



community
action
association
of Pennsylvania

CAAP
Community Action
Association
of Pennsylvania

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about us

The Community Action Association of Pennsylvania (CAAP) is a statewide membership organization representing all 43 Community Action Agencies in the Commonwealth.

CAAP acts as a statewide voice for local Community Action Agencies and low-income citizens. It is the primary source of advocacy, education, technical assistance, news and networking for the Community Action network of Pennsylvania.

For over 40 years, CAAP has served the needs of its member agencies by helping to identify and sponsor professional training in anti-poverty initiatives and facili-

and locally-designed strategies. CAAP is a private non-profit corporation governed by a Board of Directors comprised of representatives from member agencies. An Advisory Council consisting of representatives from public and private organizations, statewide interest groups and low-income individuals, provides guidance and perspective related to the diverse needs of low-income persons.

Core funding for CAAP is provided through member agency dues. Program and training funds are provided in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare,

“The mission of CAAP is to provide services which enhance the capacity of the Community Action network.”

tating regular meetings of Community Action Agency leadership staff and board members. CAAP continues to serve as the conduit for resource development and advocate for public policy conducive to the locally-developed goals of its membership. CAAP works to promote legislation and regulations which support economic opportunity efforts, community development

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Federal Office of Community Services and the Corporation for National Community Service.

caap strategic goals

GOAL #1

Build a membership service organization that supports Community Action Agencies in increasing their capacity to achieve measurable results.

GOAL #2

Define and build support for a membership-supported public policy agenda that enables Pennsylvanians to achieve self-sufficiency.

GOAL #3

Generate new and expanded funds and resources for Community Action Agencies to increase their capacity to achieve results.

GOAL #4

Increase the visibility of CAAP and its membership, and build expanded partnerships with like-minded organizations.

vision statement

CAAP is highly respected by Pennsylvania’s policy and legislative groups and is recognized as the authority on issues of poverty, self-sufficiency and community development in Pennsylvania. CAAP empowers Community Action Agencies to solve community problems.

Family Development Credentialing

CAAP administers a nationally recognized training and credentialing program, called Family Development Credentialing (FDC), for front-line human and social service professionals who work with families.

The strength-based FDC curriculum provides partici-

pants with skills and tools to empower families to identify and reach their own goals to obtaining self-sufficiency.

CAAP trains instructors from local agencies to teach classes in each community.

Workers from a variety of local organizations, including

Community Action, Children & Youth, Head Start, Mental Health or private organizations, participate in the classes. Graduates of FDC can receive seven hours of college credit. The key to the success of FDC is the focus on interagency partnerships. CAAP facilitates these partnerships by

bringing Community Action Agencies and outside organizations together to incorporate systematic changes that will improve outcomes for the families.

Since the program’s creation in 2005, 428 individuals in PA have received their FDC certification.

poverty in pa

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey of 2009, 10.7% of Pennsylvanians (over 1.3 million residents), live at or below the poverty line. This is a significant increase in poverty from 2000-2001, when the rate was 9.1%.

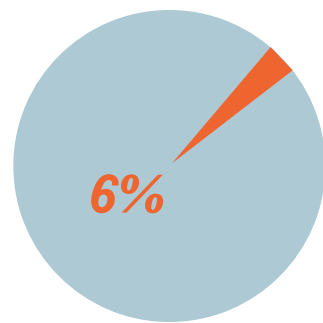
CAAP believes that all citizens are vulnerable to poverty and that the costs and consequences of poverty have significant effects on every citizen and community. Poverty is the cause of many social and civic issues, such as crime, blighted neighborhoods, hunger and increase in health care costs.



cost per year that hunger and food insecurity incurs on PA due to medical and mental health care and lost productivity.¹

14.8%

of children live in poverty. This represents 400,000 children living at or below the poverty line.



percentage of households with inadequate income that receive cash assistance.

260,000

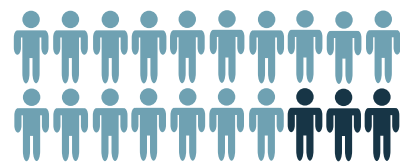
families, or 8% of all PA families live in poverty.



29% of households with insufficient income have two or more workers.

67% white
19% black
9% latino
3% Asian/ Pacific Islander

percentages of households with inadequate income.



85% of households with inadequate income have at least one worker. In more than half of these households, there is at least one full-time, year-round worker.

