

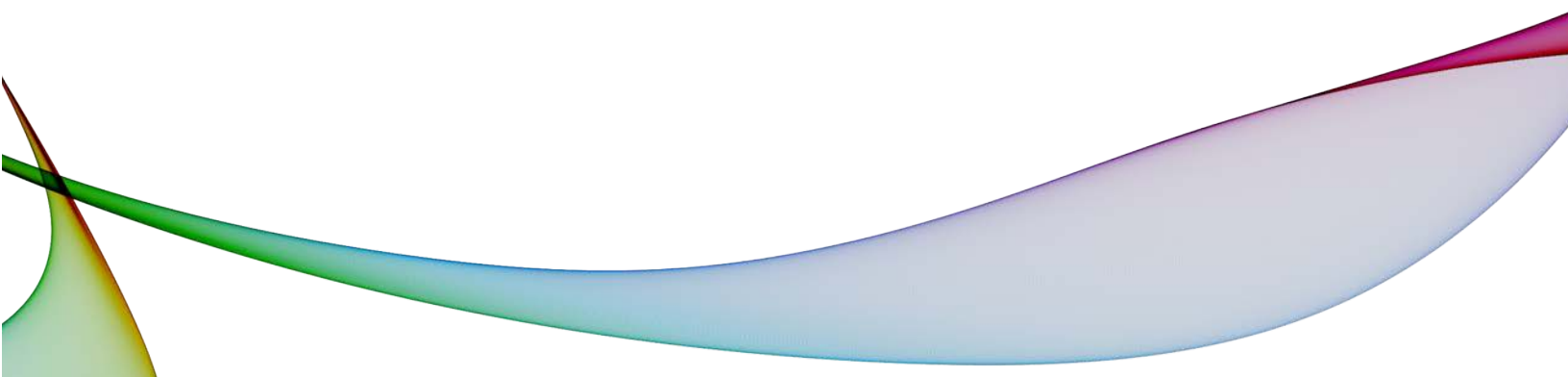


CommunityAction

Dedicated to helping people achieve
and maintain independence.

2021 **ANNUAL** **REPORT**

Serving Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo
& St Joseph Counties since 1966.





Community Action is dedicated to helping people achieve and maintain independence.



Community Action is a leader that provides respected and excellent programming by using data to drive decisions. The agency endeavors to be a model of excellence that attracts passionate and committed staff who work in the fight against poverty.

This work is done in unity with community partners and clients. The agency's goal is to be vibrant and nimble, responding to the changing client and community needs.



MISSION



VISION





VALUES

We are committed to our clients, staff and communities through:

Caring: We believe in treating all people with dignity and respect. We believe all people can achieve success and increased independence.

Service: We believe in meeting the individual needs of those we serve. We believe in providing responsive and supportive services.

Action: We believe in being responsible and trustworthy stewards of our resources. We believe in immediate action to prevent and resolve concerns. We believe in being an active community partner.



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

As a part of this mission and vision, we are committed to providing excellent services to all individuals, regardless of race or demographic. We will continue to be thoughtful in service delivery and policies that create inclusion.





Michelle Williamson
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friend of Community Action,

We are pleased to share with you the 2021 Annual Report from Community Action. Our agency is dedicated to promoting economic and social opportunities that help people achieve greater independence, dignity, and self-sufficiency. We serve residents of Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph counties.

Our vision is to be a leader that provides respected and exceptional programming by using data to drive decisions. We endeavor to be a model of excellence that attracts passionate and committed staff who work in the fight against poverty. It is important to do this work in tandem with our partners and the clients we serve. Ultimately, we would like to be vibrant and nimble, and respond to the changing needs of both the clients and community.

With the on-going challenge of the pandemic there was never a more important time to continue providing services and shifting service delivery to meet the needs of the community. We added virtual programming, acquired on new grants, found more flexible ways to provide services, and built new partnerships to help respond to the health crisis that the pandemic caused.

The pandemic has brought to light the widening gap in basic needs of health care, housing, access to technology and basic resources that everyone needs to be successful in our communities. It has also brought to light the need for more understanding and system review around diversity, equity and inclusion.

Through the extra resources received we have strengthened and identified a need both internally and externally to help continue the conversations around diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are very grateful to the staff and partners who have helped low-income individuals have a voice in what they need to help our communities become stronger.

