

Lake Community Action Agency, Inc.

2016 Annual Report



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.”

Lake Community Action Agency Inc.

Board of Directors 2016

OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON

John H. Christian
Lees burg City Commission
Public Sector

Vice Chairperson

Louis Ward
Leesburg Target Area
Low-Income-Sector

SECRETARY

Theresa Elliott
Goodwill Industries of Central Florida
Private Sector

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Catherine Lynum
NAACP
Private Sector

TREASURER

Nicie Parks
Eustis Target Area
Low-Income-Sector

Lake Community Action Agency Inc.

Board of Directors 2016

MEMBERS

Nick Girone
City of Mount Dora Mayor
Public Sector

Robert Morin
Eustis City Commissioner
Public Sector

Walter McGriff Jr.
South Lake Target Area
Low-Income-Sector

Robert Wolfe
City of Tavares Mayor
Private Sector

Robert Ragin
South Side Umatilla Area
Low-Income-Sector

Jill Baird
LifeStream Behavioral Center
Private Sector

Gary Miller
Yalaha/Okahumpka Target Area
Low-Income-Sector

Lenzy Hodge
Leesburg Target Area
Low-Income-Sector

Welton Cadwell
County Commissioners
Public Sector

Message from LCAA's Executive Director
Mr. James H. Lowe, CCAP
Certified Community Action Professional



*Mr. James H. Lowe,
CCAP
Executive Director
1966 - present*

1966 – 2016

Celebrating 50 years of Lake Community Action

“It is the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation by opening the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to love in decency and dignity” (Excerpt from the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.)

Two years after the signing of this great Act of 1964, The Lake County Economic Opportunity (LCEO) was incorporated on February 8, 1966. This year we pause to celebrate fifty (50) years of dedicated services to hundreds of thousands of children, youth, seniors, individuals and families. These services and activities have been centered on mobilizing available rural, state and national resources, coordinating programs and activities to avoid duplication and assuring that the opportunities existed for low-income families to become self-sufficient.

Contrary to what many may have been led to believe or would like to believe, Community Action has been an effective tool for deliverance of services; developing innovative approaches and advocating the needs of the elderly and low-income disadvantaged children, youth and families.

It has been the now Lake Community Action Agency, Inc. after going through a name change in 1987 from Lake County Economic Opportunity (LCEO), that served as an advocate and catalyst to get the many “people” programs started in Lake County. Yes, fifty years later some of these programs are still being operated and many now have been transitioned to other groups and agencies to continue.

For the past thirty-two years I have been providing the community in our report to the community an accounting of this great legacy of community involvement and “Helping People, Changing Lives and Helping People Help Themselves and Others.”

To accomplish this, I would just like to name a few of those programs and activities:

- Meals On Wheels
- Family Planning
- Women Infants & children (WIC)
- First Mini Bus Transportation
- Comprehensive and Private Day Care
- Community Care for the Elderly
- VISTA – Volunteers In Service to America
- Project Reach Out
- Summer Food Service
- Service Centers Throughout the County
- Summer Youth Recreation Programs
- Headstart
- Early Headstart
- Pre-Kindergarten
- Even Start
- Weatherization
- Farm Labor Housing – Mt. Clair

For a more detailed listing of these programs and activities I invite you to read the Fifty Years Continuing the Legacy of LCAA 1966 – 2016.

The new year beginning January 2017 marks the beginning of a new decade for Lake Community Action Agency. This year we will begin with these strategic goals:

- We will approach this next decade with the same positive attitude and energy in spite of our most recent transition of the Headstart Program. We are still dedicated to providing the opportunities for education and training, the opportunities to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity. So, we will re-direct and increase our efforts and energy to build a quality VPK (Voluntary Pre-K) and School Readiness Program during the next three years. To this end I solicit the total support of the Board, Staff and Community Partners as we continue this legacy.
- We will continue to collaborate to create an alternative educational environment that prepares individuals with the job skills for careers aligned with the existing market.
- We will meet the challenge of sustainability by expanding and diversifying our available resources to generate greater financial freedom. Certainly, this is a community and Board collaboration that will be crucial to the survival of this great organization that has been here for fifty years, responding to the needs of the most vulnerable population of Lake County, providing them with a “hand up” and not a “hand out.”

I salute the founders and organizers for having the vision and wherewithal to take on this great task and responsibility fifty years ago in response to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Also, to the former and present Board Chair Persons, Board Members, dedicated staff, and the many volunteers that have worked un-tirelessly to make it all happen. “Thank You” on behalf of the hundreds of thousands lives we have touched and changed.

It has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve this great movement with dignity for forty-seven (47) years. It has been an enjoyable tour of duty and the battles have been many and sometimes rough. We have been knocked down but have been able to get up and kept on fighting for this “War On Poverty” is not over. I say to you, the staff and Board who are still in this fight with us, “do not give up; do not fret; do not let the enemy divide and conquer us. No Weapon That Is Formed Against Us Shall Prosper!!!”

Happy 50 years of Service!
James H. Lowe, CCAP
Executive Director.

