

Community Action Partnership for Madison County

"WE PARTNER WITH INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND CHILDREN TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY AND BUILD HOPE FOR THE FUTURE"



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILLIAM NICHOLSON

Dear friends of Community Action,

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report from Community Action Program for Madison County. Please take a moment to review the many ways that our dedicated staff delivered hope in times of hardship, caring in moments of chaos, and steady support through some of life's stormy weather.

As we look back at the past year, it is with great pleasure that we thank Elizabeth Crofut and honor her for years of service and leadership of this agency. Liz was a compassionate and driven leader, who put the promise of Community Action at the center of every decision.

With profound appreciation I wish her the best retirement ever, full of well-earned time and joy with loved ones. As I take on leadership of the agency, I remain humbled by the privilege of working with Liz to move the mission and purpose of Community Action forward these last few years.

We cannot summarize this past year without also acknowledging the unprecedented level of uncertainty that shaded most planning and operations, as the Federal funding landscape introduced unexpected twists and turns, with shifting expectations and unclear horizons.

Despite these challenges, the people who make Community Action a success continued with their full dedication to make good on our mission: partnering with individuals, families, and children to address the challenges of today and build hope for the future.

2026 marks forty years of CAP serving Madison County communities with programs and services designed to lift individuals and families up from poverty through increased social stability and economic resilience. I am pleased to share with you a year of profound impact, made possible by passionate service from staff at all levels, and strategic partnerships with institutions and stakeholders both near and far.

To the future, with strength and courage,

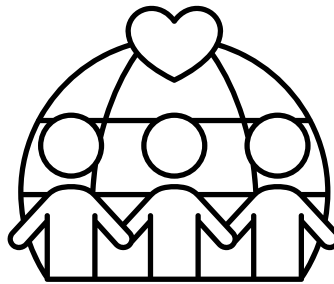
William Nicholson, Executive Director
January 28, 2026



CAP IN THE COMMUNITY



EARLY HEAD START, WIC, AND HEALTHY FAMILIES AT PARTY IN THE PARK



PROVIDING RESOURCES AT DISCOVERY CHURCH'S TORNADO RELIEF EVENT

THE MENTORING TEAM ON MADISON COUNTY'S MILK HOUSE PODCAST



MENTORING AND EARLY HEAD START AT THE MADISON COUNTY FAIR



OUR PROGRAMS



Early Head Start

Healthy Families

Family & Youth:
Family Action
Mentoring

Permanency Resources

Temporary Services
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
Healthy @ Home



WIC

Housing

Farm Fresh & Back to School

EARLY HEAD START (EHS)

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

109 Participants served



19 were prenatal participants

90 were children who began the year under age three

100% of participants had health insurance by the end of the program year



THE TEAM

Early Head Start's school readiness goals:

- Language and Literacy
- Social-Emotional Development
- Cognition
- Approaches to Learning
- Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

"I wanted to take a moment to express how grateful I am for all that Arianna does... Her dedication, patience and creativity make a positive impact on my son's day and overall development. She makes learning engaging, works hard and is a wonderful teacher. We are lucky to have her."- Participant feedback on their EHS Family Support Worker



JULIE ROACH, STEVEN BASSETT, AND KARLA MOJICA-MARTINEZ AT CAR SEAT TECHNICIAN TRAINING

HEALTHY FAMILIES NEW YORK (HFNY)



HFNY is an evidence-based voluntary home visiting model designed to provide services to families that begin prenatally, or at birth, through age five. HFNY uses an infant mental health/relational development approach that promotes parent-child attachment to achieve its mission of preventing child abuse, neglect, and other adverse childhood outcomes.



122 Families Served

78% Enrolled Prenatally

100% of Target Children & **96%** of Primary Caregivers had a medical provider by the end of the program year

96% reported increased support in their lives

92% state an increased understanding of their child's development.

