



2021 - 2022
Impact Report





319 Southwest 25th Street, OKC 73109
405-232-0199 • www.caaofokc.org

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY DISTRICT CENTERS

Northwest District Center

• 1300 North McKinley Avenue, OKC 73106 • 405-525-2468

Southwest District Center

• 1621 Southwest 15th Street, OKC 73108 • 405-634-1469

Southeast District Center

• 6315 South Camille Avenue, OKC 73149 • 405-672-7311

Northeast District Center

• 1005 Northeast 28th Street, OKC, 73111 • 405-424-0315

Midwest District Center

• 1124 North Douglas Blvd, MWC 73130 • 405-869-9354

Canadian County District Center

• 203 North Bickford Ave., El Reno 73036 • 405-262-7042

City & County District Center

• 12520 Northeast 36th St, Spencer 73084 • 405-769-3346

HEAD START CENTERS & PARTNERS

HEAD START CENTERS

Armstrong • 309 S.W. 5th • Luther • 277-3530

Dana Brown Cooper • 9300 N.E. 10th, MWC • 733-0289

Edmond • 717 Churchill Road, Edmond • 359-7155

Garden Diggs • 2201 N. Coltrane, OKC • 427-8515

McKinley • 1300 N. McKinley, OKC • 524-5017

Mt. Rose • 1701 N.W. 7th, OKC • 232-6037

Our Spot • 1532 W. Hefner Road, OKC • 755-5136

Steed • 2118 Flannery, Midwest City • 732-2552

Valley Brook • 6315 S. Camille, OKC • 670-6284

Will Rogers • 1621 S.W. 15th, OKC • 634-4365

HEAD START/DAY CARE CENTERS

Avery • 1425 N. Kelham, OKC • 424-1088

Kiddie Village • 801 N.E. 2nd, OKC • 235-9833

Mary Helen Nelson • 1115 N.E. 7th, OKC • 232-2920

Metro Tech • 3901 N. Martin Luther King, OKC, 73111 • 595-4750

New Heights • 7921 N.W. 23rd, Bethany • 440-0230

Oak Grove • 3301 S.W. 17th, OKC • 685-2277

Plainview • 7105 N. Kelley Avenue, OKC • 843-8299

Ruth Dropkin • 6500 S. Shields, OKC • 634-0401

West Oak • 2100 S. Everest, OKC • 677-8437

HEAD START/DAY CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Happy Times • 405 S. Air Depot Blvd., MWC • 733-2905

Childcare Network • 1050 S.W. 36th, OKC • 634-2083

HEAD START PRE-K PARTNERSHIPS

Adelaide Lee Elem. • 424 S.W. 29th, OKC • 587-3400

Buchanan Elem. • 4126 N.W. 18th, OKC • 587-4744

Mark Twain Elem. • 2451 W. Main, OKC • 587-3710

Martin Luther King Elem. • 1201 N.E. 48th, OKC • 587-4000

Rockwood Elem. • 3101 S.W. 24th, OKC • 587-1500

Santa Fe South Elem. • 2222 S.W. 44th, OKC, OK • 601-0597

Willow Brook Elem. • 8105 N.E. 10th, MWC, OK • 587-7500

Van Buren Elem. • 2700 S.W. 40th, OKC, OK • 587-2000

DELEGATE AGENCY

Educare • 500 S.E. Grand, OKC • 605-8232

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From the Executive Director

The 2021-2022 year at Community Action has for the most part, revolved around getting back to normal. Our Head Start classrooms returned to in-person learning, and our other services largely resumed normal operations. We refreshed our Head Start centers with new paint, central heat & air units, and we installed bipolar ionization units to help control COVID-19. I visited our classrooms late this fiscal year and was impressed by the wonderful work going on in all our centers. We learned through the pandemic that some remote services are preferred by our clients. For example, we continue to offer remote classes for our Homebuyer Education Workshops and Small Business Training Series.

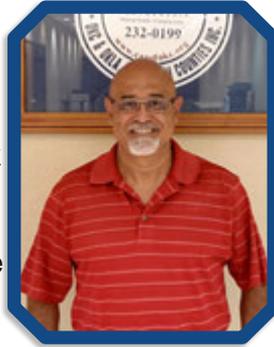
As I approach my 3rd year in the office of Executive Director, I am hopeful. I continue to be amazed by our wonderful staff and am convinced we have the best staff in town. I am hopeful that we will continue to grow our partnerships and collaborations. We will continue to be, as Mr. Sconzo had always said, "an important community partner". You will see as you read through this report that we have helped our community in numerous ways, and I look forward to seeing all the good work we will do this year.