COVID is still affecting the way we interact and has provided major challenges the past two years but Community Action is ready to help turn those challenges into opportunities going forward.

Sincerely yours,

Michelle Williamson, Chief Executive Officer Tim Reese, Board Chair



Tim Reese
Board Chair



Education and Children's Services

The Impact: We believe that children will change the world one day and to do that Community Action provides a quality education along with opportunities for social and emotional growth for children and their families.

We provide valuable resources and support for low and moderate-income families throughout the child's time at Community Action so that each child will enjoy the same advantages as their peers from the beginning of their lives.

631 children from 556 families received services through Community Action's Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. There were 479 children in Head Start and 152 children in Early Head Start.

“
Without the staff at
Head Start, I don't
know where my son
and I would be.
”





Community Action is proud that our Head Start program adequately prepares children for kindergarten. Our qualified classroom staff is trained in curriculum, behavior management, social and emotional development, and self-regulation.

Community Action collaborates with local school districts to ensure that we are in alignment with experiences children will have in kindergarten.

Kindergarten teachers attend family night to aid in the transition from Head Start to kindergarten.

OF THE 479 KIDS SERVED IN HEAD START:

73.07% were income eligible
7.93% were eligible due to receipt of public assistance
4.38% were eligible due to foster child status
5.22% were eligible due to homelessness
9.39% were over-income

Average monthly enrollment 57%
Average daily attendance was 88%
97% of children had ongoing medical care
82% of children had ongoing dental care
39% of children had preventative dental care

OF THE 152 KIDS IN EARLY HEAD START:

77.63% were income eligible
1.97% were eligible due to receipt of public assistance
5.26% were eligible due to foster child status
8.55% were eligible due to homelessness
6.58% were over-income

Average monthly enrollment 98%
Average daily attendance was 83%
90% of children had ongoing medical care
42% of children had ongoing dental care

82 of Head Start and Early Head Start children had special education identified disabilities.

Community Action has no findings in their most recent review by the State of Michigan Department of licensing and regulatory affairs.



2021 Head Start/ Early Head Start Demographics

Gender

321 Male
310 Female

RACE

142 Black
307 White
113 Multi-racial
99 Hispanic
64 Other
5 Asian

Language

576 English
51 Spanish
4 Burmese

Family Status

356 Single-Parent Homes
210 Two-Parent Homes

FATHERHOOD & MALE INVOLVEMENT

Children and families receive extra support through family engagement activities. **45** individuals participated in Fatherhood and Male Involvement program activities during 2021.

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS

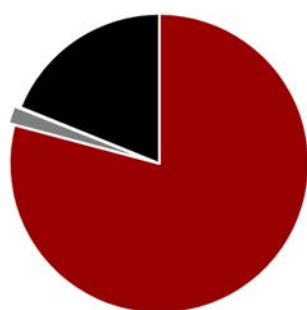
65 seniors spent a total of **20,351** volunteer hours acting as tutors and mentors for **340** children in **27** local schools through the Foster Grandparent Program in 2021.



Education and Children's Services

Head Start 2021 Program Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Salaries	\$3,470,032	\$3,262,877
Benefits	1,559,252	1,439,535
Supplies	249,636	452,977
Food	184,600	226,247
Occupancy	621,024	610,580
Miscellaneous	178,040	145,987
Staff Training/Travel	40,000	29,817
Consultants	33,000	31,701
Vehicle Expense	58,000	54,359
Advertising/Communication	58,875	185,908
Insurance expense	40,000	43,243
Parent/Student activities	14,900	11,984
Total	\$6,507,359	\$6,495,215
Administrative	\$859,035	\$845,957
Training (Includes college classwork and other trainings)	90,030	115,252
Total Budget	\$7,456,424	\$7,456,424
Total In-Kind	\$1,734,798	\$1,734,798

2021 Head Start Source of Revenue



■ US Dept of HHS	7,273,401
■ USDA	174,326
■ Misc	8,697
■ Inkind	1,734,798

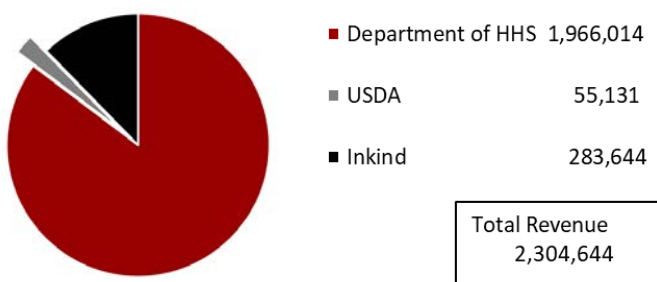
Total Revenue
9,191,222

Community Action received a clean unmodified opinion on their 2021 audit.

