

# 2015

## YEAR IN REVIEW

Portage County, Ohio

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### **Community Action Council of Portage County, Inc**

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PO Box 917  
1036 W. Main Street  
Ravenna, Ohio 44266

Telephone: 330.297.1456  
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**March 2016**

Board Chair: Michael A. DeLuke  
Executive Director: David B. Shea



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# COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL OF PORTAGE COUNTY, INC

## Overview of Organization

The Community Action Council of Portage County was founded on February 2, 1965 after the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act and several other significant pieces of legislation, including the Civil Rights Act. Thus, Calendar Year 2015 marked the Agency's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In September 2015, the Agency sponsored a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration attended by over 150 persons, including local Mayors, Portage County Commissioners, State Representatives, and many others. Over the course of the year, CAC was recognized as an innovative and dynamic organization committed to improving all aspects of Portage County. The Agency also completed all federal and state audits with **no** findings and has continued to be categorized as a "low-risk auditee" under the A-133 Single Agency Audit Act. Very few non-profit organizations in Ohio can claim that distinction. The organization is a 501-c-3 charity and community action agency is Portage County's designated anti-poverty agency.

The organization is headed by an 18-member all-volunteer Board of Directors. Under federal law, at least one-third of all members are representatives of low-income individuals or organizations, one-third are local elected officials, and the balance are representatives of schools, unions, and businesses.

In 2015, the Community Action Council employed **69** persons, including 19 full-time employees and 50 part-time or seasonal employees. 75% of all staff are female, and 22% are African-American. Thirteen (13) staff are classified as management or supervisory. Of the total management-level staff, 69% are female, and 16% are African-American. Approximately 90% of all agency employees are low-income or formerly low-income.

The mission of the Community Action Council is **"To educate, empower, assist, and advocate for our community members to achieve their maximum potential and self-sufficiency."**

### FUNDING:

The Agency operates using a wide variety of grants and contracts from federal, state, local and private sources. As illustrated in the agency's 2015 Community Service Block Grant Annual Report as submitted to the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Assistance, the total funding of the Community Action Council of Portage County as of December 2015 approximated \$8,519,355, including grants, contracts, donations, in-kind contributions, and resources from all sources as follows:

<b>RESOURCES BY SOURCE</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>%</b>
Total Federal Grants and Resources	\$ 3,560,438	41.8%
State of Ohio Grants and Resources	\$ 4,381,737	42.1%
Local Grants	\$ 11,100	0.1%
Private Grants and Resources	\$ 680,077	8.0%
Cash Donations	\$ 26,967	0.3%
Volunteers In Kind	\$ 29,414	0.4%
Other In-Kind	\$ <u>623,176</u>	<u>7.3%</u>
<b>TOTAL 2015 RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$ 8,519,355</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Total Cash/and Cash Equivalents	\$ 7,866,765	
Total In-Kind Donations	\$ 652,590	

## **PROGRAMS:**

As of December 31, 2015, the Community Action Council of Portage County operated twenty-four (24) programs designed to provide a wide variety of services to low-income Portage County residents. These programs were generally in four (4) major areas of concentration, including **ENERGY CONSERVATION AND HOUSING, YOUTH AND AFTER SCHOOL SERVICES, TECHNOLOGY TRAINING AND TESTING, and EMERGENCY AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE.**

A general listing of CAC programs for 2015-2016 is as follows:

1. Home Energy Assistance Program (Regular)
2. Home Energy Assistance Program (Winter Crisis Program)
3. Home Energy Assistance Program (Summer Crisis Program)
4. Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP)
5. Prevention, Retention, Contingency Utility Assistance (PRC)
6. Emergency Food/Shelter Program (EFSP) Utility Assistance
7. Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP)/Portage/Trumbull
8. HOPE Mobile Home Repair Program/Portage/Trumbull
9. Prevention, Retention, Contingency Home Repair (PRC)
10. First Energy/Ohio Edison Weatherization/OPAE (Community Connections)
11. Dominion East Ohio/CHN Weatherization (Housewarming)
12. Kent CDBG Furnace Replacement Program
13. Eastern and Northeast Natural Gas Weatherization (Trumbull County Only)
14. Global Testing Program
15. Electric Partnership Program (USF/EPP)/Portage/Trumbull
16. CAC Youth and Family Center After-School Services
17. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center/Ravenna School District
18. Community Technology Learning Center (CTLIC)
19. Kent Training Apprenticeship, Development and Employment Project
20. Portage County College Access Network (PCCAN/Fiscal Agent)
21. OPAE/First Energy Fuel Funds Program
22. Summer Food Service Program for Children
23. Kent Neighborhood Garden Project; and
24. Commission on Minority Health-Health Disparities Project

