

# Lake Community **Action Agency, Inc.** 2021 Annual Report



One Agency  
One Team  
One Purpose

[WWW.LAKECAA.ORG](http://WWW.LAKECAA.ORG)

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## Letter from Our Board of Directors' President Mr. John H. Christian, II

**LCAA Celebrating 55 Years of Service 1966 - 2021**

It is again my pleasure and great honor to bring you greetings on behalf of the Board of Directors of Lake Community Action Agency, Inc. This year, 2021, we have continued to provide services to the most vulnerable children and families for 55 years.

We have remained committed as an agency to building community partnerships that have helped our children and families to survive their continued challenges as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We will continue to help mobilize the needed resources to help our low income families become more self-sufficient.

Let me commend my fellow board members for your continued support and commitment to this great cause and mission of this Agency, and to the staff for all of their hard work and commitment to achieving the Agency's mission and strategic goals.

I solicit the continued support of the entire community as we, together, fight the causes of poverty in this community and country.

In His Service,  
John H. Christian, II  
Board Chairperson/President



## “Continuing the Legacy ~ 55 Years, Helping People.....Changing Lives”

It is with great pleasure and sense of pride and gratitude that I bring you greetings on this 55<sup>th</sup> presentation of the Annual Report to the community of Lake County.

For the past two years, this country and world have been challenged by the worse pandemic of our lives. Yes, many lives have been altered and many lives have been lost, but we as a Community Action Agency have remained steadfast and committed to our mission and goals of “Helping People.....Changing Lives” and building community partnerships to help bring families out of poverty to a more stable status of self-sufficiency.

We are grateful for the community partnerships with local, state, and federal partners that have allowed us to provide the many services to the children and families this past year of great challenges due to the pandemic. While we acknowledge the services and accomplishments this past year, we realize that there is much more that still needs to be done.

I believe that it is important to acknowledge and recognize the individual and team efforts of staff and our Board of Directors. It is their dedication and commitment each and every day to our mission and vision that allow our Agency to improve the lives of the families we serve.

Also to our Community Financial Supporters for your annual financial support and sponsorships, please accept my sincere gratitude.

The “War on Poverty” that was declared in 1964 is not over. Today, more so than ever, we must unify at all levels of our cities, counties, states and nation as ONE and commit the resources that will address and resolve the causes of poverty in this nation.

And as we continue this Great Legacy, let us stand together in unity and greater love for each other.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this great agency for the past 52 years.

God bless Lake Community Action Agency.

Humbly Yours,

James H. Lowe, Certified Community Action Professional ~Executive Director

# LAKE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY'S 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROSTER

## Board Officers:

John H. Christian - President  
Louis C. Ward – Vice President  
June Love – Secretary  
Judy Carter – Assistant Secretary  
Catherine Lynum - Treasurer  
Robert Ragin – Member-At-Large  
Lee Ann Gilson – Finance Consultant  
Derek A. Schroth, Esq. – Legal Consultant

## Other Members:

Mollie Cunningham  
Brian Broadway  
Charles Brown  
Tony Fields  
Cathy Heflin  
Walter McGriff  
Vershun Ford  
Willie Hawkins  
Donna Bonifacino

# Corporate Sponsors

Rand Management Company

Munn's Sales and Services

Brown & Brown

Citizen's First Bank

Southern Technical Institute, Inc.

United Southern Bank

Jacobsen Foundation

Brown Brothers, Inc.

Greenhouse Financial

Sumter Electric Cooperation

Public Housing Assistance

Advent Health

Cassidy Construction Company

Spring Harbor Apartments

Palestine Lodge

Business Masters.Net, Inc.

Climate Makers of Central FL., Inc.

City of Eustis

Toshiba Business Solutions

Community Foundation of South Lake

The Keys to Knowledge, I

# About LCAA

**Lake Community Action Agency, Inc.** is a private non-profit corporation. The aim of LCAA is to stimulate a better focusing of all available local, State, private and federal resources upon the goal of enabling low- income families, senior citizens, and other individuals in rural and urban areas, to obtain the skills, knowledge, and motivation and secure the opportunities needed for them to become self-sufficient.

