

Community Action Partnership for Madison County



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

03

A Message from our Leaders

04

CAP in the Community

05

Programs

14

Fiscal

15

Board of Directors

16

Contact Us



A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

I am pleased to share the 2024 annual report. This past year has been one of growth, innovation, and resilience. CAP continues to grow through strategic initiatives while offering our unwavering commitment to Madison County and the surrounding areas. This year's report highlights key achievements and the impact of the employee's efforts. Our success is piloted by the dedication of our employees as well as the continued support of the community.

Under the guidance of our Executive Director, Elizabeth Crofut, CAP has continued to make a meaningful difference for many. Her dedication, along with the commitment of her team, has put CAP in a strong position for the next year. As we look ahead to new opportunities and reflect on last year's accomplishments, I offer my gratitude to Elizabeth and her team for all their hard work. I invite you to hear directly from CAP's Executive Director as she shares her insights from the previous year's performance.

Sincerely,
Sarah Casscles – President, CAP Board of Directors

Dear Community Members, CAP Board and Staff,

I am pleased to present CAP's Annual Report, which highlights progress we have made together in serving our community. It is with great pride that I recognize the extraordinary commitment and hard work of our staff. Their dedication has been the cornerstone of our initiatives, ensuring that every program we implement truly makes a difference in the lives of those we serve.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the unwavering support and strategic direction provided by our board. Your commitment has been instrumental in driving these initiatives forward, ensuring that our programs not only meet but exceed the needs of our community. Equally, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the community at large. Your support—through volunteering, partnerships, and advocacy—has been vital in making our shared vision a reality.

Together, we are transforming lives and building a community where every individual, regardless of income, has the opportunity to thrive. I am deeply grateful for the trust you have placed in us and for your continuous support as we move forward. Let us continue to work together to create lasting, positive change in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your dedication, your support, and for standing with us on this remarkable journey. Please read the entire report to see all the great work completed by our programs and staff.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Crofut - Executive Director, CAP

CAP IN THE COMMUNITY





OUR PROGRAMS

Early Head Start

Healthy Families

Family & Youth:
Family Action
Mentoring

Kinship Care/Permanency Resource
Center

Temporary Services
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
Healthy @ Home

WIC

Farm Fresh & Back to School

Madison County Opportunities for
Re-entry and Employment

Housing

EARLY HEAD START (EHS)

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Early Head Start is a federally funded program to help children and families get ready for school.

This program year, we hired a family support worker who earned her Bachelor's degree in psychology while learning about EHS and her role. "I feel that I have developed a strong grasp of the fundamental concepts of home visiting and am progressing in my position. With the growth of my caseload, I have had the chance to connect with numerous new families and have started building trusting relationships with the participants. I am looking forward to the opportunities that the upcoming program year will bring!"



PROGRAM SUCCESS

A child entered the program who had not been to the doctor since they were two months old. The EHS worker connected with this family, week after week, trying to find a new doctor. The family finally found a pediatrician that would accept them. The next step was to get the family to schedule an appointment so the child could attend Head Start Preschool.

The family wanted the child to go, but, did not understand that because the child had not seen a doctor in two years, they were going to have to catch up.

The family scheduled an appointment at the doctors and missed it! The EHS worker carefully explained to the family that in order to enter preschool, certain requirements needed to be met. To ensure the family was able to make the appointment, permission was granted for the EHS worker to walk with the family to the doctors office. The child attended the well child check up, established a plan for catching up and was able to transition to Head Start Preschool.



HEALTHY FAMILIES

About the Program

Healthy Families New York (HFNY) offers home-based services to support expectant families and new parents with the changes and needs that often come with the birth of a new child. Services are voluntary and free and include helping families access community resources, educating families on parenting and child development, connecting families with medical providers, and assessing children for developmental delays.

Program goals: Support positive parent-child bonding and relationships.
Promote optimal child and family health, development, and safety.
Enhance family self-sufficiency.
Prevent child abuse and neglect.



