SIEOC
Community Action Agency

2017 Annual Report
Southeastern Indiana Economic Opportunity Corporation (SIEOC) is a Community Action Agency that is part of a national network of federally funded Community Action Agencies (CAAs), established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America’s War on Poverty. CAAs are now legislated by the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) that replaced the Economic Opportunity Act in 1981. CAAs administer various programs, on their individual community levels, that assist people of all ages to work towards and hopefully achieve self-sufficiency. Today there are 1,000 CAAs serving residents in every state.

SIEOC is a private, 501(c) (3) not-for-profit corporation that has proudly provided a variety of services to people in need since 1965. We’re a member of the National Community Action Partnership, SIEOC follows The Promise of Community Action, which is: “Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.”

SIEOC’s mission is to improve the conditions under which people live, learn and work. To fulfill The Promise of Community Action and SIEOC’s mission, SIEOC supports activities and programs that help communities, families and individuals become more self-sufficient. All SIEOC services are provided without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, citizenship status, military status, genetic information or any other category protected under federal, state or local law.
Who we serve

SIEOC proudly serves communities in Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland and Union Counties.

SIEOC’s Child Care Resource & Referral serves a 14 county service area, those are: Clark, Dearborn, Decatur, Floyd, Franklin, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, Scott, Switzerland and Washington Counties.

SIEOC’s Head Start serves Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland Counties.

Office Locations:

Main Office Location:

110 Importing Street / PO Box 240
Aurora, IN 47001
Phone: (812) 926-1585 or Toll free: (888) 292-5475

Satellite Office Locations:

Family Service Center
13195 Spangler Road
Dillsboro, IN 47018
Phone: (812) 432-5099

Franklin County Office
528 Main Street
Brookville, IN 47012
Phone: (765) 647-5967

Union County Office
302 Harrison Street
Liberty, IN 47353
Phone: (765) 458-1328
A message from the Executive Director

It is my pleasure to present SIEOC’s 2017 Annual Report.

In 2017 SIEOC marked its 52nd year of providing services to our Southeastern Indiana counties. We continue to provide many services and resources to improve families’ lives in our communities. I am very proud of our agency accomplishments and what we have achieved over the last 52 years.

We were very excited in 2017 to bring on a new program under our Community Action Umbrella, Covering Kids and Families. Our certified Indiana Navigators are able to guide individuals and families down the road to good, affordable health coverage. We are so excited about this new program and the opportunity to assist individuals and families in navigating their health insurance needs.

I hope that you will enjoy looking through our Annual Report and seeing the many programs that we offer and the impact that our agency makes. We could not do all of this without our dedicated staff, our volunteer Board of Directors and the many community partners who assist us with our mission to improve the conditions under which people live, learn and work. I thank you all.

Tamara Cunningham, Executive Director
2017 SIEOC Board of Directors

SIEOC is governed by a Tripartite Board of Directors who participates in the development, planning, implementation and evaluation of the Community Action Agency and their programs. The Board of Directors shall consist of at least one third Public Officials or their representatives, at least one-third low income representation, and the remainder from major groups or interests in the community.

The CSBG Organizational Standards are a new element of Community Action accountability that boards are aware of and consider when carrying out their responsibilities. These 58 Standards address three broad categories: Maximum Feasible Participation, Vision and Direction, and Operations and Accountability.

Dearborn County
Bob Ewbank  Member since 2010
Wanda Jean Hollin  Member since 2017
Sonia Kaffenberger  Member since 2006

Franklin County
Adele Fritz  Member since 2012
Mary Lierl  Member since 2014
Alta Profitt  Member since 2017

Ohio County
Annette Richards  Member since 2013
Jeannie Sabo  Member since 1998
Betty Taylor  Member since 2015

Ripley County
Lois Franklin  Member since 2015
Terri Trowbridge  Member since 2015
Wanda Knollman  Member since 2016

Switzerland County
August Dauel  Member since 2017
Carrie Johns  Member since 2016
Shannon Phipps  Member since 2017

