Can you imagine our community if poverty didn’t exist?

If everyone had access to healthcare and had a warm, safe place to call home? What if jobs were plentiful and no one went hungry? This is what Lifeline is working towards—fighting poverty and improving the quality of life for all members of our community. We work every day to help those living in poverty to move towards self-sufficiency. People have received prescriptions and other medical care. People were able to participate in job training programs and explore new career opportunities. People were provided emergency utility assistance so that they could maintain safe and affordable housing during the cold winter months.

As a Community Action Agency,

Lifeline is uniquely poised to rapidly respond to the critical needs of our local community. We offer a wide variety of programs designed to combat the many effects of poverty.

Please check our website, www.lclifeline.org, for specific program information and guidelines and follow us on Facebook and Twitter for our latest news and updates!

Lifeline is proud to provide a safety net for our neighbors in need.

Our History

June 19, 1973: Lakeland Economic Development Corporation (later known as Lifeline) is founded as a subsidiary of the NAACP

1980: Lifeline becomes a participating agency of the United Way of Lake County

1981: Lifeline becomes an independent 5-1 (c) 3 agency, and is no longer a subsidiary of the NAACP

1987: Lifeline is designated as Lake County’s Community Action Agency by the Ohio Department of Development, making the agency eligible for the Community Service Block Grant and HEAP program

2008: Lifeline is certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services as a provider of information & referral services and other mental health services

2009: Lifeline is awarded nearly half a million dollars in federal American Recovery & Reinvestment Act funding and launches four new anti-poverty programs

2011: Lifeline becomes administrator of the 2-1-1 Lake County program, and begins receiving funding from the Lake County ADAMHS Board & Lake County Job & Family Services Title

2014: Lifeline Board, recognizing the need for long-term sustainable funding, launches the Lifeline Endowment Against Poverty in partnership with the Cleveland Foundation

Today: Lifeline has an annual budget of approximately $1.8 million in expenditures, as well as 20+ employees and 18 programs
Our Programs

Healthcare:
Lifeline’s healthcare programs help residents who are uninsured or underinsured and increases access to healthcare services including prescription medications and diabetic testing supplies.

Housing:
Lifeline’s housing programs are varied, helping residents to secure safe and affordable housing and helping Lake County’s homeless make the transition back into stable housing in the private market.

Education & Training:
Lifeline offers a wide variety of education and training programs, including financial literacy training, asset building assistance, employment training, nutrition education and tax clinics.

Emergency Services:
For those struggling with the most basic of needs, Lifeline offers several utility related emergency services through the federal Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).

Information & Referral:
Lifeline operates Lake County’s 2-1-1 Information & Referral service.