Program Success

"I met one of our participants in early 2024 after she was referred to our Healthy Families program. She was the victim of rape, resulting in pregnancy. With the support of her mother, she chose to keep the baby. She was having difficulty at school as one can imagine; social media and high school girls can be so cruel at times, so she was being tutored at the local Library.

As her Family Support Worker, I provided education on healthy pregnancy, breastfeeding, labor and delivery. I developed a trusting, respectful relationship with her and her Mom (the baby's maternal grandmother), and her little brother.

She delivered an 8 lb.2 oz. baby via C-section. The delivery was traumatizing for a teen mom, however, within a few weeks she was smiling and able to talk about her experience.

She decided to pump. Latching was difficult and for her bottle feeding was more practical.

Her Mom helped with the care and feeding of the baby when she went back to school in the Fall. On a typical school day, she goes to the nurse's office about 3 times to pump milk for her baby. The baby is 4 months old and has only been drinking breastmilk. Her baby has doubled his birth weight! He babbles, smiles, laughs out loud, reaches for toys, and is the center of attention in that household.

Now that's resilience!"



FAMILY & YOUTH

FAMILY ACTION

Family Action is a supportive home visiting program that assists families to make connections, improve self-sufficiency and focus on improving their child/caregiver relationships. The program works with families to identify goals and the steps needed to accomplish them.

"When I first met Alissa*, she and her child were homeless. They had walked away from their home due to another household member doing drugs in the home. Alissa refused to have this around her child or herself. Alissa left behind everything they owned; she was determined she was never going back.

With my assistance, Alissa was able to save money and budget. Alissa did not qualify for SNAP as Alissa is over income by a few dollars a month, so she worked a little overtime to make sure she had food for herself and her son. Alissa was able to find her own apartment in about 6 months. She was able to pay her first month's rent and security deposit all on her own. By continually focusing on her budget, Alissa was able to buy a car from a local dealer and pay cash, along with all of her son's clothing, shoes and backpack for school with no struggle. She works hard and continues to accomplish her budgeting and personal goals!"

*All names have been changed to protect client confidentiality

MENTORING

"When I first met Mary*, I knew we would have fun together. She was very excited to be starting in the Mentoring program with a bubbly personality.

As I got to know Mary I learned that she was bullied in school, had low self-esteem and friend drama. This caused her to have anxiety and stress. Some other obstacles Mary had were being in groups, playing games with positive sportsmanship, and feeling good about herself. Imagine the feeling of frustration when you can't understand or control an emotion.

I worked with Mary with patience, understanding, and supporting her where she was at. Together we focused on having fun together, along with finding coping skills that helped Mary find a calm spirit. I have seen a tremendous positive change in her personality. She is very confident in what she does and has positive goals in doing well for herself. I see her handling stressful situations; (Bullying, anxiety in groups, and everyday struggles) in a positive way. She will and has overcome these. Being Mary's Mentor has not only made a difference in her life but has made a difference in mine. When I asked Mary what one thing was that she enjoyed being in the Mentoring program; she said, "Spending time with you, Cory". I will truly miss Mary, but have many fun and happy memories of our time together after completing the things she wanted to accomplish in our time together.



KINSHIP CARE & PERMANENCY RESOURCE CENTER

ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

Our Kinship Care Coordination program provided services to any family in Madison or Chenango county where members were currently supporting and raising children that are not biologically their own. A Case Coordinator assisted caregivers to find supports necessary to make a successful transition for children into their home and family. They made weekly home visits to help kinship caregivers meet goals, make linkages, and provide referrals to community partners. Mid-2024, our Kinship Care program transitioned to our Permanency Resource Center (PRC), expanding services to support adoptive and guardianship families residing in Chenango and Oneida counties.

PROGRAM SUCCESS

Julia* is a Kinship Caregiver, providing care for one grandchild whose mother passed away, and 2 other grandchildren whose parents are unable to provide care for them. Julia and her case manager developed a plan together to access resources for the children. A particular primary focus was with one of the children who has different abilities and special needs, and was in need of assessment and resources for those challenges. Julia was referred to and acquired a child health care manager for her grandson. His needs for assessment were reviewed, assessments done, and service providers identified. Julia was informed about suggested programs and resources, and worked swiftly to get them in place. The PRC program was also able to access funding to purchase special eye glasses for him.

