ACAP is one of New York State’s 51 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and one of 1,500 CAAs nationwide. CAAs are independent nonprofit organizations designated by the federal government in 1964 to combat poverty in various locales.

ACAP offers connections and services to a diverse cross-section of our community that help economically vulnerable individuals strengthen their families through.

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.

The Power Of Change

Mission

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

Guiding Principles

Community

We believe that people should be empowered to self-advocate, assume responsibility, become self-sufficient, and use their inherent strengths to thrive and succeed.

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.

Vision

The Albany Community Action Partnership is:

- 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.
Albany Community Action Partnership (ACAP) operates a comprehensive Head Start program that provides education, special needs, health, nutrition, dental, mental health, parent involvement, and family development services at multiple locations throughout Albany County.

In the 2016–2017 School Year:

Parents and caregivers of children participating in ACAP’s Head Start Program have a multitude of opportunities to participate in program-related activities throughout the program year— including classroom activities, parent workshops, and take home items.
ACAP Head Start utilizes Creative Curriculum System for Preschool which offers comprehensive support in four essential areas: curriculum, assessment, professional development, and family connection. ACAP utilizes the Teaching Strategies GOLD Early Childhood Assessment Tool to tie curriculum to goals and outcomes for children.

**GOLD Scores**

**3 Year Olds**
2016—2017

**GOLD Scores**

**4 Year Olds**
2016—2017
As a result of meeting conditions outlined in 45 CFR Part 1304.11 of the Head Start Program Performance Standards Designation Renewal System (DRS), ACAP is currently eligible for a non-competitive five year grant award to operate the Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

During this program year, ACAP piloted a Men’s Group, highlighting positive “Father Figures” in children’s lives as part of our Fatherhood initiative within the Head Start program and as a central component our two-generational approach to combatting the cyclical nature of poverty. The pilot project took place in our Nathan Lebron Early Learning Center. The group was inclusive not only of fathers, but uncles, grandfathers—all the male figures in the child’s life. The program was designed to showcase the positive impact that men, particularly those in a close relationship to the child, can have on the life of a child.

In 2016-2017, ACAP began to re-establish and strengthen dental partnerships; increasing the number of area dentists with which we partner, and have provided on-site dental screenings for children enrolled in Head Start. Our objective being to emphasize the significance of good dental health and its impact on other aspects of a child’s overall health.
ACAP’s financial statements are prepared according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, with an independent audit completed annually. As required, ACAP’s most recent audit, for the fiscal year that ended February 28, 2017, included review for compliance with the United States’ Office of Management and Budget’s Circular A-133 requirements for Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations. No Findings, Material Weaknesses or Significant Deficiencies were found.