



ECKAN

East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation

Resource Directory and Contact Information

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A Handy Acronyms Guide:

- CAA — Community Action Agency
- CAP — Community Action Program
- CAPLAW — Community Action Program Legal Services
- CSBG — Community Services Block Grant
- DOE — Department of Energy
- ECKAN — East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation
- HCV — Housing Choice Voucher
- HQS — Housing Quality Standards
- HUD — Housing and Urban Development
- KanDo! — Kansas's Approach to ROMA (defined below)
- KACAP — Kansas Association of Community Action Agencies
- KHRC — Kansas Housing Resources Corporation
- NASCSP — National Association for State Community Services Programs
- NCAF — National Community Action Foundation
- NCAP — National Community Action Partnership
- ROMA — Results-Oriented Management and Accountability
- SSDI — Social Security Disability Insurance
- SSI — Supplement Security Income
- TANF — Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- LIEAP — Utility Assistance for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program

Baby Bucks Program

The Baby Bucks program allows soon-to-be parents and parents of young children to earn Baby Bucks to receive needed supplies before and after the baby arrives.

- Coffey
- Osage

Catholic Charities Application Assistance

ECKAN staff will help the customer complete the Catholic Charities application form, review the form for accuracy, and ensure that all supporting documentation is attached to the application.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Catholic Charities Mobile Resource Bus

The Resource Bus serves 15 counties in which Catholic Charities does not have a physical brick-and-mortar building. It is equipped with essentials, including food and hygiene items. In addition, a case manager is available to provide rent and utility assistance and community referrals. An appointment is required to determine if you are eligible for financial aid. Contact the Resource Bus Hotline at 913.433.2039 or email mrb@catholiccharitiesks.org.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Franklin
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Clothing Bank

Our community has donated a variety of clothing and household items for all age groups, from newborns to adults. You can access these items during our business hours from 9am to 4pm, Monday through Friday - no appointment necessary. The inventory is constantly changing, so we don't have a set list of items available.

- Douglas

Community Baby Shower

A community baby shower provides essential supplies for newborns. It's a joint effort between ECKAN and other agencies, like United Way.

- Coffey
- Osage

Community Gardens

The Franklin County Community Gardens offer a space for neighbors to grow their own produce and contribute to local food pantries. Applications for garden plots can be obtained through the Warehouse. The gardens consist of 24 public plots, primarily used by returning gardeners. The gardening season runs from April 1 to October 1, and plots must be cleaned up by November 15th.

- Franklin

Dental Payment Assistance

The dental program provides financial assistance for customers to meet basic dental needs. Services include cleanings, fillings, extractions, and dentures. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Douglas County Housing Authority Application & Case Management

ECKAN partners with the Douglas County Housing Authority, providing case management and certifying housing status for this program.

- Douglas

Early Head Start: Childcare

Childcare for children ages birth to age three years is provided for families enrolled in school full-time or working at least 30 hours per week. Qualifying families receive free childcare through an Early Head Start partnership in a local childcare center or a family childcare home.

- Douglas
- Franklin
- Lyon

Early Head Start: Home-Based

Early Head Start: Home-Based is for children ages prenatal to age three years. Services include 90-minute weekly home visits for the parent and child. Families have the opportunity to participate in social events twice a month.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Lyon
- Miami
- Osage

ECKAN Rental Housing

We partner with the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, the Kansas Department of Commerce, local governments, and financial institutions to provide affordable housing options for low-income tenants. We have proudly acquired and operate 54 rental units, giving families a comfortable and affordable place to call home.

- Coffey County: Leroy & Waverly
- Franklin County: Ottawa
- Lyon County: Emporia
- Miami County: Osawatomie & Paola

Employment Supply Assistance

Employment supply assistance is available to customers who need help paying for the supplies needed to obtain or maintain employment. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Financial Education

Financial education is a part of general case management services and includes but is not limited to budgeting, credit management, and counseling on ways to cut costs when applicable.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Flip the Coin for Justice

To eliminate some of the stress and anxiety of court fees, court-ordered classes, and attorney fees, ECKAN offers a voucher to cover these costs and works directly with community partners to ensure a smooth process.