Julia has worked collaboratively with her local school district to identify the child's special learning needs and intervention services. She has become more confident in advocating for him and her family. She and the children also participate in program groups, learning about parenting the second time around, and the challenges and successes of providing a nurturing, loving environment for her grandchildren. Julia is receptive to active goal planning, and has also learned to take care of herself and accessed bereavement counseling to deal with the death of her daughter.

In addition to taking care of her 3 grandchildren, she identified the need to move to a different home environment, and worked diligently to find a new home for the family. She is moving in the beginning of the new year to a wonderful new home with the children and is very excited for this new journey.

TEMPORARY SERVICES- NEW PROGRAMS

Healthy @ Home

In partnership with the county Health Department, our Healthy @ Home program addresses health and safety issues in the home identified by a comprehensive Healthy Homes assessment. Units are assessed and repairs and renovations are done where health and safety issues have been identified. Priority is given to privately owned, low-income rental and/or owner-occupied housing, especially in units and/or buildings where families with children, older adults sixty-two (62) years and older, or families with persons with disabilities live.



Tenant- Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA)

Our TBRA program can assist with first month's rent and security deposit. Participants must be residents of Madison County and have an income at 60% AMI or lower.

For 12 month's rent assistance and security deposit, participants must be residents of Madison County and have income at 60% or lower. In addition, if a participant's rent for the unit exceeds 40% of the income they will be eligible for 12 months of assistance.



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.

As you may know, the new American population is increasing, and our WIC staff work together to provide these families with as much information as possible to feel comfortable navigating the process of applying for and using their WIC benefits. Many of these families come here with very little and our staff go beyond to help provide them with referrals to health care providers, dentists, clothing and other household necessities.

When you come here knowing no one it is important to feel comfortable with the people you have to come in touch with. These families form relationships with the staff. Families wave and say hello when they see staff in public and they are always so thankful for the help that WIC provides them. Here at the WIC, we love to provide a safe, comfortable and welcoming environment for our families.

FARM FRESH

This year, the agency expanded our seasonal program “Farm Fresh” by expanding the creative partnerships with local farmers (Mosher Farms) and added a new partner (Off the Muck) to provide nine weeks of free fresh produce to eligible families.

Our new partner allowed us to offer a home-delivery option for participant households lacking transportation or simply being in remote areas of the County.

Funding from The McNeice Foundation and the 1886 Benevolent Society allowed the popular program to continue for another season.

MADISON COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES FOR RE-ENTRY AND EMPLOYMENT

The MORE Program was created to increase economic opportunities for those recently released from jail.

The program combined 10-week group training sessions while individuals were incarcerated, followed by individualized case management services upon release.

Inmates received soft skills training while incarcerated. Upon release, the individual worked one on one with an Employment Coordinator to find jobs.

In collaboration with the Center for Court Innovation, CAP was able to provide the MORE program from 2022 through 2024.

BACK TO SCHOOL

In 2024 some much-appreciated CSBG discretionary funds were received, which CAP applied to providing vital back to school supplies to eligible households in advance of the new school year. A local family-owned vendor (Oneida Office Supply) was a terrific partner, helping us prepare 81 children for success in the new school year, with brand new supplies.

TORNADO RELIEF

As a member organization of the Madison County COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster) we were called into action when a severe storm with tornados touched down in Canastota. This tornado wiped out several properties in the Village, dislocating households of predominantly renters, and tragically killing one resident.

CAP was on scene immediately with assistance to displaced families, helping the Red Cross and County Emergency Services personnel to set up the temporary shelter, then helping to move to a more suitable and accessible temporary shelter, all while providing basic needs support for those impacted.

Almost \$10,000 in aid was made available to provide relief to displaced families left in need after temporary emergency services ended. Housing repair costs, supplies to replace lost items, uninsured damage costs and relocation expenses (security deposits, etc.) where necessary were provided.

Learning of the acute needs in the Village, the CNY Community Foundation approached the Mayor to offer additional support, and she referred them right to CAP for our expert capabilities and deep community ties. Another \$6,500 in assistance was secured to help those households with unmet needs related to the July storm.