**\*\*Note:** All programs are for Portage County residents only unless specified otherwise

# SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS, 2015

A general summary of some of the major accomplishments of 2015—both programmatically and administratively—of CAC of Portage County is as follows:

- Provided services to over **12,176** families totaling **24,854** persons during 2015;
- Fully implemented expansion of weatherization services under the Home Weatherization Assistance Program into **Trumbull County** along with additional services through Dominion and First Energy utility weatherization contracts;
- Continued activities under two (2) TANF-funded emergency programs under **Prevention, Retention, and Contingency Services (PRC)** through the Portage County Department of Jobs and Family Services for UTILITY ASSISTANCE and HOME REPAIR totaling **\$125,000**;
- Provided nearly **\$4.4 million in utility assistance** services for **9,445** county residents, including nearly **\$600,000** in direct emergency assistance.
- Provided nearly **\$2.3 million in direct energy conservation/energy efficiency services** to **886** Portage and Trumbull County families;
- Successfully completed state-wide bidding process for federal weatherization services for the next two (2) years and were awarded Portage and Trumbull Counties under HWAP; received the **highest score in the State of Ohio** for all HWAP programs.
- Leveraged over **\$470,000** from Dominion East Ohio Gas for free furnace replacements for Portage and Trumbull County residents;
- Provided **25,344** free meals for **1,152** Portage County children thru the Summer Food Program in Ravenna, Kent, and Windham.
- Fully implemented the **Global Testing Program** and provided **2,316** on-line tests in a wide variety of continuing education areas through seven (7) national testing entities.
- Implemented the only Pearson-Vue mobile testing site in Ohio and administered **362 GED tests** for Portage County residents in partnership with Maplewood Career Center and the ABLE Program;
- Maintained operations of the **Community Technology Learning Center**, a registered proprietary school in Ohio providing fifteen (15) technology training programs and certifications;
- Maintained partnership with **Microsoft Corporation**;
- Successful application for the continuation of the **USF Electric Partnership Program (USF-EPP)** in 2015; one of twelve (12) organizations statewide operating the program providing electrical efficiency and appliance replacements for Portage and Trumbull County eligible families.
- Successful application for the continuation of the agency's successful **HOPE Mobile Home Emergency Repair Program** for 2015-2017 thru the Ohio Housing Trust Fund with expansion into Trumbull County;;
- Successful completion/submission of the 2014-2015 Agency-wide financial audit as required under OMB Circular A-133; maintained status as a **LOW-RISK GRANTEE**.
- Re-instituted partnership activities in the **Portage County College Access Network (PCCAN)** in conjunction with Kent State University, Ravenna City Schools, NAACP and other groups. Awarded 6 post secondary scholarships to needy Portage County students;
- Continued expansion and involvement with **AmeriCorps/VISTA** and utilized three (3) volunteers for summer activities in the After School and Summer Food Program;
- Continued operations of the **21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center** after school program in partnership with the Ravenna School District as well as the **CAC Youth & Family After School Program**; provided services to **172** youth ages 5-17 in Brown Middle School and Ravenna High School and **55** youth at the CAC Youth & Family Center;
- Awarded **\$40,000** by the Portage County Commissioners to update HVAC and electrical systems at the CAC Youth and Family Center solving a long-time problem at the facility;
- Served nearly **800** families with food and meals during the Holidays through the OACAA Needy Family Project
- Held the Agency's **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** on September 26, 2015, commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the implementation of the **War on Poverty**, the creation of community action agencies around the country and the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act, the Civil Rights Act, and the Higher Education Act. Over 150 community residents attended.

