



energize  
inspire  
deliver care change lives  
empower **guide**  
**support** commit service

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

encourage work  
service provide  
donate  
strengthen energize  
inspire  
change lives



Ohio Association of  
Community Action Agencies

OUR MISSION

Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies exists to support its members and strengthen a unified Community Action presence in Ohio.

Ohio Community Action Training Organization was established to address the need for quality training for providers of services to low-income populations in Ohio.

THE COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

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# ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) and Ohio Community Action Training Organization (OCATO) exist to support, strengthen, and unify the Community Action presence in Ohio. Forty-eight agencies across the state’s 88 counties work every day to alleviate poverty and help low-income families and individuals meet their fullest potential. The Association works to build agencies’ capacity and to raise awareness of the issues people in poverty face every day.

Since 1971, the Association has supported its members in the fight against poverty. Our network’s holistic approach to helping people meet their needs creates better outcomes and self-sufficient Ohioans. And, like at the agency level, the Association approaches our work by looking at the whole picture. The staff, board, and Internal Consultants continually evaluate the effectiveness of our work, develop new and relevant opportunities to respond to the needs of the network, build relationships, compile reliable and usable data and reports, and much more.

Throughout this year’s annual report, you will learn about OACAA’s work and the work of the network. For nearly 60 years, Community Action has administered locally controlled programs to meet the unique needs of each community and build solutions to create stronger families and a stronger Ohio.



# OUR SERVICES



## Training

Highly rated workshops, webinars, and training developed to meet the current needs of the network.



## Technical Assistance

Addressing the pressing needs of our members with agency-specific focus and assistance.



## Exemplary Program Awards

Recognizing innovative and creative anti-poverty programs and initiatives across the state.



## Advocacy

Educating the community on the conditions of poverty in Ohio to bring awareness and build solutions.



## Toolkits

Developing adaptive resources for members to enhance capacity and efficiency.



## Peer Groups & Networking

Building a strong network of like-minded individuals from which to learn.

# OACAA/OCATO OUTCOMES

98%

(47/48) membership agencies received training or technical assistance in 2022



792

Community Action professionals trained



29

agency-specific training and technical assistance



13

in-person or virtual workshops and conferences



2

data and research reports released



4

toolkits



2

specialty training series

# THE STAFF



Philip E. Cole

Mr. Cole has been the executive director since 1989 and leads the Association’s innovative work and staff. He has been nationally recognized for his advocacy for issues of low-income people and is a champion for the Community Action Network.



Greg “Bo” Bollenbacher

Mr. Bollenbacher is the fiscal director and has over 35 years’ experience in fiscal management in Community Action Network. Greg manages the accounting and fiscal operations for the Association, and supports Human Resources.



Kathryn A. Clausen

Ms. Clausen is the communications director and has over 20 years’ experience in the nonprofit sector with over 15 years in the Community Action Network. She manages communications and PR for the Association and provides T&TA for its members.



Jeannette M. Jarrett

Mr. Jarrett is the operations and support specialist and has over 20 years’ experience in social services with a strong focus in early childhood and parent engagement. Jeannette is certified in several curricula, and she supports the operations management and initiatives at the Association.



Lorie McClain

Ms. McClain is the program specialist at the Association and has over 20 years’ experience in her role. She is responsible for training and technical assistance workshops, conference management, and is a certified trainer in several curricula.



Emily D. Nolan

Ms. Nolan is the communications and development specialist and supports grant writing and communications efforts at the Association. She also serves in leadership of the network’s national Young Professionals Cohort.



Josh Summer, CCAP

Mr. Summer is the development director at the Association and has nearly 20 year’s experience in organizational management. He is a nationally certified ROMA trainer (NCRT) and manages funding research and grant writing, and is responsible for creating partnerships.

# THE INTERNAL CONSULTANTS



Pam Crawford

Ms. Crawford is the social services director at Community Action Committee of Pike County. She has nearly 30 years’ experience working with nonprofits, is a nationally certified ROMA implementer (NCRI) and specializes in Bridges Out of Poverty, customer service, and ROMA training.



Jeffrey Diver

Mr. Diver is the executive director at Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families (SELF) in Butler County. He has nearly 40 years’ experience working with nonprofits and specializes in Bridges Out of Poverty, board training, and strategic planning.



Marilyn Montes

Ms. Montes is the chief operating officer at Mahoning-Youngstown Community Action Partnership (MYCAP). She has over 30 years’ experience in nonprofit management, and she specializes in human resources, operations, DEI, and organizational development training.



Julia Wise, CCAP

Ms. Wise is the executive director at Highland County Community Action Organization. She has over 30 years’ experience in nonprofit organizational management, and she specializes in Bridges Out of Poverty, strategic planning, board, ROMA, and Head Start.



# THE BOARD



The Board of Trustees are elected by the membership to serve and guide the Association. The Executive Committee and District Representatives serve two-year terms and are elected opposite years during the annual membership meeting.



Janice W. Warner, CCAP

Ms. Warner is the chief executive officer at Community Action Commission of the Erie, Huron and Richland Counties, Inc. She serves as President of the OACAA and OCATO Board of Trustees.



David Brightbill

Mr. Brightbill is the executive director at Washington-Morgan Community Action Agency. He serves as the First Vice President of the OACAA and OCATO Board of Trustees.



Robert "Bo" Chilton

Mr. Chilton is the chief executive officer at Impact Community Action. He serves as the Second Vice President of the OACAA and OCATO Board of Trustees.



Ruthann House

Ms. House is the chief executive officer at Great Lakes Community Action Partnership. She serves as the Treasurer of the OACAA and OCATO Board of Trustees.



Julia Wise, CCAP

Ms. Wise is the executive director at Highland County Community Action Organization. She serves as the Secretary of the OACAA and OCATO Board of Trustees.

## DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES



District One:

Joshua Anderson, Chair, Executive Director at HHWP Community Action Commission; Andrew J. Devany, Executive Director at Ohio Heartland Community Action Commission; Angie Franklin, Executive Director at Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission



District Two:

David Shea, Chair, Executive Director at Community Action Council of Portage County; Judith Barris, Executive Director at Ashtabula County Community Action Agency; Douglas Bennett, Vice President of Community Services and External Affairs at Step Forward, Inc.