Josie Thompson

Community Action Agency “Reflection”

Seems the past year has been a blur. We finally got to the point where we were no longer required to wear a mask. At the same time, we were respectful of those who still chose to continue to wear a mask daily. We no longer held our meeting in the usual board conference room upstairs in order to allow spacing requirements due to Covid-19. This is our norm now and board members do not seem to mind.



OKC CAA often sees board members come and go for various reasons. For whatever reason that may be, our board members are an integral part of the agency’s mission. Our board members are volunteers and represent various sectors of the community and serve without compensation. Without our board members, our agency would lose a very important team member. So to all our board members we thank each and every one of you for your time, input, and willingness to give back to your community.

We recently mourned the passing of our previous Executive Director, Mr. Jim Sconzo. This was indeed a terrible loss for his family, friends, community and this agency. Mr. Sconzo dedicated over 40 years to OKC Community Action Agency, was a Vietnam Veteran and served his country honorably for 27 years. He will definitely be missed, but his legacy will always be remembered as a role model, mentor and made OKC CAA into the model agency for other agency’s to emulate.

As the economy continues to struggle, so do our families. OKC CAA will be a source of relief for many families even more now and in the future. Our services are critical throughout Oklahoma and Canadian Counties. As I look back I truly believe that this agency has always given 100% to anyone who passes through its doors providing them with the needed resources. It takes a collaborative effort from the Executive Director, all agency staff and board members to accomplish great things; we can all look back this past year and say, “We made a difference”.

Santos Hernandez

OKC CAA Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Santos Hernandez'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Down Payment Assistance Program

"I just wanted to email you to thank you for allowing myself and my sons into your housing program. It has been such a blessing for us. Before we could hardly buy new clothes but only a few times a year. Now I'm able to get the boys more clothes; not just hand me downs most of the time. We now can live in a safe house and neighborhood, where they can enjoy being kids, and not worry about riding their bikes down the street, or when there was going to be a police chase going on. You have helped me give them the life they deserve. I am 63 and adopted them 7 years ago. I hadn't been able to give them a safe place to live, until your housing program. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I also want to put in a good word for Bonnie and Joann, and Willie. They have always treated us with respect and so much kindness and compassion. And the rest of the crew up there. I could go on and on, about them all, and how financially you all have helped me, and how your program has changed our lives. Thank you again."

- Patricia H.



IDA Matched Savings for a New School Laptop

“The IDA program has made my life stress free. Not only is my life stress free I learned a lesson. Saving money has always been something I had issues with doing however, the IDA program helped me to look forward to saving. Every dollar that I saved they matched and that was a big deal for me. I used that money to buy a new laptop for school and it just made life easier. I got the laptop I have always wanted and now I no longer need to use the library laptops to get my work done. I thank the program for what it has done, and I hope in the near future I have another opportunity to save for something big!”

Best,
Nick Watson



Lighthouse405

“I’m extremely grateful for the CAA of OKC. When I originally purchased the home. I assumed that my original lender would back me if I could prove the group home concept by using private funds for further renovation of the home and the purchase of appliances and furniture. I was wrong. Even though the numbers made sense, the bank advised that my program wasn’t in their wheelhouse, and they would need additional assets from me to justify increased financing. My Score mentor suggested that I reach out to the CAA. I promptly submitted my business plan to provide affordable housing and create a sober living environment for Veterans. I included the results of studies that cited the micro-communities that are created in this setting lead to successful outcomes by reducing the feelings of isolation that so many of our Veteran’s in recovery experience. I feel very fortunate to have found a partner in the CAA. I have been able to complete my first 9-bedroom project and utilize my original financing to create a second group home for our vets, bringing our total to twelve units of affordable housing”.

Yinka
Lighthouse405 LLC



Loan Program



Emergency Home Repair

The Emergency Home Repair program continues to assist low to moderate income residents in targeted areas of Oklahoma City. Major repairs consist of roof replacement, major plumbing repairs, highly efficient heat installation, carpentry repairs which constitute a health or safety hazard, and electrical. Beginning with the 2021-2022 program year, environmental reviews became required prior to work being performed. Home Repair is a highly sought after program with numerous clients and work is performed in the order of applications submitted. The agency has requested additional funding for the 2022-2023 program year from the City of Oklahoma City to help address the increasing need for these services.





Thank you all so much for my new roof. As a single parent, I appreciate all of the help I can get. God Bless You all!

Diana

Maintenance



The maintenance department continues to provide building, grounds, and vehicle maintenance. The Head Start program received additional funding through the American Rescue Plan and we were able to utilize some of this funding for installing new central heat and air units in most centers. Bipolar Ionization systems were also installed to combat viruses including COVID-19 and buildings also received new paint inside and outside.

