



2022

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM OF EVANSVILLE & VANDERBURGH COUNTY, INC (CAPE) ANNUAL REPORT





ABOUT CAPE

The Mission of The Community Action Program of Evansville & Vanderburgh County, Inc. (CAPE) encompasses the community. Our Agency addresses the customer's needs in a non-judgmental and respectful manner to promote economic and social self-sufficiency. This mission is supported by employees committed to addressing the community's needs. Our objective is accomplished by collaboration with the community to provide tools, skills, and services through programs that meet individual needs.

The Community Action Program of Evansville and Vanderburgh County, Inc. (CAPE) is a private non-profit corporation governed by a tripartite Board of Directors comprising representatives from the private, public, and community sectors we serve. Our service areas include but are not limited to, Vanderburgh, Posey, and Gibson Counties.

In 2021 ComerNowling CPA firm completed the agency's audit. Their opinion is as follows, "the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Community Action Program of Evansville and Vanderburgh County, Inc. as of December 31, 2021, and 2020, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

Through programs and services, the Community Action Program of Evansville and Vanderburgh County, Inc (CAPE) continues to keep the National Promise of Community Action – "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 are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other."

"The war on poverty is not a struggle to support people to make them dependent on the generosity of others. It is a struggle to give people a chance. It is an effort to allow them to develop and use their capacities as we have been allowed to develop and use ours so that they can share, as others share, in the promise of this nation."

~President Johnson's address to Congress in March 1964

The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 authorized the formation of local Community Action Agencies as part of the War on Poverty.



➤ **HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START**

CAPE Head Start provides early education and comprehensive support programs for low-income families with children ages 3-5. Services include health, nutrition, mental health, dental and visual screenings, and developmental and language assessments. CAPE also provides support services for children with disabilities and inclusive help for families seeking support. Parent participation in their child's education is strongly encouraged and nurtured. Early Head Start provides educational and support services to families with children from birth to 3 years old. Risk factors that may hinder optimal child and family development are identified early so services can be individualized to meet the family's needs. Our full-day full-year option provides comprehensive Head Start services for working families that need full-time childcare. Head Start funding allows us to offer services to 116 Early Head Start children and families, 404 Head Start children, and 61 other families making it a total of 581 children and families during the 2021-2022 program year. For additional information on Head Start Outcomes and Federal Review information, please visit [Annual-Report-2021-2022.pdf \(capeevansville.org\)](https://www.capeevansville.org/Annual-Report-2021-2022.pdf)

➤ **ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

CAPE Energy Assistance Program helps Vanderburgh, Gibson, and Posey County residents pay gas, electric, and fuel bills. All customers must fall within 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. This program is seasonal and runs from October through March. The program also provides Emergency Replace and Repair (ERR) services to help replace or repair furnaces. Customers must qualify for energy assistance to be eligible for the ERR Program. CAPE's Energy Assistance program served 4,601 households in the 2021-2022 program year.

➤ **WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM**

The Weatherization program helps insulate homes to lower heating and cooling bills. Eligibility for the program is based on household income and the condition of a home. Customers must meet the 200% poverty income guidelines. Our agency served 26 households in the 2021-2022 program year.

➤ **FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM**

The Foster Grandparent Program is a Federally funded project designed for low-income **senior citizens** to render supportive services to children of our community in a supervised setting in health, education, and welfare-related agencies. The program emphasizes the relationship that develops between an older volunteer and a young child by stressing a one-to-one interaction between the two whenever possible. Foster Grandparents are extraordinary people with various backgrounds with wisdom, love, comfort, and experience to share with children so much in need of it. The program hosted 24 volunteers in 2021-2022.



➤ **HOUSING**

CAPE's Housing Department has developed various affordable housing units for rental and purchase in recent years. The program also assists customers with home repair, housing counseling, financial literacy, rental assistance, foreclosure prevention, and mortgage assistance. The Housing Department served 1,677 customers in the 2021-2022 program year.

❖ ***Housing Development Services (CHDO)***

CAPE serves as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO), providing affordable housing for low to moderate-income families in Vanderburgh, Gibson, and Posey Counties.