80% conveyed their knowledge of their child's health care needs have increased

88% reported learning ways to keep their child safer

84% states have learned ideas for coping with problems and stress

82% state they have more patience with their children



Bonding with your Baby



Activities that help your baby's brain grow



Accessing community-based



FAMILY & YOUTH MENTORING & FAMILY ACTION



SUPPORTIVE MENTORING

- 24 Youth enrolled
- 77% of youth reported an increasingly strong relationship with their Mentor
- 76% of youth showed a reduction in school absenteeism

VOLUNTEER MENTORING

- 9 Youth enrolled
- 83% of youth showed an increase in their confidence and caring
- 100% report satisfaction with the program and their relationship with their Mentor



FAMILY ACTION

Ella* and Evan* came to the program as first-time parents of a baby that had potential for future developmental concerns. They were struggling financially and learning to navigate life as young parents for the first time. Through support from their Family Support Worker, both parents were able to secure stable full-time jobs, catch up on the bills that they were behind on, begin budgeting, and even begin saving for the future. The family also completed parenting classes, Ella was able to get her license and began focusing on self-care, and the family enrolled in other programs to learn about child development and monitor their child's development. The family was able to exit the program after 6 months due to completing their goals!

*Names have been changed

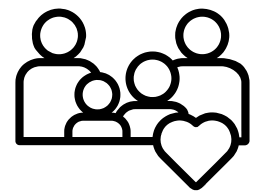
36 families enrolled

0 children removed to foster care placement



PERMANENCY RESOURCES

CAP's Permanency Resources Program provided services for relative caregivers (like grandparents or kin) raising children, as well as adoptive parents in Chenango and Oneida Counties this year. Case Managers partnered with families to set goals, utilizing home-based services providing support for these non-biological parents stepping back into parenting roles with a focus on practical tools and community building.



Who it's For:

- Grandparents, aunts, uncles, or other relatives/non-relatives raising children (kinship care), and adoptive families.

Program Goals:

- Increase confidence and skills for caregivers.
- Family access to local resources and services to strengthen family systems.
- Provide a supportive space to share experiences.
- Address the unique emotional and practical challenges of "second-time" parenting.
- Facilitate support groups in the areas of family engagement, peer/youth support, and community education

22 Families served, comprised of

36 caregivers,

47 children,

20 Kinship families,

2 Adoptive families

TEMPORARY SERVICES AND HEALTHY @ HOME

Our Temporary Services programs focus on helping households achieve long term stability by offering one time assistance in the areas of housing and transportation. For example, a single parent suffered an injury, and as a result lost employment and their main source of income. No longer able to afford their high monthly rent, the family was being evicted. They found an available income-based apartment but were unable to afford the security deposit. They called CAP and we were able to pay the security deposit, which allowed this family to acquire stable, long-term housing.

In 2025 Temporary Services assisted:



- 97** household members with rent
- 68** household members with security deposit
- 144** household members with transportation needs
- 40** total households with utility assistance
- 360** households completed an intake and were assessed for services and offered internal and external resources

Additionally, our Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program provides monthly assistance or security deposit and first month's rent for households at or below 60% of area median income.

- 7** households received monthly rental assistance through TBRA

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. Repairs and renovations are done where health and safety issues have been identified.



HEALTHY @ HOME

- 5** home repair projects completed in 2025



WIC (WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN)

WIC's goal is to improve the health and nutrition of moms and kids. 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.

This past year we've continued to provide breastfeeding support through our two designated breastfeeding experts, certified lactation counselors and peer counselors. One of the program's highlights this year was helping support an older mom on her breastfeeding journey with a pre-term infant. Our designated breastfeeding expert, Kirsten, and peer counselor, Audrey, have been supporting this mom and baby with in-person support as well as phone and text support.

7,500 participants across Herkimer, Oneida, and Madison Counties

20 outreach events across all three counties

17% of participants report a primary language other than English



HOUSING

Our CAP team conducts and orchestrates the Point in Time (PIT) count for Madison County every January along with other communities throughout the United States. This assessment assists the county with recognizing unsheltered homeless individuals and families whose primary residence is a public or private place not designed for/or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. When meeting with unhoused individuals from Madison County, it was stated that there is a need for more transportation assistance, assistance with obtaining identifying documents, and more affordable housing, including an emergency shelter or overnight warming center.



CAP currently has 4 units in our transitional housing that provides temporary housing for families experiencing homelessness with the goal of helping them transition to permanent housing through intensive case management.



CAP has been working to increase available resources for emergency housing needs with a new "Tiny Homes" cluster. This exciting project includes four custom built homes built to specification by a nearby family-owned master woodworking business. Projects like this are typically very complex, and would not be possible without the collaboration and steady support of Madison County Mental Health, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, and the Town of Lenox. Seen here are CAP staff along with local community members and collaborators following a public hearing on the project.



