



2025 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



Table of Contents

→	01	Message from the Executive Director
→	02	Community Action Overview
→	03	Funding
→	04-12	Programs, Services, and Statistics
→	13	Our Impact
→	14	Poverty Simulation
→	15	Legislative Advocacy
→	16	MinnCAP Leadership
→	17	Contact Information



A Message from the Executive Director



It is my pleasure to share this year's Annual Impact Report, highlighting the achievements of Minnesota's statewide network of Community Action Agencies and Tribal Nations. Throughout the past year, we remained committed to delivering local solutions that empower individuals, strengthen families, and build resilient communities. Across the state, our agencies responded to evolving community needs with innovative, accountable programs that delivered meaningful results.

This year's impact reflects the power of collaboration and local leadership. From expanding access to affordable housing and early childhood education to supporting workforce development, energy assistance, food security, and financial stability, Community Action continued to help individuals and families overcome barriers while creating opportunities for long term success. Every program, partnership, and investment contributed to stronger communities and measurable outcomes across Minnesota.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to working alongside our member agencies, partners, and communities to create lasting change. Thank you for your continued support and shared belief in the power of Community Action. Together, we are building stronger communities and creating opportunities for all Minnesotans.

Yours in action,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Schultz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lori Schultz, CCAP

Executive Director
Minnesota Community Action Partnership



Community Action Overview



Who We Are

In Minnesota, 24 Community Action Agencies and 11 Tribal Nations serve all 87 counties across the state, providing poverty solutions through various programs and services including: homeless prevention and housing assistance, utility bill assistance, healthcare enrollment, food and nutrition services, Head Start early childhood programming, financial asset building, regional transit, and more.

Our Mission

Minnesota Community Action Partnership (MinnCAP) strengthens the capacity of its member agencies to achieve their poverty-fighting missions, through influential advocacy, collaboration, and training.

Our Promise

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Funding



Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

\$ 9,241,090.25

Weatherization

\$ 10,304,864.72

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

\$52,187,531.43

Federal Head Start and Early Head Start

\$113,338,007

Minnesota Community Action Grant

6,581,097.27

State Head Start (Head Start and Early Head Start)

\$29,599,155.48

Private Funding

\$49,533,269

Local Funding

\$10,594,645

Other Federal Resources

\$508,403

Programs, Services, and Statistics



Programs and Services

Local Community Action Agencies design responsive, locally driven programs that address the unique needs of the communities they serve while sharing a common mission to empower people, strengthen families, and build resilient communities. From early childhood education and youth development to housing, emergency assistance, and services for older adults and people with disabilities, Community Action helps people overcome barriers and build lasting stability. Every program is rooted in local solutions and focused on achieving meaningful, measurable outcomes. Read our client stories to learn how Community Action is changing lives across Minnesota.

Additional program information available at www.minncap.org.



Assistance and Services

Community Action empowers individuals and families by providing the resources and support they need to overcome barriers and build long term stability. Through strong local partnerships and responsive, community based programs, Community Action Agencies help prevent financial and housing crises while addressing the root causes of poverty. Together, these efforts strengthen families, expand opportunity, and build resilient communities.

- **3,705** received emergency clothing assistance
- **4,627 people** received emergency hygiene kits
- **980,944** people received transportation assistance
- **50 people** opened a savings account
- **680 people** increased their savings, and **662 increased their net worth**
- **26,728** seniors maintained an independent living situation
- **20,209 people** living with disabilities maintained independent living
- **1,225** people obtained employment
- **612** people maintained employment for at least 90 days
- **112** people maintained employment for at least 180 days



Housing

Safe, stable, and affordable housing provides the foundation for healthy families, strong communities, and economic opportunity. Community Action Agencies and Tribal Nations work with local partners to prevent eviction, provide rental assistance, and connect people with long term housing solutions. By responding to urgent housing needs and addressing barriers to stability, these locally driven programs help individuals and families build a stronger future.