Union County
Melissa Browning  Member since 2016
Jennifer English  Member since 2015
Kim Klien  Member since 2016
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Energy (DOE)</td>
<td>$201,652.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)</td>
<td>$236,703.</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program</td>
<td>$72,882.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>$2,102,569.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)</td>
<td>$110,601.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind (Includes 20,642 Volunteer Hours)</td>
<td>$527,896.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)</td>
<td>$338,049.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)</td>
<td>$1,310,830.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Assistance Program (EAP)</td>
<td>$898,827.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Energy Assistance</td>
<td>$42,726.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Resource &amp; Referral (CCR&amp;R)</td>
<td>$722,514.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Learning Indiana</td>
<td>$74,000.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other non-program related funds</td>
<td>$209,374.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project LAUNCH</td>
<td>$101,634.</td>
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<tr>
<td>On My Way Pre-K</td>
<td>$70,455.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA</td>
<td>$8,471.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covering Kids &amp; Families of Indiana</td>
<td>$103,276.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,132,459</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2017 Agency Funding Profile

- Community Services: 44%
- Children's Services: 51%
- Health Care Related: 2%
- Miscellaneous: 3%
2017 Highlights and Statistics

- SIEOC served 3,019 families, benefitting 7,114 individuals
- SIEOC worked with 579 organizations, both public and private, to expand resources and opportunities for our clients
- Our onsite food pantries in Aurora and Brookville distributed 79,450 pounds of food and 150 food boxes
- SIEOC assisted in the distribution of 800 units of clothing with FOP Cops & Kids, Warm The Children and emergency vouchers
- SIEOC had 35 staff members that were Child Development Certified, 10 Certified Family Development Specialists and 1 State Certified Family Development Trainer
- SIEOC staff spent 7,500 hours in training
- Volunteers donated 19,775 hours to SIEOC, 18,735 of those hours were low-income individuals volunteering

Types of Families served by SIEOC in 2017

- Two Adults, No Children: 11%
- Single Parent Male: 17%
- Single Parent Female: 3%
- Single Person: 16%
- Two Parent Household: 53%

Age Categories of People Served by SIEOC in 2017

- 0 to 5: 14%
- 6 to 11: 13%
- 12 to 17: 7%
- 18 to 23: 24%
- 24 to 44: 13%
- 45 to 54: 19%
- 55 to 69: 10%

2017 Family Size Breakdown

- 1 person household: 1,331
- 2 person household: 651
- 3 person household: 403
- 4 person household: 315
- 5 person household: 185
- 6 person household: 83
- 7 person household: 33
- 8 or more in household: 18
Child Care Resource & Referral

Understanding Child Care Resource & Referral

Our Mission
To promote quality child care and out of school time learning for all children by providing information, education and support to families, early care professionals and the community.

Our Vision
All children will be a priority in their early learning environment.

Service Delivery Area
Clark, Dearborn, Decatur, Floyd, Franklin, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Scott, Switzerland, Ripley and Washington Counties

SIEOC’s CCR&R help families find child care
Choosing child care is one of the most important decisions families make, but all too often they must rely on word-of-mouth. SIEOC CCR&R help parents take the guesswork out of choosing care.

Programs we administer
Paths to QUALITY™
Indiana Partnership for Inclusive Child Care
On My Way Pre-K in Bartholomew, Floyd, Harrison and Jackson Counties

Training and Professional Development
Child care providers receive professional development and technical assistance in early care and education, assistance with starting the business of a family child care home, training on Indiana state licensing requirements, and recommendations for operating a quality child care program. SIEOC CCR&R helps providers stay up to date with licensing requirements and to increase their knowledge base. In 2017, CCR&R held 236 trainings, 1,132 unique trainings, which impacted 9,312 children.
Pathways to QUALITY™
Pathways to QUALITY provides information on how to choose quality child care in licensed centers, licensed child care homes or unlicensed registered ministries. It is a voluntary system for child care providers who are willing to go beyond the minimum state requirements of licensing to provide a higher level of care. Pathways to QUALITY helps child care providers learn new ways to improve the quality of their care and give families more choices when selecting quality child care.