## **Our Mission Statement**

*Promoting self-sufficiency by reducing and eliminating barriers that contribute to the instances of poverty through a variety of programs to improve the standards of living.*

## **Our Vision Statement**

*Lake Community Action Agency strives to become the premier agency in building partnerships that provide professional services to children and families.*

## **The 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 we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.”*

# BALANCE SHEET

LAKE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC  
For the year ended September 30, 2021  
-Unaudited-

## ASSETS

Cash	36,317	
Receivables	702,196	
Fixed Assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	222,727	
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>961,240</b>

## LIABILITIES

Payables	457,234	
Accrued Expenses	33,165	
Refundable Advance	124,530	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>614,929</b>

## UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		<b>346,311</b>
		<b>961,240</b>

# STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES

LAKE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC  
For the year ended September 30, 2021  
-Unaudited-

## SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

### STATE OF FLORIDA

Department of Economic Opportunity	2,615,069	
Department of Education	172,144	
Miscellaneous Income – PPP Loan	90,000	
		<b>2,877,213</b>

### LOCAL AND PRIVATE

<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>		<b>3,021,729</b>
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## EXPENSES:

### PROGRAM SERVICES

Community Services	661,104	
Emergency Home Repair/Weatherization	94,878	
Home Energy Assistance	1,863,196	
Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten/School Readiness	237,713	
<b>Total Program Services</b>		<b>2,856,891</b>

### SUPPORT SERVICES

Management and General		<b>59,484</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>2,916,375</b>

<b>INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>		<b>105,354</b>
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## **2020 – 2021 Fifty- Five Years – The Legacy continues: Community Services Block Grants Programs: CSBG, Weatherization, Energy Services, VPK, School Readiness, Community Partnerships**

LCAA assisted 8,755 unduplicated individuals were served through the administration of the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), CSBG-CARES, CSBG-Integrated Services Pilot Project, Weatherization, Low Income Homes Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and LIHEAP-CARES in obtain program services.

LCAA assisted 3,379 families through Agency-Wide Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

LCAA assisted 7 households with weatherization and home repair throughout Lake County.

LCAA moved 48 families to full self-sufficiency through education, training, and gainful employment.

LCAA assisted 51 total at-risk School Readiness and Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK) low-income children ages 1 to 5 with educational services.

LCAA continued its relationship with the Department of Economic Opportunity and CareerSource Florida DEO.

LCAA through its formalized Integrated Services Pilot Project Agreement with CareerSources Central Florida assisted 122 individuals with training and job placement, 118 have completed with credentials, and 96 placed on jobs.

LCAA renewed partnership with Spring Harbor Apartments to provide unsubsidized affordable housing for 48 families, generating a cost savings of \$153,000.00 a year

LCAA continues to provide a career database internet technology for assisting local employers in finding suitable candidates to fill employment needs.

LCAA has provided soft skills training for job retention and employment for 122 individuals.

LCAA has assisted 96 individuals in obtaining employment from March 2018 – September 2021, through its continued partnership with CareerSource Central Florida, leveraging over \$411,000.00.

LCAA continues its partnership with Lake Sumter Center for Workforce Acceleration and Innovation to assist potential employers in Lake and Sumter counties in filling their jobs demands in the area of Health services, Agribusiness, Renewable Energy, Transportation and Education.

LCAA continued its relationship with the Central Florida Health Alliance and provided job referrals for 80 individuals in health related fields.

LCAA through its supportive housing initiative has provided housing assistance for 132 families that were homeless or facing homelessness.

LCAA continued its formalized partnership agreement with Southern Technical Institute to combat the growing need and shortage for Healthcare professionals in the areas of Nursing and Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA's)..

LCAA secured \$45,000 in grant funds from Jacobsen Foundation grant to provide Educational assistance to at-risk Low- Income pre-school children ages 1 to 5.

LCAA received a \$25,000 grant from Community Foundation of Southlake to providing Housing assistance to prevent evictions.

We are very proud of the continuous active, dedicated volunteers and community partners that have been mobilized to help us provide the many different services and the local in-kind required.

# Who We Serve 2020 - 2021

Lake Community Action Agency is dedicated to serving the needs of its Community by empowering those with lower incomes to attain and maintain self-sufficiency through a variety of programs. Poverty can affect anyone at any time; the following is an illustration of the Lake Community Action Agency clients served in Lake County.

