

What's happening at Lewis County



Changing Lives ... One family at a time

What does poverty look like?

What images appear when thinking about people in poverty? Everyone has a slightly different picture. Some thoughts might be a heartfelt sense of empathy for families in poverty; while others may think of poverty as a smudge in an otherwise nice community. Most images fall in between those extremes. Despite any stigma attached to poverty, it isn't a disease to cure. It also isn't a problem for just the government to fix. It's a challenge and opportunity for everyone to help each other.

Lewis County Opportunities is a Community Action Agency devoted to supporting low income families and providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Our news column will appear regularly in this publication to reach out to the public, highlight some of our programs, and discuss some of the challenges facing our community.

Here at Opportunities, we want to meet the needs of those in our community and help them grow beyond their current conditions. As you read these future articles, you can be a great help to others you come across in your daily activities. There may be some



Scott Mathys—Agency CEO

services that you can benefit from; or information that you can provide to a friend or neighbor in need. Together, we can make a difference. Poverty doesn't have to look like a smudge on the community.

Services Provided

Food Supplies for Families in Need

Dept Extension #1.

Emergency Rent or Utilities

Dept Extension #3.

Help with Affording Rent

Dept Extension #3, or
788-0193 for Jefferson County.

Help with Transportation Needs

Dept Extension #1.

Car Seats

Dept Extension #1.

Help managing budgets

Dept Extension #1.

Income tax return preparation

Dept Extension #1.

Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis

Dept Extension #4, or call
our hotline at 376-HELP (4357).

Lower Home Energy Use

Dept Extension #5.

"I don't know what I would have done without help from Opportunities ... I am so thankful there are programs in our community like this"

■ *Transportation Consumer*