The National Need

Despite America’s economic recovery, millions are still living in poverty and even more are just one missed paycheck away from hardship. Whether our neighbors are experiencing a temporary set back or have been priced out of affordable housing - too many struggle to achieve a good quality of life.

Nearly 40 million people in America live poverty. People of color are disproportionately impacted.

1 in 6 children go hungry at some point during the year.

6.1 million Americans are unemployed.

44% of Americans can't cover a $400 emergency expense.

Community Action’s Reach

The nation’s 1,000+ Community Action Agencies are a robust, national, state, and local force, reaching children and families in 99% of America’s counties with life changing services that create pathways to opportunity and prosperity. Annually, we reach:

- 15 million low-income individuals
- 3.9 million children
- 6.2 million families
- 2.3 million seniors
- 1.7 million people with disabilities

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Our Impact

America’s Community Action Agencies embody our nation’s spirit of hope, change people’s lives, and improve communities. We promote workable solutions that connect more families to opportunity – and make America a better place to live for everyone.

Community Action Agencies:

- Connect individuals and families to approaches that help them succeed – including high quality education programs for children, job retraining for adults, stable and affordable housing for families, utility assistance for seniors, and so much more.
- Promote community-wide solutions to seemingly stubborn challenges throughout our cities, suburbs, and in rural areas - whether it’s the lack of affordable housing or the need to promote economic growth that benefits all families.
- Share expertise with national, state, and local leaders looking for evidence on what works to promote greater economic opportunity for children and families.

As a result, each year:

- 800,000 households increased their financial Assets or skills
- More than 8 million people received food, healthcare services and more to increase family Health & Well-Being
- 4 million Children & Families accessed childcare, after school programs, and more
- 339,000 people obtained safe, affordable Housing – and millions more received emergency help with heat or energy assistance
- 5.8 million people were put on a pathway to good Jobs through employment support
- 1.2 million people engaged in Community Building

Community Action Agencies are locally run but receive a range of public and private resources for their work. This includes funding from the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) which provides the Community Action Agency designation. For every $1 of CSBG funds, the Network annually leverages $7.70 from state, local, and private sources.

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