

New in 2018: A Closer Look at our Exciting New Poverty-Fighting Initiatives

Free to Save

Assets matter. Research suggests that while income is necessary for escaping poverty, it is even more important to own assets. But low- to moderate-income individuals often face a number of financial barriers that make asset ownership challenging, if not unattainable. Over the next three years, we will give 90 low- to moderate-income individuals the opportunity to receive support to remove financial barriers in addition to 4:1 savings match for homes, vehicles, college, and small business start-up or expansion.

Healthy Food Access Program

Healthy food: It's the number one thing human beings need to reach their fullest potential. But not everyone has equal access. This new program will bring healthy food (with fresh ingredients) to some of Lincoln's most vulnerable children and families. A 5,000 square foot kitchen being constructed at our main agency location, thanks to a legacy grant from Community Health Endowment of Lincoln, will prepare over 168,000 fresh, nutritious meals each year for children in local early care centers and the Food Bank of Lincoln's Summer Food Service Program. It will also be used as a space for farmers to wash, cut, and package their product for distribution to larger markets, resulting in increased access to locally-grown food and decreased food waste. Local businesses, Kinder Bites and Lone Tree Foods, will utilize the kitchen to do this work.

Weatherization Expansion

We all need a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. Our Weatherization Program reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. In partnership with Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka and Horizon Bank, Community Action has expanded its Weatherization Program to provide additional services such as mold and asbestos removal, electrical upgrades, roofing, siding, etc. to 100 owner-occupied low- to moderate-income homes in Saunders and rural Lancaster Counties. Weatherization not only enhances homeowners' ability to maintain safe, affordable housing, but also improves housing stock in our community.

Our Programs and Services

Early Head Start & Head Start | Foster Grandparent Program | Emergency Services: rent, utility, & deposit assistance | Supportive Housing | Tenant Support Services | Representative Payee | Affordable Housing | Displaced Tenant Assistance | Free to Save | Opportunity Passport™ | Financial Education & Coaching | Lincoln Community Response | Free Tax Preparation | Weatherization | The Gathering Place: hot evening meals | Healthy Food Access Program | Community Action is the sole owner of LanguageLine, LLC



210 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

www.communityactionnetwork.org

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Community Action empowers people living in poverty to reach economic stability.



2018 Annual Report



Community: We are better when we work together.



Community. It's not only a word, but one of our five guiding principles here at Community Action. *We are better when we work together.* And never was there more proof of this statement than in 2018.

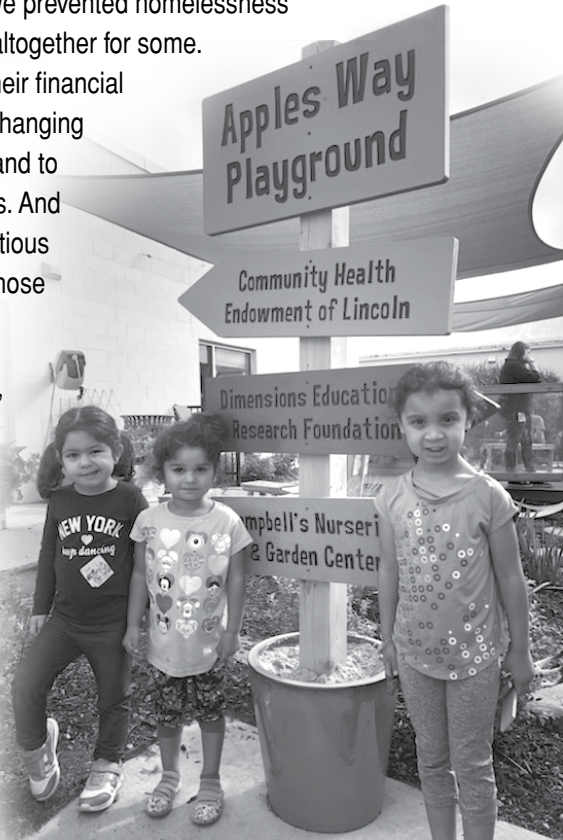
Thanks to the development of new partnerships, we introduced new poverty-fighting programs and expanded existing ones to fill service

gaps, serve more people, and empower economic stability. We asked for and were fortunate to receive support from people like you to get new books for our Head Start classrooms, prepare low- to moderate-income tax returns, install new playground facilities at our Head Start centers, serve nutritious meals, and continue building our capacity to serve those in poverty.

Together, we improved the lives of over 19,600 people in Lancaster and Saunders Counties. In just a year's time, we provided kindergarten readiness and comprehensive family well-being support to our community's most vulnerable children and families. We prevented homelessness for thousands, and even ended it altogether for some.

