

Volume 46 Issue 2

Spring 2025



COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF DELAWARE COUNTY, INC.

Community Action NEWS

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

CEO EDWARD T. COLEMAN CELEBRATES 45 YEARS AT COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

In April, Edward T. Coleman celebrated an impressive 45 years as Chief Executive Officer of Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC). This achievement highlights his long-standing dedication and leadership in social services which has seen CAADC evolve into one of Delaware County's leading non-profits.

Ed actually started in service with Community Action 50 years ago as part of a job training program for the Scranton-Lackawanna Human Development Agency, Inc. in 1975; eventually becoming an Assistant Director. In April of 1980 he boldly stepped into the position of founding Chief Executive Officer of the Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. His remarkable tenure at CAADC has been defined by profound success and impactful achievements over the past 45 years.

Members of the CAADC management team recently recognized Mr. Coleman's 45 year anniversary as CAADC CEO and 50 years with Community Action Agencies.

Pictured from left to right: Edward T. Coleman, Sharon Grasty (42 years with CAADC), Danita Miller (40 years), Rodney Coley (35 years), Gina Ondo (40 years) and Kendall Watts (2 years).



STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

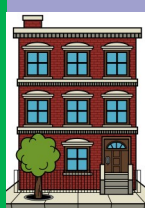
DID YOU KNOW?



Through our faith-based and community partnerships over 2,000,000 meals have been provided at our Life Center Meal Program.



CAADC operates three homeless shelters including the Wesley House, the Family Management Center and the Life Center.



CAADC has over 250 rental units providing safe, decent and affordable housing.



Community Action Agencies provide service in 99% of the Counties in the United States.

HEATING

CAADC helped over 300 households this Winter through the Crisis Heating Assistance Program.

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MAY is National Community Action Month!



Read more about Community Action Agencies on Page 4 of this newsletter!

Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. Has Many Employment Opportunities

“CAADC is a Great Place to Work!”

Join our team of passionate, talented people who want to make an impact on lives!

CAADC currently has the following positions open:

Case Manager - Rapid Re-Housing (FT)

Case Manager - Veterans Program (FT)

Coordinated Assessment Specialist (FT)

Healthcare Navigator - Veterans Program (PT)

Mental Health Case Manager - Shelter (FT)

Please contact our Human Resources Department if you are interested or have questions!

Kendall Watts kwatts@caadc.org

Joel Thompson jthompson@caadc.org

Recent Development Activity

CAADC has been fortunate to receive the following private contributions from the community during the last quarter: The **Ethel Sergeant Clark Smith Memorial Fund** provided a grant of \$7,000 for Veterans Outreach Support. CAADC received a contribution of \$30,000 from **WSFS Bank** for the Neighborhood Assistance Program. The **Charities Aid Foundation of America** donated \$640 to the Agency to support our programs. The **United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern NJ** contributed \$940 for Agency support. CAADC received a donation of \$620 from **First Presbyterian Church of Springfield** for the Life Center shelter. CAADC received a donation of \$500 from **America's Charities**. The **Hoops from the Heart** event in Haverford Township on MLK, Jr. Day raised \$3,074 for the Agency. *CAADC can also be supported by designating Agency Code #06194 on United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey forms.*



Pictured: Collegium Charter School in Exton donated food and household items to support our families in need.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 - 45 YEARS FOR CEO EDWARD T. COLEMAN

CAADC has progressed from an initial \$50,000 planning grant to a \$23 million annual budget. Ed was the Agency's first employee but now CAADC employs over 140 staff members. Services provided to Delaware County residents include three (3) homeless shelters, rental assistance, utility assistance, food assistance, workforce development initiatives, affordable rental housing, Veteran services, Weatherization (in 5 Counties) and many other programs and services. CAADC has provided over 5,000,000 units of service since its inception. CAADC assists over 8,000 residents annually.

Ed also supported Pennsylvania by serving as a Board Member of the Community Action Association of Pennsylvania for over two decades. In addition, he served six (6) years as President of the Board of Directors for the Community Action Association of Pennsylvania. He has also advocated for social services networks at the local, state and federal levels many times over the years meeting with elected officials and governmental agencies.

