

# Community Action Partnership for Madison County

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



## PROGRAM UPDATES

Success stories



Community Action Partnership

## AND MORE

Events, Board of Directors, Fiscal



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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of CAP,

As we come to the end of 2022, I would like to thank you for your heartfelt and continuous support of the Community Action Partnership for Madison County. This year we have had a significant staff turnover, including three out of four senior management staff and 39% of the total staff. However, our current team is amazing. They are invested in the community and serve clients with empathy and respect to facilitate positive change in both our community and clients.

We are transitioning to a fully integrated trauma-informed care agency that has a strong foundation from many years of providing services from a strength-based family development model. A trauma-informed organization realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system; responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices; and seeks to actively resist re-traumatization. We are also an agency that values diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging and strives to include them in all areas of the organization.

Our 2022 Community Needs Assessment identified and explored the opportunities and challenges facing Madison County's vulnerable or low-income residents. It found the greatest needs and concerns in the following areas: Affordable Housing, Dental Health Care, Mental Health Care, Childcare, and Transportation. As we enter 2023, one focus area will be the need for affordable housing. We have submitted several grants to increase low-income families' rental assistance with case management. We are also positioning the agency for receiving funding through the 1115 Medicaid Waiver to address the social determinants of health which not surprisingly include our county's areas of needs and concerns.

I look forward to continuing our transformative journey with you, our staff and the community into 2023 and beyond.

Sincerely,  
Liz Crofut



# CAP IN THE COMMUNITY







# OUR PROGRAMS

Early Head Start

Healthy Families

Family Action

Kinship Care

Mentoring

Supportive Services

MORE

WIC

Back to School & Farm Fresh





# EARLY HEAD START

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Early Head Start (EHS) is a home-based program that serves prenatal women and families with children under age 3. Family Support Workers work directly with the parents, the most important people in the world to the child, in the setting that is most familiar and has the most meaning to both the child and the parents. Weekly 90 minute visits provide information and activities to support families in parenting, child development, health and nutrition, and family development. We also offer monthly playgroups and opportunities for parents/guardians to work together on a policy council and parent committee are offered. EHS partners with families to build a strong and secure foundation for their children's future.



Early Head Start  
open enrollment  
Call now!

315-697-3588



## SUCCESS STORY

"Brandon\* is a 2 year old little boy who was very quiet and wouldn't talk at all. He really wouldn't play with anything and it took me a little while to figure out what would get him to open up. I soon discovered that Brandon has a love for trucks and blocks. Once I started bringing in toys that he likes, he would come a little closer to me. By the end of the program year he was excitedly waiting for me to come in and immediately came and sat next to me ready to play. Brandon went from saying nothing, to making grunts and shaking his head yes and no, to effectively communicating. Each time I visit more of his personality comes out and I look forward to seeing what the next program year holds for him." - Kristen Cary, Family Support Worker

\*name has been changed



# HEALTHY FAMILIES

## About the Program

Healthy Families New York is an evidence-based program offering home-based services to expectant families and new parents, beginning prenatally or shortly after the birth of the child. The program focuses on the parent-child interaction and can help with breast feeding support, prenatal care, child development screening and activities as well as making referrals to other community resources. Participants are screened to identify risk factors and stressors that the family may face. An approved curriculum is used on home visits that focus on parent-child interaction and child development. Families who participate in the program are offered long-term in-home services until the child is in school or Head Start.

## A Story of Resilience

"It is amazing to work with mothers and to witness their resiliency. I've been amazed by one mom in particular- let's call her Mary. When Mary was just 1 years old, she was removed from her home and separated from her siblings. She has an ACE score of 10, and as a result has a history of cutting and substance abuse, and was placed in Elmcrest when she was 15 years old. Mary was enrolled in our Healthy Families program in 2017 while she was incarcerated at Madison County jail and pregnant with her second child. Unfortunately, DSS took custody of her baby and placed him in foster care until dad was awarded custody in 2018. Mary was sent to state prison in 2018 for two years, and I continued to correspond with Mary through letters, and also meet with dad. When Mary was released and put on parole, she slowly gained visitation with her son. I home visited with both Mary as well as dad at the time. Mary was released from parole in April of 2022 to begin a normal life; she was able to regain custody of her 8 year old son and has maintained her sobriety. She is now pregnant with a baby girl due in January. Mary exemplifies the definition of "resiliency" and I am so honored to have worked with her."

