

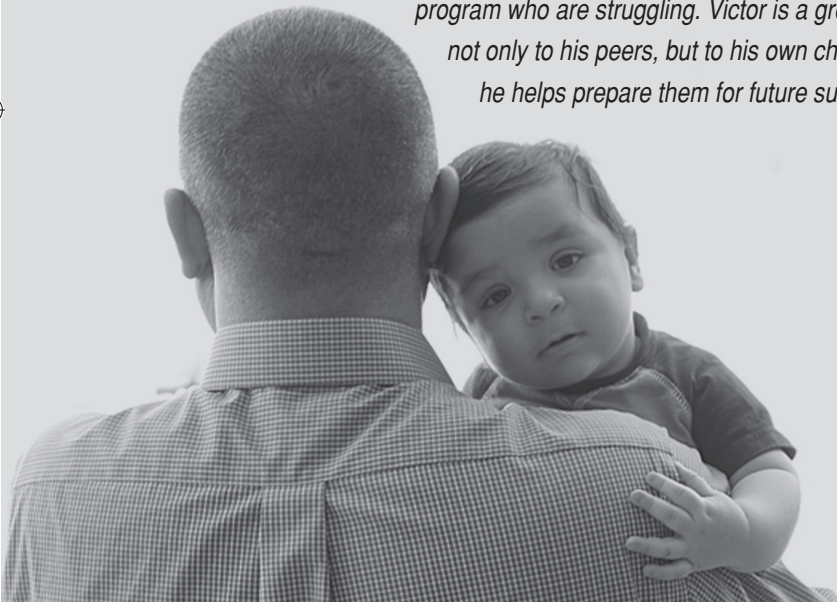
# Community Action celebrates successes.

## Victor's Story

Victor, a single father of two, was unemployed, trying to move past some legal troubles, and struggling to provide for his family. When he enrolled his children in Head Start at Community Action, Victor's Family Advocate helped connect him with some resources to secure childcare so that he could focus on seeking employment. Even though Victor was completely overwhelmed by the demands of being a single parent, he was an active participant in his children's education. He frequently visited their classrooms, formed relationships with their teachers, and volunteered for school events.

After setting goals for his family and gaining a bit of confidence, not only did Victor get a job that he loves, but over the past two years he has been promoted twice, and is now being trained to take on a management role within his division.

Victor has a passion for helping others, and because of his own journey and growth, he now serves as a positive resource to other parents in the Head Start program who are struggling. Victor is a great mentor not only to his peers, but to his own children as he helps prepare them for future success.



## Our Programs

Rent and Utility Assistance | [The Gathering Place](#) | Early Head Start | [Head Start](#) | Homeless Voucher Program | [Supportive Housing Program](#) | Representative Payee Program | [Matched Savings Accounts](#) | Money Management Education | [Computer Learning Lab](#) | GED Instruction | [Employment Assistance](#) | Affordable Housing | [Weatherization](#) | Tenant Support Services | [Tax Preparation Services](#) | LanguageLinc Translation & Interpretation Services



210 O Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508

We empower people struggling in poverty to reach their full potential and achieve self-reliance.

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Self-reliance  
is a journey of small steps  
and Community Action  
is paving the way.



# Community Action offers support and inspires hope.

Community Action believes that its participants are capable, remarkable people.

How do we leave people more self-reliant than when they arrived at our doors? When families work through our programs, they develop greater confidence and motivation to manage setbacks in their lives. At Community Action the answer lies in empowering people to recognize and make use of their own unique strengths and resources in order to improve their lives.

We emphasize the quality of the relationships we build with participants, believing that each point of contact with them is an opportunity to make something positive happen. We watch for that moment when an individual says, either through word or deed, "I'm ready to work to change my life for the better."