**SUMMARY OF CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE & OUTCOMES, CY 2015**  
**Community Action Council of Portage County**

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES ASSISTED</b>	<b>12,176</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED</b>	<b>24,854</b>
<b>Key Services By Program or Service</b>	
Total Families Provided with Utility Assistance	9,445
Families Provided with Emergency Assistance	1,950
Families Assisted with PIPP and Regular HEAP	7,425
Average Emergency Assistance Cash Payment/Winter Crisis	\$295.77
Average Benefit Paid Per Family/Year for PIPP Plus	\$713.47
Average Benefit Paid Per Family/Year under Regular HEAP	\$247.85
Total Emergency Assistance Provided	\$569,987
Total Utility Assistance Provided (Emergency, PIPP, and HEAP)	\$4,397,328
Families Receiving Air Conditioners/Summer Crisis Program	70
Customers Completing Technology Training	9
Customers Completing Certification Tests/Administered	2,316
Customers Taking GED Test	362
Families Receiving Energy Conservation (HWAP/All)	886
Customers Receiving Electric Efficiency Audits/EPP	525
Number of High Efficiency CFL/LED Light Bulbs Installed	7,297
Families Receiving Home Repair	55
Families Receiving Handicapped Accessibility/Ramps	4
Families Receiving Roof Repairs/Replacements	4
Families receiving Whole House Ventilation/ASHRAE	102
Total Households Receiving High Efficiency Furnaces	96
Total Families Receiving Energy Star Refrigerators	426
Total Households Receiving New Hot Water Tanks	47
Total High-Efficiency Light Bulbs Distributed	7,297
Average Annual \$ Savings/ Family/Year for Weatherization	\$459.00
Average % Saving/Family/Year for Weatherization Services	29.1%
Students Enrolled in 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Learning/After School	172
Children Enrolled in CAC Youth Summer Camp	55
Other Assistance/Information/Referral	6,030
Families Assisted During Holidays/Emergency Food and Meals	781
Total Meals Served/Summer Food Program	25,344
Total Children Served Under Summer Food Services	1,152

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES ASSISTED</b>	<b>12,176</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED</b>	<b>24,854</b>

## **KEY DEMOGRAPHICS, CY 2015**

- 75.3% of all individuals were **Caucasian**
- 16.8% of all individuals were **African American**
- 7.3% **multi-racial or other**
- Less than 1% were Hispanic, Asian or Native American
- 17.6% were over the **age of 55**;
- 38.2% were **below the age of 17**
- 37.7% were receiving Social Security, SSI, or Pension income
- 32.4% were **single parent, female headed households**
- 75.0% of all families were **EMPLOYED**;
- 2.2% were receiving **Unemployment**
- 37.7% were receiving **social security or pension**
- 12% were **disabled**
- 70.2% **owned or were buying their home**
- 34% had annual incomes less than **50%** of the federal poverty level;
- 72% had incomes less than 100% of the poverty level
- 94.1% had incomes less than 150% of the poverty level
- Median annual income in 2015 was **\$12,054**; this translates to approximately **66.4%** of the federal poverty level
- 7% were **college graduates**
- 31.4% were over 25 and **lacking a HS diploma or GED**
- 17.2% were **lacking any health insurance**

## **GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF SERVICES**

- 44% of all families receiving services resided in **Ravenna**
- 21% of all families receiving services resided in **Kent**
- 11% of all families receiving services resided in **Windham/Garrettsville**
- 8% of all families receiving services resided in **Atwater/Randolph**
- **7%** of all families receiving services resided in **Mantua/Hiram**
- 6% of all families receiving services resided in **Streetsboro**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2015**