2017 Pathways to QUALITY Fast Facts
- 242 Pathways to QUALITY Providers
- 24 new programs enrolled
- 6,555 children were impacted
- 28 providers increased a level
- 1,521 hours of coaching time spent with Pathways to QUALITY providers

Serving Communities
SIEOC CCR&R provides outreach to the fourteen counties in the service delivery area to;
- Educate families about the different types of child care available that would meet their specific needs, access information about the characteristics of a quality child care program and receive information about their community resources.
- Assist Child Care Providers with professional development in early care and education, assistance with starting the business of a family child care home, training on Indiana state licensing requirements, and recommendations for operating a quality child care program.
- Provide community members and organizations information about the supply and demand for child care, including information on types of programs available, types of programs families are asking for and the gaps between the two.

2017 Outreach and Marketing Fast Facts
- 1,364 community contacts in database
- 15,263 pieces of English marketing materials were delivered
- 132 pieces of Spanish marketing materials were delivered
- 413 unique community contacts were made
Melody Minger, Program Director

SIEOC Head Start is a not-for-profit, federally funded program that promotes the school readiness of children ages 3-5 from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social and emotional development in Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland counties.

The Head Start program is funded through the Office of Head Start (OHS), within the Administration of Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services. Head Start provides comprehensive services to enrolled children and their families, which include health, nutrition, social and other services determined to be necessary by family needs assessments, in addition to education and cognitive development services.

Head Start operates 11 pre-school classrooms at 10 different sites throughout our 5 county area with an enrollment of 266 children. Head Start employed 58 staff with 16 being past Head Start parents and 6 are past Head Start children. Four staff have 5+ years, six staff have 10+ years and 11 staff have over 20 years experience with SIEOC.

Program Year 2016-2017 Highlights
- Slots available: 266
- Children enrolled throughout the year: 361
- Monthly enrollment: Average of 266
- Average daily attendance: 76%
- Children who went on to kindergarten: 129
- Children with disabilities receiving services: 41
- Children completing a dental exam: 69%
- Volunteers: 902, of which 882 were current or former Head Start parents
- Children up to date on a schedule of preventive and primary health care: 87%
- Children with up to date immunizations or all possible immunizations to date: 83%

School Readiness and Child Outcomes
Progress of the Head Start children is measured at three intervals during the school year: fall, winter and spring. Based on information from Teaching Strategies Gold, the 2016-2017 Program Year showed gains in all domains. The graph below shows the growth by points over the school year. The children, as a whole, met or exceeded the knowledge, skills and behaviors that are most predictive of school success.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes for 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Emotional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Gross Motor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Fine Motor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>43.9</td>
<td>49.3</td>
<td>52.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Gross Motor</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Fine Motor</td>
<td>40.2</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>46.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>33.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview of Parent Involvement Activities
Five specific activities were held:
- 2 Mom Events: Mom and Kids Bowling and “Silly Safari” by the Cincinnati Zoo
- 2 Dad Events: Dad and Kids Bowling and Fall Fun Day
- 1 Family Event: St. Jude Trike-a-thon
donated $18,990.15 over the past 15 years

Parent trainings took place with topics on
- Parent involvement in governance
- Center committee elections
- 40 Developmental Assets
- Empowerment Assets
- Reading Aloud to Your Child and other RIF trainings
- Boundaries and Expectation Assets
- “Second Step” parenting video
- Constructive Use of Time Assets and Planning
- Cooking and Budgeting for Meals
- How to Build Commitment to Learning Assets for Your Children
- How to Build Positive Value Assets for Your Children
- How to Build Social Competency Assets for Your Children
- How to Build Positive Identity Assets for Your Children
- Home Safety
- Couponing
- Easy and Low Cost Recipes and My Plate
- RIF Parent Workshops
- Child Abuse Prevention/How to Protect Your Children
- Adult Education and Lifelong Learning
- IN HOME – 123 and More 123
The Department of Energy (DOE) and the HHS Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), through the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDCA), funds SIEOC’s Weatherization Program. The program has two main goals. The first goal is to ensure the health and safety of clients and the second is to reduce the energy use in the client’s home. The health and safety goal is met through extensive testing, repair or replacement of the client’s heating system and gas appliances. Energy use reduction is achieved through client education and extensive diagnostic testing to guide measures designed to reduce air infiltration into the home and improve the insulation values of exterior walls, attics and crawl spaces.