- Douglas

Food Distributions

Harvesters Mobile Food Pantry

At the drive-thru food pickup location, groceries and household items are placed in the customer's vehicle to take home. ECKAN hosts the following distributions:

Franklin County

- First Wednesday of every month at 2 pm AND Third Friday of every month at 11:30 am at the Don Woodward Center parking lot, 517 E 3rd St, Ottawa, Kansas

Osage County

- Third Thursday of every month at 10 am at the Osage City Community Building parking lot, 307 S 1st St., Osage City, Kansas

Weekly Food Distribution

ECKAN's Weekly Food Distribution is a walk-through format. Proof of residency in Franklin County is required.

Franklin County

- Every Tuesday at 8 am at the Don Woodward Center Parking Lot 517 E 3rd St, Ottawa, Kansas.

Food Pantry

ECKAN's food pantries are a service offered to individuals and families. A food pantry is a community-based program that collects and safely stores food and household products for free distribution to low-income members of the community. Food assistance can be received once every 30 days from the previous visit.

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|------------|------------|--------|
| • Anderson | • Douglas | • Lyon |
| • Coffey | • Franklin | |

FRETSA Transitional Housing

ECKAN partners with the Franklin County Emergency Temporary Shelter Association (FRETSA), providing case management and certifying housing status for this program. The mission of the FRETSA is to provide temporary shelter to the homeless and preventative services to those at risk of becoming homeless in Franklin County. Temporary shelter and case management are provided to qualifying individuals.

- Franklin

Grocery Vouchers

Grocery vouchers are used in an emergency when a customer needs food, but the community pantry is inaccessible. Vouchers may supplement pantry offerings or be distributed alone through specific grant-funded partnerships.

- Anderson
- Franklin
- Lyon

Head Start: Center-Based Preschool

Comprehensive services are provided for at least 6 hours daily in a preschool setting responsive to each child and family's ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritage. All services are developmentally appropriate, and a free breakfast and lunch are provided.

- Anderson
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Lyon

Head Start: Home Based

Head Start: Home Based is for children ages 3 to 5 years. Home-based services include 90-minute weekly home visits for the parent and child. Families have the opportunity to participate in social events twice a month.

- Coffey
- Osage
- Miami

Holiday Bureau

The Holiday Bureau is designed to relieve some stress for families during the holiday season by providing gifts, food, and/or gift cards for their holiday celebration.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin

Household Items and Clothing Partnerships

Partnership with local thrift stores to provide needed items to ECKAN customers.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin

Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) and Family Self-Sufficiency Counties

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Franklin
- Lyon
- Miami
- Osage

Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)

The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program offers rental assistance to low-income families, enabling them to obtain affordable, quality housing with private landlords. Participants locate their own housing (house, apartment, mobile home, modular home, etc.) that will meet the required Housing Quality Standards (HQS). Housing Quality Standards help ensure that a home is safe, healthy, and comfortable.

Housing Choice Voucher Family Self-Sufficiency Program

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program helps people get back on track with their employment and educational goals. The program will put money in an escrow account to pursue homeownership or other purposes when participants successfully graduate from the program. Participants receive help from a coach to find the resources they need to meet their goals. Individuals must be HCV participants to take part in this program.

What Is Included?

Employment Coaching: Determine a work or career path that aligns with your skills, interests, and goals. Explore job options that match your qualifications and aspirations. Find resources to meet step-by-step challenges, such as career counseling, resume writing assistance, and interview preparation. Start an employment journey that fulfills your professional ambitions and provides financial stability. Start and accomplish educational goals with ease and support, whether through traditional schooling, online courses, or vocational training.

Financial Coaching: Develop a financial fitness plan to enhance your fiscal health and stability. Assist in reviewing and comprehending your credit report, and create a strategy to enhance your credit score by eliminating credit errors, fostering positive credit habits, and rectifying negative credit issues.

Escrow Account: As wages increase, money is deposited for participants with rental assistance in an escrow account. Once goals are met, the escrow check is provided to help make reciprocal dreams come true.

