

Community Action, Inc.

2020-2021 Annual Report



Organization

Jefferson County Office

105 Grace Way
Punxsutawney, PA 15767
Phone: (814) 938-3302
Toll Free: (800) 648-3381
Fax: (814) 938-7596

Clarion County Office

30A South Sheridan Road
Clarion, PA 16214
Phone: (814) 226-4785
Toll Free: (800) 997-7661
Fax: (814) 223-4083

Executive Management

Susan K. Fusco, *Executive Director*

Jessica L. Kalkhof, *Community Resources Director*

Rodney B. Rhodes, *Planning Director*

Donna L. States, *Controller*



Mission

Community Action, Inc. partners with community members to improve low-income situations by assisting families with activities to overcome barriers, improve economic status, and enhance their quality of life.

Vision

Community Action, Inc. will be recognized as a premier organization dedicated to solving the social and economic problems of the community.

✉ contact@jccap.org

🌐 www.jccap.org

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonClarionCAP/>

About Us

Board of Directors

Clarion County	Jefferson County
<p>Low-Income Representatives</p> <p>Lori A. Brown, <i>Clarion County Housing Authority</i></p> <p>Renee Vowinckel, <i>Pennies From Heaven</i> ²</p> <p>Pamela M. Johnson, <i>Jefferson-Clarion Head Start, Inc.</i> ³</p> <p>Elected Public Officials</p> <p>Ed Heasley, <i>Clarion County Commissioner</i></p> <p>Scott E. Hutchinson, <i>State Senator</i></p> <p>Donna R. Oberlander, <i>State Representative</i></p> <p>Ted Tharan, <i>Clarion County Commissioner</i></p> <p>Private Sector</p> <p>Nathan R. Conway, <i>American Precast Industries, LLC</i></p> <p>Amy Ortiz, <i>Clarion County Assistance Office</i></p> <p>Ronald J. Wilshire, <i>Explore Your Town</i> ¹</p>	<p>Low-Income Representatives</p> <p>Sharon R. Corbett, <i>Jefferson County Housing Authority</i></p> <p>Helen Newman, <i>Jefferson County Area Agency on Aging</i></p> <p>Debra Shook, <i>Jefferson County Housing Authority</i></p> <p>Katelyn Hendrickson</p> <p>Elected Public Officials</p> <p>Richard Alexander, <i>Mayor of Punxsutawney</i></p> <p>Cris Dush, <i>State Senator</i></p> <p>Jack Matson, <i>Jefferson County Commissioner</i></p> <p>Private Sector</p> <p>Granville E. Carter, <i>Carter Bianco, LLP</i></p> <p>Rebecca Mitchell, <i>Jefferson County Assistance Office</i></p> <p>Janine C. Strohm, <i>Rebecca M. Arthurs Library</i></p>

President ¹ | Vice-President ² | Secretary/Treasurer ³

History of Community Action, Inc.

- The Community Action movement was created as a result of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and administered by the federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). National OEO Directors have included Sargent Shriver and Donald Rumsfeld.
- Community Action, Inc. (formerly known as Jefferson-Clarion County Economic Opportunity Association, Inc.) was established in 1965 as a private, non-profit charitable 501(c)(3) corporation and has been designated by the Boards of Commissioners of Clarion and Jefferson Counties to serve as a multi-purpose administering and service delivery entity for a variety of anti-poverty, social, and/or humanistic programs.
- Community Action, Inc. has served the Clarion and Jefferson County area continuously since inception, including during the pandemic.
- Community Action, Inc. has been instrumental in locally creating programs such as: VISTA; the Job Corps; Neighborhood Youth Corps; Legal Services; Head Start; Foster Grandparent Program; Green Thumb; Weatherization Programs; TEFAP; Employment and Training Programs (CETA and JTPA); Older Americans Act; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); and Federal Housing Programs; which along with many new programs; continue today.
- 2021 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Retired Seniors Volunteer Project (RSVP) in Clarion, Jefferson, and Indiana Counties; enabling area seniors to continue supporting their communities and providing essential encouragement and caring.