### SIEOC Weatherization Statistics for 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Energy Audits Completed</th>
<th>Homes Weatherized</th>
<th>Furnaces Replaced</th>
<th>Furnaces Repaired</th>
<th>Water Heaters Replaced</th>
<th>Heat Pumps Installed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dearborn County</strong></td>
<td>42</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Franklin County</strong></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ohio County</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ripley County</strong></td>
<td>37</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Switzerland County</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decatur County</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Client Satisfaction

- **Ripley County resident**
  “I’m very, very grateful for the Weatherization assistance. The team was very helpful, very courteous and respectful. All the workers should be recognized for a job well done. Thank you so much.”

- **Dearborn County resident**
  “Rocky is awesome, very helpful, and I learned a lot from him. I’m very pleased and satisfied with the work done to my home.”

- **Franklin County resident**
  “I’m very satisfied with all of the workers that SIEOC sent to my house. They were all helpful, answered all of my questions and gave me lots of good information. Very impressed.”

- **Ripley County resident**
  “Your Weatherization Program is nothing less than fantastic.”
The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded block grant through the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The LIHEAP Block Grant provides funds to individual states to assist low-income families with the high cost of home energy. Community Action Agencies are designated by federal regulation as the local agencies administering the Energy Assistance Program. Households meeting the poverty guidelines (150% of poverty for 2017) can apply for assistance.

The Winter Heating Program assists households with their heating bill or bulk fuel delivery. Crisis assistance helps families that need additional assistance who are in danger of disconnection or have no fuel. The Summer Cooling Program assists clients with electric bills. In some instances, with medical documentation, the program can provide a window air conditioner.

The Indiana Home Energy Assistance Program is a program through the Attorney General’s Office that provided 536 households with a $60.00 benefit towards their heating source as a result of the multi-state mortgage settlement. The 2016-2017 programs were funded at $40,589.84.

Energy Assistance staff also administered the Duke Helping Hand Program for Duke Customers in our service area. The program was funded at $28,900.00 for 2016-2017. Duke Helping Hand Program helped 272 households for 2016-2017 program years.

Clients that received SIEOC’s Energy Assistance Program were also eligible to participate in an Energy Education Class and our Family Development Program.

**SIEOC Energy Assistance Statistics for 2017**
- 1,314 households were served, benefitting 2,584 people
- 29 air conditioning units were distributed
- 956 households were served through Energy Education Workshops
- 88 energy kits were distributed

**Client Satisfaction**

"Thank you so much for help with my Duke Energy bill. In the past I used wood to heat my home but due to illnesses and injuries I can’t handle the wood. Again thank you so much."

Items pictured above were distributed in SIEOC’s 2016-2017 EAP energy kits.
The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), funds the SIEOC Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV). Households that want to apply for the HCV program are sent pre-applications and placed on a waiting list. Once funding is available those applications are pulled from the waiting list and are screened for eligibility. If eligibility is met, the applicant is issued a voucher to find housing. Applicants can look for a house, mobile home, apartment, etc. The unit must pass a Housing Quality Standard (HQS) inspection before SIEOC will assist in paying any housing subsidy.

Tenants will not pay more than 40% of their adjusted monthly gross income toward their rent, including utilities, and the remaining portion is paid directly to the landlord by SIEOC.

**SIEOC Housing Choice Voucher Program Statistics for 2017**
- Partnerships with 111 landlords in Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland and Union Counties
- 216 households were served, benefitting 438 people

**Client Satisfaction**
"I would like to thank SIEOC and their staff for going above and beyond their normal daily duties to assist me in my time of need. My home of 12 years was purchased by the distillery and I was given 30 days to move. I am 58 years old and live alone. Needless to say I was frantic. I made a call to SIEOC and was given an appointment time. The staff went over the available programs in my area and appointments were then made to start the process of getting assistance...The HUD program has made this difficult time less stressful and my move successful. I would especially like to thank Janet and Faith for all the time they have spent with me and mostly their patience with me. I was frantic during this move and it clearly showed in my emotion. You have a wonderful program. I am hosting this years Thanksgiving dinner in my new home for family and friends."
The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is funded through the Indiana State Department of Health. The TEFAP funding that SIEOC receives allows us to operate two onsite food pantries. In 2017, SIEOC served families in Dearborn and Franklin Counties at our on-site food pantries in Aurora and Brookville.