Vision Statement:

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

LCAA 50 Years of Service:

2015 – 2016 Fifty Years – The Legacy continues:

Community Services Block Grants Programs: CSBG

- LCAA assisted **1,573** families with Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- LCAA assisted **5,890** unduplicated clients were served through the administration of the Community Service Block Grant, Weatherization, Head Start/Early Head Start and Low Income Homes Energy Assistance Programs.
- LCAA provided **3** scholarships to former Head Start high school students.
- LCAA provided **5,559** meals to children and youth through the administration of the Summer Food Program at **8** sites throughout Lake County.
- LCAA assisted **615** families through the Family Self-Sufficiency Program.
- LCAA assisted **17** households with weatherization and home repair throughout Lake County.
- LCAA moved **2** families to full self-sufficiency.
- 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 **95** individuals.
- LCAA has assisted **19** individuals in obtaining employment from October 2015 – September 2016
- 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 **22** individuals in health related fields.
- LCAA through its Emergency Solutions Grant has provided housing for **248** individuals 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 **\$96,000** in grant funds for continuation of Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) to provide assistance to homeless individuals.
- LCAA secured **\$10,000** in grant funds from Lake County Government to provide assistance to prevent eviction and foreclosure.
- LCAA secured **\$4,365** in grant funds from City of Leesburg to provide assistance for rent and mortgage for City of Leesburg residence.
- LCAA secured **\$38,986** in grant funds from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant to provide assistance for rent and mortgage assistance to prevent eviction or homelessness.

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

Agency Mission Statement:

Promote 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

Helping People ~ Changing Lives

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT 2015-2016 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:

5,890 unduplicated clients were served through the administration of the **Community Services Block Grant, Weatherization, Head Start/ Early Head Start and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Programs.**

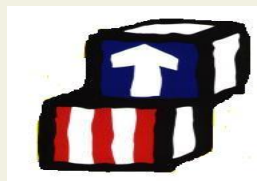
1,573 households received assistance to maintain home energy through the administration of the **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).**

19 Individuals obtained employment from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

17 households received assistance for **Weatherization and Home Repair.**

615 families received assistance through the **Family Self Sufficiency Program.**

5,559 meals were served to low-income children and youth through the administration of the **Summer Foods Program** at 8 sites throughout **Lake County.**



Lake Community Action Agency, Inc.

Barbara Lueallen Scholarship

2016 Award Winners

Name:	High School Attended:	Colleges Attending:	GPA:
Samuel Taylor	Eustis HS	Florida A&M University	3.0
Jamishea Jones	Lake Mineola HS	Bethune-Cookman University	3.5
Princess Sayles	Umatilla HS	Southeastern University	3.9





LCAA ENERGY SERVICES ACHIEVEMENTS

The Energy Services Department continues to provide stellar services in the delivery of our short-term and long-term energy programs for Lake Community Action Agency, ~~LIHEAP~~ the department's mission we are poised to provide a unique range of energy solutions to Residential & Commercial customers through sound energy saving technologies, energy efficiency processes and conservation programs.

In our short-term energy solution program, LIHEAP, the department prevented the home energy crisis and restored home energy in over **1,694 homes** last year. Helping households avoid over **\$22,950** dollars in reconnect & late fees. The program is designed to assist eligible low-income households with their heating and cooling energy costs.

In our long-term energy solution program, Weatherization, the department weatherized over **17 homes** with over **43 individuals** benefitting 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 lower electric bills of struggling families in the communities we serve throughout Lake County.

The Energy Services Department experienced continued success in developing new revenue streams to expand existing programs through secured partnerships with our local municipalities in providing energy audits and construction management services to targeted areas of Leesburg and Mount Dora. The total investment of the projects combined totals over \$225,500 in energy efficiency upgrades and rehabilitation improvements. Additional partnerships are in progress with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta to provide Energy Efficiency Weatherization Rehabilitation & Accessibility Rehabilitation Products to median income families in Lake County.

The Energy Services Department will continue to secure vital programs and foster partnerships that will lead to significant investments in our local communities in Lake County. We are dedicated to creating more sustainable communities and creating jobs in the areas we serve.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES

LAKE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC

For the year ended September 30, 2016

-Unaudited-

**SUPPORT AND
REVENUE:**

FEDERAL GRANTOR

Department of Health and
Human Services

2,605,764

2,605,764

STATE OF FLORIDA

Department of Economic
Opportunity

1,148,676

Department of Health

261,661

Department of Education

256,660

1,666,997

LOCAL AND PRIVATE

100,338

**Total Support and
Revenue**

4,373,098

EXPENSES:

PROGRAM SERVICES

Head Start/Early Head
Start

2,652,460

Community Services

399,772

Emergency Home

Repair/Weatherization

188,300

Home Energy Assistance

610,251

Voluntary Pre-

Kindergarten

131,478

Childcare Food Program

259,794

Summer Food Program

18,057

**Total Program
Services**

4,260,112

SUPPORT

SERVICES

Management and

General

37,077

Loss on Asset Disposal

1,059,171

Total Expenses

5,356,359

INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

(983,261)

Who We Serve

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.

Family Type

Most Households served were
Headed by single-parent females.

Single Parent Female	40.9%
Single Parent Male	1.9%

Ethnicity/ Race

Clients are from a variety of ethnic backgrounds representing the diverse communities within our county.

African American	55.2%
White	31.1%
Native American	0.03%
Multi-Race	2.03%

AGE

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	15.3%	18-23	5.2%	55-69	10.3%
6-11	17.4%	24-44	24.6%	70+	3.5%
12-17	15.0%	45-54	8.7%		