Impact of Community Action

The Pennsylvania Community Action network analyzes community needs to identify strategies that will work best in attacking poverty. Each of the 43 agencies is unique in its approach to poverty because its programs and services respond to the needs of the agency's local communities.

Funding for CAAP's member agencies comes from a variety of state, local and federal sources. The federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides core funding. In fiscal year 2009 Pennsylvania received \$26.5 million in CSBG funds.

For every \$1 in CSBG funds, Community Action leverages an additional \$12 in local, state and federal funding.

Poverty facts based on Overlooked and Undercounted: Struggling to Make Ends Meet in Pennsylvania, 2009, Diana Pearce and PathWays PA unless otherwise noted. Poverty based on 100% of poverty guideline as outlined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, \$22,050 for a family of four. 1. A Blueprint for a Hunger Free Pennsylvania, August 2007, Inter-Agency Council on Food and Nutrition, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Key Member Programs

Community & Economic Development

Community and economic development aims to increase the quality of living within a community. Community Action is at the forefront of community betterment through programs that develop affordable housing, transform blighted neighborhoods, attract businesses to communities and provide support to low-income entrepreneurs.

Community Action helps to revitalize residential and business districts through involvement in initiatives including Main Street and

Elm Street. The programs increase property values, attracts businesses and helps to develop a higher sense of ownership and pride. The programs create jobs, decrease crime rates and increase personal and civic assets. Pennsylvania's Community Action Agencies help to preserve and improve more than 6,000 units in their communities through their roles as overseers of properties and their expertise in providing housing rehabilitation services.

Community Action brings together local government, businesses and non-profit organizations to identify specific economic development needs. By leveraging financial resources, Community Action helps to maximize opportunities and results through community planning.

Through micro-enterprise, business incubator, small business development and other entrepreneur programs, Community Action provides resources to aid the creation of new, sustainable business.

Weatherization & Energy Assistance

The Weatherization Assistance Program enables low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. Pennsylvania's Community Action Agencies assisted more than 16,000 homes in 2008. On average, weatherization reduces energy usage by 14%. The savings are repeated and magnified every year as more households are weatherized, making Pennsylvania's low-income weatherization program one of the state's single largest energy-sav-

ing initiatives. The Weatherization Program recently received a large increase in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Pennsylvania's Community Action weatherization providers will create an additional 940 green jobs and make more than 20,000 homes safer and energy efficient.

Community Action Agencies also provide a variety of energy assistance programs that help low-income families meet the costs of their electric, heating and cooling

needs. In 2009 over 300,000 families received assistance with home heating costs through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) managed by Community Action Agencies and other community partners. Community Action offers programs to assist with the rising costs of electric, oil, natural gas and other energy sources.

Source: Pennsylvania ARRA Weatherization State Plan, August 2009, Department of Community and Economic Development, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Childhood Education & Development

Community Action provides more than 100,000 children per year a variety of childhood education, development and support services.

For over 40 years Community Action Agencies, along with other community-based organizations, have operated the Common-

wealth's Head Start programs, which provide low-income children with early education, health and nutrition.

More than 41,000 low-income children enroll in Head Start each year and achieve higher literacy rates and benefit from improved health conditions.³

Research shows that for every \$1 invested in Head Start approximately \$10 is saved in lifetime education, health, social service and other related costs.⁴

Sources: 3 Placing the First-Year Findings of the National Head Start Impact Study in Context, 2005, Society for Research in Child Development, Office for Policy and Communications. 4 2009, Pennsylvania Head Start Association.



Employment & Training

Community Action exclusively operates 38 Work Ready programs that help Pennsylvanians work toward higher wages and self-sufficiency. The Work Ready program assists recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) by providing employment and training services.

Work Ready provides support services which aid participants in

writing resumes and preparing for interviews. These services help participants remove the barriers that stand in their way of gaining self-sustaining employment.

Forty-two percent of Work Ready participants obtained employment in fiscal year 2008 as a result of the program. Forty-nine percent of these job placements offered medical benefits. On average, partici-

pants gained a 23 percent increase in their wages over the state minimum wage.

The Work Ready program equips Pennsylvanians with the training and tools to further their careers.

Source: Summary of statistics for Work Ready Program Year 08-09, Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Employment and Training Programs, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Asset Development & Financial Literacy

Community Action is on the forefront of helping low-income families increase their personal and financial assets.