<b><u>Family Type</u></b>		Most Households served were headed by single parent females.	
Single Parent Female	.36%		
Single Parent Male	.02%		
Two- Parent Household	.18%		
Single Person	.30%		
Two Adults/No Children	.10%		
Other	.04%		
<b><u>Ethnicity/ Race</u></b>		Clients are from a variety of ethnic backgrounds representing the diverse communities within our county.	
African American	.53%		
White	.27%		
Native American	.03%		
Multi-Race	.02%		
Asian	.03%		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	.02%		
Other	.01%		
<b><u>AGE</u></b>		The majority of our clients were adult high school graduates between the ages 24 to 44 and young children under the age of 12.	
0-5	.13%	18-23	.09%
6-11	.16%	24-44	.29%
12-17	.14%	45-54	.10%
		55-69	.07%
		70+	.02%

# COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT 2020-2021 PROGRAM SUMMARY

Lake Community Action Agency is committed to providing quality services with impact and outcomes for families in our community. Our programs enhance and enrich lives by providing citizens with tools and resources that encourage self-sufficiency and improved standard of living.

## Helping People... Changing Lives Community Action Helps:

**8,755, of which (5,826) unduplicated** individuals and family members received services through the administration of the **Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), CSBG-CARES, Weatherization, School Readiness (SR) and Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK), Integrated Services Pilot Project (ISPP), Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Programs (LIHEAP), LIHEAP-CARES, Jacobsen Foundation, and Southlake Community Foundation.**

**3,379** households received assistance to help maintain Self-Sufficiency.

**48** Individuals obtained **gainful employment** from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

**7** households received assistance for **Weatherization/LIHEAP- Weatherization and Home Repair.**

## Success Story: Deborah Chavis by Sylvester Pringle

Deborah Chavis is one of our eldest clients. Her goal and objective was to identify substantial gainful employment within the field of Healthcare. Her focus and determination was triggered by the care of her Mentally Challenged Adult Daughter. Ms. Chavis faced many obstacles prior however, dealing with the recent loss of her Brother who also was a main contributor to the household income. Ms. Chavis only source of income was her Daughter's Supplemental Supportive Income. Ms. Chavis was also dealing with another challenge. Ms. Chavis had background concerns that were prohibiting her from substantial gainful employment opportunities.

One day Lake Community Action Agency in Eustis, Florida Career Consultant received a phone call from Ms. Chavis. Ms. Chavis was inquiring about employment. Any type of employment. Career Consultant asked Ms. Chavis, What was her desired career path? She mentioned, Healthcare. She also mentioned, however, she does have a background issue. Career Consultant suggested steps to possibly get it exonerated. Career Consultant asked for Ms. Chavis to come to Lake Community Action Agency Office in Eustis, Florida and pick up a Background Screening Application for Exemption Form along with instructions. Career Consultant mentioned to Ms. Chavis, the process for Exemption may take several months and the steps are crucial. Career Consultant would follow up with Ms. Chavis at least once a month. Career Consultant received contact via telephone from, Ms. Chavis requesting if Career Consultant write a Character Letter on her behalf.

Shortly after, Career Consultant was able to enroll her in the Patient Care Assistant Program with Southern Technical Institute in Tavares, Florida. Ms. Chavis performed essentially well. Attended all classes completed all tasks and assignments. Completed Clinicals and was able to take State and National Exams for Certifications and Licenses. Career Consultant provided supportive services for Transportation and Rental Assistance for Ms. Chavis during her economic hardship while completing the Program.

Ms. Chavis received multiple employment offers from various Healthcare Providers. She is now a full-time receptionist with Regency Park Assistant Living in Eustis, Florida.



## *Lake Community Action Agency's Excellence Academy*

*Now Enrolling 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades*

*Call us at: 1-800-340-1213 or 352-357-5550*

*Visit us at 920 County Road 468 – Leesburg, FL*

*The Excellence Academy* offers students personalized learning options that work best for them, A State of Florida Choice School; it features a nationally accredited curriculum that supports all state requirements for high school graduation. You and your 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade student now have the choice of a Private School Education that offers all required courses and electives, a unique S.T.E.M. track, and features Aviation, Aeronautics, Coding, Physics, and Robotics.

*Excellence Academy* has two learning options:

- **Traditional On-Campus Learning** - with increased safety protocols
- **Innovative Learning From Home With Live Teacher Program** - FLDOE approved work-from-home program

### **SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!!!**

#### **1. ENROLL – Choose the Private School Option - *The Excellence Academy***

You need only call 800-340-1213 or visit the website at: [www.theexcellence.academy](http://www.theexcellence.academy) and complete an “Interest Form” behind tab. A representative will contact you upon receipt. **ACT Today** to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to personalize your student’s education experience!