District Three:

Alaire Mancz, Chair, Executive Director at Community Action Commission of Belmont County; Gary Ricer, Executive Director at GMN Tri-County Community Action Commission; Nathan Keirns, Executive Director at LEADS Community Action Agency



District Four:

Steve Sturgill, Executive Director at Community Action Organization of Scioto County; Clinton Davis, Executive Director at Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency; D.R. Gossett, Executive Director at Ironton-Lawrence County Community Action Organization



District Five:

Jeffrey Diver, Chair, Executive Director at Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families; Bambi Baughn, Executive Director at Community Action Commission of Fayette County; Jane Newkirk, Executive Director at Clinton County Community Action Program



District Six:

Rodney Reasonover, Chair, Chief Executive Officer at Stark County Community Action Agency; Shelia Triplett, Chief Executive Officer at Mahoning-Youngstown Community Action Program; Beth Urban, Chief Operating Officer at IMPACT Community Action



# THE NETWORK

Ohio's 48 Community Action Agencies help low- and moderate-income families and individuals on their path to self-sufficiency. For nearly 60 years, programs and services developed with and for low-income Ohioans, and implemented by over 50,000 staff and volunteers across the state, help people and change lives every day by addressing unique challenges at the local level. Opportunities are developed to advance and improve individuals' situations and help customers reach their fullest potential.

Community Action maintains accountability through the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) system. Outcomes are tracked and demonstrate success in six categories: employment and training, education and cognitive development, income and asset building, affordable housing, civic and community involvement, and multiple domains.

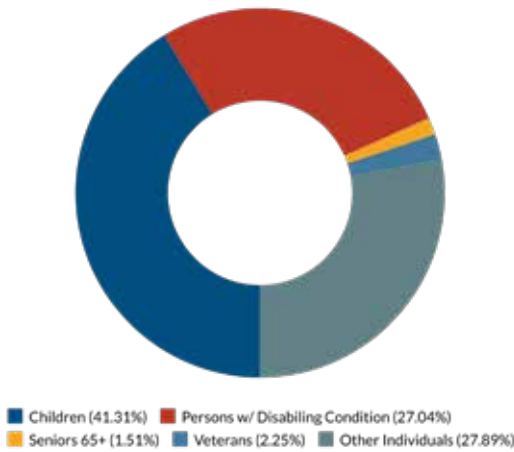
Throughout the following pages, you will learn how Ohioans are overcoming barriers with the support, encouragement, and opportunities provided in every Ohio county by Community Action. The network's holistic approach to helping people is a model that allows families to meet emergency and basic needs, and also provides the tools necessary to become self-sufficient.



Photo provided by: Step Forward

All of Ohio's **88** counties  
are served by **48** Community Action Agencies

## OHIO'S REACH



**577,506**  
Ohioans served (unduplicated count-- individuals served may have received multiple services)

**137,511**  
with a disabling condition served

**272,546**  
families served

**210,074**  
children served

**11,448**  
veterans or activity military served

**76,667**  
seniors (65+) served

CSBG Annual Report Agency data for the reporting period 10/1/2021-9/30/2022 throughout this report provided by the Ohio Department of Development is preliminary, not yet finalized data.



## Local mother overcomes multiple barriers through a holistic approach to self-sufficiency

Like many other area residents, Erin knew Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CHCCAA) for programs like Head Start, PIPP, and a handful of others. When she was connected with the “STEPS” program, she learned of the agency’s holistic approach that helps families overcome their unique barriers allowing them to reach their full potential.

STEPS (Supporting Transitions to Employment for Parents) is an innovative program that nurtures a “two-generation” approach. The program empowers parents to remove barriers, progress toward self-sufficiency, and support school readiness and a healthy, stable living-learning environment for children.

After Erin enrolled her girls in the home school program, she worked with a CHCCAA program coordinator to secure childcare vouchers to attend one of the agency partner’s childcare programs. With her children safely cared for, Erin pursued her own goal of finding meaningful work at the same time. She also tapped into the agency’s expertise and resources by working with a financial counselor, job readiness coach, and a Project Lift—a workforce development program—case manager, who helped her quickly enroll in a career pathways partnership, where Erin earned her Certificate of Completion as a dental assistant.

Though she worked diligently to complete these programs and move her family towards self-sufficiency, Erin could not elude the disruption and hardship that so many had endured during the pandemic. Inflation and food insecurity were constant challenges, though Erin was able to access food vouchers, the agency’s Freestore Foodbank, and was approved for assistance through the federally-funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help her family get the nutrition they needed to thrive.

“Every time I felt like things were getting better, I was faced with another barrier,” Erin reflected. “I got a disconnection notice, which PIPP was able to help me with, and I needed help to get out of my lease due to incomplete repairs. Ms. Sherry referred me to a housing advocate for help, and the STEPS Program was there for me with my deposit and first month’s rent, so that I could move to a better place to my raise my girls.”

While this assistance was able to relieve her housing challenges, Erin encountered another problem.

“My car broke down as soon as I was hired [for a new position],” Erin said. Nevertheless, she pushed onward and found a financial match program that made a reliable, late-model car within reach. Thanks to her new-found mobility, Erin is working full-time, making a livable wage, and is supporting her family.

Coupled with her drive, determination, and the agency’s help to remove barriers, Erin is grateful for her advancements and is determined to keep going. She is now working with the agency as a first-time home buyer program participant and saving money to purchase a home with a backyard for her girls to play and grow.



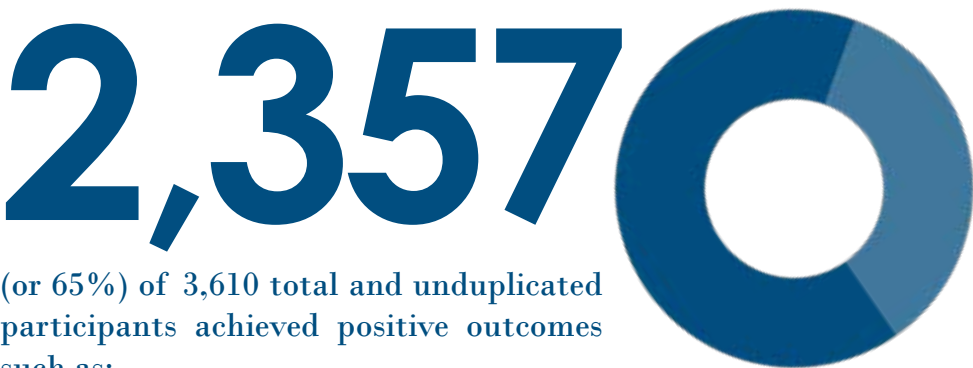


# EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Through youth programs, education, training, certification, work experience, and more, the Community Action Network helped to increase the skills and employability of thousands of Ohioans last year. Individuals have secured living wages, maintained long-term employment, and gained valuable experience to help them on their paths to self-sufficiency.

By connecting individuals with work support, career exploration and counseling services, certification opportunities, re-entry services, specialty trades such as construction and clean energy, apprenticeships, and more, Community Action is helping to build a strong workforce in Ohio.

# THE OUTCOMES



## SERVICES



514  
post-employment supports



294  
employment supplies



4,877  
skills training & opportunities  
for experience



2,260  
career counseling



8,276  
job search assistance



Photo provided by: Step Forward



## New summer camp connects career-exploring youth with employers

From zip lining and rock wall climbing to learning about local career opportunities and meeting employers, the campers of Ashtabula County Community Action Agency's (ACCAA) inaugural Career Summer Day camp learned how they can build a career in their community while having fun doing it.