-Family Support Worker





# FAMILY ACTION & KINSHIP



## FAMILY ACTION

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Family Action program aims to keep caregivers and children together while relieving household challenges which may otherwise impact the family's success. Families may be experiencing challenges related to finances, parenting, household cleanliness, relationships, household stability, and more. The program is unique to each family it serves, as the approach is different based on the family's personal network, finances, resources, abilities and preferences. Families guide the process and create their own goals with the support of their Case Planner.

### SUCCESS STORY

"I have been working with Jim and Jane\* for close to eighteen months. In the beginning of our program, they both struggled with substance abuse and domestic violence. During my visits over the past few months, I have witnessed a huge improvement in parenting skills. I also noticed the family utilizing some coping tools that I have shown to the children. Things are not perfect, but a lot of progress and growth has happened for this family and they now have the tools to continue to be successful."- Case Planner

\*names have been changed

## KINSHIP

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Kinship Care Coordination program is provided to any family in Madison or Chenango counties where members are currently supporting and raising children that are not biologically their own. A Case Coordinator assists caregivers to find supports necessary to make a successful transition for children into their home and family. They make weekly home visits to help kinship caregivers meet goals, make linkages, and provide referrals to community partners.

### SUCCESS STORY

"Brandi\* has been raising her ten-year-old grandson, who is on the autism spectrum, and her 5-year-old granddaughter. She had sustained serious injuries resulting from a car accident 2 years prior, and sought assistance to balance the needs of the children with stabilization of her own physical condition. Brandi regularly participates in program counseling and parenting support groups, and serves as a strong role model and support for other families in the program. She was referred to and accessed legal aid to begin the adoption process of her grandson, and enrolled her granddaughter in school to continue her educational plan. Brandi is a strong self-advocate, is ardent in her care of her grandchildren, and adept at implementing goals developed with her case coordinator."- Case Coordinator

\*name has been changed



# MENTORING

## PEYTON'S STORY

"This summer, Peyton (age 10) and I went to Zem's in Canastota to play Putt Putt Golf and get an ice cream. Peyton found \$4.00 in the parking lot. I asked him what he thought he should do with it. He said he wanted to turn it in. We saw Rick, the owner, and he made some suggestions:

1. Donate it to the Erick fund
2. Buy food for the food pantry box or
3. Keep it

Peyton decided right away to donate food to the food pantry. Rick was so happy to hear this he gave us 2 free games of Putt Putt. We went to Dollar General where Peyton picked out food items for the Pantry.

We went back to Zem's and he proudly put the food in the pantry box. I told him how proud I was of his decision to help others. It was a proud moment for him." – Cory Marsh, CAP Intensive Mentor



## ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

**Mentoring (DSS Intensive Mentoring):** Intensive Mentoring matches Mentors with youth ages 9 and older for up to approximately 26 months. The program provides youth the ability to engage with their community and explore new opportunities through the ongoing support of their Mentor. The full program is based on a 3-tiered approach to support youth needs while also providing safe and natural attrition from the program. All visits, regardless of tier level, are provided at a minimum 2-hour duration. Mentors also coordinate multi-youth gatherings and larger group events to increase social opportunities for all youth in the program. These events may be planned around a community or time sensitive event, youth interests or needs, and/or thematic topic like bullying, self-care, or academics. The match will explore interests, skills, community events, vocational connections and volunteer opportunities for the youth to further their growth.

**Volunteer Mentoring (Youth Bureau):** The Volunteer Mentoring program matches youth ages 8-16 years of age with an adult community volunteer. The match is intended to last for one full year to expose the youth to a positive and supportive adult who may coach or guide them through life decisions. Program focus includes, but is not limited to; self-esteem, relationship building, connection to the community, opportunities for volunteering, exploration of interests and new experiences, as well as academics, vocational pursuits and goal setting.





# SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND MADISON COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES FOR REENTRY AND EMPLOYMENT (MORE)

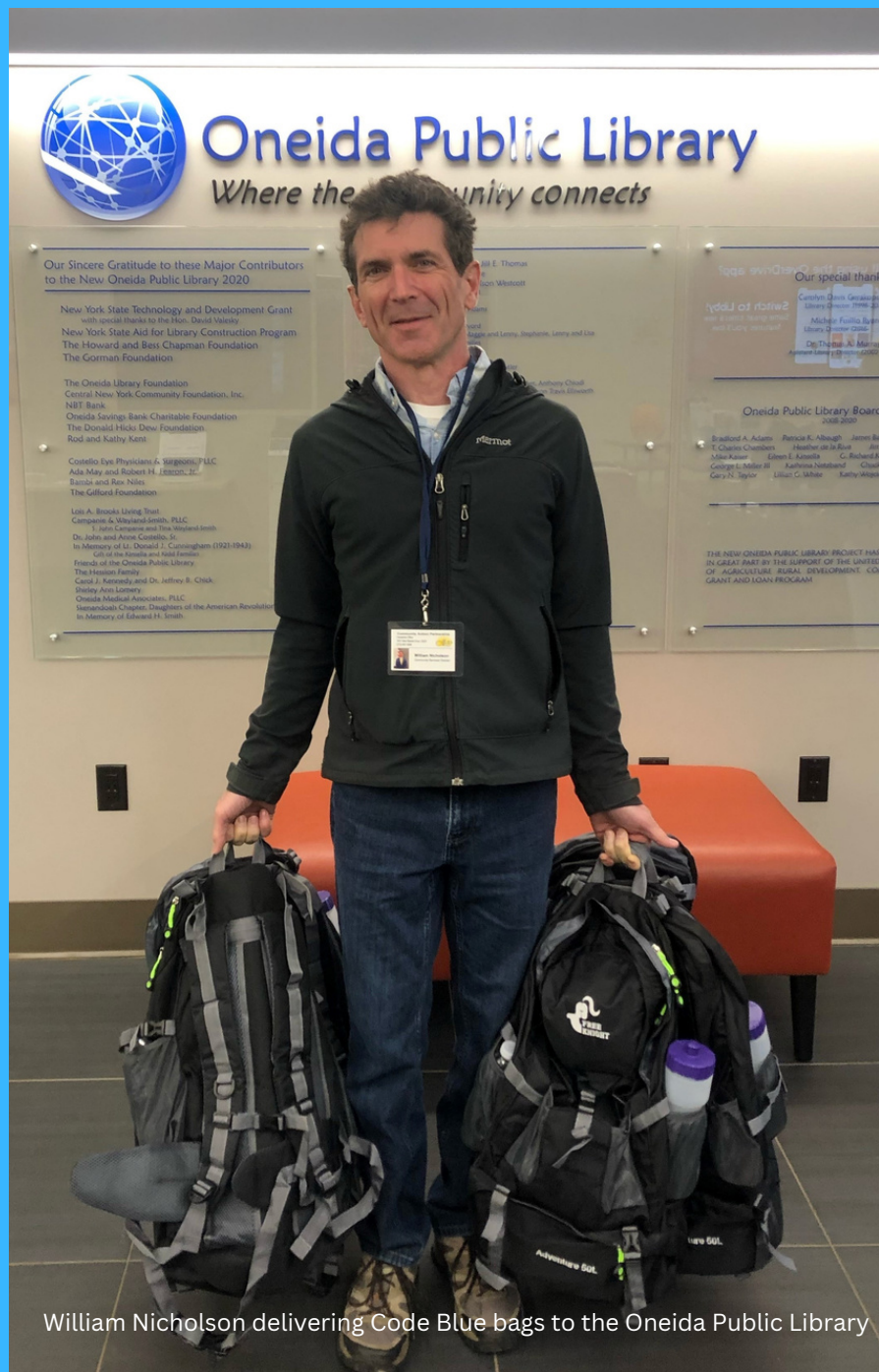
## ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

### Supportive Services:

Facilitators assist individuals and families with housing stabilization needs, working toward goals set by the family. Services include budget counseling, information, skill building, and help accessing needed resources. Support may include temporary financial assistance for transportation and housing needs based on income and program guidelines. Housing Facilitators assist families and individuals who are homeless or at a high risk of becoming homeless. They can help the family to identify the unique circumstances that contributed to the obstacles which they are now facing. The program provides stabilizing resources and supports to address those circumstances through intensive case management. Additionally, our Transitional Apartment complex provides a safe, temporary, and affordable housing for families with children dealing with homelessness.