#### **2. APPLY for *Step Up* for Students TODAY!!!**

The *Step Up* for Students Scholarship that administers five programs personalized for Florida school students. To apply, VISIT the link below, and then click on Apply Now. You will self-select which program best represents your preferred funding and complete the application form.

### ***Step Up* for Students Application**

To complete your application, visit [www.theexcellence.academy](http://www.theexcellence.academy), go to the Interest Form tab, and fill out the form to take advantage of a Private School personalized education option. We want to stay in touch with you about your school choice!

# ENERGY SERVICES



## Helping Families to Win Now and in the Future

The Energy Services Department continues to provide many opportunities for success to the families of Lake County through several of our expanded programs and ancillary services. The Energy Services Department is driven to provide programs and services that are sustainable which promote “Financial Independence through Energy Efficiency.”

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we continued to expand services that will impact families for years to come. One such expansion came with our LIHEAP Program where the department added a new A/C Repair & Replacement Option service for qualified LIHEAP Clients. Individuals that income-qualify under the program’s guidelines who own their home in addition to containing at least a 10 year old Central A/C System are eligible to receive the expanded benefit of the program.



Through our expanded services, **The LIHEAP Program** replaced 33 A/C Systems and repaired over 8 during a period of only 3 months to help drive utility costs down for program participants. The program continues to receive enormous participation across all of Lake County.



The **LIHEAP Program** also prevented the home energy crisis and restored home energy in over **1,670** homes this year and part of last year. Helping households avoid over **\$50,100** dollars in reconnect & late fees. This program is designed to assist eligible low-income households with their heating and cooling energy costs.

In our **Weatherization Program**, the department only weatherized 3 homes due to challenges with the pandemic and slowdowns in material production and distribution. However, over 9 individuals benefited from the Weatherization Program last year.



The purpose of the Weatherization Assistance Program is to reduce the monthly energy burden on low-income households by improving the energy efficiency of the home and the health and safety of families.

The Weatherization Program continues to be successful in creating jobs, and lowering electric bills of struggling families in the communities we serve throughout Lake County.

The Energy Services Department continues to provide ancillary programs through secured partnerships with our local municipalities in providing energy audits and construction management services to targeted areas of the City of Eustis. The total investment of the project totals over **\$250,000** in energy efficiency upgrades and rehabilitation improvements. The Energy Services Department will continue to secure vital programs and foster partnerships that will lead to significant investments in our local communities to assist families in Lake County for now and in the future for many years to come.

# SR/VPK Summary Report      FY 20 - 21 June 2021

The following is a summary of the educational services provided and progress that was demonstrated by the high-risk underserved low-income pre-school children ages 1 to 5 as a result of the Childcare services provided by the Lake Community Action. This program provided educational assistance to develop the following five areas of Learning and Child Development: Print Knowledge, Phonological Awareness, Oral Language / Vocabulary, and Mathematics.

The results of the initial assessment that was performed in October, 2020 show that in the area of Print Knowledge, 25% of the students tested were below expectations, 50% were meeting expectations, and 25% were exceeding expectations. In the area of Phonological Awareness, 75% of the students were below expectations, and 25% were meeting expectations and 0% of the students were exceeding expectations. In the areas of Oral Language and Vocabulary, 50% of the students tested were below expectations, 50% of the students were meeting expectations and 0% of the students were exceeding expectations. Finally, in the area of Mathematics, 75% of the students were below expectations, 25% of the students were meeting expectations, and 0% of the students were exceeding expectations.

The results of the second assessment performed in March of 2021 were as follows: In the area of Print Knowledge, 0 % of the students tested were below expectation, down from the 25%, which was a decrease of 25%. Of those tested 50% were meeting expectations, same as previous period and 50% were now exceeding expectation, an increase of 25% in this area. In the area of Phonological Awareness, 0% of the students were below expectation, which is a 75%, a decrease in this area. Of the students tested, 50% were now meeting expectation, up from 25%, an increase of 25%, and 50% of the students were exceeding expectation, up from 0%, an increase of 50%. In the areas of Oral Language and Vocabulary, 0% of the students were below expectation, down from 50%, a decrease of 50%. Now 50% of the students were meeting expectations, same previous testing period and of the students tested 50% were exceeding expectations, same as from previous testing period. Finally, in the area of Mathematics, 0% of the students were below expectation, a decrease of 75%, from the previous testing, 75% of the students were now meeting expectations, up from 0%, from previous testing period, an increase of 75% in this area and 25% of the students were exceeding expectation, up from 0% in the previous testing period, a 25% increase.