In August of 2022, ACCAA oversaw their first-ever Career Summer Day Camp at Beaumont Scout Reservation. Located in Rock Creek, Ohio, Camp Beaumont sits on 1,260 acres along the banks of the Grand River. Beaumont began as a campsite for the Boy Scouts of America in 1946 and now operates year round with five separate camps.

The first ACCAA summer camp group was made up of seventeen income-eligible students from local Ashtabula County high schools. The agency partnered with several local groups to provide the most memorable and educational experience for the students, including Growth Partnership of Ashtabula County, Youth Opportunities, and the Lake Erie Council's Boy Scouts of America & Great Adventures.

In traditional camp fashion, the seventeen students got to explore Beaumont's exciting amenities by participating in the camp's outdoor recreational activities. They soared through the air on the zip lining course, donned hard hats while skimming the rock wall, and drove their paddles through the water while canoing. Yet between trips in the air and water, the students had the unique opportunity to learn about in-demand career fields and even met with local employers.

"The Career Summer Camp is a perfect example of collaboration," said Alissa Holdson, ACCAA Director of Community Development. "We are lucky to have support from so many community partners and the business community in our effort to better equip our future workforce, all in an engaging way."

Leading the career conversations were representatives and employers from three featured fields: manufacturing, healthcare, and public service/government. From the manufacturing world was Green Bay Packaging Company (Geneva), Worthington Industries (Jefferson), and Cabinetworks (Orwell). From healthcare, Ashtabula County Medical Center (Ashtabula), Community Counseling Center (Ashtabula), and the University Hospitals (Conneaut and Geneva) attended. Representing the public service/government sector, were the Cities of Conneaut and Geneva and staff from ACCAA, the local nonprofit Community Action Agency.

"I loved the camp," one participating student said. "I enjoyed it all and would want to come back." Ninety-four percent of the campers said they would recommend the camp to a friend, and 76% said they learned something new about local careers. As a response, ACCAA will host the second annual Career Summer Day camp in 2023.



Photo provided by: Ashtabula County Community Action Agency



# EDUCATION & COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The Community Action Network is dedicated to fostering a lifelong love for learning, starting from early childhood and continuing into adulthood. By actively engaging the entire family in a child’s educational journey and providing support to enhance individual skill sets, Community Action Agencies empower Ohioans to reach their maximum potential.

The commitment to education and cognitive development creates advancements in many areas of participants’ lives and has a profound and lasting impact on children and their families. Studies have shown that children who participate in Head Start are less likely to experience poverty as adults and less likely to rely on public assistance.

For adults, acquiring a license and completing work experience programs opens doors to higher-paying employment opportunities with significantly more earning potential. These programs and supports administered by the Community Action Network play a crucial role in helping young and grown Ohioans set and achieve new goals, thrive academically and financially, break the cycle of poverty, and create stronger communities.

# THE OUTCOMES



Photo provided by: Great Lakes Community Action Partnership

## SERVICES



22,782  
child & young adult education programs



133  
post-secondary education supports



678  
school supplies



4,665  
home visits



1,136  
extra-curricular programs



2,287  
adult education programs



## Early Childhood Program helps young boy with Autism thrive

Through Pickaway County Community Action's (PICCA) Early Head Start program, Lucas' desire for knowledge and social skills blossomed with support from his dedicated teachers and family.

Early Head Start (EHS) is a federally-funded program that provides comprehensive care to families and their children from birth to three years of age. Designed to foster and promote healthy parent and child relationships, EHS services include structured activities coupled with weekly home visits. The Parents Curriculum guides parents through educational exercises developed in the classroom and implemented at home for continued learning experiences.

Before Lucas' birth, his family tragically lost his father in a motorcycle accident. His single mother, Meagan, balances raising her son and attending college. With her strong desire to support Lucas' education while working to further her own, Meagan enrolled him in Early Head Start when he was 18 months old.

Lucas was completely nonverbal when he was enrolled and he made minimal eye contact. To assess Lucas' needs and identify the most appropriate educational exercises, PICCA introduced Meagan to several agency programs and community partners, including Pathways Behavioral Health and Children's Hospital. An evaluation through the Ohio State Nisonger Center resulted in Lucas' official Autism diagnosis.

With his needs identified, Lucas' EHS teachers dove into developing his education with support from Meagan, and he very quickly began to thrive. Lucas poured himself into his lessons and began accomplishing skills one right after another.

"I realized he had a thirst for knowledge and craved learning!" Meagan said. She was thrilled to see her son experiencing such growth with the program's support. Sporting his Mickey Mouse baseball hat and marker in hand, Lucas began spelling and identifying some of his favorite things. "He can spell a large number of words on his own and writes his name," she shared. "Lucas knows the pictures and names of all the dinosaurs, trucks, planets, and cars."

To his mother's delight, Lucas also began expanding his social skills by engaging and making friends with many of his classmates—a skill children with Autism may struggle to do. Through this engagement, Lucas also became comfortable with the time spent away from his mother while in class.

"He now loves making new friends and playing with others," Meagan said. "He has no issues being separated from me for three hours a day, five days a week."

Through his individualized education and family support, Lucas overcame many obstacles and found joy in learning. In the fall, Lucas will transition to the local preschool where he will continue to develop the skills he learned through PICCA's program.



Photo provided by: Pickaway County Community Action



# INCOME & ASSET BUILDING SERVICES

Many factors play a significant role in the financial well-being of a family, including earning a fair wage, asset accumulation, and acquiring money management skills. In Community Action, we recognize the hard work customers put into providing for their families, which is why our network extends beyond emergency assistance. The holistic approach to restoring family stability accounts for both short-term and long-term needs, and assist Ohioans in establishing and attaining their income and asset goals.

The path to asset building varies for each individual and household. While some focus on budgeting and meeting essential monthly expenses, others may be ready to save for emergencies, purchase a reliable vehicle for transportation, or pursue higher education. Ohio’s Community Action Agencies provide valuable support to customers through financial literacy and counseling, programs such as Individual Development Accounts, coordination of benefits, and advocacy. By equipping customers with the necessary tools to manage daily, monthly, and irregular expenses, families are empowered to enhance their overall well-being.

# THE OUTCOMES



- meeting basic needs
- improving financial situation



Photo provided by: Community Action Commission of Fayette County

## SERVICES





## Single mother starts small then makes big goals

Determined Cuyahoga County resident Camille G. developed lasting financial literacy skills through Step Forward’s professional development programs.

Step Forward offers professional development programs such as on-job readiness, adult basic literacy, economic mobility, and financial literacy. The agency equips customers in some of these programs with refurbished laptops and new clothing for interviews at no cost to prepare them for future employment.

Before enrolling in her first professional development class, Camille explained that the laptop was the outcome she anticipated to have the greatest impact on herself and her family.