SIEOC partners with The Freestore Foodbank and Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana to purchase food items to stock our pantries. SIEOC also relies on generous donations from individuals, businesses and organizations to help stock our pantries. SIEOC would like to thank the individuals, businesses and organizations who donated to our pantries in 2017. Approximately 87 different individuals, businesses or groups donated to our on-site food pantries in 2017. Pictured below on the top are volunteers from People Helping People making their annual donation of food to SIEOC’s onsite Aurora pantry.

SIEOC would also like to thank our amazing volunteers for their hard work and time spent serving those with food needs in 2017. Pictured below on the bottom are our Brookville Site Volunteers. Pictured left to right are Leroy Updike, Greg Skinner, Kathleen Skinner, Diane Metcalfe and Betty Updike.

SIEOC was able to purchase a commercial refrigerator with a Partner Agency Capacity Grant from the FreeStore Foodbank in 2017. The purchase price for the commercial refrigerator was $3,496.00, which was all covered by the grant funding we received.

**Emergency Food Assistance Program Statistics for 2017**
- 2,602 households were served, benefiting 6,424 people
- 75,329 pounds of food was distributed

**Client Satisfaction**

“Thank you for the assistance for our family in bad times. God Bless!”

“Thanks to SIEOC for helping my family when we needed food. I was put on bed rest from my doctor due to medical issues during my pregnancy. I was not able to work and not having any income coming in really made things hard financially for my family. The food given to us by SIEOC really helped us out in our time of need.”
Salvation Army

Salvation Army Mission Statement
The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

SIEOC serves as the Salvation Army Extension Office for Dearborn and Ohio Counties. SIEOC has two Salvation Army representatives that are able to write out checks to help families in need with clothing, food, emergency shelter, etc.

Salvation Army’s work is funded through kettle donations, corporate funds and contributions and the sale of goods donated to Salvation Army Family Stores. Eighty-two cents of every dollar the Salvation Army spends supports their various missions across the country. Each year SIEOC employees participate in local kettle drives to help raise funds for Dearborn and Ohio Counties Salvation Army. Pictured far right are SIEOC employees Maria Coudret and Angie Disbro participating in the 2017 Kettle Drive.

On April 19, 2017 Kimberly Elliott, Linda Morehead and Dawn Ross attended The Salvation Army National Disaster Training Program at the Madison, IN Salvation Army Corps. They join SIEOC employees Janet Craig and Sheila Fletcher who also have their Disaster Training Certificate and Safe From Harm Certificate, as well as their Safe Serve Certificate. Pictured below left to right are Dawn Ross, Janet Craig, Kimberly Elliott, Sheila Fletcher and Linda Morehead.

Dearborn & Ohio County Salvation Army Statistics for 2017

- 275 Households served, benefitting 674 people
  - Clothing-9
  - Food-29
  - Emergency Shelter-55
  - Medical-14
  - Rent-43
  - Transportation-19
  - Utilities-101
  - Disaster-1

Linda Morehead, Program Director
Linda Morehead, Program Director

The Bev Henry Emergency Fund was established years ago as the Emergency Assistance Program. The fund was renamed the Bev Henry Emergency Fund in honor of SIEOC’s previous executive director’s passion for her job and the community. The Bev Henry Emergency Fund offers a variety of assistance to income-eligible families in a crisis situation in Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland and Union Counties. Assistance may include financial assistance for rent, utilities, food and prescriptions. The Bev Henry Emergency Fund is solely dependent on donations from the community.

When Bev passed away the Indiana Association of Child Care Resource & Referral developed a service award to celebrate Bev’s life and contribution to Child Care Resource & Referral. The award recognizes someone who possesses outstanding leadership ability while demonstrating compassion, kindness, lifelong learning and a sense of humor. Bev was instrumental in bringing the CCR&R program into the SIEOC Agency in 1995, and the program has grown by leaps and bounds since that time. Each CCR&R, of which there are 10 in the State of Indiana, has the opportunity to nominate one of their peers who show the many characteristics such as Life Long Learning, Humor, Compassion & Kindness, which were all of Bev’s qualities. SIEOC would like to congratulate Bonnie Baldwin, who is SIEOC’s CCR&R’s Master Coach., who received the Bev Henry Celebration of Service Award on June 15, 2017. Bonnie’s coworker, Megan Broadus, nominated her for the award.