The Weatherization program is designed to help residents in Oklahoma, Canadian, and Cleveland Counties reduce energy burdens. The program is for low-income residents.

Weatherization has changed over the years and a National Energy Audit dictates repairs the agency can complete on a home. These repairs include air sealing which includes caulking, patching holes in sheetrock, sealing electrical penetrations from the attic and weather-stripping doors and windows. Also included are installation of attic and wall insulation as well as blocking around and sealing attic penetration around hot water heaters, furnaces, and boxing in recessed lighting. Health and Safety procedures are addressed by performing carbon monoxide tests on homes, installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fresh air vent fans and other concerns are completed as allowed by the funding source.



Community Services has been busy helping people affected by COVID-19. We have modified our original program of just helping with rent and utilities, to include minor car repairs and car insurance.

In October 2021, we assumed responsibility for the HIV/AIDS outreach program. With this program, Community Services can now provide free on-site HIV counseling and testing, referrals for related illnesses including STD's and TB, while aiding out-of-treatment substance abusers and injecting drug users. Community Services is continuously keeping the public informed of HIV/AIDS by passing out information and prevention packets.

In early 2021, we partnered with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma to open the Agency's first food pantry at our Southeast District Center. Our first food distribution day was the 2nd Tuesday of November 2021. We are excited about this new venture. Not only are we servicing clients of Community Services, but also clients of different departments. In December 2021 we partnered with the Oklahoma County Health Department to offer COVID-19 Vaccine clinics at the food pantry. We also have Archwell Health at our food distribution days to distribute personal hygiene products to our seniors.



Community Services



14 By The Numbers

Covid-19



462

Households received assistance

\$305,328.40

Paid in rent and utility assistance

902



Senior trips for medical routes

7,253



Seniors who used our transportation services

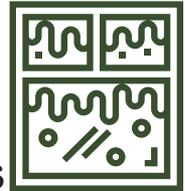
253

Frozen meals delivered to seniors



51

Homes received weatherization



1,194

Households received free tax return preparation assistance



4,521

Senior trips for shopping routes



105

Emergency Repairs

By the Numbers 15



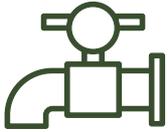
20

Central Heat
units installed



28

Roof Replacements



38

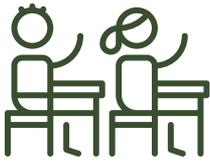
Emergency
Plumbing



19

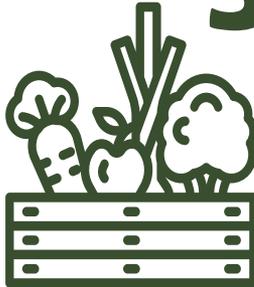
Emergency
Carpentry

Food served to students:



1,122

Head Start
enrolled children



50,239

Breakfasts

57,381

Lunches

190



children enrolled at 7
different Public Schools

58,339

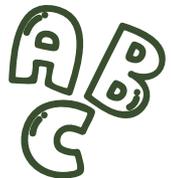
Snacks

491



children will transition
to kindergarten

932



children enrolled
at 22 different
Head Starts

16 By The Numbers

762



Children's Dental exams

804



Children's Physicals

945



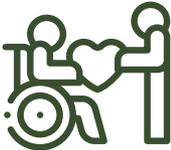
Children's Vision Screenings

985



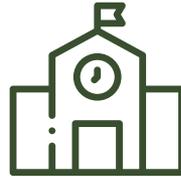
Children's Hearing Screenings

123

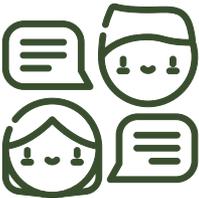


Children with Disabilities

4

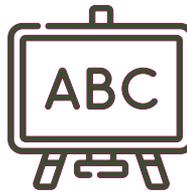


Children's OKC Public School IEP's



10

Children's Speech IEP's



104

Head Start IEP's



231

Individuals received free legal assistance

5



Children's OT IEP's

By the Numbers 17

153

Small Business
Training Workshops



5

Individuals
opened
an IDA



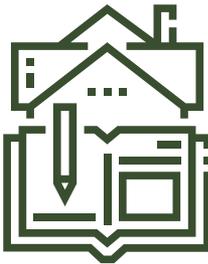
11

Individuals
Completed an IDA



416

Individuals received
financial education training



202

Individuals

completed the Home
Buyers workshop

14



Households
were provided
down payment
and closing cost
assistance



\$201,198.27

Was provided in down payment
and closing cost assistance

Head Start is Meeting the Challenge

Head Start Program is a whole-family program where services can be obtained for an entire family of an enrolled 3–5-year-old child. Eligible families receive early childhood education, child nutrition services, health and wellness services, as well as mental health and disabilities assessments and services. Our Agency operates as a One Stop Shop program in our city and county.