Executive Director's Message



Susan Fusco -- Executive Director of Community Action, Inc.

What a challenging and amazing year 2020-2021 was for Community Action, Inc. (CAI). We faced the pandemic head-on, relying on dedicated employees and volunteers to find ways to serve those in need across our multi-county area while being safe and minimizing the spread of COVID-19. We expected to resume business as normal at some point and leave the pandemic challenges behind. Instead, we have learned new ways to connect and serve; lost some great people (Dick Fetterman and Manette Setree); and have learned new concepts for

flexibility. New funding opportunities have created new services or the expansion of current services; housing and homeless services are evolving; and new resources throughout the community are enabling more appropriate referrals and opportunities to meet individual and family needs.

I am proud of the Community Action, Inc. Board of Directors, employees, and volunteers. They have weathered many challenges in the past year and their commitment to the community and providing essential services has not faltered.

I am also thankful for the encouragement, donations, and caring so many area residents, organizations, businesses, and groups have provided during these difficult times. So many have contacted CAI seeking ways to help families in need, support the homeless and domestic violence shelters, help with housing and heating needs; or meet basic food and clothing necessities. CAI is so thankful to all of our supporters.

Working together, our staff and the community keep Community Action, Inc. ready to face the next challenge - Thank You!

Here's to a Healthy and Happy 2022,

Susan K. Fusco

Activities / Services



Weatherization Program

Free home energy assessment, recommends improvements to reduce home energy costs and improve the health and safety of the residents. Services may include attic and wall insulation; heating system and ventilation improvements; air sealing; and energy conservation education.

Crossroads



Free and confidential Domestic Violence services are offered. Services provided may include: 24-hour hotline, safety planning, emergency shelter, options counseling, and legal advocacy. Supportive and educational counseling for friends and family. Community educational programs are available.

Medical Assistance Transportation Program



Non-emergency transportation to Medical Assistance (MA) covered appointments for Jefferson County MA recipients who do not have transportation available to them or need mileage reimbursement aid.

Family & Food Assistance



Provides limited help with rent, mortgage, utility bills, and food; food pantry assistance; help applying for SNAP (food stamps); and referrals to other available resources.

Homeless Services



Provides homeless or near homeless with emergency shelter; help locating and establishing a residence; case management; rental assistance; and housing referrals.

Adult Education



Provides instruction in a classroom / on-line setting to: improve academic and digital literacy; develop skills to pass the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET or GED); post secondary training preparation; conduct career exploration, and enhance job readiness. Support services and case management are available.

Transitional Housing



Designed as a bridge from homelessness to self-sufficiency and provides case management, assistance in finding permanent housing, budget counseling, and assistance with applications for other services.

VITA



IRS-certified volunteers provide free income tax return assistance for families whose income is below the annual limit. This may include federal, state, and local tax returns and property tax/rent rebate applications.

Regional Veterans Services



Provides assistance to veterans and their families with ongoing case management and collaboratively establishing long term goals of housing stability and economic independence.

Housing for Homeless and Disabled Persons



Provides permanent supportive housing to homeless and disabled people, providing them with case management, budget counseling, and help with established financial resources.

CARES Act Services



Provides support to individuals and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; guides families in budgeting; housing assistance, offers life-coaching for obtaining or maintaining employment.

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP



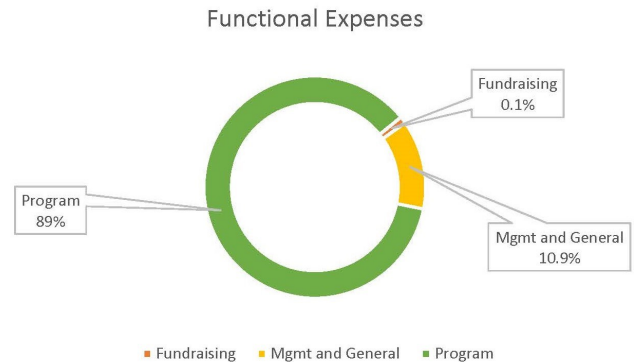
Utilizes the talents of volunteers age 55 and over to meet community needs. Volunteers mentor children, conduct environmental tests, perform clerical duties, assist the elderly, tutor adults, and much more.