Through programs that encourage home ownership, financial literacy, budget counseling and Family Self-Sufficiency, low-income Pennsylvanians increase their financial status and quality of life.

Community Action has helped place an additional \$1.5 billion in the hands of the working poor, connecting 835,434 low-income workers with the federal Earned Income Tax Credit through the free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites.

Community Action combats predatory lending by developing

partnerships with reputable financial institutions and educating the community about harmful lending practices. Agency services help the unbanked and underbanked community members to gain access to financial products that meet their needs and build credit.

Source: EITC State Statistics at-a-Glance for Tax Year 2008, Internal Revenue Service

Our Members

Allegheny Co. Department of Human Services Office of Community Services
One Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2222
<http://www.county.allegheny.pa.us/dhs>
Phone: 412-350-6617
Fax: 412-350-2785
Allegheny County

Armstrong Co. Community Action Agency
Armsdale Administration Building
705 Butler Road
Kittanning, PA 16201
<http://armstrongcap.com>
Phone: 724-548-3408
Fax: 724-548-3413
Armstrong County

Berks Community Action Program, Inc.
518 Washington Street
P.O. Box 22
Reading, PA 19603
<http://bcapberks.org>
Phone: 610-376-6571
Fax: 610-376-6575
Berks County

Blair Co. Community Action Agency
2100 Sixth Avenue, Suite 102
P.O. Box 1833
Altoona, PA 16602
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Fax: 814-946-5451
Blair County

Bucks Co. Opportunity Council, Inc.
100 Doyle Street
Doylestown, PA 18901
<http://bcoc.org>
Phone: 215-345-8175
Fax: 215-345-8573
Bucks County

Butler Co. Community Action & Development
124 W. Diamond Street
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Butler, PA 16003
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Fax: 724-284-1063
Butler County

Community Action Partnership of Cambria County
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Johnstown, PA 15901
<http://capcc.us>
Phone: 814-536-9031
Fax: 814-539-5813
Cambria County

Carbon Co. Action Committee
267 S. 2nd Street
Lehighton, PA 18235
Phone: 610-377-6400
Fax: 610-377-3431
Carbon County

Center for Community Action
195 Drive In Lane
Everett, PA 15537
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Fax: 814-623-7187
Bedford, Fulton and Huntindon Counties

Central Pennsylvania Community Action, Inc.
P.O. Box 792
207 East Cherry Street
Clearfield, PA 16830
<http://cpcaa.net>
Phone: 814-765-1551
Fax: 814-765-4306
Centre and Clearfield Counties

Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc.
2 East Arch Street, Suite 313
Shamokin, PA 17872
<http://www.censop.com>
Phone: 570-644-6575
Fax: 570-644-6580
Columbia, Montour and Northumberland Counties

Chester County Department of Community Development
P.O. Box 2747
601 Westtown Road, Suite 365
West Chester, PA 19380-0990
<http://chesco.org/ccdc>
Phone: 610-344-6772
Fax: 620-344-6925
Chester County

Commission on Economic Opportunity of Luzerne Co.
P.O. Box 1127
165 Amber Lane
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-1127
<http://www.ceopeoplehelpingpeople.org>
Phone: 570-826-0510
Fax: 570-829-1665
Luzerne County

Community Action, Inc.
105 Grace Way
Punxsutawney, PA 15767-1209
<http://www.jccap.org>
Phone: 814-938-3302
Fax: 814-938-7596
Clarion and Jefferson Counties

Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc.
201 West Front Street
Media, PA 19063
<http://www.caadc.org>
Phone: 610-891-5101
Fax: 610-565-9332
Delaware County

Community Action Commission
1514 Derry Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104
<http://www.cactricounty.org>
Phone: 717-232-9757
Fax: 717-234-2227
Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry Counties

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.
1337 East Fifth Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
<http://www.caclv.org>
Phone: 610-691-5620
Fax: 610-691-6582
Lehigh and Northampton Counties

Community Action Partnership for Somerset County - Tableland Services, Inc.
535 E. Main Street
Somerset, PA 15501
<http://www.capfsc.org>
Phone: 814-445-9628
Fax: 814-443-3690
Somerset County

Community Action Partnership of Mercer Co., Inc.
75 S. Dock Street
Sharon, PA 16146
<http://www.mercercountycaa.org>
Phone: 724-342-6222
Fax: 724-342-6301
Butler and Mercer Counties