From the beginning of the first day at Head Start to the last day, whether three, four or five; there are so many places to go, so many things to do, and so many ways to thrive. Head Start enrollment mirrors our society. Children and Families in Head Start have the same issues, concerns, and ailments that are a part of our everyday lives. Head Start has the responsibility of meeting the needs of the whole child and family, our Agency works year-round to ensure that our families receive the best services possible.



This past program year somewhat mirrored our last program year 2020-2021. The COVID 19 Pandemic was still very much a part of our everyday lives. Our Head Start Centers were open for children with restricted activities and changes in our daily routine. Masks were a part of our daily attire and temperatures were checked upon arrival. Parents were met at the door and children were escorted from the reception area to their classroom by staff. Onsite activities were enhanced to offset the limited activities beyond the classroom and playgrounds.

Head Start sites and classrooms have been tasked with meeting a number of challenges, ranging from the

traditional goals of getting children ready for their next level to ensuring that everyone remains healthy and safe during the pandemic. Also, ensuring the program met all the changing mandates both by state and federal governments. As always, the teachers and staff in our agency did a fantastic job of meeting the challenges presented and made sure the needs of the families enrolled in our program were addressed.

While enrollment has been an issue throughout the pandemic, we are proud to state that as the year has progressed, we have been building our enrollment steadily. While in August of 2021 we had a total enrollment of 965, we are now at an enrollment of 1,136. This is a testament to the quality of our program even as the pandemic has raged back and forth. In changing times and situations, Head Start remains a bedrock of the community in serving the needs of families across the Oklahoma City/County area. Whatever the needs of the community are and the requirements of the government, the mandates of DHS and the COVID funding source, we will be there to meet them and excel!

One of the major changes we have made is offering school day lengths of service for Head Start families. We currently offer full day services at 11 centers. These centers are able to offer full day services due to the space and funded enrollment. The other centers, due to space, offer morning and afternoon sessions. Some have full day daycare. We currently offer childcare including infants and toddler at four of our centers.



Head Start Children Highlighted *Educational Experiences*

Throughout the 2021-2022 year Head Start teachers and staff had the great opportunity to work with children and their families towards building them to the next level! Children are consistently learning new skills by having fun, dynamic, and educational experiences provided to them by trained teachers and staff.

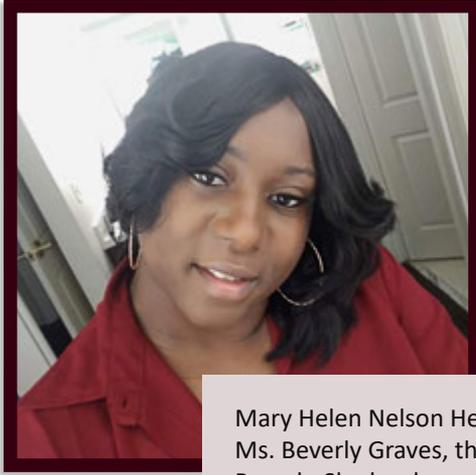
The learning is not just limited to the classroom either. Whether it is by learning on a playground, having unique opportunities such as a trip to the Pumpkin Patch, children enrolled in Head Start will have the opportunity to explore the larger world around them.



Children are not the only ones that learn and grow at Head Start. Their families also have plenty of opportunities to learn and grow as well.



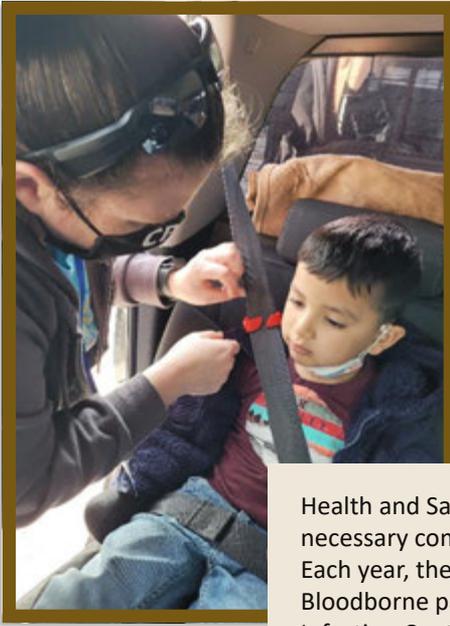
Whether this is by meeting with a Family Advocate to address an action plan for them to get to the next level, attending a parent-teaching class such as Early Birds, or by participating in their site's Parent Council, family members of Head Start children help develop all of us into a stronger program.