HOUSING

SUCCESS STORIES

A single mom reached out to CAP looking for housing assistance. She was homeless and wanted support to find a safe home where she could be reunified with her 4 children. She was placed in CAP's Transitional Housing Unit. She connected with many community services, met with her case manager on a weekly basis, built a support network and found permanent housing. She was able to reunite with all of her children. For 2 years she lived with her children, worked hard to follow through with treatment programs, increased her resources and established support in the community. The family applied to and received their HUD voucher. They were then able to obtain safe and affordable permanent housing.

CAP was able to help secure housing, services and community connections.



A family in need of housing and experiencing significant trauma was moved into our permanent supportive housing program. In this program, individuals receive services and information that support them with maintaining safe and affordable housing. The families partner with CAP staff to realistically deal with obstacles of domestic violence, unreliable transportation, lack of income, child care and job availability. This family is now altering their lives with the support of the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative run by CAP, in partnership with Housing Visions. In just three months of being in the program the family has increased their social networks, gained access to benefits and obtained employment. The success of this family in such a short time shows how putting housing first and providing support, stability and resources can set the groundwork for a brighter future for a family in need. Despite everything this family has experienced they are resilient, persevering in the face of adversity, and now have a clearer vision and goals for their future. It begins with obtaining a safe place to live and the skills and information to pursue that plan.

FISCAL

AGENCY BUDGET

OCTOBER 1, 2023-SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

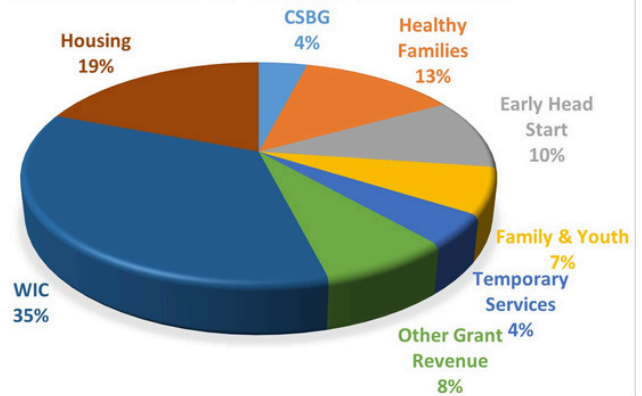
Revenues

Grant income \$5,720,625
Restricted donations \$1,000
Foundations \$13,125
Unrestricted donations \$22,000

Expenses

Personnel \$3,926,761
Admin other than personnel \$1,267,677
Direct consumer expenditures \$352,767

BREAKDOWN OF GRANT REVENUES



OUR FISCAL TEAM

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
AMY MARECEK, SENIOR PROGRAM ASSISTANT
RHONDA EMMONS, FISCAL ASSISTANT
LINDSEY DRYJA, FISCAL DIRECTOR
MARCI OTTS, GRANTS COORDINATOR
TRACEY DURANT, FISCAL ASSISTANT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

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.



**SARAH CASSCLES
PRESIDENT**



**JOE MATHER
VICE PRESIDENT**



**CHARLIE CHAMBERS
TREASURER**



**WENDY DUTCHER
SECRETARY**



KYLE REGER



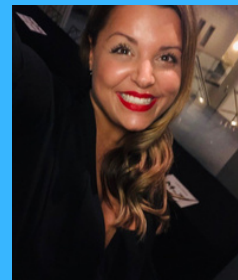
DIANE RYAN



TODD ROUSE



SCOTT BLANCHARD



MEGAN KOSMOSKI



JANAE MEYER



HEIDI MENIKHEIM



MELISSA MOORE

CONTACT US



CANASTOTA OFFICE
1001 NEW MARKET DRIVE
CANASTOTA, NY 13032

MORRISVILLE OFFICE
3 EAST MAIN STREET
MORRISVILLE, NY 13408

ADDITIONAL OFFICES IN ONEIDA,
ILION, ROME, & UTICA

WWW.CAPMADCO.ORG
FIND US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM
@CAPFORMADISONNY