### MORE:

The MORE program, in collaboration with the Center for Court Innovation, was created to increase economic opportunities for those recently released from jail. The program combines 10-week group training sessions while individuals are incarcerated, followed by individualized case management upon release. Inmates receive soft skills training while incarcerated and, upon release, work with an Employment Coordinator to find jobs.



William Nicholson delivering Code Blue bags to the Oneida Public Library





# WIC (WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN)

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

WIC's goal is to improve the health and nutrition of moms and kids. It is well known that pregnancy and early childhood are among the most important times for growth and development. WIC offers nutrition education, breastfeeding support, referrals, and a variety of nutritious foods to low-income pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum women, infants and children up to age five to promote and support good health.

Breastfeeding Peer Counselors are moms who are experienced at breastfeeding. They offer support to help make breast feeding a positive experience for the mom and baby. Peer Counselors are also available to talk during their clinic hours.

## WHY WIC?

"A WIC mom joined our MOMs group halfway through her second pregnancy. She struggled breastfeeding her first baby and was unsure how she was going to feed this new baby. She attended nearly every meeting of the MOMS group. She is now fully breastfeeding her 4 month old and attends the MOMs group regularly. "

"With an influx of refugees from Afghanistan, staff have been working hard to ensure we are getting these participants all of the help that we can provide them. We recently had one family who is moving to Texas. When they called to request the paperwork to transfer, they told staff how much they appreciated all of the help that WIC had provided and how helpful and kind the staff was."



# CSBG: FARM FRESH & BACK TO SCHOOL

For our third annual Farm Fresh program, we were so happy to partner with Mosher Farms to bring healthy, local foods to the tables of families who needed them. Once a week for ten consecutive weeks, 40 families were provided with a whole box of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Thank you to Mosher Farms for providing the boxes and to CSBG for providing funding that made this program possible.

## PROMOTING HEALTHY MINDS AND HEALTHY BODIES

We were also thrilled to continue our "Back to School" program in collaboration with Oneida Office Supply. 100 children were provided with a voucher to spend up to \$100 on necessary school supplies. Funding for this program came from CSBG CARES- special funds available to address the consequences of increasing unemployment and economic disruption as a result of the Coronavirus.

Thank you to Oneida Office Supply for partnering with us on this program, and to CSBG for providing CARES funding to help these families that were affected financially by the Covid-19 pandemic.





# DUCK DERBY FUNDRAISER

We were thrilled this year to return to in person fundraising after a two year hiatus. Our Duck Derby took place at the creek walk in Chittenango on Saturday, September 17. Tickets were sold for \$5 each prior to and at the event. Each ticket got you a rubber duck entered into the race. Over 300 rubber ducks raced down the creek. Prizes included gift baskets, gift cards, children's books, and more.

A special thank you to the Chittenango Rotary Club for providing lunch, and to all of our prize donors.



# CO-CREATE WELLBEING

The Co-Create Well-Being initiative is aimed to bring Trauma-Informed Care resources to the CAP agency. All staff were provided a year of training focusing on what trauma is, what outcomes could be a result of trauma, and how to use empathy and strengths-based focus in client work. The second year of the program focused on making agency changes to impact the culture at CAP. Posts were also shared through our Facebook and Instagram accounts to provide resources to the community.

Staff were regularly encouraged to share ideas, their experiences and to explore how the trainings could positively influence the lives of their clients. Staff were also provided with materials (shown in the picture on the left) to remind them how to care for themselves as well as their personal families, clients, coworkers and the community as a whole.

