

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation

"Community Action Agency"



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KEVIN BUSHUR
Chief Executive Officer

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November 4, 2020

Evan Young, Chief Elected Official
Montgomery County
County Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Square, Room 202
Hillsboro, IL 62049

Dear Chairperson Young:

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation seeks to maintain the involvement of the entire community, including elected officials, private sector representatives, and our low-income clients in assessing the local needs and attacking the causes and conditions of poverty. C.E.F.S. cares about your community and we are dedicated to helping people and changing lives. We thank you for your participation and involvement with C.E.F.S. over the past year in our efforts of helping community and changing community, to educate and assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge, gain access to new opportunities, and make progress toward achieving and maintaining stability and economic self-sufficiency.

This past year has been a struggle for all of us with coping with the everyday challenges with COVID-19. During these challenges C.E.F.S. found new ways and new resources to serve those most in need. This crisis has brought out the best of our employees, volunteers, and our communities. Everyone worked together to continue our mission and continued to help people and change lives.

The C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation 2020 annual report highlights the agency impacts and outcomes achieved during the past year to address local needs. The annual report reflects the total commitment of the Board of Directors, employees, community partners, and volunteers to provide a comprehensive human service delivery system to help people and change lives. The report indicates that our agency programs effectively served the needs of the low-income population and made a real difference in the lives of residents in our communities. Nearly 20,000 people received services through the agency with assistance from local community partners and the help of 2,792 volunteers providing over 155,000 hours of service to achieve local coordinated efforts to benefit low-income people. C.E.F.S. is extremely proud of its accomplishments in 2020 with hopes that future years will create greater opportunities to help people in our communities achieve and maintain stability.

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation has enclosed a copy of our 2020 annual report booklet for your reference. In the C.E.F.S. 2020 Annual report, C.E.F.S. showcases its 55th year of accomplishments demonstrating that your local Community Action Agency was

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

successful in maintaining core values and beliefs while adapting to the changing economy to meet the needs of people and communities to make America a better place to live.

2020 C.E.F.S. Family of Distinction, the Freese Family of Sullivan, is recognized for their achievements in the pursuit of economic stability. In addition, fourteen personal achievement awards are recognized to individuals for their tremendous growth towards achieving stability and self-sufficiency.

Rita Cosner of Louisville, IL is recognized with the Paul White Lifetime Achievement award for her leadership and dedication to "Helping People and Changing Lives" in her community for more than 25 years.

The agency is recognizing two community service excellence awards in recognition of outstanding collaborative efforts to help the agency achieve its mission. Further, four individuals are recognized with outstanding volunteer awards for their dedicated service to improve people's lives during this past year.

In 2020 C.E.F.S. awarded a total of \$8,000 in educational scholarship to five eligible individuals to attend post-secondary educational opportunities. The educational scholarship funding was provided by the Community Services Block Grant Program through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation is a not-for-profit, Community Action Agency providing comprehensive human service programs in the service delivery area of Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Shelby, Moultrie, Christian, and Montgomery Counties. C.E.F.S. provides direct services, referrals, and linkages to address issues facing low-income residents and provides local community solutions to meet those needs.

If you would like more information about C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation and its programs, it can be obtained on the agency website at www.cefseoc.org or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CEFSeoc. Also, please feel free to contact me by calling me at 217/342-2193 ext. #117, or by email at kbushur@cefseoc.org.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bushur
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosures