

Volume 42, Issue 2

Spring 2021



COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF DELAWARE COUNTY, INC.

Community Action NEWS

John P. DiEnna, Jr., President — Edward T. Coleman, Chief Executive Officer

CAADC Has Proven Vital During the Pandemic

One year after the onset of COVID-19, Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC) thought it would be appropriate to reflect on our response to the needs of vulnerable County residents during the Pandemic.

In addition to maintaining normal operations and programming, CAADC was proud to respond to the needs of County residents during these extremely challenging times. CAADC remained open 24/7 to provide rental and mortgage assistance, hotel placements, food distribution and other essential services. CAADC worked along with Delaware County government and local municipalities to provide a coordinated response for some of our community's most vulnerable residents. CAADC also applied for and coordinated public resources and proactively sought funding from a variety of private, corporate and foundation resources to address the critical needs of those affected by the Pandemic. *Please continue to Page 2 for statistics on services we provided!*



DID YOU KNOW?



Case Managers prioritize Life Skills instruction so that families have the tools to succeed when they leave the shelter or transitional housing.



Our Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program provides lead-based paint remediation services to eligible households with children under six (6) years of age.



CAADC utilizes a Geothermal heating and cooling system at our Boothwyn Office and our Wesley House Shelter facility.



Community Action Agencies serve 99% of the Counties nationwide.



Our Home Ownership Program has helped over 50 families to obtain a home.

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How You Can Help!

Please consider supporting CAADC by making a contribution through the United Way. Simply designate CAADC and include our number (#06194) on your United Way Donor Choice form for the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your support.

Assistance Provided During the Pandemic

March 2020—March 2021

Rental Assistance

Households Served: 780

Assistance Provided: \$2,558,489

Food Assistance

Meals Served: 12,871

Food Pantry: 330 Residents

SNAP/Food Stamp: 289 Families

Coordinated Entry Assessments

Assessments Completed: 1,509

Information and Referral

Calls Received: 47,154

Emergency Housing (Hotel/Motel)

Clients Served: 355

Nights of Stay: 12,250

Assistance Provided: \$796,250

Emergency Shelters

Family Management Center

Wesley House and the Life Center

Nights of Stay: 30,660

New Partnerships Established

Main Line Art Center

CAADC's Recreational Therapy Program was able to partner with the Main Line Art Center during the COVID-19 Pandemic to introduce a new "Art for Everyone" After School Program. The art classes are designed to offer a learning experience that also incorporates creative expression and are just plain fun. Main Line Art Center has designed the courses to be provided virtually so shelter youth can enjoy them (pictured to the right) in a safe and healthy environment.



Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania

CAADC has partnered with the Housing Equality Center of PA to provide fair housing information and support to our clients. Clients in our Rental Assistance, Shelter and Rapid Rehousing Programs will be provided information on fair housing rights, including how to recognize and report housing discrimination. The Housing Equality Center will support staff with training and provide printed materials. In addition, they will assist clients that experience housing discrimination with fair housing counseling and other support services.

Free Tax Assistance Provided to Low-Income Families

The COVID-19 Pandemic has caused many issues for low-income families including problems with getting their tax returns completed. This was especially difficult for these families as many of them rely on their rebates for support. Despite the Pandemic, Community Action Agency was committed to operating its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program again this year. The VITA sites aim to serve families who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) with free tax preparation services. Dedicated staff and an incredible group of volunteers faced many challenges as the Agency completed all tax returns virtually and/or through drop-off. CAADC had the following results:

Returns Prepared: 308

Earned Income Tax Credits: 75 Amount of EITC: \$147,679

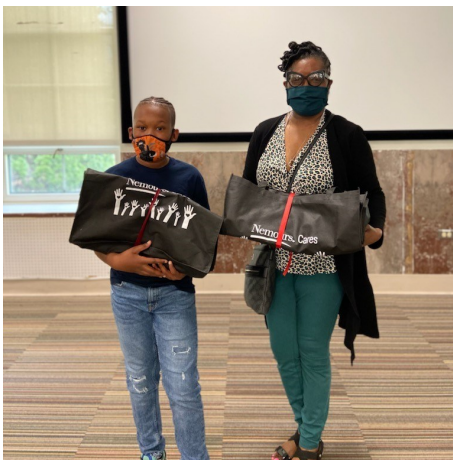
Child Tax Credits: 54 Amount of CTC: \$109,910

Total Amount of Refunds: \$565,974

Volunteer Preparers and Hours: 13 Volunteers for 434 Hours

Recent Development Activity

CAADC has been fortunate to receive the following private contributions from the community during the last quarter: The **Franklin Mint Credit Union** supported the Agency with a \$1,000 donation. **Ridley Park Presbyterian Church** supported the Life Center with donations of \$750 and \$930. The **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority/Tau Delta Omega Chapter** made a donation of \$800 for the Wesley House Shelter. **UBS Financial Services Inc.** supported the Agency with a donation of \$500. CAADC received \$536 from **America's Charities** for our programs. **Vanguard Employees** and the company's matching fund program supported the Agency with donations totaling \$4,348. *CAADC can be supported by designating Agency Code #06194 on United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey forms.*



4th Grader's Do Gooder Project

Tanerra Willis is registered nurse at Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. Nemours has an annual Community Engagement Event which supports local youth. Ms. Willis' 9-year-old son submitted the Wesley House Shelter and his project was chosen. Nemours donated bags filled with hand sanitizer, soap, toothpaste, masks, etc. They also donated bags for the children including coloring books, crayons, a slinky, etc.

Pictured to the left are Ms. Willis and her amazing son.

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Comments? Questions?
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National Community Action Month

Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC) celebrates National Community Action Month during the month of May. CAADC is proud to join over 1,000 Community Action Agencies nationwide celebrating its efforts helping low-income people move toward self-sufficiency and economic stability. National Community Action Month highlights Community Action Agencies' work helping millions of families and individuals escape poverty and achieve economic stability each year. Community Action Agencies have been supporting their local communities for over 56 years carrying out the Promise of Community Action to Help People and Change Lives.

CAADC CEO Edward T. Coleman stated "Community Action Month is a wonderful time to honor and celebrate the impact Community Action has in the lives of families and communities across the country. The need for our services has never been greater and we are proud to support Delaware County and its residents."



Service Profile January 1 - March 31, 2021

Program	Number Served
Utility Assistance Programs	55
Weatherization	162
Safe and Healthy Homes Program	5
Rental Assistance	160
Transitional/Rapid Re-Housing	90
Temporary Emergency Shelter	121
Emergency Shelter	75
Housing Locator	33
Permanent Rental Housing	259
Life Center Meal Program	2,700
Workforce Development	47
Allied Health Program	13
Finally Home Program	9
Employment Bound	19
Play Group Participants	92
After School Program	6
Recreational Therapy Assessments	22
Transportation	57
Information & Referral	12,820
Food Stamp Participation Project	131
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	137
Veterans Housing Program	46
Veterans Employment Project	23
Total Units of Service	17,082