❖ ***Owner Occupied Rehabilitation***

Qualified homeowners may be eligible for home rehabilitation assistance.

❖ ***Individual Development Account (IDA)***

Provides income-eligible individuals with a three-to-one match for saving for home purchases, starting a business, or attending post-secondary school training.

❖ ***Foreclosure Mitigation***

Assists homeowners in jeopardy of foreclosure, individual counseling, and works with lenders/mortgage companies on a positive outcome for all.

❖ ***Indiana Home Ownership Assistance Fund***

Helps income-qualified customers with mortgage delinquencies.

❖ ***Windows Replacement***

Qualified homeowners may be eligible for home rehabilitation assistance.

❖ ***Down Payment Assistance Program***

Assists first-time homebuyers with downpayment assistance.

❖ ***Acquisition Rehab Resale Program***

Receives or purchases existing abandoned homes from the City of Evansville Department of Metropolitan Development to rehab and resale to income-eligible households within the city limits of Evansville.

❖ ***Assisted households with remediating lead-based paint contamination in their homes to reduce the chances of lead-based paint poisoning to children six years of age and younger.***

➤ **MINORITY HEALTH INITIATIVE**

CAPE's Minority Health Initiative focuses on "eliminating health disparities" and enhancing the quality of life through education, advocacy, and quality health care services. The program was founded in 1987 through the local Minority Health Coalition with the assistance of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus. The program provides health education, screenings, and advocacy on various health disparity topics. The funding from the Minority Health Coalition allowed our agency to serve 693 customers in the 2021-2022 program year.



➤ **TOBACCO PREVENTION & CONTROL**

The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program partners with local hospitals, clinics, agencies, faith-based organizations, schools, employers, and community organizations to combat the severe health conditions of those affected by tobacco and nicotine-related products. Using resources provided by the State and Quit Now Indiana, the program aims to reduce smoking and vaping among Vanderburgh County residents, reducing the adverse health effects of tobacco and nicotine-related product use. The program provides education and resources to encourage smoking cessation in Vanderburgh County.

➤ **WATER BILL ASSISTANCE**

CAPE has partnered with the Evansville Water Sewer and Utility Company to provide Water Bill assistance to residents in Vanderburgh County. Customers whose income qualifies can receive assistance up to \$250.00 on any past due or disconnected E.W.S.U account. Customers can utilize this assistance once every twelve months. In 2022 CAPE assisted 491 Vanderburgh County residents with water bills.

➤ **EMERGENCY NEEDS PANTRY**

The Emergency Need Pantry provides needy families with non-perishable and staple food items. The pantry also provides diapers, wipes, baby formula, and food. Customers in need can visit the Emergency Needs Pantry once every thirty days. Our agency was able to assist 553 customers in 2021.

➤ **FUNDING SOURCES & PARTNERSHIP**

Current funding sources include the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Agriculture, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Energy, the Indiana Department of Community and Rural Affairs, the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority, The City of Evansville Department of Metropolitan Development, Evansville Water Sewer and Utility, Department of Metropolitan Development, Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Indiana Department of Health, and other local, state, and federal programs.

➤ **CARES ACT FUNDING**

CAPE was provided funding by the Department of Metropolitan Development and the Indiana Housing Community Development Authority to assist those whose income had been impacted by the COVID pandemic. This funding allowed our agency to assist customers with rental assistance, water bill assistance, energy assistance, food, diapers, wipes, formula, and baby food.



SUMMARY

The Community Action Program of Evansville and Vanderburgh County, Inc (CAPE) provides services that address the needs of families and impoverished individuals. Partnerships and volunteerism have always been at the forefront of how we can continue our work in eradicating poverty. Some of our partners would include but are not limited to state, local, nonprofit, government, education, faith-based, and healthcare organizations. In 2022 CAPE served 12,884 individuals with the various programs and services provided. All services are provided regardless of race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, or status as a veteran. For more information on the services provided, please visit our website, www.capeevansville.org.