Hygiene Kits

These kits promote cleanliness, personal care, and overall health, especially for those lacking access to hygiene necessities due to financial constraints and other challenges. Examples of items in the kits can include soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, menstrual hygiene products (if applicable), and other relevant items as available and needed.

- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Osage

Identification Documents Assistance

Assistance with obtaining necessary identification documentation like a birth certificate, social security card, or driver's license is available for those lacking documentation. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Keep Dreaming Bed Program

This program provides a mattress, sheets, and mattress protector to children who meet CSBG income guidelines.

- Coffey

Laundry Program

The Laundry Program aims to assist eligible low-income individuals and families by offering them access to laundry facilities. The program's primary objective is to enhance participants' physical health and overall well-being by ensuring they have clean clothes and linens. Eligible participants of the Laundry Program receive punch cards for ten washer- and ten dryer-cards, which can be used at The Wash House in Emporia, KS. The number of punch cards provided depends on the size of the household. The punch cards serve as a form of payment, allowing participants to use the laundry machines without incurring any direct costs.

- Lyon

LIEAP Application Assistance

The Kansas Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs. ECKAN staff will help the customer complete the LIEAP application form, review the form for accuracy, and ensure that all supporting documentation is attached to the application.

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| • Anderson | • Franklin | • Miami |
| • Coffey | • Johnson | • Morris |
| • Douglas | • Lyon | • Osage |

Medical Payment Assistance

Prescription vouchers allow customers to acquire the necessary medications for illnesses and to stay healthy. Payments are available for some essential medical appointments where partnerships exist. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

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|------------|------------|----------|
| • Anderson | • Franklin | • Miami |
| • Coffey | • Johnson | • Morris |
| • Douglas | • Lyon | • Osage |

Nutrition Classes

ECKAN collaborates with K-State Research and Extension Office for hands-on cooking and nutrition classes, part of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. Professionals teach skills like planning, shopping, cooking, healthy eating, and physical activity. Since 2005, 97% of participating families improved their diet and saved money, as per program research.

- Douglas

Rental/Mortgage Payment Assistance

Rent and mortgage assistance is available to customers who cannot pay their rent or mortgage and are at risk of eviction or foreclosure. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

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|------------|------------|----------|
| • Anderson | • Franklin | • Miami |
| • Coffey | • Johnson | • Morris |
| • Douglas | • Lyon | • Osage |

School Supplies

The School Supplies program assists families in acquiring the supplies needed for their children attending school. ECKAN staff will designate a specific day for the families to pick up the supplies.

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| • Anderson | • Franklin |
| • Coffey | • Osage |

Senior Boxes/Commodities

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program, or “Senior Boxes,” is provided through Harvesters Food Network. The food boxes are delivered on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

- Anderson

Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) partners with ECKAN to provide eligible seniors with vouchers to local farmer's markets to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, and honey.

- Lyon

SNAP Application Assistance

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, provides qualifying low-income households with food benefits, access to a healthy diet, and education on food preparation and nutrition. In Kansas, the program is known as the Food Assistance Program. ECKAN staff will help the customer complete the SNAP application form, review the form for accuracy, and ensure that all supporting documentation is attached to the application.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Stepping Stones to Success Case Management

Steppingstones to Success is a case management program to help customers reach their self-sufficiency goals. Assistance may include but is not limited to GED completion, resume development, coaching, interview skill practice, employment supplies, financial literacy education, financial management support, secondary education preparation and support, and emergency payment assistance.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Stepping Stones to Success Savings Program

The program aids eligible participants in building a strong financial base. Eligibility hinges on income guidelines and funding availability. Participants must open a savings account, depositing at least \$55.50 monthly for six months, totaling \$333. They'll meet their case manager monthly to set and pursue financial goals. Upon completion, participants receive a \$667 deposit (a 2-to-1 match), resulting in a \$1000 emergency savings total.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Summer Camp Scholarship

ECKAN partners with the Ottawa Recreation Commission to offer summer camp scholarships, if funds are available, to children who have completed kindergarten through sixth grade at the Ottawa Recreation Commission. The camper will attend for ½ day (morning or afternoon) or a full-day session. Lunch and a snack are provided. Some activities may include arts and crafts, field trips, the Ottawa Pool, etc.