Expenses and Budget

Early Head Start 2021 Program Expenses	Budget	Expenses
Salaries	\$953,029	\$867,481
Benefits	406,878	327,963
Supplies	62,936	163,011
Food	96,432	134,365
Occupancy	173,069	188,023
Miscellaneous	31,660	18,126
Staff Training/Travel	9,000	5,009
Consultants	6,200	6,007
Vehicle Expense	2,259	2,569
Advertising/Communication	32,464	35,438
Insurance expense	7,500	7,692
Parent/Student activities	1,550	4,011
Total	\$1,782,977	\$1,759,695
Administrative	\$193,356	\$217,521
Training (Includes college classwork and other trainings)	44,813	43,930
Total Budget	\$2,021,146	\$2,021,146
Total In-Kind	\$283,644	\$283,644

2021 Early Head Start Source of Revenue



Community Action received a clean unmodified opinion on their 2021 audit.

Adult Education



ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM:

In Calhoun County we had 24 students in the program, 6 who have graduated, and 9 of these students continued on into January of 2022.

In Barry County we had 50 students in the program, 15 of these students graduated, and 26 continued on into January of 2022.



WKKF PILOT PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Education Career Pathway Program is funded through a WK Kellogg Foundation grant and seeks to grow the field of highly qualified Early Childhood Educators in the city of Battle Creek. The program provides funding to grow credentials with earning a CDA or Associates in Early Childhood Education. Along with funding, participants are provided support in completing all required paperwork, meeting designated timelines, and instruction from an experienced, highly qualified Early Childhood facilitator.

SUCCESS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM DATA OUTCOMES:

- 63 Total participants
- 11 have received CDA, 9 assisted with Amnesty Renewal
- 9 process of TEACH, or scheduling exam/observation
- 6 Drops

ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN:

- 49 White
- 13 African American
- 4 Hispanic, Middle Eastern or Unknown
- 58 Female
- 5 Male

Average time to complete CDA credential was 9 months.



KALAMAZOO EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Community Action offers support for books and tuition for qualified Kalamazoo residents. This program helps navigate financial aid and eliminate barriers to obtaining education. In 2021, there were 31 awards for 24 students totaling \$38,021.



Housing Support Services



EMERGENCY SERVICES

Community Action awarded **\$943,171** in utility assistance. There were **1,604** awards in total. This includes gas, electric, deliverable fuels, water, and help with first month's rent and deposit. The average bill was **\$588**.

788 households received utility assistance across Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties.

42% of households had children living in the home, and **34%** had at least one senior residing in the home.

COVID EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE (CERA)

Community Action awarded **\$1,885,915** in utility and housing assistance. There were **2,095** awards in total. This includes gas, electric, internet, water, and eviction prevention. The average bill was **\$900**.

1,163 households received assistance across Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties.

56% of households had children living in the home, and **8%** had at least one senior residing in the home.

HOME REPAIR

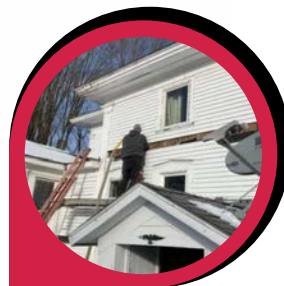
63 homes received major updates, including: new siding, insulation, and new roofing through our Home Rehabilitation/Repair program. In total, these repairs valued **\$171,541**.

WEATHERIZATION (WX)

126 families received services such as sealing air ducts, door frames, etc. Valuing **\$634,592** to help increase a home's energy efficiency through Community Action's Weatherization program.

LEAD ABATEMENT

LSP is a lead abatement grant funded by Michigan's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) administered by the City of Battle Creek. In partnership with Community Action Agency of South-Central Michigan, LSP provides lead-abatement and/or interim controls in qualified residences free of charge to the resident or the property owner and serves all of Calhoun County. Seven homes received lead abatement services in 2021 valuing **\$350,727**.



