



# Hope Inside



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## Your impact doubled this winter



*Thank you for supporting Community Action's Gathering Place during our 2022 Match Campaign!*

What a remarkable year. Throughout 2022, you joined us in celebrating and honoring the Gathering Place's 40-year legacy in so many ways. You joined us at recognition events, a block party, and of course, as volunteers for nightly meal service. Your dedication to this work—to *your community*—makes all the difference.

Because of you, every night of the week your neighbors have somewhere safe, warm, and welcoming to enjoy a home-cooked meal.

As one of our guests recently said, "There's love here at the Gathering Place, and I can tell." **Thank you.**

From October 17 – December 31, 2022, your generous contributions to the Gathering Place were matched by our sponsors. **In total, over \$187,000 were raised to address hunger in Lincoln.**

The donation match for our 2022 campaign was made possible thanks to the generous support of legacy sponsor Acklie Charitable Foundation, as well as additional sponsors Union Bank and Trust; Bukaty Companies; INSPRO; Rohn and Beth Loyd;

*Your support of the Gathering Place gives neighbors like Shana the chance to work toward long-term stability.*

Connie Maguire; and James Stuart III Family Foundation.

What's more, in the months since our match campaign ended, you've continued to show up in support of our guests. Most recently, your

*"There's love here at the Gathering Place, and I can tell."*  
– a Gathering Place guest

donations of new, unworn winter clothing items have kept your neighbors safe and comfortable during an especially cold start to the year.

Thank you for caring for all those who rely on the Gathering Place for their nightly meal. We can't do this without you.

***You are the Gathering Place's legacy.***



# Your generosity drives incredible change



*And over the next few months, we need your help to drive us home*

Dear Friend,

As I'm writing you today, we're getting ever closer to spring. The days are growing warmer and longer, and possibility is everywhere. This past year has been one of tremendous growth for Community Action, which you made possible. **Thank you.**

I'd like to share with you today just some of the progress

we've made together over the past year, and some of the exciting future opportunities in store. In 2022, you kept 3,084 people in 1,198 households safely and stably housed through our Emergency Services program.

You provided 34,975 free not, nutritious meals to neighbors at the Gathering Place. Over 370 of you volunteered at Community Action, donating your time and talent to drive our mission. And so much more.

As we celebrate the new growth of spring, there's one especially exciting update I'd like to share: **We are beginning the second phase of construction at our Home for Head Start!** This month,

*Last year, you helped to provide over 100,000 services to over 18,000 of your neighbors*

we'll be breaking ground at 1843 K Street to continue building improvements such as classroom remodeling, addition of indoor/outdoor

activity spaces, construction of community rooms, and more. These updates will allow us to use the space to its full potential. We're transforming a building originally intended for adult education into a space suited for Lincoln's youngest children and families.

Thanks to much generous community support, we are nearly 60% of the way to our \$4.5 million goal to support this renovation effort. **But we need your help to drive us home.** If you've



*K Street is officially under renovation! Throughout the process, we'll continue serving children and families.*

not already done so, would you consider a gift to support our Home for Head Start campaign?

I can't wait to share more about this project as it unfolds. Thank you for your commitment to building a stronger community for all.

With Gratitude,

Heather Loughman  
Chief Executive Officer

## You can drive us home this spring

With a gift to our Home for Head Start campaign, you can build a strong foundation for Lincoln's future. We would be honored to recognize your contribution in any of the following ways:

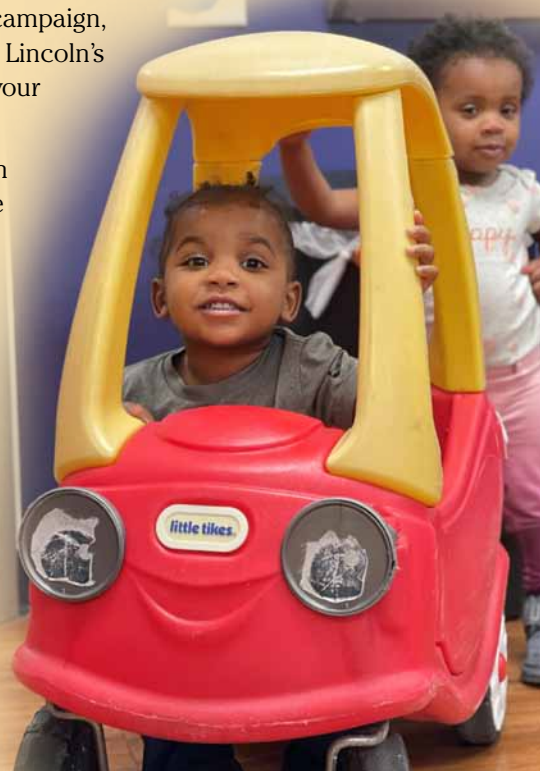
**\$15,000** – An office space will be named in your honor, with a plaque displayed outside its entrance.