Bev Henry Emergency Fund Statistics for 2017
- 69 households were served, benefitting 197 individuals
  - Medical-2
  - Rent-13
  - Utilities-52
  - Transportation-3
  - Clothing-3
The Individual Development Account Program (IDA) is designed to assist qualifying individuals to accumulate savings and develop personal finance skills. The objective of the program is to assist people with limited means in achieving financial independence and becoming financially self-sufficient by providing them skills to develop a budget, set financial goals, establish regular saving habits and to invest in assets.

IDA participants must save $25.00 per month and they are required to save it in their savings account at our partnering financial institution. The State of Indiana matches the IDA participant’s funds with a 3 to 1 ratio. Meaning, for each dollar the participant saves, up to $300.00 per year, the State will triple it. The client can stay in the program up to four years, allowing them to save $1,200.00 in four years and obtain a match of $3,600.00, totaling a combined savings of $4,800.00. After the four years of savings the participant has 12 months to use the saved funds to purchase an asset. In 2017, qualified asset purchases included:

- Purchasing a first time primary residence in Indiana
- Complete owner occupied repair on a primary residence
- Post secondary education costs for the participant or a dependent
- Purchase, startup or expand a small business
- Purchase a vehicle
- SIEOC had 5 active IDA accounts
- All 5 accounts were closed successfully in 2017
- All 5 participants received financial literacy education

Client Satisfaction

“I have been part of the IDA program for 4 years. I signed up with SIEOC IDA program to help me understand what it means to save money for my future. I started with $35.00 a month then changed my savings to $50.00 a month because I wanted to have more money later on when I decided to purchase my own home. This month, June 2017 I was able to withdraw all my IDA savings and invest in a home that I will live in to help me become more independent. Without the IDA funds I would not be able to own my home. I think that this program is important for people like myself who have some type of disability and find it hard to make lots of money in order to have a down payment for their own home. I think this program taught me to save and become a more independent person. Thank you for the opportunity.”
Family Development

SIEOC’s Family Development Program is a voluntary program for families who want to work towards living a more self-sufficient lifestyle. The goal of SIEOC’s Family Development Program is to empower families to eliminate barriers so they can eventually reach self-sufficiency. The families enrolled in family development work directly with one of SIEOC’s Certified Family Development Specialists. The Role of the FDS is to help families determine their own strengths and direction, and then is there to support the family in making practical and lasting change. The FDS offers families strategies to reclaim their self-sufficiency through home and office visits, assessments and goal setting. Families, along with assistance from their FDS, can together focus on identifying strengths, addressing obstacles and working to set and attain goals. Through the Family Development Program participants are able to build strengths, stability and resources, which in turn will allow them to be able to provide for their families and contribute to their local community and economy. Support is given to families in many ways such as referrals, group activities, linking families to the communities and advocacy. SIEOC’s Family Development Specialists work closely with families to achieve self-sufficiency in many areas, including but not limited to:

- Income and Budgeting
- Employment and Resume
- Family Interaction
- Health Care
- Education
- Housing
- Support Systems
- Child Care
- Transportation
- Food and Nutrition
- Utility Issues
- Addictions

Family Development Statistics for 2017

- 286 families were served, benefitting 749 individuals
- 35 participants obtained skills or competencies required for employment
- Assisted 25 participants with resume building
- 14 individuals benefitted from intensive budgeting and financial literacy education
- Assisted over 500 children with clothing needs through Warm The Children and FOP Cops and Kids

Client Satisfaction

“Thank you so much for the information about going back to school. If it weren’t for our conversation and SIEOC paying for the exam I would not have earned my HSE. Also, thank you for helping me update my resume since I can now include that I have my HSE. Since updating my resume with you I got a promotion at work. Things are looking up and I am looking in to a new apartment that will be better for me and my kids. Thanks for all your help and encouragement.”
In May of 2017 SIEOC announced that we were partnering with Covering Kids & Families of Indiana, Inc. (CKF-IN), as a coalition member. CKF-IN is a statewide organization committed to ensuring that all eligible children and adults are enrolled in available health-care coverage programs. In 2017 CKF of SIEOC had 10 licensed Indiana Navigators that provided free help to individuals and families to enroll in and understand state and federal health insurance programs such as Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, the Healthy Indiana Plan and the Health Insurance Marketplace.