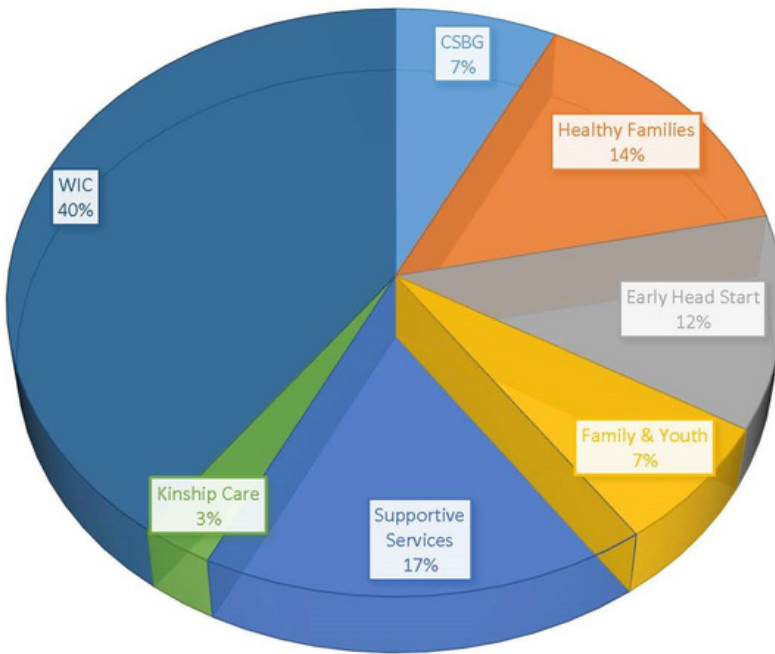




# FISCAL

## AGENCY BUDGET

OCTOBER 1, 2021-SEPTEMBER 30, 2022



### Revenues

Grant income \$5,420,020

Restricted donations \$1,000

Foundations \$13,125

Unrestricted donations \$22,000

### Expenses

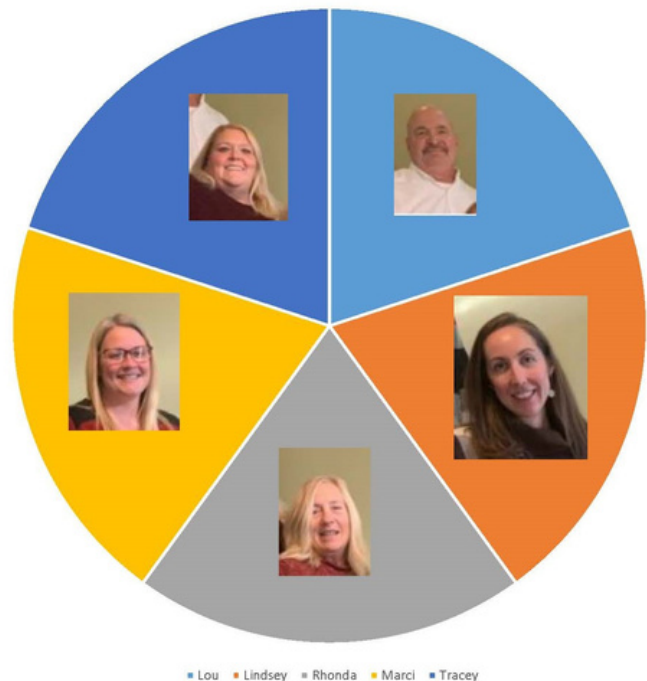
Personnel \$3,635,094

Admin other than personnel \$1,125,231

Direct consumer expenditures \$281,788

## OUR FISCAL TEAM

Louis DeAngelis- Fiscal Director  
Lindsey Dryja- Fiscal Manager  
Marci Otts- Grant Coordinator  
Rhonda Emmons- Fiscal Assistant  
Tracey Durant- Fiscal Assistant





# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022**

**The Board of Community Action Partnership for  
Madison County is a tri-partite board with  
members of the public sector, the private sector,  
and representatives for the low income  
community.**

## **Public Sector Representatives**

**Dick Kirby, President  
Kyle Reger**

## **Low-Income Representatives**

**Sarah Chesebro  
Jeremy Wattles  
Darcie Leach Loveless, Secretary**

## **Private Sector Representatives**

**Charlie Chambers, Treasurer  
Bruce Hathaway  
Brett Zielasko, Vice President**



# CONTACT US



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MORRISVILLE, NY 13408

ADDITIONAL OFFICES IN ONEIDA,  
ILION, ROME, & UTICA

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