“Mentally, I was going for the refurbished laptop at the end of the [Adult Basic Literacy Workshop],” she said. “But, to my surprise, I was astounded at all [of] the programs and resources available to our community, which empowered me to go further. I enhanced my basic math skills, touched on basic computer skills, and I got back in touch with my typing skills.”

Camille explained being most surprised about the financial literacy skills she learned. “[The course] showed me the basic pros and cons of the errors I was making and that my saving strategies were not only out of date, but out of order,” she explained.

After learning about stocks, banks, and bonds, Camille put her newly developed financial literacy skills to the test as she worked to save for a specific goal: taking her son Maxx to Cedar Point for his fifth birthday. For her, working first towards a short-term financial goal was a helpful way to show herself and her workshop facilitators that the resources she gained were effective when applied accordingly.

Equally important to making her Step Forward classes transformative were the workshop and course facilitators. Camille recalled one especially memorable moment and turning point with one of her facilitators, Mr. Stallworth. “He made the comment that he saw determination in me [and would] proudly place a recommendation for whatever class I want to take next, whether it be through Step Forward or Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C),” she shared.

As she works to take a highly anticipated step in her career—taking college classes to become a patient services representative—and save for other plans, Camille will take with her the skills and knowledge she learned with support from the staff at Step Forward.

“I discovered within myself that determination is key, and I’m the only one holding myself back,” Camille said. “I’m smart, educated, and I have a lot going for myself, and all I had to do was get rid of the dead weight, negativity, and toxicity in my life.”

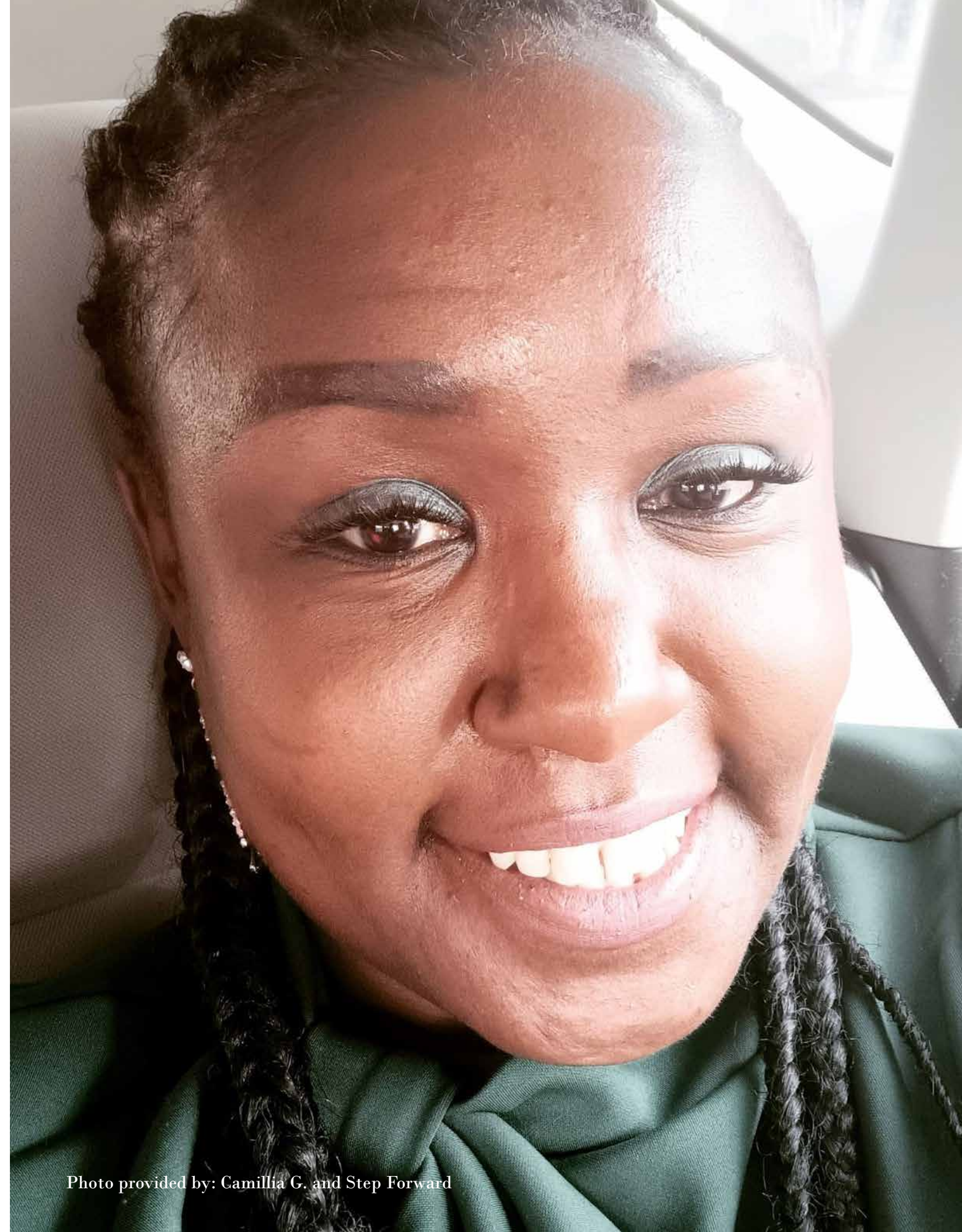


Photo provided by: Camillia G. and Step Forward



# AFFORDABLE HOUSING SERVICES

Ensuring access to safe and affordable housing options are crucial in aiding Ohio families to regain stability and meet their basic needs. By alleviating the burdens of housing insecurity and health concerns arising from substandard living conditions, families can focus on pursuing personal goals and exploring new employment opportunities.

The economic downturn caused by the pandemic has intensified the demand for affordable housing. Many Ohioans faced higher unemployment rates, reduced work hours, and diminished wages in addition to inflation increasing rents across the state. In response, Community Action Agencies rose to the occasion by providing an unprecedented level of assistance to families in need of rent and mortgage support. Additional funding was also allocated for energy assistance programs to aid families struggling to cover utility expenses. Through the steadfast support of the Community Action Network, thousands of Ohioans found the stability to navigate challenges stemming from the pandemic.

Housing development initiatives, the management of affordable properties, and essential repairs by the Community Action Network has also enabled low-income homeowners to remain safely in their homes. Community Action remains unwavering in its commitment to ensure access to affordable housing. And by doing so, Ohio can effectively recover from the impact of the pandemic and build a brighter and more stable future for our neighbors.