**\$10,000** – A large personalized stepping stone will be displayed on the pathway to the entrance of our facility.

**\$5,000** – A small personalized stepping stone will be displayed on the pathway to the entrance of our facility.

**Gifts to our Home for Head Start campaign can be made over a period of up to five years.**

Curious about recognition opportunities for gifts of other amounts? Contact Jessie at [jhedrick@communityactionatwork.org](mailto:jhedrick@communityactionatwork.org) or (402) 875-9338!



Save the Date for

**give**  
To Lincoln Day

Wednesday,  
May 24, 2023

You can drive us home with a gift to our Home for Head Start!

# A fresh start and a hopeful future

*You've given families like Janis's the chance to start over.*

When you give to Community Action, you give opportunity. Every donation makes a remarkable difference in the lives of people like Janis.

A single mother of three, Janis works remotely full-time and is enrolled in college classes to further her career. Janis works hard every day to make ends meet and further her life for herself and her children. When she faced utility disconnection, due to circumstances beyond her control, **she called Community Action for support—and she found it, thanks to you.**

Not only did Janis need electricity to maintain a functioning home, but she also needed internet connection to work and provide for her children.

You are the reason we could assist Janis and restore electricity to her family's home. **Janis has since been able to return to work and school, and she and her children are in a safe and stable home.**

Because of your kindness, Janis and her family have a way forward. Thank you for supporting Community Action.

*In 2022, you helped keep over 3,000 people like Janis safely housed.*

*From December 2022 to January 2023, we saw a 76% increase in calls for Emergency Services assistance. Your neighbors need your support more than ever.*



# A month of smiles and celebration

*Head Start classrooms were all smiles throughout the month of February!*

*Our Head Start team had so much fun celebrating National Children's Dental Month in February with activities galore! Here's a look behind the scenes of the month's themed photo shoot.*



February is National Children's Dental Health Month, and our Head Start team celebrated in style! Staff hosted family education sessions, coordinated classroom activities, held playgroup for our home-based program participants, and so much more!

As a friend of Community Action, you know the importance of ensuring children have a healthy head start—in school, and in life. You give the children in our Head Start program just that. **Thank you.**



# Thank you for embodying the spirit of giving

*This winter holiday season, you donated over 2,300 toys, games, and stuffed animals to 173 families—and so much more.*

Diapers, hot cocoa, hats, and mittens—oh, my! You donated thousands of items this winter to Community Action and those we serve. **Your generosity does so much more than warm hearts. It builds a stronger community.**

Thank you for continuing to invest in our mission and those we serve. At a time when the cost of living is high and inflation rates continue to rise,

many of your neighbors are struggling to make ends meet. Your contributions make all the difference. So whether you gave diapers to a young family caring for their infant, warm gloves and a hat to an elderly neighbor visiting the Gathering Place, or a young girl her very first bike—**your kindness matters. Thank you.**



## How do you want to be remembered?



*Leave your legacy through a planned gift to Community Action.*

Have you asked yourself this question? What legacy will you leave? Certainly, you've spent some time over the past year considering your passions – the causes closest to your heart. And you've taken time to consider what the world will look like for future generations. How you might make it better, brighter, and kinder.

Making a planned gift to support the work of Community Action is a powerful way to impact generations to come. By committing to a planned gift today, you will become a member of our Legacy Circle, a special group of donors who will play a significant role in advancing the work of Community Action well into the future. It's the perfect way to make a big impact for tomorrow without affecting your financial situation today.

Want to learn more or get started? Contact Heather Loughman at (402) 875-9319 or [hloughman@communityactionatwork.org](mailto:hloughman@communityactionatwork.org), or Jessie Hedrick at (402) 875-9338!

**YES,** I want to help empower people living in poverty to reach economic stability.

Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Your donation will go toward supporting:**

- Feeding those who are hungry at the Gathering Place
- Preparing children for success in school
- Preventing and eliminating homelessness
- Helping families learn financial skills/save for major asset purchases

I would like to designate my gift to the following program (e.g. The Gathering Place, Head Start, Basic needs supplies for families)

\_\_\_\_\_

I have included (or intend to include) Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties in my will or estate.

My name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

May we publish your name?  Yes  No

If so, how would you like your name(s) to appear?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Options:**

- Check payable to *Community Action*
- Credit Card:  Visa  MasterCard  Discover

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date (mo/yr) \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**For more information contact:**

Jessie Hedrick, *Communications and Development Director*  
 (402) 875-9338 | [jhedrick@communityactionatwork.org](mailto:jhedrick@communityactionatwork.org)



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