Mary Helen Nelson Head Start appreciates Ms. Beverly Graves, the mother of Breylen Branch. She has been an outstanding parent volunteer for the classroom and the entire center. She is their Policy Council Representative, and we salute Beverly Graves for her dedication.



From the moment of enrollment, the child and the family are preparing for the transition to the next level, Kindergarten. The Head Start teaching staff supports learning with a curriculum based upon sound principles of child development, and which responds to each child's needs and interests. The environment, curriculum, and learning approach support children's individual patterns of development.



Health and Safety remains a vital and necessary component of our Program. Each year, the staff are trained in: Bloodborne pathogens, Child Abuse, Infection Control, and Medication Administration. In addition to these requirements, each staff member receives CPR/First Aid training and certification and Car Seat safety.



We are in the process of developing an ESL (English as a Second Language) Program for staff, children and parents. We currently have two people on staff who are working together to develop and implement the project.

Administrative Services



The Administrative Services Division is responsible for many different tasks that enable the Agency to achieve daily goals and objectives. The department includes Human Resources, Property & Procurement, Print Shop, Mailroom and the Receptionist. Seven employees make up the Administrative Services Division.



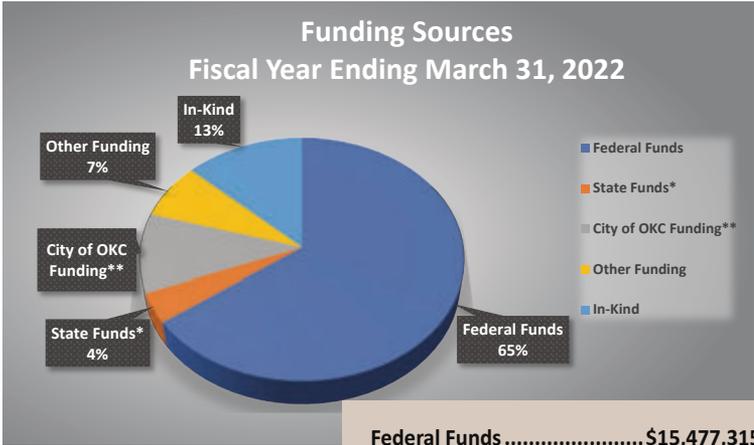
Fiscal Services Division

The Fiscal Services Division ensures that the Agency's \$23.7 million budget is spent in accordance with federal, state, and local grant guidelines. They work closely with all Agency divisions to develop and monitor budgets for Agency programs. Monthly program financial statements are prepared and reviewed by the Executive Director and Agency division directors.



- \$23,786,096 Agency Budget for 2021 - 2022
- \$10,102,404 Total payroll (April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022)
- More than \$2,968,292 was spent on goods and materials
- Approximately \$256,015 city/state taxes were paid

Funding Sources

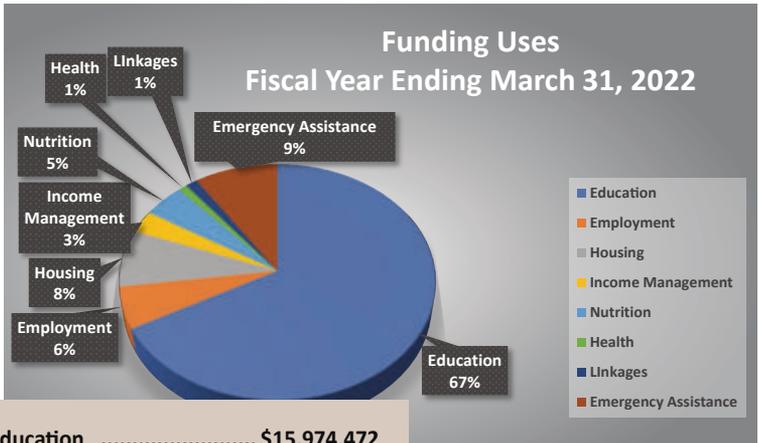


Federal Funds	\$15,477,315
State Funds*	\$952,124
City of OKC Funding**	\$2,495,969
Other Funding	\$1,766,077
In-Kind	\$3,094,611

*Includes federal pass-through funds

**Includes federal and state pass-through funds

Funding Uses



Education	\$15,974,472
Employment	\$1,357,513
Housing	\$1,860,918
Income Management	\$724,328
Nutrition	\$1,098,436
Health	\$232,181
Linkages	\$321,132
Emergency Assistance	\$2,217,116

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