Albany Community Action Partnership

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

https://www.albanycap.org
Letter from ACAP’s Executive Director

ACAP serves the county of Albany and beyond each year with offering over 15 different programs and services and staffing over 200 employees. It is our mission to enact the power of change that makes us so unique. As you will see in our Annual report we share and use data to demonstrate the value of our services and show our collective impact on our community and the families we serve. We have a deep understanding of the causes and roots of Poverty and strive to break down the societal barriers that continue to impact our most vulnerable and neediest of people. We hope you will share in our vision and commit to action as we have, in order to make our communities stronger, create a shared vision and families become self-reliant.

Neenah

Vision

- A trusted and reliable leader in community relationships.
- A leader in business operations, demonstrating continual improvement in the skills, systems and teamwork that create excellence.
- A good neighbor, investing human and financial resources in the communities around us.
- A leading advocate, naming and breaking down societal barriers to economic self-sufficiency.
- An innovator and collaborator, allied with other organizations that seek creative, intentional solutions to longtime challenges and changing community needs.

Our Mission

ACAP works in partnership with families and communities to empower people to achieve economic self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life

Community

Our community includes a diverse array of people and institutions. We respect this diversity, each person’s life circumstances, and the privacy of every individual we serve. We recognize that we are stronger by working together and by accepting our differences as well as our commonalities.

Action

We will be pro-active in meeting customer needs, addressing community issues, and striving for excellence in all that we do. We believe that people should be empowered to self-advocate, assume responsibility, become self-sufficient, and use their inherent strengths to thrive and succeed.

Partnership

We see partnership as the catalyst for achieving our goals. We work collaboratively with the families we serve as well as with stakeholders who share our values.

ACAP is one of New York State’s 51 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and one of 1,100 CAAs nationwide. CAAs are independent nonprofit organizations designated by the federal government in 1964 to combat poverty in various locales.

ACAP is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization registered in the state of New York. With outreach offices in Albany and Cohoes, and multiple early childhood development classrooms throughout Albany County.
Our Impact

Agency Numbers At-a-Glance

2,986
Number of families ACAP serves annually

132,926
Number of meals served through our Early Childhood Education program

171
How many area agencies ACAP partnered with this past year

$269,000
Amount our customers received in federal tax returns

Community and Career Services

This was an amazing year!
All of our work starts with our Service Navigators. Navigators, the heart of our centralized service team, complete the intakes for the entire organization in a streamlined manner, and get to know the needs and goals of every family we serve.

We had 88 people complete ACAP’s Workforce Development Credential (WDC), a comprehensive 60 hour training providing customers with real opportunities to achieve the programmatic goal of economic self-reliance, including: assessment of skills and needs, job readiness/soft skills development; career pathways goal planning.

116 customers received credential training in high demand fields such as health care and commercial driver’s licensing. A licensed commercial driver may earn $16/hour on average in our local area. These credentials move our families up the economic ladder.

Our pantry continues assisting people with food insecurities. We helped 355 families this past year- and gave out 1,737 food pantry bags.

Dress for Success Albany continues making a difference in the lives of women entering the workforce- over 133 women were supported with attire, training, and self-confidence skills in 2018. Our customer, Leasha, who completed our CNA training, attended a four day Dress for Success Summit as our Professional Women’s Group delegate on a cruise from Miami, FL to Nassau, Bahamas. The Success Summit is an annual leadership conference celebrating the personal and professional success of women from Dress for Success affiliates around the world who have achieved economic, educational and career success thanks to Dress for Success support. Leasha will now embark on an 8-month Community Action Project (CAP) of her design that will benefit our community.

Our free tax preparation services (VITA), helped customers keep $269,000 of federal tax return money which goes back into the community and local economy.
Early Childhood Education

We have had a year of both successes and challenges. Our challenges in staffing meant that many of our educators and staff had to step up and often do double-duty. But we have made positive headway in terms of hires and are ready for Fall 2019 with a full management team.

Our challenges did not stand in the way of successes. Among our best practices:

- Literacy activities with parents and children
- Collaborations and partnerships with school districts and private organizations
- We have more than 224 four year olds transitioning to Kindergarten this fall, and more than 90% are meeting and exceeding school readiness goals. This means they have a Head Start on their education!