# THE OUTCOMES



(or 98%) of 486,425 total and unduplicated participants achieved positive outcomes such as:

- improved or maintained housing
- improved safety or energy consumption

## SERVICES



104,880  
housing payment and eviction prevention services (excludes ERA)



64,662  
households received assistance for rent, mortgage, or utilities through ERA 1



433,796  
utility payment assistance (excludes ERA)



1,544  
housing maintenance and improvement



32,842  
housing placement/rapid re-housing



12,162  
weatherization services



Photo provided by: Great Lakes Community Action Partnership



## Agency tackles affordable housing crisis and self-sufficiency by creating a stable foundation

Ohio's statewide affordable housing crisis was worsened by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, though Lifeline's Security Deposit Program (SDP) has helped many residents in Lake and Geauga counties secure housing.

The program assists customers by covering initial expenses that come with moving into a new place. The program requires the rent and utilities not exceed a portion of the client's monthly income, ensuring customers have the ability to pay their monthly rent after the program assists. Eligible customers can be approved for up to \$1,500 towards security deposit and possible first month rent—which is twice the amount previously available through the program to account for inflation.

When Natalie's family had to move, she worried about her family's ability to cover moving expenses and she reached out to Lifeline for help. After completing the intake process and being approved for the program, unexpected complications prevented her from moving to her desired apartment. Natalie resumed the search and Lifeline was able to keep the application open until her family found a new unit.

"I truly appreciate Lifeline's Security Deposit Program for assisting my family," Natalie said. "We were in a situation where my husband and I didn't know where we were going to get the money to move, due to losing everything and drowning in debt as a result of COVID-19."

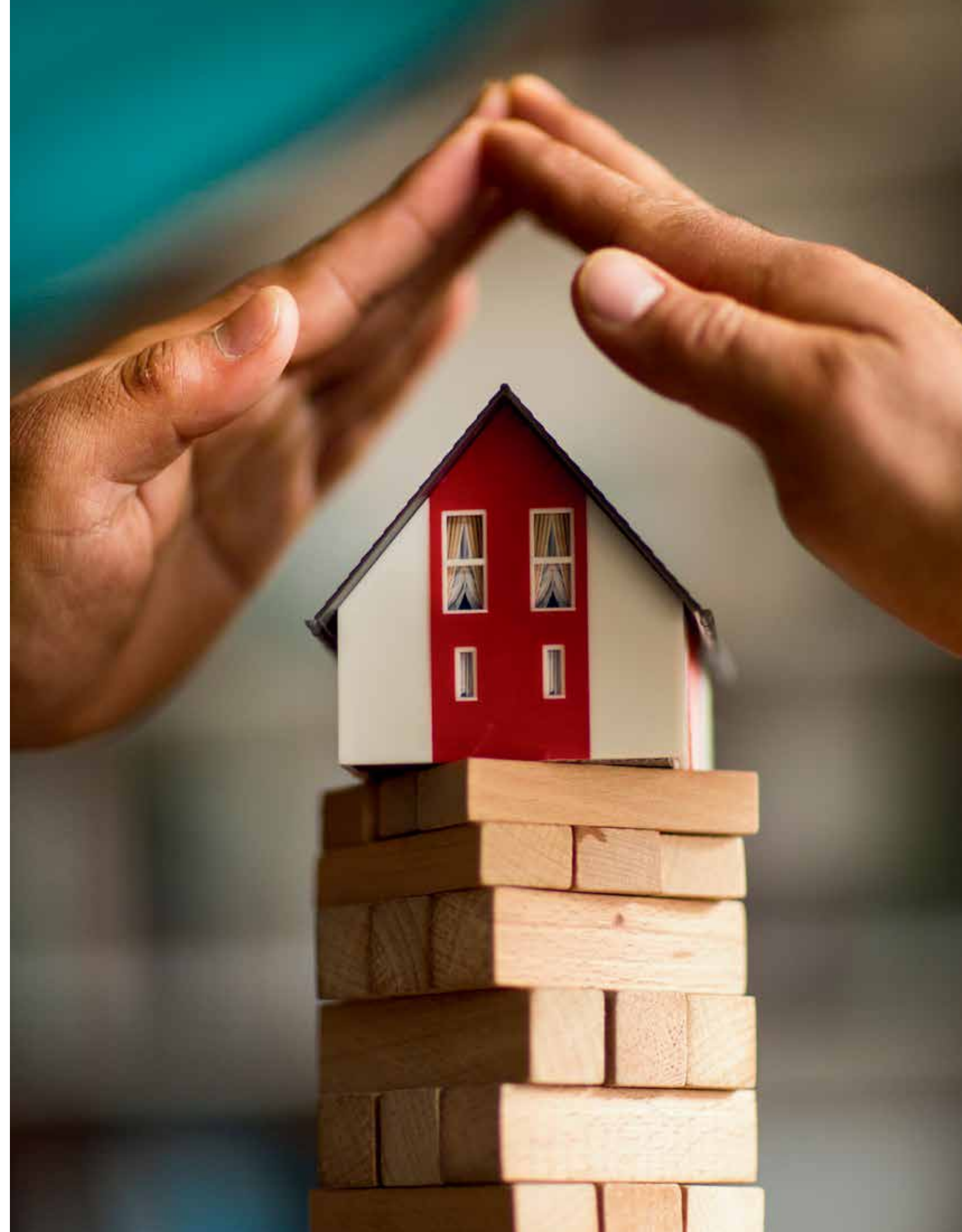
Once Natalie and her family were approved for the new unit, Lifeline staff completed an inspection of the apartment to make sure everything was safe and functional. Their new home passed inspection and Natalie and her family moved into their new home.

"My husband and I were starting over and just didn't know where to begin," Natalie said. "[Lifeline]'s staff were caring, understanding, and never judged our situation. They were very resourceful and went above and beyond to make sure our move went safely and smoothly. We can never predict the unpredictable, but programs like the Security Deposit Program are a true blessing."

Understanding the challenges and stress involved with moving, Lifeline staff work to help families find not just available but safe homes. Throughout the process, Lifeline coordinates with the family to reduce stress and ensure the deposits are paid on time.

"The Security Deposit Program has been able to help so many families move into a safe home," said Lifeline program coordinator, Courtney. "It's not always easy, but working with Natalie was refreshing. She was always ahead of the game and made sure to keep me in the loop if anything changed. Natalie's positive outlook and ability to communicate well really made the process run smoothly."

By limiting assistance to the security deposit and ensuring families will cover additional expenses and monthly rent, Lifeline helps family with the step up they need to begin paying monthly expenses and embark on the road to self-sufficiency.



# HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The inability to access affordable healthcare and nutrition disproportionately affects low-income Ohioans. In response to this disparity, the Community Action Network takes proactive measures to ensure families have access to food, dental, and medical care.

Agencies across Ohio have built and operate food banks and pantries, conduct health assessments and screenings, provide mental and behavioral health services, develop family skills, and much more based on what the community needs.

To learn more about health and development services and outcomes from Community Action Agencies across Ohio, read on.