The results of the third assessment performed in June of 2021 were as follows: In the area of Print Knowledge, 0 % of the students tested were below expectation, same as previous testing period. Of those tested 20% were meeting expectations, down 30%, which were now exceeding expectation, up 30% to 80%, an increase of 30% in this area. In the area of Phonological Awareness, 0% of the students were below expectation, same as previous testing period. Of the students tested, 40% were now meeting expectation, down from 50%, a decrease of 10%, which were now exceeding expectations. Of the students tested 60% of the students were exceeding expectation, up from 50%, an increase of 10%. In the areas of Oral Language and Vocabulary, 0% of the students were below expectation, same as previous period. Now, 40% of the students were meeting expectations, a decrease of 10%, which were now exceeding expectations. Of the students tested 60% were exceeding expectations, a 10% increase from previous testing period. Finally, in the area of Mathematics, 0% of the students were below expectation, same as the previous testing period, 40% of the students were now meeting expectations, down from



75%, from previous testing, a decrease of 35% in this area, which were now exceeding expectations and 60% of the students were exceeding expectation, up from 25% from the previous testing period, an increase of 35%.

The impact of the program this year is that, the Lake Community Action Agency was able to offer Childcare services to 51 high-risk underserved low-income pre-school age children, ages 1 to 5 and provide the families of those children with wrap around services coupled with intense case-management to help them obtain a greater level of self-sufficiency. The objective of the program is to assist at-risk households with services that empower them to become economically-self-sufficiency by removing barriers that prevent self-sufficiency in achieving family stability (i.e. Early Childhood educational services, employment, housing).

This data further supports the fact that high-risk underserved low-income pre-school age children, who receive the educational services they need to prepare them for entering into Kindergarten, can experience success thus further reducing the Educational Achievement Gap that exists between them and their wealthier counter parts.

## MT. CLAIR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER ~ 2000 PARK CIRCLE – LEESBURG, FL



December 2020-----Miss Leesburg Hometown USA donated hats/blankets to our children

December 2020-----Kwanza with Mrs. Bedford

December 2020-----Donations from Palestine Masonic Lodge /The Consistory– Leesburg, FL

February 2021-----Miss Leesburg Hometown USA visited and read stories to our children

March 2021 -----Celebrating with Dr. Seuss

December 2021-----Santa /Ms. Santa visited our center from Shangr'la by the Lake (55 plus Community), donated goodies to our children.

To Live Again-A Success Story

# Lake Community Action Agency

## Community Partners Highlights: Mid Florida Homeless Coalition

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; three very powerful words that belong to every man, woman, and child in the United States of America. For many generations, people have been flocking to this great nation in order to have that very thing. But do all citizen's actually have that liberty? What happens when life doesn't play fair, and circumstances bring a person or family to their knees? Unfortunately, there are many suffering greatly, just beneath the surface of society. And that is the very lives that Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, along with their partnering agencies, endeavor to help on a daily basis.

Today's success story is a great testament to the fact that miracles still happen today. For the precious soul that was helped, an elderly woman facing insurmountable odds, her very life was on the line. It was discovered that if she had had to wait one more week for her treatment, she would have died. Thankfully she was spared that fate!

Her encounter with Mid Florida Homeless Coalition began when she was discovered to be living in a van. Not only was she living in these circumstances, but she was supposed to be receiving dialysis twice a week due her health conditions, which unfortunately helped contribute to her experiencing homelessness in the first place.

After getting into the ESG-CV program, she was referred to the housing specialist, Amber Tucker. Together they completed a rental application through "Find, Feed and Restore." It was processed and approved, and Pastor Brian Broadway and Shannon Herrera then met with her and made the decision to rent to her. From there, much action was taken to help meet her specific needs to get her properly ready to be housed.

Due to her health conditions, she was not able to use regular stairs, so they built her a ramp. Then they went to work furnishing her new home with a bed, couch, table, and microwave. Nothing was left out. She was provided with toiletries, towels, and cleaning supplies. And due to her medical conditions and needing to eat a special diet, they were even able to stock her kitchen with the things that she was able to eat, per her request.