Community Action Program of Lancaster Co.
P.O. Box 599
601 South Queen Street
Lancaster, PA 17608-0599
<http://www.caplanc.org>
Phone: 717-299-7301
Fax: 717-299-9341
Lancaster County

Community Action Southwest
150 West Beau Street, Suite 304
Washington, PA 15301
<http://www.caswg.org>
Phone: 724-225-9550
Fax: 724-228-9966
Greene and Washington Counties

Community Progress Council, Inc.
226 East College Avenue
York, PA 17403
<http://www.yorkcpc.org>
Phone: 717-846-4600
Fax: 717-854-8658
York County

Community Services Program of Beaver County
1013 Eighth Avenue
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
<http://www.co.beaver.pa.us/ComDev/index.htm>
Phone: 724-847-3889
Fax: 724-847-3861
Beaver County

Fayette Co. Community Action Agency, Inc.
140 N. Beeson Avenue
Uniontown, PA 15401
<http://www.fcmaa.org>
Phone: 724-437-6050
Fax: 724-437-4418
Fayette County

Greater Erie Community Action Committee
18 West 9th Street
Erie, PA 16501
<http://www.gecac.org>
Phone: 814-459-4581
Fax: 814-456-0161
Erie County

Indiana Co. Community Action Program, Inc.
827 Water Street
P.O. Box 187
Indiana, PA 15701
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Phone: 724-465-2657
Fax: 724-465-5118
Indiana County

Lawrence County Community Action Partnership
P.O. Box 189
241 West Grant Street
New Castle, PA 16101
<http://www.lccap.org>
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Fax: 724-657-3619
Lawrence County

Lebanon County Community Action Partnership
503 Oak St.
Lebanon, PA 17042
Phone: 717-273-9328
Fax: 717-657-2129
Lebanon County

Lycoming-Clinton Counties Commission for Community Action, Inc.
2138 Lincoln Street
P.O. Box 3568
Williamsport, PA 17701-8568
Phone: 570-326-0587
Fax: 570-322-2197
Clinton and Lycoming Counties

Mayor's Office of Community Services
990 Spring Garden St. - 7th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19123
<http://www.phila.gov/mocs>
Phone: 215-685-3602
Fax: 215-685-3601
Philadelphia County

Montgomery Co. Community Action Development Commission
113 East Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401
<http://www.cadcom.org>
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Fax: 610-277-7399
Montgomery County

Northern Tier Community Action Corporation
P.O. Box 389
135 West Fourth Street
Emporium, PA 15834
Phone: 814-486-1161
Fax: 814-486-0825
Cameron, Elk, McKean, and Potter Counties

PathStone
1625 North Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17102
<http://www.pathstone.org>
Phone: 717-234-6616
Fax: 717-234-6692

Pittsburgh Community Services, Inc.
1835 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
<http://www.pghcsi.org>
Phone: 412-392-4437
Fax: 412-392-4466
City of Pittsburgh

Schuylkill Community Action
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Pottsville, PA 17901
<http://www.schuylkillcommunityaction.com>
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Fax: 570-622-4339
Schuylkill County

Scranton-Lackawanna Human Development Agency, Inc.
321 Spruce Street
Scranton, PA 18503
<http://slhda.org>
Phone: 570-963-6836
Fax: 570-496-7713
Lackawanna County

South Central Community Action Programs, Inc.
153 North Stratton Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
<http://www.sccap.org>
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Fax: 717-334-6921
Adams and Franklin Counties

TREHAB
10 Public Avenue
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Montrose, PA 18801
<http://www.trehab.org>
Phone: 570-278-3338
Fax: 570-278-1889
Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties

Union-Snyder Community Action Agency
713 Bridge Street, Suite 10
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
<http://www.union-snydercaa.org>
Phone: 570-374-8938
Fax: 570-374-6144
Juniata, Mifflin, Snyder and Union Counties

Venango Co. Office of Economic Opportunity
1238 Liberty Street
P.O. Box 1130
Franklin, PA 16323
<http://www.co.venango.pa.us>
Phone: 814-432-9767
Fax: 814-437-2338
Crawford and Venango Counties

Warren-Forest Counties Economic Opportunity Council
1209 Pennsylvania Avenue West
Warren, PA 16365
<http://www.wfcaa.org>
Phone: 814-726-2400
Fax: 814-723-0510
Forest and Warren Counties

Westmoreland Community Action
226 South Maple Avenue
Greensburg, PA 15601
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Westmoreland County

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