Financial Information

June 30, 2021

Support and Revenues		Assets	
Federal/State	\$2,239,543	Cash	\$ 887,400
Fee for Service	\$1,617,677	Grants	\$617,001
Contributions	\$123,494	Other	\$452,479
In-Kind	\$30,845	Investments	\$42,638
Special Events	\$1,454	Inventory	\$0
Other Income	\$0	Prepaid	\$54,643
IT services	\$115,747	Total	\$2,054,161
Rental	\$41,617	Property	\$504,702
Investment	\$15,415	Total Assets	\$2,558,863
Miscellaneous	\$23,910	Current Liabilities	
Total Revenues	\$4,209,702	Accounts Payable	\$116,610
Expenses		Accrued Taxes	\$41,566
Administrative & Fiscal Services	\$440,625	Accrued Salaries	\$95,638
Administrative Fee	\$7,282	Deferred	\$56,752
Advertising & Publications	\$554	Accrued expenses	\$30,776
Auto Expenses	\$4,075	Security Deposits	\$385
Client Travel & Assistance	\$832,586	Total Current	\$341,727
Contracted Services	\$41,254	Net Assets	
Depreciation	\$15,274	Unrestricted	\$2,122,100
Employee Benefits	\$222,959	Temporarily Restricted	\$95,036
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	\$1,486	Permanently Restricted	\$0
Federal Taxes	\$14,682	Total Net Assets	\$2,217,136
Food & Meals	\$9,829	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$2,558,863
Fundraising	\$2,363	Assets vs. Liabilities	\$0
Housing Assistance	\$393,881		
Insurance	\$29,022		
Licenses & Registration	\$8,781		
Miscellaneous	\$2,675		
Occupancy	\$79,158		
Other Consumer Support	\$13,462		
Payroll Taxes	\$77,902		
Postage & Shipping	\$5,285		
Printing & Publications	\$2,647		
Property Maintenance	\$4,879		
Salaries & Wages	\$1,026,455		
Small Equipment & Tools	\$23,295		
Software	\$410		
Supplies	\$88,467		
Telephone	\$40,621		
Training / Technical Assistance	\$4,264		
Travel	\$17,202		
Utilities	\$26,833		
Volunteer Support	\$5,589		
Weatherization Services	\$603,454		
Total Expenses	\$4,047,251		



Community Support



Local funds are vital to helping families in Clarion and Jefferson Counties. To help us help others in your community, please return this form and your contribution to one of our locations. A secure donation can also be made through our website at www.jccap.org.

**Community Action, Inc., 105 Grace Way, Punxsutawney, PA 15767
or 30A South Sheridan Road, Clarion, PA 16214**

YES, I/We want to support Community Action, Inc. and local families through this tax deductible gift of:

\$25 _____ **\$50** _____ **\$100** _____ **\$200** _____ **\$500** _____ **\$1,000** _____ **other \$** _____

Please use my donation where it will help most, or please use my donation for _____

I would like to volunteer my time. My interests are _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Your donation may be tax deductible. Tax deductible means you can deduct the contribution on your federal income tax return because Community Action, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable corporation.

The official registration and financial information of Community Action, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Services are provided without regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national or ethnic origin (including limited English proficiency), age, sex/gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, or related conditions), actual or perceived gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, lifestyle, political beliefs, union membership, participation or decision to refrain from participation in protected labor activities, marital status, familial status, parental status, military service, veteran status, genetic information, AIDS or HIV status, citizenship, possession of a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) instead of a high school diploma, use of a guide or support animal or because the user is a handler or trainer of guide or support animals, stereotypes or assumptions, whether the person is a victim of violent crime (including domestic violence), or other characteristics protected by federal or state law. No consumer will be subjected to hate speech. Additionally, no person will retaliate against an individual for complaining about discrimination, filing charges, or participating in an investigation or lawsuit regarding discrimination.