At her lease signing, there stood a woman barely able to walk, of whom was very weak and jaundiced due to her situation and lack of care. There stood a woman with so much gratitude in her heart, profusely exclaiming her gratitude for all those who came together to help her. She was no longer alone facing the possibility of death. She was facing new life.

Many people were involved in helping to create this miracle. Her case manager, Daphne Simmons, with The Salvation Army of Sumter County picked her up that special day and brought all her belongings with her. Amber and Shannon helped carry all her things, supplies and groceries inside. Together they set everything up. Many tears of hope and relief were cried that day.

Her case manager continued to provide real case management and helped her take the next steps. She was signed up for transportation, set up with a bank account; she was even helped with her laundry. No stone was left unturned. In all accounts, this truly was a success story.

Written by Tanya Hale

04/28/2021

Barbara Wheeler,  
MFHC Executive Director



**Lake Community Action Agency**  
**Community Partners Highlights: Southern Christian Leadership**  
**Foundation [SCLF] located at The Coleman Enrichment Center**  
**4606 Lime Street, Coleman, FL**

**SCL FOUNDATION, INC. SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

Every week on Tues/Thurs we deliver 43 meals to the homeless around Sumter County – So we are delivering 86 meals a week/ 344 meals a month; Our meals increased to 55 twice weekly as of October 2021. Once a month we will take out toiletry bags that include HIV health info, shoes or clothes with the meals to those who request it.

**JANUARY 2021**

January 16, 2021 –MLK Day Celebration at the new MLK Park in Wildwood, FL

January 18, 202 – MLK Jr Day of Service –

**FEBRUARY 2021** - Every Thursday in the month of February Black History movies

**APRIL 2021** - April 9<sup>th</sup> – Grocery Giveaway / Voter Registration –50 dinners and 50 bags of groceries; registered 5 new people

**MAY 2021**

May 1<sup>st</sup> – Grocery Giveaway – 100 bags groceries to 40 families

May 8<sup>th</sup> – Prepared meals for the homeless in Sumter County and at The Refuge in Bushnell, FL. Meal was served. We gave away 40 toiletry packs that included HIV health info; We served 60 meals to adults and children; We were able to help 7 people get showers that lived in encampments in woods or in their cars

**May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>** – Football Camp and College Bus Tour – We visited colleges and participated in football camps in GA, AL and FL; We had 63 students from 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade; 12 Chaperones

**JUNE 2021** - June 26<sup>th</sup> – National HIV Testing Day; I set up health display at The Refuge for their community event; Attendees that came through were about 100

**JULY 2021**

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Happy Birthday America Celebration – Set up/pass out HIV palm cards, Silence is Sinful and Sista Phi Sista brochures at this event; Attendance was 1,000+

July 15<sup>th</sup> – Movie Night at the office in Coleman showing “Coming 2 Amerika”

July 23<sup>rd</sup> – June 28<sup>th</sup> – Football Camp and College Bus Tour – We visited colleges and participated in football camps in NC, SC and VA; We had 50 students from 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade; 8 Chaperones.

July 31, 2021 - We partnered with The Refuge At Jumper Creek to feed the homeless in encampments, tent cities and hotels in Wildwood, Sumter County area. We prepared BBQ rib and chicken dinners. We served 56 meals

### **AUGUST 2021**

August 2, 2021 – Back to School Giveaway.

August 7, 2021 – Youth Cooking Class – Lead by instructor, Glendora Stephens-Wright,

August 27-28, 2021 – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Human Rights Conference

### **SEPTEMBER 2021**

September 25, 2021 - We partnered with The Refuge At Jumper Creek to feed the homeless in encampments, tent cities and hotels in Sumter County area. We prepared BBQ chicken dinners. We served 64 meals

### **OCTOBER 2021**

October 30, 2021 – Celebrity Basketball Tournament – We partnered with Coach James Hampton of WRK Daily Nonprofit and the Glendora Stephens-Wright Fund to put on a high school fundraiser with various Olympic Medalists, Singers and NFL Athletes competing in teams with high school students. We provided the snacks, lunch and hydration for all participants in the tournament, coaches & celebrity athletes in attendance.

### **NOVEMBER 2021**

November 20, 2021 – Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway. We partnered with the Glendora A. Stephens-Wright Fund, Inc. to giveaway all the grocery items needed that included a turkey, ham or hen, to prepare a full Thanksgiving Meal. We served a total of 75 families. Family sizes ranged from 1 to 12 members of the same household. Total persons benefited that were able to enjoy a hot meal for the holiday was 320.