- Franklin

Summer Lunch

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides free, nutritious meals and snacks to help children in low-income areas get the nutrition they need throughout the summer months when they are out of school. The Food and Nutrition Service, an agency of the US Department of Agriculture, administers SFSP at the Federal level, and the Kansas State Department of Education administers it at the state level. Locally, SFSP is run by approved sponsors who provide free lunch meals to a group of children at a central site, such as a school, church, or recreation center.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Franklin
- Miami

Swim Passes

Passes for area pools so children can swim during the summer months. Must meet the CSBG income guidelines.

- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin

Transportation Assistance

Gas vouchers are available through participating local gas stations for customers for employment, medical, and dependent care needs. Bus passes for local bus services are available where applicable. Bikes are available in some locations through a partnership with Lake Region Resource Conservation & Development's Adopt-a-Bike program.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Traveling Turkeys Thanksgiving Program

Partnership: Delivering Signature Traveling Turkey Baskets to over one thousand families since 2009. Traveling Turkeys collects and arranges complete uncooked Thanksgiving meals for families dealing with difficult situations.

- Anderson
- Franklin
- Miami

Utility Payment Assistance

Utility assistance is available to customers who cannot pay their utility bills and are at risk of disconnection. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Vision Payment Assistance

Vision payment vouchers allow customers to acquire the necessary vision check-ups and corrective lenses for eye and vision health. Customers must meet the income guidelines of the funding grant to qualify. All payment assistance programs are available as funding allows.

- Anderson
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Johnson
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage

Warm Hearts

Warm Hearts is a utility assistance program offered for Douglas County residents that begins in January and ends on the last day of March unless an extension is granted to prolong the program based on need. The program aims to assist individuals or families who require help paying a past-due bill up to a \$500 limit. An individual may apply once a month until the maximum limit is reached or the program ends. The program will only cover the primary heating source. If an individual or family has gas and electricity, Warm Hearts can only assist with the gas bill; however, if a person only has electricity as their primary heating source, then a pledge can be made to help with that bill. ECKAN staff will assist the customer in completing the Warm Hearts application form, review the form for accuracy, and ensure that all supporting documentation is attached to the application.

- Douglas
- Coffey

Weatherization Counties Currently Served

- Allen
- Anderson
- Bourbon
- Chase
- Coffey
- Douglas
- Franklin
- Greenwood
- Johnson
- Linn
- Lyon
- Miami
- Morris
- Osage
- Shawnee
- Woodson
- Wyandotte

Weatherization

What is Weatherization?

Weatherization offers free upgrades to improve energy efficiency. It helps lower utility bills by ensuring your home holds in the heat during the cold weather and holds in the air conditioning during the hot weather while keeping the outside hot and cold air out of your home.

If I Rent, Can I Still Apply?

Yes, you can still apply. You must allow weatherization to get permission from your landlord before you apply.

What does Weatherization Consist of?

- Cleaning and tuning-up of furnace to ensure efficiency and safety or replacement of the furnace, if necessary
- Weatherstripping and caulking
- Insulating attic areas, side walls, and exterior walls

Who is Eligible?

Eligibility is based on how many people live in the home and the household's income level. If anyone in the household receives one or more of the following sources of income, they will automatically qualify:

- SSI
- TANF
- LIEAP

What if I Have Received Weatherization Before?

Weatherization stays with the actual address of the home, not the person applying. A home can only be weatherized every 15 years.

How Do I Apply?