This document was financed in part by a grant from the federal Department of Health and Human Services under the Administration of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development.

Community Involvement



Thank you and
God Bless you Always
I APPRECIAT Your Help AND
KINDNESS IN REGARDS TO MY
FURNACE REPLACEMENT! IT
IS A BLESSING TO ME!

Merry Christmas
I cannot thank you
enough for helping my
mom. you girls are angels!
Have a Merry Christmas!



...again and again.
FOR YOUR KINDNESS &
SINCERE GRATITUDE TO
EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THE
WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM
FOR WHAT THEY DID ON MY
BEHALF. IN MY HOME.



I thank you everyday for your
help. Thank you



Making a Difference

Nicole was referred to Community Action, Inc. (CAI) by Clarion County Children & Youth Services (CYS) because she was facing homelessness, had no income, and needed help for her three children. After meeting with a CAI Case Manager and reviewing the family's needs and resources, Nicole and her children immediately moved into a transitional apartment and the Case Manager ensured they had adequate food, clothing, and hygiene items.

Through the Family Transitional Housing Program, CYS eligible families may receive up to six months of temporary housing while they find permanent housing and the resources to stabilize their housing needs and face barriers. The family pays rent each month based on their income and the rent goes into an account. If the transitional apartment is kept in good condition, the family receives part or all of their rent money back to apply to permanent housing when they move out.

During weekly meetings with the CAI Case Manager, Nicole developed an action plan with goals to improve her family's situation and reduce her barriers to daily living needs. During these meetings, Nicole learned about resources available to her family and how to apply for services, she received transportation help to get to appointments, and developed skills to manage her family's needs. With help from her Case Manager, Nicole opened a checking account; started classes to earn her GED; received help to apply for WIC, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, and Head Start; and filed tax returns, using VITA services, to receive stimulus payments and Child Tax Credits.

Nicole and her children are now thriving. They have moved into permanent housing, have income and maintain a budget, the oldest child is flourishing in a new school and the middle one is attending Head Start, the family has food security and transportation, and Nicole continues her GED classes, looking forward to future employment.

Nicole's success with the Family Transitional Housing Program has enabled her to achieve her goals and have her CYS case closed. CAI's Case Management support has taught her how to navigate and manage the needs of her life and family, rather than depending on others. Nicole keeps in touch with her CAI Case Manager and shares her victories and challenges, knowing barriers can be overcome with support and encouragement.





Brock and Amanda Gallagher and their three children ranging from 4 to 13 years of age became homeless when the friend they were staying with moved out of the area, leaving them with no place to live. The family had heard of Community Action, Inc. and called seeking shelter for the night.

The Gallagher family met with a case worker at Community Action, Inc. (CAI) that day. Brock was employed, but only part-time and with inconsistent hours; Amanda could not work due to one child's medical condition. Following a review of their family situation

and minimal resources, CAI was able to provide emergency shelter for the entire family at a local hotel for seven nights until an opening became available at the Family Shelter.

Once moved in at the Family Shelter, the Gallagher's were very proactive in seeking long term solutions to their housing and family needs. With the assistance of a CAI case worker, they completed numerous housing applications; received referrals to other agencies for family needs; help with food; and even employment resources.

The Gallagher's determination paid off. Brock was able to find full-time employment with a higher wage; they found an apartment with rent they could now afford; and the children even stayed in the same school district.

In just under three months, this family of five went from no where to spend the night to moving into their own residence, full-time work, better income, and community connections to help them support their family. Their future is much brighter and more secure because of their efforts and the support and encouragement of Community Action, Inc.