**64**
Parent education opportunities offered this year at our sites

**84%**
Percentage of parent participation

**500+**
Toys given to our students as part of Toys For Tots

**360**
Dental Services performed

**90%**
Percentage of children graduating that meet benchmarks for Social/Emotional readiness

Weatherization and Energy Services

The numbers below paint a story of growth. We have been tripling our efforts to make homes more energy efficient, safer and healthier for families. Energy efficiency helps families keep more of their money in their pockets to be used for other goals and needs. And by installing carbon monoxide monitors and smoke alarms, we are receiving feedback that families lives have been saved.

As our team expands, and we serve the customers on our waiting list, we expect more successes like the ones above.

**143**
Number of homes ACAP provided energy services to last year

**292**
Number of people our Wx team assisted

**263**
Number of carbon monoxide monitors and smoke detectors we installed

**36**
Number of Households with seniors we worked with

**82**
Number of children under 17 whose homes we worked on
Resources and Financial Management
ASSETS 2018-2019

FUNDING BREAKDOWN
- Education (76%)
- Community Services (3%)
- Nutrition (3%)
- Housing (9%)
- Career Services (3%)

FUNDING SOURCES
- Federal (69.44%)
- State (16.38%)
- Private and Other (14.18%)

Cash and Cash Equivalents (35.68%)
Contracts and Grants Re., (21.42%)
Inventory (0.45%)
Investments (17.44%)
Property and Equipment (23.66%)
Other (0.21%)
Prepaid Expenses (0.14%)
# ALBANY COUNTY OPPORTUNITY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
### February 28, 2019 and 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$2,548,935</td>
<td>$2,559,202</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts and grants receivable</td>
<td>1,488,896</td>
<td>926,026</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>30,991</td>
<td>28,604</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>10,043</td>
<td>22,230</td>
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<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,078,865</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,536,062</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INVESTMENTS, at fair value</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,212,232</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,198,559</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1,735,203</strong></td>
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<td><strong>OTHER ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Security deposits</td>
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<td>15,118</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total other assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,774</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,118</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,949,929</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,484,942</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$50,193</td>
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<td>Accrued payroll and vacation</td>
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<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>285,512</td>
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<td>Deferred revenue</td>
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<td>Other postemployment benefit obligation, current portion</td>
<td>8,596</td>
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<td>Note payable, current portion</td>
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<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other postemployment benefit obligation, net of current portion</td>
<td>77,296</td>
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<tr>
<td>Note payable, net of current portion</td>
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<td><strong>Total long-term liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>77,296</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,272,279</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Without donor restriction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>2,962,447</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invested in property and equipment</td>
<td>1,644,058</td>
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<td>Board designated for program support</td>
<td>18,537</td>
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<td>With donor restriction</td>
<td>52,608</td>
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<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,677,650</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,949,929</strong></td>
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What is a 2-Generation Approach?

ACAP believes it is essential to address the needs of parents and children to improve outcomes for the whole family.

‘Acknowledging that income inequality and poverty greatly affect schooling success means we need to improve the circumstances of poor children’s lives by providing stable, adequate housing and healthy, safe environments. Decent income for their parents is essential. If we fail to improve these circumstances, promoting mobility and opportunity through more and better education is a false promise and is simply posturing.’ Lawrence Mishel

Pairing higher education and workforce programs with early education programs are examples of two-generation strategies.

We focus on the family as a whole; our Service Navigation intake process is designed to help ACAP understand the needs of the entire family.

We then provide options, including career skills and workforce development for parents and caregivers, to making sure children are receiving nutrition, medical care, and Early Childhood Education. Our Energy Services department helps families by making sure they live in a safe, healthy space.

This approach also focuses on outcomes and we measure and account for the successes of both generations:
- how are we helping a family move out of poverty and into stability?
- what skills are parents and children both learning?
- what are the tangible improvements in health, wellbeing, financial security, school readiness for families?

When children have a good start and parents can provide stability for their children, then our communities will break the cycle of poverty.

"Two Generation means we understand that adults want to be great parents and great employees. This means understanding their parenting and work responsibilities and helping people to be able to make great parenting decisions while being successful at work." Roxane White, Morgridge Family Innovator in Residence, Ascend at the Aspen Institute.

**IMPORTANT POINT!**

ACAP, like most community action agencies, has:

- a 50+ history of serving both children and adults,
- a focus on helping people move out of poverty,
- access to broad range of services in communities through their own programs and
- extensive community partnerships.
CUSTOMER journeys
2-Generation Success Stories

In June 2017, when customers JT and NW began their journey with ACAP, they both had no income and limited resources. As a family of four, with two children, they met with Service Navigation, needing child care for their 4 year old. Through their interaction with Service Navigation, the couple sought the opportunities that ACAP had to offer to the whole family.