Our navigators assist consumers at all points in the enrollment process and will continue to work with consumers to maintain their coverage once approved. CKF of SIEOC serves residents in Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland and Union Counties.

Pictured below are CKF of SIEOC staff members, left to right, Dawn Ross and Rebecca Westerfield participating in one of many outreach activities within our service area.

Covering Kids & Families of SIEOC Statistics for 2017
- Completed 63 applications, beating our goal of 50
- Had 45 enrollments, beating our goal of 25
- Partnered with 15 organizations to make referrals to CKF of SIEOC, beating our goal of 2
- Participated in 63 outreach activities, beating our goal of 20
VITA

SIEOC partnered with The United Way of Greater Cincinnati in 2017 for the first time to offer free tax preparation to our clients through the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program. The VITA Program offers free tax preparation, Federal and State, and electronic tax filing assistance to eligible individuals/families. VITA helps build financial stability for families by helping them file their taxes to claim tax credits and refunds. All returns are prepared and processed by an in-person IRS-certified volunteer. SIEOC had two employees, Kimberly Elliott and Dawn Ross, that completed the IRS certification exam to become IRS-certified basic tax professional volunteers for SIEOC.

VITA Statistics for 2017

- SIEOC served
  - 14 retired/elderly clients
  - 3 working families
  - 3 students/foster children
  - 2 homeless families
- Obtained $19,337.00 total in Federal refunds for the 22 clients
- Obtained $2,691.00 in total State refunds for the 22 clients
- Tax Credits received
  - $7,245.00 in Federal Earned Income Credit
  - $618.00 in State Earned Income Credit
  - $530.00 in Indiana Unified Tax Credit for the Elderly
- 1 client assisted had never received a Federal or State refund. SIEOC’s VITA tax preparer educated the client on itemization and due to the education the client received a $36.00 refund from the State. In previous years, before itemization the client owed the state of Indiana $1,800.00.
SIEOC making a difference
Helping people, changing lives

SIEOC Head Start is currently taking applications for children who will be 3 or 4 years old for the 2017-18 program year. (Children who turn 5 after Aug. 1st are eligible, if not accepted for Kindergarten.)

Head Start is a Free School Readiness Program. Classroom teachers have degrees in Early Childhood Education. Rising Sun classes will run seven hours, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday – Thursday. Classes are scheduled to begin the end of August.

Other services include health and developmental screenings, nutritious meals and snacks, parent/child events, family resources and referrals, and leadership opportunities.

Someone will meet with you to complete an application at your convenience.

Call 812-926-3190, as soon as possible, to schedule an appointment.

TOYS
From Page 1

she said.

Donors included the Dearborn County Community Foundation (via City of Lawrenceburg Youth Grant Program), Ohio County Community Foundation, Salvation Army, Lynch Family, Moores Hill American Legion, Bangtown and Combs Pizza.

Also, SIEOC, John Race and family, Mt. Sinai Church, Women Armed and Ready, North Bend Nitrogen Operation, Lifetime Resources, Aces Automotive, Lawrenceburg American Legion, D&M Electric, Horizon South, Dearborn County Sheriff’s Deputy Caleb Nosbitt, and Kids purchased by Reliant, 3, as Rebecca.

CHANDRA L. MATTINGLY/HERALD-JOURNAL

While DeLeon does say he does not have the answer to end abuse, he recommends 30 ways to attack the problem. A federal law outlawing prescription drug ads, to which Congress is working to respond to growing awareness of the number of children, better educating physicians on addiction.
State Announces Plans For 2017 Summer Cooling Program

Posted On July 11, 2017

Share This:

By Travis Thayer
(Indianapolis, Ind.) — If you’re having trouble staying cool this summer, help is available.

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCD) has the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for 2017 Summer Cooling Program through the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Each year, the IHCD focuses on keeping Hoosiers warm during the winter and cool during the summer by providing financial assistance to low-income households. This past winter, a total of 153,200 households were served with an average benefit of $300 per household.