The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program

Community Action awarded **\$55,513** in housing assistance. There were **112** awards in total. This includes help with temporary housing, first month's rent/security deposit and rental subsidy. **18** Veterans received housing assistance across Branch and St. Joseph Counties. **One** household had children living in the home, and **4** households had at least one senior residing in the home.

DIGITAL DIVIDE

This program allows us to connect individuals with technology to allow them to remain connected to education, employment, healthcare, and social services during the COVID pandemic. Community Action awarded laptops or tablets to **70** households across Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, Saint Joseph and Van Buren Counties.

58 households had children living in the home, and **5** households had at least one senior residing in the home.

WALK FOR WARMTH

The Walk for Warmth campaign raised **\$27,277** to help keep the heat on in Community Action's five-county service area.

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION

Senior and Disabled Transportation provided **15,079** rides to **1073** seniors and **369** rides to **58** disabled individuals across Calhoun County. In total, these services cost **\$436,445**.



Food and Nutritional Services



COMMODITIES SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (CSFP) & THE EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (TEFAP)

These programs distribute a variety of nutritious shelf-stable foods. Both programs provide meat and dairy products as well as fruits, vegetables, pastas, rice and other whole grain products. Each box received is valued at \$50 of shelf-stable food.

3,657 seniors received a total of 18,280 boxes of non-perishable food items through the monthly Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) distribution.

Community Action provided \$859,963 in food items through CSFP and TEFAP in 2021 in Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, and St. Joseph Counties.

5,368 families received a total of 20,783 boxes of non-perishable food items through the quarterly distribution of The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).



Community Action prepares and serves meals that meet current USDA Health Human Services Dietary Guidelines to Congregate Dining Sites and Home Delivered Clients. Menu standards are developed to sustain and improve a participant's health through the provision of safe and nutritious meals. Each meal contains 33 1/3% of Dietary References Intake (DRI) and has a variety of components including fruits, vegetables and whole grains.

Community Action provided \$222,536 in services through the Home Delivered Meals and Congregate Dining programs.

HOME DELIVERED MEALS (HDM)

203 homebound seniors received a total of 23,148 meals through the Home Delivered Meals program in Branch County.

“ They're the behind-the-scene heroes. It is the many people like this that go day-to-day unrecognized building the community. ”