<b>Allen, Lynn</b>	<b>Atwater Community</b>
<b>Boykin, Brian</b>	<b>Portage County Commissioners</b>
<b>Daily, Mary, Treasurer</b>	<b>Admired Residential Service</b>
<b>DeLuke, Mr. Mike, Chair</b>	<b>AFSCME</b>
<b>Dockery, Sean</b>	<b>S &amp; T Bank</b>
<b>Dorsey, Dr. Marlene, Vice Chair</b>	<b>Kent Board of Education</b>
<b>Elias, Michael</b>	<b>Nelson Township</b>
<b>Ellis, Henderson</b>	<b>KSU Upward Bound</b>
<b>Gray, Rev David</b>	<b>Windham Community</b>
<b>Grim, Nancy, Secretary</b>	<b>NE Ohio Legal Aid</b>
<b>Howe, Bonnie</b>	<b>Portage County Recorder</b>
<b>Isler, Gregg</b>	<b>Windham Exempted Village School District</b>
<b>Livengood, Suzanne</b>	<b>Portage Learning Centers/Head Start</b>
<b>Long, Melissa</b>	<b>City of Kent/City Council</b>
<b>Mason, Jack</b>	<b>NAACP</b>
<b>Schnell, Rev. William</b>	<b>Mayor of Aurora</b>
<b>Schoning, Doris</b>	<b>Maplewood Career Center/ABLE</b>
<b>Wright, Robert</b>	<b>Southend/City of Kent</b>

## **STAFF and VOLUNTEERS**

ADAMS, AMY L	ESTHER, NATALIE J	O'DONNELL, BRITTNEY
ALEXANDER, WYDAISHA	FORDYCE, SANDY	O'DONNELL, COURTNEY
BAILEY, JANICE	GERLACH, BROOKE ERIN	OSTERLAND, MARYANN
BENNETT, SABRIAN CHRISTIAN	GIDDINS, ANGELA	PARENTE, NICOLLETTE
BENTON, DENISE	GRAVES, ROGER	PARKER, THOMAS
BESAW, ROBERT B	GRIFFIN, CHRISTIAN	PATTERSON, DWAYNE
BRYANT, VALANDIA L	HAAS, JUDY	PERRY, DENNIS
BULLER, DIANE	HARTMAN, TASHA L	PINKARD, ODESSA
BURCH, DONNA	HAULER, RENEE	REYNOLDS, BETTY J
BURKADT, GAIL	HAVEN, GLORIA	RILEY, KRISTY
CHAMBERS, CARL	HIXON, KATHLEEN	SCARBRO, BURNES L
CHIPPS, MATTHEW P	HOLLIDAY, REGINA L	SCOTT, CURTIS D
CLEMENT, LISA	HOSE, NANCY	SENSEMAN, DOUGLAS
CRISLIP, CASSANDRA	JONES, BERTRAM L	SHEA, DAVID B
CRISLIP, LISA	JONES, WHITNEY	SHOWALTER, SHANNON
CRISP, GLADYS	KAISER, PAMELA	SMEARSOLL, KAREN
DAVIS, CATHRYN	KARPINSKI, THOMAS S.	SNODE, HUNTER
DAVIS, LEXI	KLINE, KATELYN	STRAUSSER, TINA L
DERNBACH, NICOLE	KONZEN, JULIE	THOMPSON, MICHAEL
DOMOZICK, CARLA	MAGYAR, MARITA	VASBINDER, GINA M
DONAUGH, CHELSEY	MAY, ERIN	VILD, LORY C
DOWNTON, KIMBRY D	MCINTYRE, KATHERINE	WATSON, MAUREEN
ESKESEN-BOZZELLI, JAN	NEWELL, AMANDA	WATTERS, MARYLYNN J
ESTHER, BRITTNEY	NICHOLS, PAMELA	WORKMAN, SARAH