Now, the Summer Cooling Program aims to provide a $134 credit to eligible households served during the winter months to use toward their electric bills.

The program is designed to help low-income households with the cost of cooling during the summer months. It is available to households with an income at or below 130% of the federal poverty level.

The IHCD encourages households to apply for the Summer Cooling Program as soon as possible to ensure they receive assistance before the summer heat sets in.

Visit the IHCD website at ihda.in.gov to learn more about the Summer Cooling Program and how to apply.

For more information, contact:
IHDA's Customer Service Center
1-800-253-9901

IHDA Summer Cooling Program
1-800-253-9901

Visit the IHDA website at ihda.in.gov for more information.
To work at SIEOC, I appreciate your time and patience this semester. I learned a lot

Sincerely,

Robert C. Reifsnyder
President

Cordially,

Volunteer Tax Program Coordinator

We appreciate your participation in the volunteer tax assistance program. Your 2018 tax return and expense data is your most important resource, and it is criti
cal for financial stability. You will be asked to focus on tax preparation and training.

Thank you for your partnership. We know the SIEOC is a strong and secure

Robert C. Reifsnyder
President

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Robert C. Reifsnyder
President

Cordially,

Volunteer Tax Program Coordinator
SIEOC making headlines in 2017

Thank you hardly seems adequate to express my appreciation for all your help and work on my home. You all are appreciated more than words can say.

I would like to thank SIEOC for going above and beyond their normal daily duties to assist me in my time of need.

My home of 12 years was purchased by the local distillery and I was given 30 days to move. I am 58 years old and live alone. Needless to say I was frantic. I made a call to SIEOC and was given an apt time. The staff went over the available programs in my area and made a call to see if they were made to start the process for my situation...
Congratulations to the SIEOC staff who celebrated 5 or more years of service in 2017. Thank you for your service to SIEOC and the clients we serve.

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<th>5 years of service or more</th>
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<tr>
<td>Teresa Bohman</td>
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<td>Andrea Delmar</td>
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<td>Angela Disbro</td>
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<td>Kimberly Elliott</td>
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<td>Faith Lane</td>
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<td>Barb Scholle</td>
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<td>Janet Craig</td>
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<td>Sally Gregory</td>
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<td>Kathy Hallgarth</td>
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<td>Amber Johnson</td>
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<td>Amy Matzet</td>
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<td>Marlene Peters</td>
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<td>Brenda Taylor</td>
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<td>Barbara Andrews</td>
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<td>Jennifer Ballard</td>
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<td>Sheila Fletcher</td>
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<td>Paula Goodpaster</td>
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<td>Colleen Lay</td>
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<td>Sandra Lowe</td>
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<td>Linda Morehead</td>
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<td>Tammy Cunningham</td>
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<td>Susan Levi</td>
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<td>Melody Minger</td>
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<td>Susan Schnebelt</td>
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<td>Rocky Walton</td>
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Yes, I can make a donation to SIEOC and help with the local fight against poverty!

I would like my donation to go to the following SIEOC program:

- Back to School
- Bev Henry Emergency Fund
- CCR&R
- Energy Assistance
- Family Development
- Head Start
- Help for the Holidays
- IDA
- Section 8
- TEFAP Food Pantry
- Weatherization
- Other: (Please Specify) __________

I am donating: $____________ Would you like your donation to be in honor or in memory of someone? □ Yes □ No

If yes, I would like my donation to be: □ In Honor of: _________________ □ In Memory of: _________________

Would you like your donation to be recognized in SIEOC’s Annual Report? □ Yes □ No

If yes, please complete the information below:

Name(s) of person/organization making donation: ____________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

City State Zip

SIEOC is designated a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) agency, therefore, your gift is tax-deductible.

Your donation and teamwork is helping SIEOC to accomplish our goal of helping our clients lead a more self-sufficient lifestyle. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Please return this completed form along with your donation to:

Southeastern Indiana Economic Opportunity Corporation
110 Importing Street / P.O. Box 240 Aurora, Indiana 47001-0240
SIEOC would like to thank the many individuals, businesses and organizations for their generous support to SIEOC in 2017.

To those of you who volunteered your time, donated goods or donated funds, we sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Thank you for helping us work towards our mission of improving the conditions under which people live, learn and work.