It's simple! There are three ways to get an application:

- Contact our Weatherization office at 888-833-0832, and we will mail the application to you
- Go to our website, www.eckan.org, to download and print an application or complete and submit online
- Complete and submit an online application at www.kshousingcorp.org/community services/

Contact Information: Administration

Central Office

1320 S. Ash
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7450
Toll Free:
866-242-7450
Fax:
785-242-0305

Community Services

1320 S. Ash
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7206
Toll Free:
866-242-7450 X 7206
Fax:
785-242-0305

Fiscal

1320 S. Ash
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7200
Toll Free:
866-242-7450 X 7200
Fax:
785-242-0305

Head Start

1320 S. Ash
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-5481
Toll Free:
866-242-5481
Fax:
785-242-0305

Housing

1320 S. Ash
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7453
Toll Free:
866-242-7453
Fax:
785-229-3103

Human Resources

1320 S. Ash
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7209
Toll Free:
866-242-7450 X 7209
Fax:
785-242-0305

Warehouse

P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7604
Toll Free:
866-242-7450 x 7604
Fax:
785-242-0305

Weatherization

204 S. Walnut Ste B
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-6413
Toll Free:
888-833-0832
Fax:
785-242-1081

Contact Information: Community Centers

Anderson County Community Center

1006 S. Hayes
P.O. Box 13
Garnett, KS 66032

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7651

9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
Please call to
schedule

Coffey County Community Center

409 Neosho Street
P. O. Box 264
Burlington, KS 66839

Phone:
620-364-8223

M: 1:30 PM - 5 PM
Tu: 8 AM - 12:30 PM
W: 8 AM - 12 PM
Th: 9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
F: 8 AM - 10 AM

Douglas County Community Center

2518 Ridge Ct
Ste 101
Lawrence, KS 66046

Phone:
785-841-3357

9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
Monday - Friday

Franklin County Community Center

(Elizabeth Layton
Center)
204 E 15th Street
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-7515

9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
Monday - Friday

Lyon County Community Center

215 W 6th Street Ste
102
P.O. Box 1325
Emporia, KS 66801

Phone:
620-342-4607

9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
Tuesday - Friday

Johnson County Community Center

(El Centro)
201 E Loula Ste 204
Olathe, KS 66061

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7641

9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
Thursday, Thursday

Miami County Community Center

5 S Peoria St Ste 219
Louisburg, KS 66053

Phone:
785-242-7450 X 7640

9 AM - 12 PM;
1 PM - 4 PM
Monday, Wednesday,
Friday

Morris County Community Center

(CASA)
325 W Main St
Council Grove, KS
66846

Phone:
785-418-0351

9 AM - 12 PM
1 PM - 4 PM
Mondays

Osage County Community Center

528 Market St
P.O. Box 74
Osage City, KS 66523

Phone:
785-528-5184

9 AM - 12 PM
1 AM - 4 PM
Monday - Friday

Contact Information: Head Start

Anderson County Head Start

707 Queen Highway
P.O. Box 424
Garnett, KS 66032

Phone:
785-448-2815
Fax:
785-448-2806

Coffey County Head Start

409 Neohso St
P.O. Box 264
Burlington, KS 66839

Phone:
620-203-0778
Fax:
620-203-4023

Douglas County Head Start - Center

925 Vermont
Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone:
785-842-2515
Fax:
785-842-2087

Douglas County Head Start - Office

2518 Ridge Ct
Lawrence, KS 66046

Phone:
785-727-8352
Fax:
785-856-0671

Emporia Head Start Early Learning Center

1130 Scott St
Emporia, KS 66801

Phone:
620-343-3270
Fax:
620-343-3738

Franklin County Head Start

1320 S Ash St 203
P.O. Box 40
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-5481
Fax:
785-242-0305

Lyon County Head Start

215 W 6th St Ste 205
P.O. Box 1625
Emporia, KS 66801

Phone:
620-342-2304
Fax:
620-342-4686

Osage County Head Start

528 Market St
P.O. Box 74
Osage City, KS 66523

Phone:
620-803-2040
Phone:
620-803-2041
Fax:
785-528-3230

Osawatomie Head Start

(Trojan Elementary)
1901 Parker
Osawatomie, KS 66064

Phone:
620-803-2040
Phone:
620-803-2041
Fax:
785-528-3230

Ottawa Head Start

225 E 2nd
Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone:
785-242-4405
Fax:
785-242-0305

Our Mission

ECKAN builds connections and provides program services in East Central Kansas to support the stability, health, and engagement of low-income individuals and families.

Our Vision

Taking intentional actions to show others we care.

Our Core Values

Collaboration
Education
Empathy
Integrity
Respect

Donate to ECKAN's Mission Today!