## **MAJOR PROGRAM COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERS**

Ravenna Local School District	Windham Renaissance Family Center
Junior Achievement	Cleveland Housing Network
Kent State University Upward Bound	Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
Portage County Department of Job and Family Services	NAACP
Passages, Inc.	Portage Area Regional Transit Authority (PARTA)
Maplewood Career Center ABLE Program	Portage Foundation
Portage County Literacy Coalition	Kent State University, Division of Human Resources
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy	Kent State University, Office of Diversity
City of Ravenna Parks and Recreation	Kent State Univ, College Credit Plus/Dual Enrollment
Windham Exempted Village School District	Northeast Ohio College of Medicine, HPAC
Nelson Garrettsville Community Cupboard	Atwater Township
Kent State University College of Public Health	Kent State University, College of Education

## **SPECIAL THANKS:**

Applied Energy Products	Beatrice Mitchell
Lowe's Home Improvement	Roger DiPaolo
Mayor Joe Bica, City of Ravenna	Deseree Liddell
Kathleen Chandler	Dr. Geraldine Hayes-Nelson
Mayor Jerry Fiala, City of Kent	Maureen Frederick
Jeff Lucyzwo	Vicki Kline
Dennis Honkala	Lauterbach and Eilber
Kathleen Clyde, State Representative, 75 <sup>th</sup> District	Susan Huth
Honorable Sherrod Brown, US Senate	Dr. Gloria Dunnivan
Honorable Tim Ryan, 13th Congressional District	Malcolm Costa
Frank Hairston	William and Dorothy Locke
Bruce Ribelin	Angela Johnson
Phil Cole	Ohio Association of Food Banks
Kent United Methodist Church	Kent Unitarian Universalist Church
Zeno, Pockl, Lilly and Copeland, CPA	Ohio Community Development Corporation
Ravenna Education Association	Joanna Pionke
Portage Learning Centers/Head Start	Mike DeLuke
Fit Chicks	Ravenna American Legion
Joanne Stikes	Leslie Keegan
Dr. Marlene Dorsey	Coordinated Health Mutual Insurance
Unified Health Plan	John Ryan
Associated Underwriters	Patty Robinson
Lorie Marozzi	Reed Memorial Library/Ravenna
Kent Free Library	David Garcia
Dr. Alfreda Brown	Henderson Ellis
Tara Reis	Domino's Pizza
Guido's Pizza & Catering	Gioninno's Pizza
Tilden's Tax Service	Jerry & Elaine May, Mays Farm
David Adams	Jonathan Lane



# **LOCATIONS:**

## **MAIN AGENCY OFFICES**

### **COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL OF PORTAGE COUNTY**

1036 West Main  
PO Box 917  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
330-297-1456  
Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

### **COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY LEARNING CENTER OF PORTAGE COUNTY**

#### **Technology Training and Testing**

243 South Prospect Avenue  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
330-297-1456  
Monday thru Friday, 9:00 am 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

### **CAC YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTER**

519 North Walnut Street  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
330-297-1456  
Summer: Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
School Year: Monday thru Friday, 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm (Opening June 2016)

## **HEAP SATELLITE OFFICES**

### **November through March (Days and Hours Vary)**

- Kent Free Library, 312 West Main, Kent, OH,
- Windham Renaissance Family Center, 9005 Wilverne, Windham, OH
- Nelson-Garrettsville Community Cupboard, 10661 Highland Ave, Garrettsville, OH
- Portage Senior Center, 705 Oakwood, Ground Floor, Ravenna, OH
- Atwater Township Town Hall, 1219 State Route 183, Atwater, OH

## **SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN.**

### **Mid June thru Mid August (Hours Vary By Site)**

- Ravenna City Park, Oakwood Street, Ravenna, OH
- Windham Renaissance Family Center, 9005 Wilverne, Windham, OH
- CAC Youth and Family Center, 519 North Walnut, Ravenna, OH
- Kent Parks and Recreation, 1115 Franklin Avenue, Kent OH
- Ravenna/Reed Memorial Library, 167 E. Main Street, Ravenna, OH
- Renaissance Place/PMHA, 5660 S. Prospect Street, Ravenna, OH
- New Hope Baptist Church, 9809 E. Center Street, Windham, OH
- Terrill Suites, 858½ Cleveland Road, Ravenna, OH
- CTLC/21<sup>st</sup> Century Computer Summer Camp, 243 South Prospect, Ravenna, OH

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