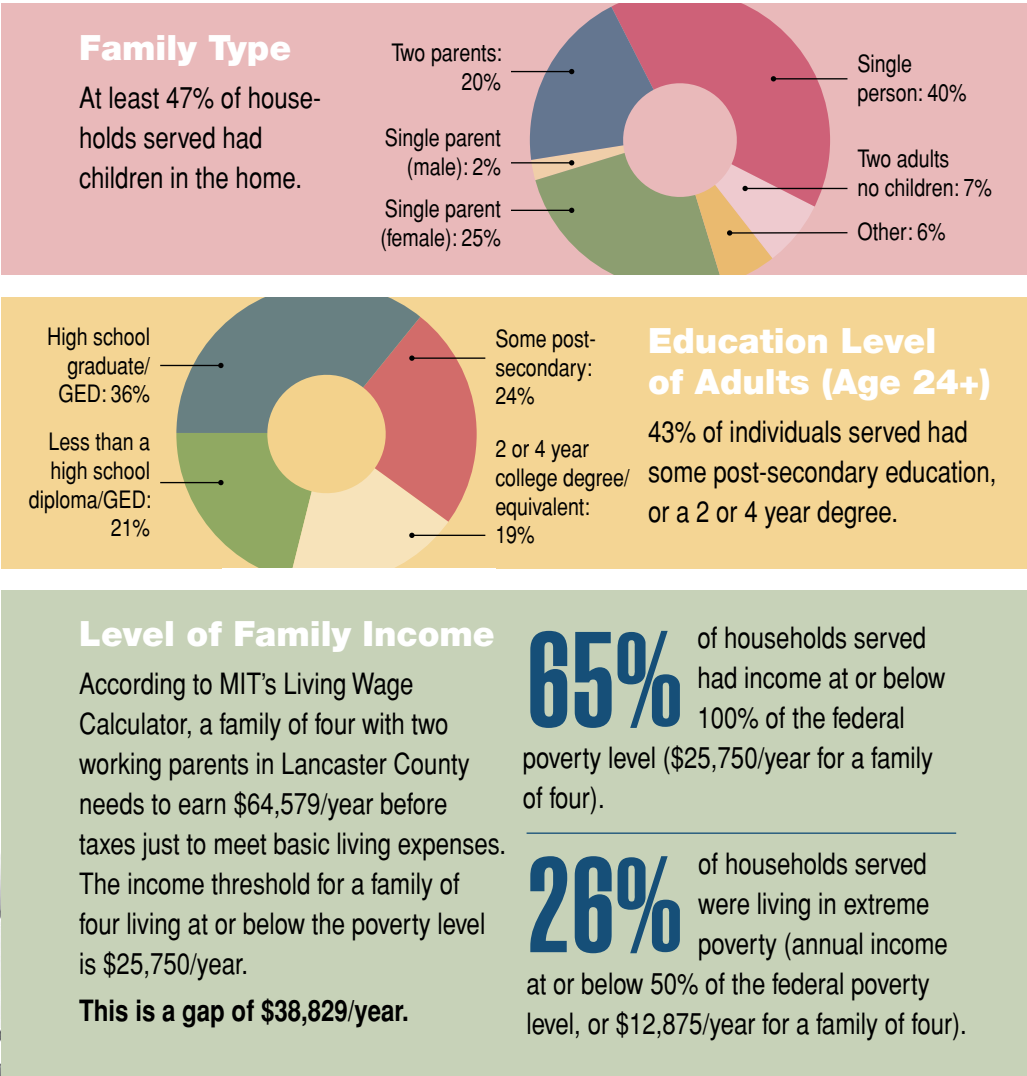
We empowered people to reach their financial goals – to save for and make life-changing asset purchases, to reduce debt, and to improve credit and qualify for loans. And we served nearly 30,000 hot, nutritious meals at The Gathering Place to those who would otherwise go without.

As we reflect on a successful year, and look forward to the years to come, we will remember the importance of Community. It is together – *and only together* – that we will prevail in the fight to end poverty.



Who We Serve:

The following data demonstrates characteristics of those served by Community Action in 2018 for whom demographic information was known/collected.



2018 Revenue	2018 Expenses
\$12,880,439	\$13,244,687
Grant Revenue 71.15%	Community Services 8.38%
Program Revenue 8.83%	Early Childhood Education . . . 53.85%
Donations 2.14%	Financial and Family Well-Being 4.30%
Miscellaneous Income 17.89%	Homelessness Prevention . . . 10.15%
	Housing Services 6.41%
	Management and General . . . 15.58%

Community Action Fights the Causes and Conditions of Poverty.

In 2018, Community Action provided 114,450 poverty-fighting services to 19,642 individuals. The following represents data within each of our impact areas in 2018.