While their 4 year old started the 2017 – 2018 school year, at Hackett Head Start, JT and NW completed ACAP’s Workforce Development Credential class, through the Community and Career Services Department, in May 2018. NW enrolled for her CNA certification in May 2018, completed in July 2018. NW participated in Dress for Success, learning the art of personal presentation and acquiring professional confidence. Determined to pursue a career in the healthcare field, NW is currently enrolled in the Registered Nurse program, at Russell Sage, anticipating to graduate in May 2021.

In June 2018, their child transitioned from Hackett, demonstrating school readiness milestones, to Kindergarten in the Albany City School District.

JT enrolled for his CDL certification in September 2018, completing it in October 2018. He became gainfully employed as a school bus driver in February 2019, earning $18/hour.

Through ACAP’s bundling of services and two generational approach, this family has achieved economic stability and an improved quality of life.

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**Increased financial security**
From no income, to stable income. As part of our 2 gen approach, ACAP helps provide parents with multiple pathways to get family-supporting jobs and achieve financial stability.

**School**
Ensuring access to high-quality early childhood education for the children in the family.

**Increased customer satisfaction**
By focusing on the family as a whole, we can see better outcomes for parents AND children.

**Family life**
Equipping the parents to better support their children socially and emotionally and to advocate for their kids’ education.

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EK’s customer journey is a great example of how to succeed despite the obstacles life can put in our way. EK is a Mom to five wonderful children ranging in ages from seven to 22. She came to ACAP looking for a change this past January and she has succeeded in making the most of our Career Services programs.

First, she took part in Dress for Success in January, receiving interview suitng. On February 14th, 2019 EK completed ACAP’s Workforce Development Credential, which is an intensive 60 hour class of work readiness and preparedness. At first, EK was hesitant about our classes since she had yet to receive her GED, but she persevered. EK completed her Home Health Aide certification through ACAP’s partnership with Schenectady County Community College (SCCC) on March 29th, 2019. While in training, she received additional credentials in palliative care, traumatic brain injury, and dementia that she completed in March 2019. These credentials make her an even more appealing candidate in the job market.

While she was receiving her education, EK had multiple hardships including the loss of family members and medical issues. Yet, she persevered and did not let these setbacks stop her from accomplishing her goals nor from forming relationships with classmates.

She is now happily employed as a Home Health Aide since July 2nd, 2019, making $17/hour after a very short job search. Asked why ACAP is important to her, EK responded, ‘You’ve helped me achieve one of my goals’. We are happy to have partnered with EK on her customer journey.
Partnerships
By teaming with our partners, we can multiply the positive impact of our work, creating greater success than could be achieved by each organization alone.

School Districts and Court System
ACAP partners with several local school districts to provide learning opportunities throughout Albany communities:
- Albany City School District
- Green Island Union Free School District
- Watervliet School District

Additionally, a drop-in center in collaboration with the Unified Court system for the Albany County Family Courthouse provides a safe environment for children 6-weeks to 12-years of age to play and learn during parent/guardian court appointments.

United Way
United Way works to advance the common good in the Greater Capital Region by investing in the building blocks for a good life. United Way granted ACAP $10,000 to support Early Head Start Services.

Employee Partners
Our employment partners work with ACAP’s specialists to find the right talent for their organizations. Long-term quality employment is a key aspect of helping people achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Among our many partners: Albany Medical Center, Belvedere Home Services, Center for Disability Services, Ellis Medicine, Teresian House, Commercial Driver’s License School, Inc. and Albany County Nursing Home. Thank you to ALL our partners!

City of Albany
We teamed with the City of Albany to have our customers and City residents take surveys on code enforcement in the region, and then we partnered to host a Focus Group. The insight our customers provided will help the City of Albany in their grant process to make city-wide improvements to buildings, inspections and other aspects of residential life through a program called Cities RISE.

Albany Housing Authority
We work very closely with the Albany Housing Authority on numerous energy service and weatherization projects throughout the area. AHA, a major landlord in the area, is making improvements to the homes of numerous residents that will have long-lasting effects: saving tenants money by making energy improvements, and helping residents be healthier and safer with upgrades to heating, ventilation, carbon monoxide monitors and fire alarms.
Social Media Metrics

Growth of social media for ACAP

Engaged Supporters on Social Media

3,764

In 2018-19 we have grown our social media following.

We see social media as a way to easily connect and share information with our customers, partners, and the community-at-large.

Follow us on all our channels and learn how we make our mission reality: #PowerofChange