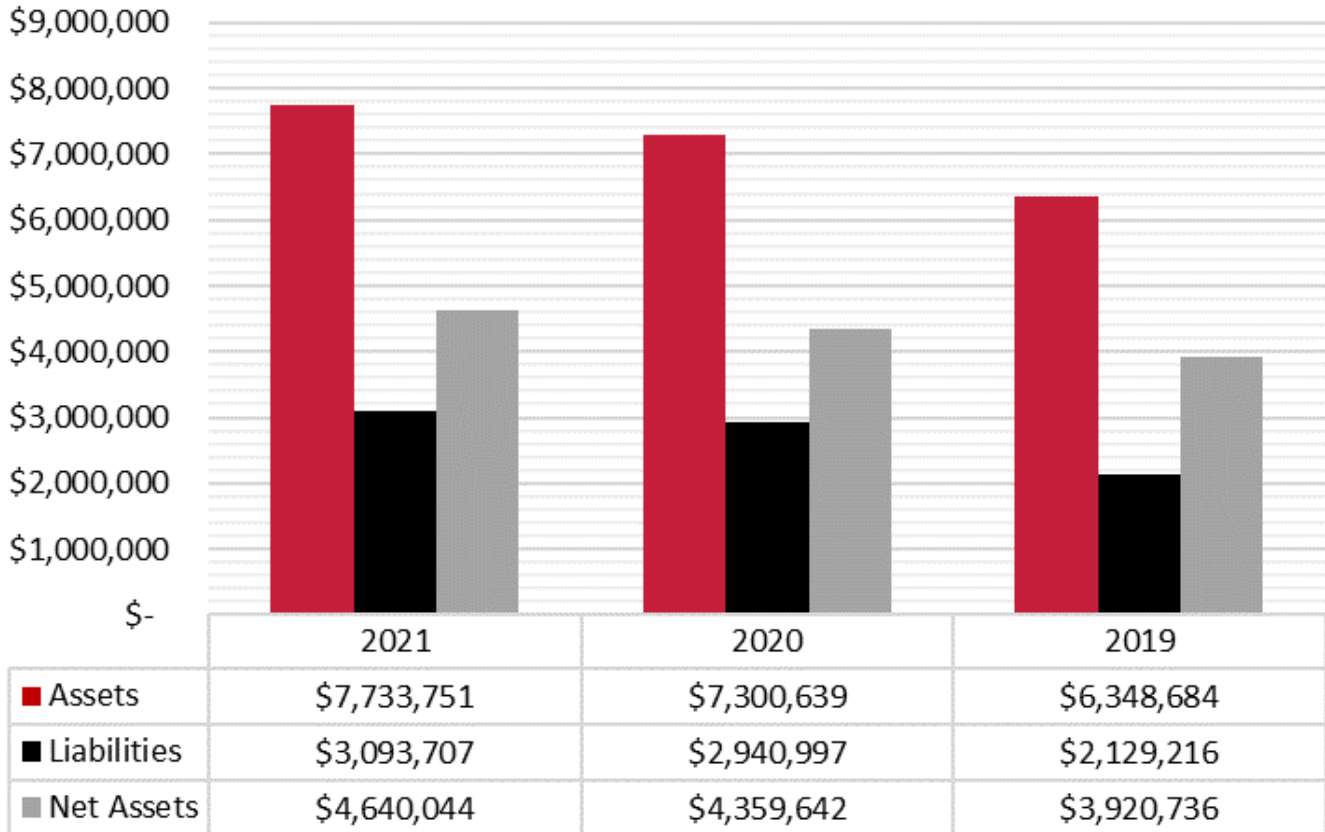
CONGREGATE

193 seniors received a total of 3,085 hot, nutritious meals through the Congregate Dining Program in Branch County.

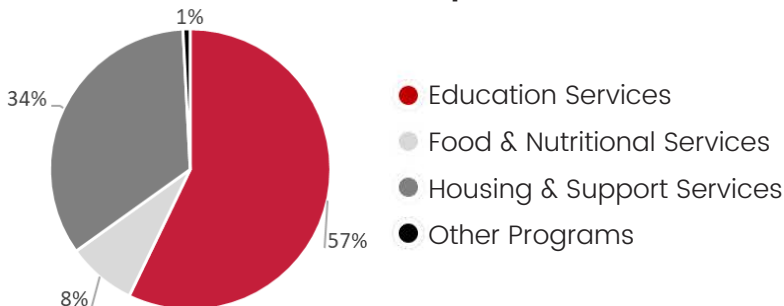
Community Action offers a Restaurant Meal Program that allows seniors to receive vouchers for free meals at participating restaurants. In 2021, 180 seniors enrolled in this program, which provided 2,421 meals valued at \$19,738.



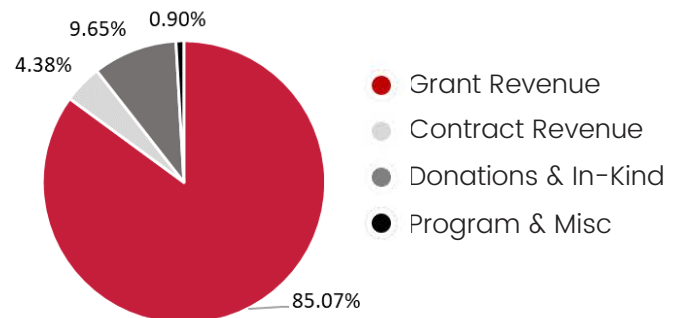
2021 Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets



Summary of Program Expenditures



2021 Revenue by Source





Make a Donation or Volunteer

Visit www.caascm.org or mail your contribution to: 175 Main Street, Battle Creek, MI 49014 or scan our QR code with the camera on your phone for quick access.



Scan me



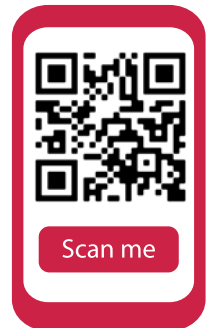
We take pride in the ways we serve our community. Join us as we build community by supporting families, individuals, seniors, and children. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



CommunityAction

175 Main Street
Battle Creek, MI 49014
Serving Barry, Branch, Calhoun,
Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph Counties

Contact us at 1-877-422-2726
Visit us online at www.caascm.org



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