FARM FRESH

Our Farm Fresh program provides deliveries of fresh produce from Off the Muck to eligible seniors, families and individuals during the summer months.

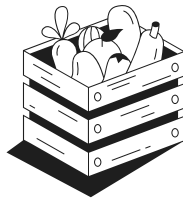
Thank you to the 1886 Benevolent Society, the McNiece Foundation, Madison County and CSBG for making this program possible.

446 produce boxes delivered

25 seniors

20 families

5 individuals



BACK TO SCHOOL

Our Back to School program enables families to shop with their children for necessary school supplies at Oneida Office Supply.

This program is made possible by CSBG funding.



120 children helped with

\$100 vouchers for supplies

CERTIFIED COMMUNITY ACTION PROFESSIONAL (CCAP)



In 2025, William Nicholson became a Certified Community Action Professional. The CCAP credential recognizes individuals who have demonstrated knowledge and application of the core competencies required to effectively carry out the vision, mission, purpose, and values of the Community Action movement. To become a CCAP requires acceptance into the program, extensive training, and passing a two-part final exam. Congratulations, William!

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVOCACY



The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is key to the structural integrity of the Community Action network, and to each of its provider agencies. Throughout 2025, uncertainty surrounding Federal funding for many community service programs like ours presented new challenges. CAP staff spent countless hours and miles strenuously advocating for the network and for CSBG, highlighting the important local services that CAP agencies provide to constituents in every region. We invited our representatives to visit our sites, and we also visited them in Washington, DC to continue amplifying the message - local communities are the best investment, making the most out of every federal dollar by leveraging local resources within the accountability and compliance environment of a Community Action Agency to achieve truly meaningful and lasting impact.

OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

William Nicholson- Executive Director

Lindsey Dryja- Fiscal Director

Donna Prosser- Human Resources Director

Kaleigh Bascom- Temporary Services/HHPG Program Manager

Deborah Donnelly- Permanency Resources Program Manager

Erin Dutcher- Family & Youth Program Manager

Olivia Monahan- Healthy Families Program Manager

Chris Mott- Housing Program Manager

Karyn Paul- Early Head Start Program Manager

Melissa Pryputniewicz- WIC Program Manager



FINANCIAL REPORT

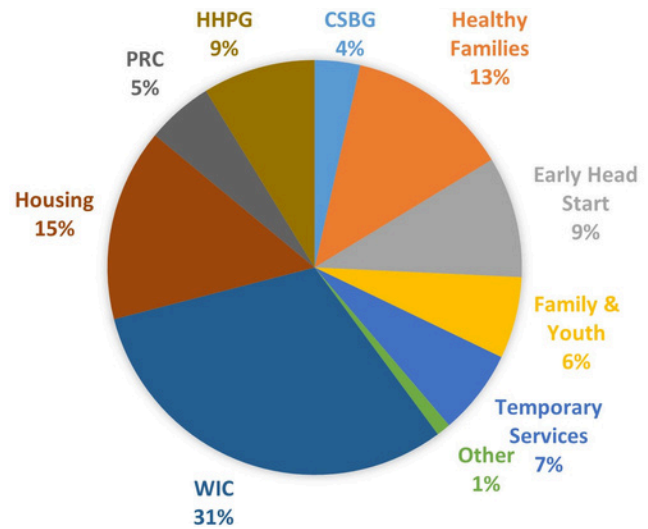
AGENCY BUDGET

OCTOBER 1, 2024-SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

BREAKDOWN OF GRANT REVENUES

Revenues:
Grant income \$7,150,100
Unrestricted donations \$24,000

Expenses:
Personnel \$4,586,046
Admin other than personnel
\$1,566,220
Direct consumer expenditures
\$1,021,833



OUR FISCAL TEAM

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



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025

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



Inspired by what you've read? Scan the QR code to make a donation.

Thank you to all of our amazing donors!

CANASTOTA
OFFICE
1001 NEW
MARKET DRIVE
CANASTOTA, NY
13032



MORRISVILLE
OFFICE
3 EAST MAIN
STREET
MORRISVILLE, NY
13408

ADDITIONAL OFFICES IN ONEIDA,
CAZENOVIA, ILION, ROME, & UTICA

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE
WWW.CAPMADCO.ORG



@CAPforMadisonNY



@CAPforMadisonNY