Ed has also served on many local community and foundation boards. He has been recognized and received awards over the years for his many achievements including from Delaware County Council, PA Director's Association for Community Action, National Association of Social Workers, Islamic Center of Chester, American Red Cross, U.S. House of Representatives, Community Action Association of Pennsylvania, CAADC Board of Directors, Upper Darby Caring Foundation, Darby Borough and many more.

Delaware County has truly been made better by all his amazing efforts over the last 45 years. Ed's commitment to community service and his dedicated contributions have not only benefited numerous individuals and organizations but have also inspired others to engage in service, making a lasting difference in the lives of those around him.

OVER 1,100 RESIDENTS PROVIDED WITH FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

For the 19th straight year, Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. provided Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) throughout the community. CAADC was able to assist 1,181 households this year, the most the project has ever done. CAADC has now provided free tax assistance over 15,000 times since 2007. 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. All services are provided by IRS-certified volunteers. CAADC provided services to residents from all over Delaware County.

This project is funded by a grant from the Internal Revenue Service.

In 2025, CAADC had the following results:

Returns Prepared: 1,181

Earned Income Tax Credits: 212 Amount of EITC: \$403,086

Child Tax Credits: 115 Amount of CTC: \$164,011

Total Amount of Refunds: \$1,235,939

Total # of Volunteers: 40

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU
TO OUR 40 DEDICATED
AND AMAZING VITA
VOLUNTEERS THAT
MADE THE
PROGRAM POSSIBLE!!!**

THANKYOU!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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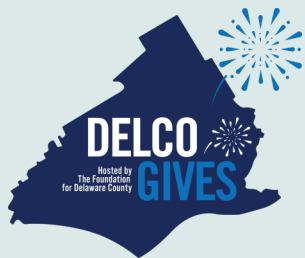
*An Economic Development venture of
CAADC. All proceeds benefit our
non-profit activities.*

Lead-Based Paint Remediation
License #C00414
PA Contractor Registration #009320



DELCO GIVES DAY 2025

May 8th 7:00 p.m.—May 9th 7:00 p.m.
(donations accepted on-line until May 12th)



Delco Gives Day is a local effort to encourage giving to Delaware County non-profits.

Please remember to donate to CAADC!

<https://www.delcogives.org/organizations/community-action-agency-of-delaware-county-inc>



Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc.

Since 1979

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

May is National Community Action Month!!!

Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC) is proud to provide economically disadvantaged Delaware County residents with assistance to move toward self-sufficiency and economic stability. During May we celebrate National Community Action Month. Community Action Agency programs and services help families succeed.

CAADC is proud to join over 1,000 Community Action Agencies nationwide celebrating our efforts to assist our local neighbors. Community Action Agencies have been supporting their local communities for 60 years changing people's lives, embodying the spirit of hope, improving communities and making America a better place to live.

Edward T. Coleman, CAADC CEO, stated "It is our honor serve the residents of Delaware County especially helping our most vulnerable residents including families, the homeless, senior citizens, youth and Veterans.



Last year CAADC locally helped over 8,000 residents with assistance while nationally Community Action Agencies helped over 15 million Americans.

Service Profile January 1 - March 31, 2025

Program	Number Served
Utility Assistance Programs	10
Helping Hand Program	13
Weatherization	46
Crisis Program	244
Rental Assistance Program	140
Rapid Re-Housing Program	65
Finally Home Program	46
Veterans Housing Program	51
Housing Navigator	69
Emergency Shelter Program	138
Permanent Rental Housing	254
Lead Hazard Control/Abatement Project	1
Coordinated Entry Program	675
Information and Referral	6,145
Community Based Care Management	45
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	766
Life Skills/Financial Training	34
Transportation Assistance	164
Life Center Meal Program	4,500
Food Support	1,103
SNAP Outreach Project	90
Workforce Ready Program	75
Clinical Medical Assistance Program	20
After School/Summer Extension	14
Recreational Therapy Assessments	20
Total Units of Service	14,728