“Home is more than four walls. It is where healing begins.”
– Client



- **1,723** experiencing homelessness received safe, temporary housing
- **5,690 households** avoided evictions and **196** avoided foreclosure
- **5,697 people** obtained safe and affordable housing, and **2,499 people** maintained their safe housing for **at least 180 days**
- **3,919 people** experienced improved health and safety in their home

Behind every statistic lies a story, a journey, and a human face. Numbers may tell part of the tale, but it's the individuals, families, and communities that bring these statistics to life. Together, let's go beyond the data, delve into the narratives, and work tirelessly to create positive change where it's needed most.



Energy Efficiency

Affordable energy is essential to maintaining a safe and stable home. Community Action Agencies and Tribal Nations help households reduce energy costs, maintain utility service, and improve home energy efficiency so families can avoid difficult choices between paying utility bills and meeting other basic needs. Through trusted partnerships and proven programs, these services strengthen household stability and improve quality of life for communities across Minnesota.

- **25,117 households** improved energy efficiency/energy burden reduction in their homes
- **212,552 households** received utility arrearage assistance and/or utility deposits

Head Start, Early Education and Childcare

Head Start and Early Head Start help children from birth to age five build the skills they need to succeed in school and in life. These high quality, locally delivered programs support the whole child while providing families with safe, nurturing learning environments and resources that promote long term success. Community Action Agencies also work with public and private partners to expand access to affordable early childhood education and child care, creating stronger opportunities for children, families, and communities across Minnesota



Head Start, Early Education and Childcare

- **Over 7,393 children 0-5 years of age** demonstrated skills for school readiness
- **8,464 children** were enrolled in Early Head Start and Head Start
- **7,216 parents** improved their skills related to their role as a parent/caregiver
- **2,692 people** received childcare payments and subsidies

“Head Start has helped my grandchild grow. The special education services, helped him progress faster than I thought was possible.”
– Head Start grandparent





“Connection is as important as care.”
– Client



“What can change the world today is the same thing that has changed it in the past—an idea and the service of dedicated, committed individuals to that idea.”
– Sargent Shriver

Food and Nutrition

Access to nutritious food is essential for healthy individuals, families, and communities. Community Action Agencies partner with Tribal Nations and local organizations to increase food security by providing responsive, locally driven programs that connect people with nutritious food and supportive resources. Together, these efforts help reduce barriers, improve well being, and create a stronger foundation for long term stability.

- **Over 55,000 people** received food distribution from their Community Action Agency
- **18,239 people** were assisted in enrolling in the Supplemental Nutrition and Assistance Program (SNAP)

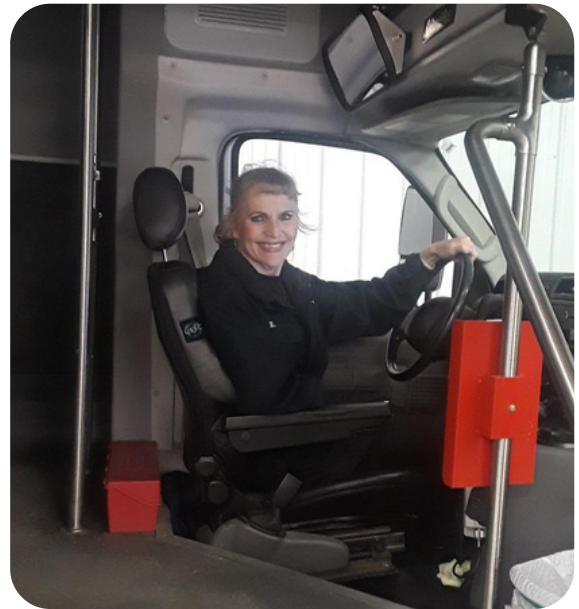


Our Impact



Health and Well-Being

- **18,205** people demonstrated improved physical health and well-being, and **over 4,315 people** showed improved mental and behavioral health and well-being
- **Over 5,700 people** received their immunizations and **over 5,200** had health screenings
- **3,605 households** obtained health insurance benefits



Employment

- **638 adults**, who were unemployed, obtained employment up to a living wage, and an additional **90 adults** who had been unemployed, obtained employment with a living wage or higher
- **1,439 people** received career/job coaching and readiness training
- **98 individuals** obtained career advancement services

“Every dollar invested in Community Action creates stronger families and healthier communities.”
– Client

People Served in 2025

INDIVIDUALS

394,789

HOUSEHOLDS

163,129



Poverty Awareness

The Community Action Poverty Simulation breaks down stereotypes by allowing participants to step into the real-life situations of others.