# THE OUTCOMES



(or 98%) of 126,896 total and unduplicated participants achieved positive outcomes such as:

- improved physical health and well-being
- improved ability to be a caregiver
- seniors & people with a disability maintained independence

## SERVICES



48,166  
health services, screenings, and assessments



11,106  
dental services, screenings, and exams



3,570  
reproductive health services



88,451  
nutrition and food or meals



8,382  
wellness education



2,519  
family skill development



412  
mental and behavioral health



4,223  
emergency hygiene assistance



1,116  
support groups



Photo provided by: Step Forward, Inc.





## Agency reaches customers to address pressing health issues through community coordinators

Ironton-Lawrence Community Action Organization’s (ILCAO) new Community Health Worker Program connects Ohioans with necessary medical resources while the agency serves a record-breaking number of customers.

Community Health Workers (CHW) collaborate with operational leaders at medical centers and community partners to promote health and wellness initiatives and connect patients to care. Since starting in 2022, ILCAO’s first Coordinator, Angela Pleasant, has worked to promote the agency’s programs by reaching out to the community.

“I see the Community Health Workers role as being at the center of a roundabout that has twenty or more exits or paths to healthcare,” Pleasant said. “We highlight healthcare options and help [people] choose a path.”

In this role, Pleasant has connected patients with lifesaving care. She reminisced about a call she received from a young woman who saw a flyer at church. Her brother had broken his leg and developed blood clots in both his legs and lungs, and she was desperate for help.

“We received [her] call at 8:01 a.m. on a Monday morning, and by 8:15 a.m. her brother had been connected with a Community Health Worker who was working to find him a doctor, access to transportation, and solutions to any other health needs,” Pleasant shared.

The caller’s brother is one of the thousands of patients, newborn and up and regardless of income or insurance, who have received personalized care from the staff at ILCAO’s Family Medical Centers. Last year, a record-breaking 15,797 patients were served, marking the seventh consecutive year the FMC served an increased number of patients.

Pleasant works closely with a DIS (Disease Intervention Specialist) nurse and two FMC patient navigators, who are also certified Community Health Workers, to address what she identified as the most pressing health issues in the community: HPV (Human Papillomavirus, the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States), diabetes, and substance abuse disorders. She also works to assist pregnant women through all stages of their pregnancy and postpartum, many of whom had not received any prenatal care. Despite the challenges associated with battling health epidemics, Pleasant is proud of the staff’s work.

“A lot of people don’t realize that stressing about paying your bills or buying groceries affects your health,” Pleasant said. Because of those impacts on health, ILCAO is also working to implement twice-weekly community health and wellness classes for elementary-age and up. The free-to-the-public classes will emphasize the effects of everyday stressors on health and suggest ways to manage stress.



# CIVIC & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SERVICES

The Ohio Community Action Network is fortunate to have the unwavering support and inspiration of thousands of volunteers annually. These selfless individuals dedicate their time and effort to assist Community Action in implementing vital programs and reaching more members of the community.

A significant portion of the over one million hours of volunteer time contributed last year was provided by low-income individuals. These dedicated volunteers, including those serving on Community Action tri-partite boards, play a vital role in shaping the organization’s direction and reach. Community Action wholeheartedly acknowledges and expresses its gratitude to the thousands of Ohioans who lent their support to their communities throughout last year and beyond. Their invaluable contributions have made a tangible difference and embody the spirit of Community Action.

# THE OUTCOMES



- increased ability to actively participate and provide leadership in the community

## SERVICES



1,028,374  
volunteer hours



353  
community leadership training and board membership



315  
volunteer training



100  
Getting Ahead and citizenship classes



764  
voter education and access



Photo provided by: Great Lakes Community Action Partnership



## Agency board member dedicates her career, life to helping others

Community activist and Hancock, Hardin, Wyandot and Putnam Community Action Commission (HHWP CAC) board member Jodi Warnecke has dedicated over 30 years of her life to helping others through employment and volunteerism. As a board member of HHWP, she works with other members to provide a high level of oversight for activities at the agency and to provide accountability to the public.

“Generally speaking, board members must act for the good of the organization by staying objective, honest, and being efficient with resources,” Director of Development & Public Relations Erin Rodabaugh Gallegos said. “Jodi does all of those things really well. Her ability to maintain solid relationships with other board members, the staff at HHWP CAC, and customers of the agency fosters trust.”

Jodi began her career as a victim advocate and served as Assistant Director at Crime Victim Services. In her current role as the Executive Director of the Putnam County Council on Aging, she has helped residents 60 years of age and better retain their independence by building long-lasting strategic partnerships and expanding core services.

“She strongly advocates for the most vulnerable seniors in the community and works to assure that senior citizens are better able to maintain their health and independence,” Rodabaugh Gallegos said. “As she advocates for the citizens of Putnam County as a public sector representative on the HHWP CAC board, she brings a similar passion and enthusiasm to her volunteer work.”

To recognize and celebrate her tireless work to improve the lives of those in Putnam County and beyond, the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce presented Jodi with the 2022 Community Hero Award. According to their website, this award is presented to those who “consistently promote goodwill in the community” by “fostering relationships, leadership activities, and professional development.”

“It is my belief that we cannot do the good work alone,” Warnecke said. “It takes all of us working together to make a difference.”

Like many HHWP CAC board members, Jodi donates several hours a month to meeting, takes phone calls to provide advice and input, and is well-prepared and actively engaged. Her service helps to assure that HHWP CAC is being a responsible agency, regularly follows all laws and regulations, and has a positive impact on the communities that the agency serves.



Photo provided by: HHWP Community Action Partnership



# MULTIPLE DOMAINS SERVICES

The effective implementation of Community Action programs relies on a range of essential services that encompass multiple domains. Programs such as those that provide transportation, case management, legal services, and more play a vital role in connecting Ohioans with access to opportunities all which allow progress towards self-sufficiency.

Outcomes in multiple domains, for example with transportation programs, impact workforce, healthcare, education, mental health, and more areas of a person’s life. Like Community Action’s holistic approach for greater impacts for families and individuals across Ohio, these programs can also cause a rippling effect.

# THE OUTCOMES

209,669

total services which may include duplicated participants

## SERVICES



72,069

case management, eligibility determinations, and referrals to partners



1,233

identification documents, re-entry services, legal assistance, and immigration support services



129,996

transportation services



1,746

emergency clothing assistance



897

child and eldercare



3,728

mediation/customer advocacy interventions



Photo provided by: Great Lakes Community Action Partnership



## Accessible, curb-to-curb transit programs help mobilize the community

From rides to educational institutions to trips to the grocery store, Hocking Athens Perry Community Action's (HAPCAP) transportation program provides Ohioans with an open seat to reach more than just a destination.

HAPCAP's five operated and partnered transportation programs strive to provide safe, reliable, and affordable mobility services to community members with curb-to-curb service through accessible vehicles and discounted rides for seniors, veterans, and people with disabling conditions. GoBus even works to connect customers traveling out of county to Wooster, Van Wert, or Cincinnati with roundtrip rides from providers such as Greyhound lines.