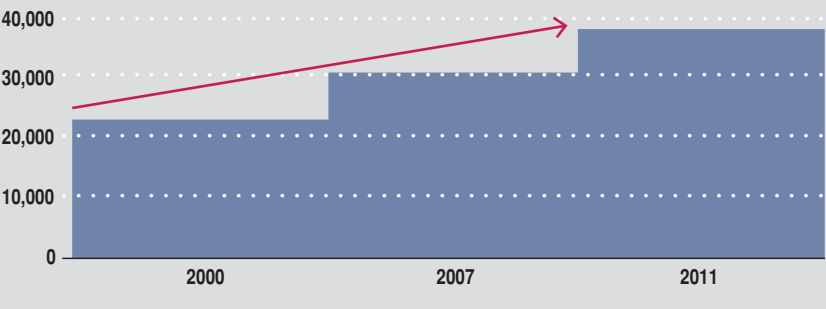
Our participants commit to playing the lead role in making lasting changes in their lives; as a result, they should be able to contribute positively to the social and economic well-being of the greater community long after their engagement with Community Action ends.

Thank  
you to all who  
generously contribute  
to Community Action.  
Without your support,  
our work would  
simply not be  
possible.

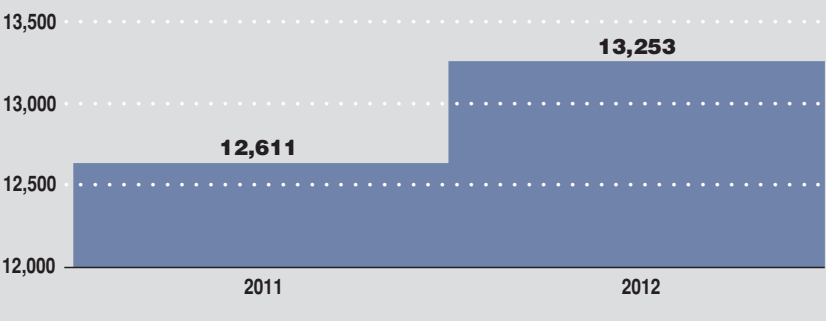


# Community Action changes lives.

Between the year 2000 and 2011 Lancaster County experienced a 69.3% increase in the number of people living in poverty.



## Total Clients Served in 2011 and 2012



In 2012, 72.5% of all households that Community Action served were living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level. For a family of 4, this equates to an annual income of just \$23,050.

In 2012, almost one-third of all households served through Community Action were living in severe poverty (i.e. at 50% or below of the federal poverty level). They earned no more than \$11,525 during the year.

## 2012 Revenue

Grant Revenue	85%
Program Revenue	6%
Donations	7%
Misc. Income	2%

## 2012 Expenses

Basic Needs	3%
Child & Family Development	53%
Community Services	7%
Employment & Training	1%
Homelessness Prevention	5%
Housing	21%
Management	10%

# Community Action measures outcomes.

Self-reliance: reliance on one's own capabilities, judgment, or resources. — thefreedictionary.com

Community Action believes that when an individual increases his or her self-reliance, they are better able to manage their living situations and make positive steps toward greater economic self-sufficiency.

To measure this progression, Community Action has developed a "Self-Sufficiency Assessment" based on the work of Fred Richmond and the Center for Applied Management Practices. The assessment measures both an individual's ability to meet their basic household needs and their self-reliance (i.e. self-motivation, confidence, and outlook relating to the future) as they enter and exit Community Action programs that provide case management.

Individuals with the lowest levels of self-reliance are rated as "in crisis," while individuals with the highest levels are rated as "thriving." Our goal is to observe a decrease in the percentage of individuals who are in crisis or vulnerable, and an increase in the percentage who are safe or thriving, upon completion of their respective program.

After piloting this assessment for a twelve-month period, Community Action has observed positive progress toward this goal among the individuals who were assessed using this tool. The following graph demonstrates the progress during 2012 of these individuals moving toward greater self-reliance. These initial results are promising, but they are only the beginning of Community Action's effort to empower individuals and families to make lasting, positive changes in their lives.

## Empowering Individuals to Achieve Self-Reliance 2012 Assessment Results