Poverty is often portrayed as a stand-alone issue, but this simulation allows individuals to walk a month in the shoes of someone who is facing poverty and to realize how complex and interconnected issues of poverty really are.

Community Action Poverty Simulation is an interactive, three hour experience that challenges participants to navigate the realities of living with limited resources. By stepping into the role of individuals and families facing poverty, participants gain a deeper understanding of the barriers many people encounter and the importance of strong community supports. Each simulation concludes with a guided discussion that encourages reflection and inspires action. Contact MinnCAP to host a Poverty Simulation in your community.



“I had no idea how under-educated I was on this subject.”

--Poverty Simulation Participant

To schedule a poverty simulation contact MinnCAP staff at info@minncap.org

Legislative Advocacy

MinnCAP advocates at the state and federal levels for policies that build community resilience, address the root causes of poverty, and promote long-term financial stability. We champion flexible investments that empower local agencies to respond effectively to the unique needs of their communities. By partnering with allies and coalition members, we leverage additional resources and amplify our impact. Our Advocacy Network—including staff, volunteers, partners, and community members dedicated to eliminating poverty—engages directly with elected officials to ensure the voices of those we serve are heard and acted upon.



MinncAP Leadership

MinncAP's Board of Directors is made up of trusted leaders from each of Minnesota's local Community Action Agencies, along with a representative from the Minnesota Head Start Association (MNHSA), ensuring strong local accountability and collaboration.

Board of Directors Members

- Amanda Mackie, Chair, Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC)
- Barb Moran, CCAP, BI-County Community Action Programs (BI-CAP)
- Carrie Tripp, CCAP, Wright County Community Action (WCCA)
- Catherine Johnson, Inter-County Community Council (ICCC)
- Colleen Orne, Tri-County Action Program (Tri-CAP)
- Darci Goedtkke, Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council (SMOC)
- Denise Stewart, CCAP, Lakes and Pines Community Action Council
- Debi Brandt, Vice-Chair, United Community Action Partnership (UCAP)
- Jeff Hansen, CAP Agency
- Jennifer Hengel, CCAP, Semcac
- Jenny Larson, Legislative Committee Chair, CCAP, Three Rivers Community Action
- Kami Nesvold, Prairie Five Community Action Council
- Kendra Krolik, Treasurer, Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County
- Kraig Gratke, Minnesota Head Start Association (MNHSA)
- Liz Kuoppala, CCAP, MAHUBE-OTWA Community Action Partnership
- Lori Schwartz, CCAP, Lakes & Prairies Community Action (CAPLP)
- Mark Page, Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA)
- Marta Carrigan, KOOTASCA
- Melody Hedden, Tri-Valley Opportunity Council
- Missy Becker-Cook, CCAP, West Central Minnesota Communities Action
- Patrick McFarland, Anoka County Community Action Program (ACCAP)
- Sharon Millner, CCAP, Northwest Community Action
- Ruben Vazquez, Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties (CAPRW)
- Teresa Carter, CCAP, Tri County Community Action Partnership (TCCAction)



Contact Information

Phone

651-645-7425



Email

info@minncap.org



Website

minncap.org



Address

**100 Empire Drive, Suite 202
St. Paul, MN 55103**



Facebook and
Instagram

**facebook.com/minncap
instagram.com/minncap**



LinkedIn
X (formerly
Twitter)

**linkedin.com/minncap
x.com/minncap**