"We are lucky that we have a reliable transportation program in our communities," said Hocking County Mobility Coordinator Christa Myers.

Demand for transportation access in the counties HAPCAP serves continues to grow. In 2022, HAPCAP's 34 vehicles (serving Athens Public Transit, Athens on Demand Transit, and Logan Public Transit) drove a total of 662,261 miles. This is equivalent to approximately 35 round-trips from Athens, Ohio to Sydney, Australia.

Especially grateful for HAPCAP's transportation programs and their impact on not only the community but her life is Hocking County resident Sylvia Rider, who says she would be immobile if not for Logan Public Transit. Rider primarily uses the transit service for appointments, groceries, and to visit friends. When she books a one-way trip, Rider explains she always gets a call from a dispatcher making sure she made it safely and has a ride home.

"The Logan Public Transit staff have all been wonderful to me," Rider said. "You have no idea how much their care means to me."

To show her appreciations for the transportation programs, Rider sent workers a homemade Valentine's card declaring love "a big, white [Logan Public Transit] van," which Myers said was happily received by staff.

"I only wish that [program] funders would realize that this is the only transportation that people—including me—have," Rider said. "My heart's desire is that [HAPCAP] would get all the [community and financial] support they need."



Photo provided by: Hocking, Athens, Perry Community Action



# THE FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

OACAA & OCATO 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022

Revenue	\$ 3,408,717
Expenses	\$ 3,473,362
Net Assets 1/1/2022	\$ 731,443
Net Assets 12/31/2022	\$ 666,798
Change In Assets	\$ (64,645)

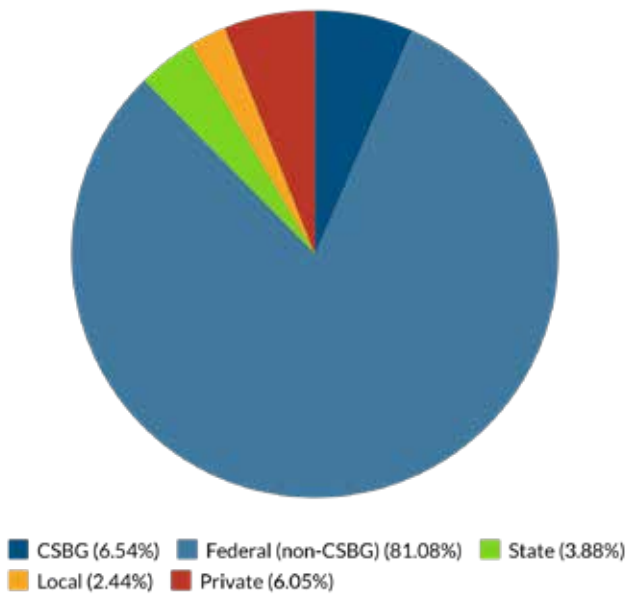
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

OACAA & OCATO 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022

<b>Assets:</b>	
Cash	\$ 298,732
Cash Investments	\$ 293,055
Grants Receivable	\$ 246,019
Accounts Receivable	\$ 383
Prepays	\$ 69,923
Fixed Assets	\$ 33,504
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>\$ 919,616</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$ 225,216
Accrued Payroll	\$ 80,102
Deferred Revenue	\$ 19,500
<b>Total Liabilities:</b>	<b>\$ 324,818</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>	<b>\$ 666,798</b>
<b>Total Net Assets &amp; Liabilities:</b>	<b>\$ 991,616</b>

## OHIO'S CAA FUNDING

Ohio's 48 Community Action Agencies are awarded funding from a variety of sources through grants, partnerships, social enterprise efforts, public and private donations, and fundraising efforts.



Federal CSBG	\$ 61,690,379
Federal (non-CSBG)	\$ 764,942,863
State	\$ 36,631,663
Local	\$ 23,054,072
Private	\$ 57,085,541
<b>Total Funding:</b>	<b>\$ 943,404,518</b>

## ASSOCIATION RATIOS

1.82 %

Quick Ratio is an indicator of short-term liquidity and measures ability to meet short-term obligations. A ratio over 1.5 is usually considered favorable.

0.33

Debt Ratio is the ratio of total debt to assets; it can be interpreted as the portion of assets that are financed by debt. A ratio of less than .40 is usually consider favorable.



OUR MEMBERS

OHIO'S COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

**Adams Brown Community Action Partnership**  
Counties Served: Adams; Brown  
(937) 378-6041 | www.abcap.net

**Ashtabula County Community Action Agency**  
Counties Served Ashtabula  
(440) 997-5957 | www.accaa.org

**Bridges Community Action Partnership**  
Counties Served: Champaign; Delaware;  
Logan; Madison; Shelby; Union  
(937) 642-4986 | www.bridgescap.org

**Clermont County Community Service, Inc.**  
Counties Served: Clermont  
(513) 732-2277 | www.cccsi.org

**Clinton County Community Action Program**  
Counties Served: Clinton  
(937) 382-8365 | www.clintoncap.org

**Community Action Agency Cincinnati-Hamilton County**  
Counties Served: Hamilton  
(513) 569-1840 | www.cincy-caa.org

**Community Action Agency of Columbiana County**  
Counties Served: Columbiana  
(330) 424-7221 | www.caaofcc.org

**Community Action Akron Summit**  
Counties Served: Summit  
(330) 376-7730 | www.ca-akron.org

**Community Action Commission of Belmont County**  
Counties Served: Belmont  
(740) 695-0293 | www.cacbelmont.org

**Community Action Commission of Erie, Huron & Richland Counties, Inc.**  
Counties Served: Erie; Huron; Richland  
(419) 626-4320 | www.cacehr.org

**Community Action Commission of Fayette County**  
Counties Served: Fayette  
(740) 335-7282 | www.cacfayettedecounty.org

**Community Action Committee of Pike County**  
Counties Served: Pike  
(740) 289-2371 | www.pikecac.org

**Community Action Council of Portage County**  
Counties Served: Portage  
(330) 297-1456 | www.cacportage.net

**Community Action Organization of Scioto County**  
Counties Served: Scioto  
(740) 354-7541 | www.caosciotocounty.org

**Community Action Wayne/Medina**  
Counties Served: Medina; Wayne  
(330) 264-8677 | www.cawm.org

**Gallia-Meigs Community Action Agency**  
Counties Served: Gallia; Meigs  
(740) 444-4400 | www.galliameigscaa.org

**GMN Tri-County CAC**  
Counties Served: Guernsey; Monroe; Noble  
(740) 732-2388 | www.gmntrico.org

**Great Lakes Community Action Partnership**  
Counties Served: Ottawa; Sandusky; Seneca; Wood  
(800) 775-9767 | www.glcap.org

