determine interest. Referrals to other resources are provided if household is not interested in NKCS Utility Assistance Program.
- One hour face-to-face MEAP assessment with NKCS Intake Specialist to determine eligibility.
- Energy Assistance provided to meet current crisis (up to \$1,500). NKCS will offer up to \$250 per month of utility assistance for the duration of the program (six months).
- Another appointment is set up between NKCS Intake Specialist and the participant to utilize Skype services for Home Repair Services. This will help participant access resources Home Repair Services offers such as weatherization, home repair, do-it-yourself workshops, etc.
- Participant must commit to six months of meeting weekly for up to three hours. These meetings will take place at Cedar Springs Public School's campus. These meetings include two weeks of financial literacy classes taught by Home Repair Services. The NKCS Program Director will be using the Getting Ahead in a Just Getting' By World curriculum to facilitate the remainder of the program.

Additional Services Offered

- Food pantry
- Clothing, furniture, and household items
- Seasonal programs such as holiday food baskets, backpack distribution, and Easter baskets
- Other educational programming such as the Thrive Empowerment Program and the Farm to Pantry program
- VITA Tax Program
- Federal commodities
- Senior Meals on Wheels, Senior Pantry, and Senior commodities

Partners for the NKCS Utility Assistance Program

- Home Repair Services
- Cedar Springs Public Schools
- Kent County Essential Needs Task Force-Energy Efficiency

Location/Hours/Contact information

Address: 10075 Northland Dr, Rockford, MI 49341

Hours: Over-the-phone interviews: M-TH 8am-6pm

MEAP Assessment: Tuesdays from 11am-3pm

Telephone: (616)866-3478 ext. 105



Michigan Energy Assistance Program –North Kent