# SCFL EVENT PICTURES



## Thanksgiving Food Drive



## Celebrity Basketball Event

# “A Brief History of Community Action

## What is Community Action?

In 1964, The Great Society, as envisioned by President Lyndon Johnson, was a sweeping plan to improve the lives of all Americans, regardless of their circumstances. Inspired by President Kennedy and his New Frontier, Johnson pledged to fulfill his promise of equal opportunity for all by enacting several comprehensive changes within the federal government. In August of that same year, the Economic Opportunity Act was signed into law by President Johnson creating the nationwide Community Action Network.

## The War on Poverty

In 1963, shortly before he was assassinated, President Kennedy had asked his economic advisors to draw up some proposals to address the problem of American poverty. Johnson took up this charge after he succeeded Kennedy as President. In Johnson’s first State of the Union address in 1964, he called for an unconditional war to defeat poverty. He developed the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. The act included a variety of initiatives:

1. Head Start
2. Job Corps
3. Work-Study program for university students
4. VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) – a domestic version of the Peace Corps
5. Neighborhood Youth Corps
6. Basic education and adult job training
7. CAPS (Community Action Programs) – CAPS turned out to be the most controversial part of the package, as it proposed the “**maximum feasible participation**” by poor people themselves to determine what would help them the most. CAPS were a radical departure from how government had run most social reform programs in the past.

# Unique Characteristics of Community Action Agencies

- **BOARD STRUCTURE** – CAAs are required to have a tripartite board consisting of equal parts of local private sector, public sector, and low-income community representatives. This structure brings together community leaders from each of these groups to collaborate on developing responses to local needs. This allows for Maximum Feasible Participation in both the creation and administration of Community Action programs.
- **VOLUNTEER SUPPORT** – The CAA network is one of the largest users of volunteer services in the country.
- **LEVERAGE FOR OTHER RESOURCES** – In Iowa, every Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) dollar spent leverages nearly \$32 of federal, state, local, and private contributions combined.
- **INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS** – CSBG funds give CAAs the flexibility to design programs that address needs specific to individuals and the local community and to identify specialized resources that fit these needs.
- **LOW ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS** – CAAs have very low administrative overhead costs (on average, between 7 and 12 percent). Resources are invested directly in the community and families.
- **COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE** – CAAs respond quickly when a family or individual is in crisis to avoid costly long-term problems. The highest priority is placed on helping people achieve permanent self-sufficiency. In addition to emergency assistance, a major portion of CSBG expenditures is for coordination among various programs.
- **COMMUNITY AND FAMILY PROGRAMS** – CAAs provide services that address the full range of family needs – from Head Start and other education and child development programs, to youth and adult employment and training, to services for seniors and the frail elderly. Services are generally coordinated through a case manager or family development specialist. Other CAA programs are designed to strengthen the local economy and develop the community's infrastructure under the guidance of community leaders.
- **REACHING MILLIONS OF AMERICANS** – CAAs provide services to more than a quarter of all Americans living in poverty and to several million more families with incomes only slightly higher than the poverty threshold every year.

**The nation's 1,000-plus Community Action Agencies are a robust, state and local force – reaching children and families in 99% of America's counties with life-changing services that create pathways to self-sufficiency.**

# Office locations and area's served

## Lake Community Action Agency, Inc.

Lake Community Action Agency, Inc.  
Visit us at: [www.lakecaa.org](http://www.lakecaa.org)

LCAA Administrative Office and the Neighborhood Service Center - 501 North Bay Street-Eustis, FL 32726  
(352)357-3497

Okahumpka/Yalaha Target Area

South Lake County Target Service Area



The Leesburg Neighborhood Service Center – 1010 North Blvd. East – Leesburg, FL - 3474  
(352)787-1156 and the

Montclair VPK/School Readiness Center – 2000 Park Circle-Leesburg, FL – 34748

(352)326-8277 located in Leesburg, FL

\*Leesburg Target Area

The Excellence Academy  
920 County Road 468  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
(352)357-5550  
1(800)340-1213  
Dr. Valda Slack, Director

Sumter County:

*The Coleman Enrichment Center  
Southern Christian Leadership  
Foundation*  
4606 Lime Street – Coleman, FL  
Katina Stephens – Site Director



Mid Florida Homeless Coalition

Serving:  
Lake, Sumter, Citrus & Hernando Counties