**HARCATUS Tri-County Community Action Org.**  
Counties Served: Carroll; Harrison; Tuscarawas  
(740) 922-0933 | www.harcatus.org

**HHWP Community Action Commission**  
Counties Served: Hancock; Hardin; Putnam;  
Wyandot  
(419) 423-3755 | www.hhwpcac.org

**Highland County Community Action Org.**  
Counties Served: Highland  
(937) 393-3458 | www.hccao.org

**Hocking Athens Perry Community Action**  
Counties Served: Athens; Hocking; Perry  
(740) 767-4500 | www.hapcap.org

**IMPACT Community Action**  
Counties Served: Franklin  
(614) 252-2799 | www.impactca.org

**Ironton-Lawrence County Community Action**  
Counties Served: Lawrence  
(740) 532-3140 | www.ilcao.org

**Jackson-Vinton Community Action**  
Counties Served: Jackson; Vinton  
(740) 384-3722 | www.jvcai.org

**Jefferson County Community Action Council**  
Counties Served: Jefferson  
(740) 282-0971 | www.jeffersoncountycac.com

**Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland Community Action Commission**  
Counties Served: Ashland; Coshocton; Holmes; Knox  
(740) 622-9801 | www.knohoco.org

**Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency**  
Counties Served: Fairfield  
(740) 653-4146 | www.faircaa.org

**LEADS Community Action Agency**  
Counties Served: Licking  
(740) 349-8606 | www.leadscaa.org

**Lifeline, Inc.**  
Counties Served: Lake; Geauga  
(440) 354-2148 | www.lclifeline.org

**Lorain County Community Action Agency**  
Counties Served: Lorain  
(440) 245-2009 | www.lccaa.net

**Mahoning Youngstown Community Action Partnership**  
Counties Served: Mahoning  
(330) 747-7921 | www.mycaphelp.com

**Miami County Community Action Council**  
Counties Served: Miami  
(937) 335-7921 | www.miamiacac.org

**Miami Valley Community Action Partnership**  
Counties Served: Darke; Greene; Montgomery; Preble  
(937) 341-5000 | www.miamivalleycap.org

**Muskingum Economic Opportunity Action Group**  
Counties Served: Muskingum  
(740) 453-5703 | www.meoag.org

**Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission**  
Counties Served: Defiance; Fulton; Henry;  
Paulding; Van Wert; Williams  
(419) 784-5136 | www.nocac.org

**Ohio Heartland Community Action Commission**  
Counties Served: Crawford; Marion; Morrow  
(740) 387-1039 | www.ohcac.org



**Opportunities for Individual Change of Clark County**  
Counties Served: Clark  
(937) 323-6461 | [www.oicofclarkco.org](http://www.oicofclarkco.org)

**Pathway, Inc.**  
Counties Served: Lucas  
(419) 242-7304 | [www.pathwaytoledo.org](http://www.pathwaytoledo.org)

**Pickaway County Community Action Org.**  
Counties Served: Pickaway  
(740) 477-1655 | [www.picca.info](http://www.picca.info)

**Ross County Community Action Commission**  
Counties Served: Ross  
(740) 702-7222 | [www.rossccac.org](http://www.rossccac.org)

**Stark County Community Action Agency**  
Counties Served: Stark  
(330) 454-1676 | [www.sccaa.org](http://www.sccaa.org)

**Step Forward, Inc.**  
Counties Served: Cuyahoga  
(216) 696-9077 | [www.stepforwardtoday.org](http://www.stepforwardtoday.org)

**Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families**  
Counties Served: Butler  
(513) 868-9300 | [www.selfhelps.org](http://www.selfhelps.org)

**Trumbull Community Action Program**  
Counties Served: Trumbull  
(330) 393-2507 | [www.tcaphelps.org](http://www.tcaphelps.org)

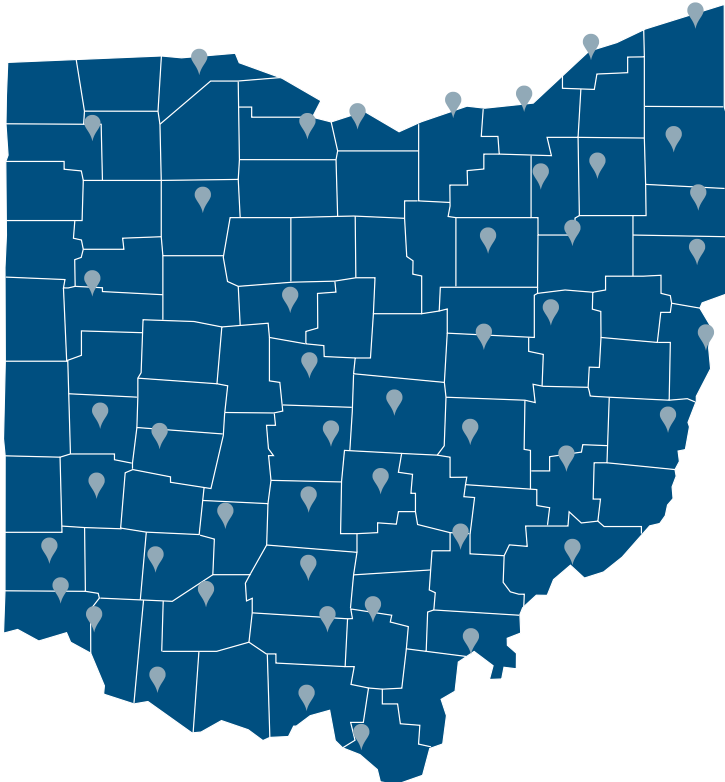
**Warren County Community Services, Inc.**  
Counties Served: Warren  
(513) 695-2100 | [www.wccsi.org](http://www.wccsi.org)

**Washington-Morgan Community Action**  
Counties Served: Morgan; Washington  
(740) 373-3745 | [www.wmcap.org](http://www.wmcap.org)

**West Ohio Community Action Partnership**  
Counties Served: Allen; Auglaize; Mercer  
(419) 227-2586 | [www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org)

Many of Ohio’s Community Action Agencies operate multiple locations throughout their service area to better meet the needs of their communities. While this directory only lists the primary offices of each agency, OACAA encourages you to visit their websites to learn more about additional offices and program site locations.

To view Ohio’s online Community Action directory, visit: [www.oacaa.org/find-an-agency](http://www.oacaa.org/find-an-agency)





change lives work provide  
give service encourage  
energize comfort train service  
help strengthen reassure inspire engage commit  
donate deliver care change lives  
give empower guide deliver  
care support commit service  
engage service train encourage work  
empower service provide help  
commit care donate strengthen energize  
care comfort strengthen energize  
inspire reassure inspire engage service  
comfort give change lives empower  
reassure guide deliver guide commit  
encourage work support work  
provide help train service  
strengthen energize strengthen help donate  
train support reassure provide  
donate service empower comfort  
support inspire guide change lives  
deliver give