



United Community Action Program, Inc.  
of Pawnee



United CAP honors the dedication of local hero Dr. Gene Evans. More details about Dr. Evans, on Pages 2 and 3.

## 2020 Annual Report

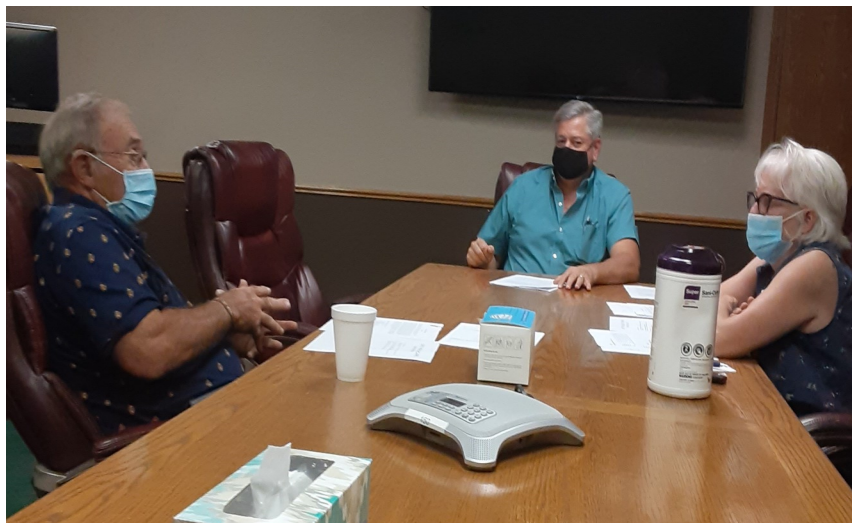
*Mission: To improve people's lives, embody the spirit of hope, improve communities and make the State of Oklahoma a better place to live. To help people lift themselves out of poverty by creating opportunities for increased self-sufficiency and greater participation in their community.*



# Local Hero



*UCAP spotlights Dr. Gene Evans, M.D. , of Pawnee, who gives of his personal time to improve the health and ultimately the quality of life for many rural neighbors; his commitment exemplifies the spirit of hope which is community action.*



**From Left, Johnny Bryant, Dr. Evans and Suzanne Spears meet to discuss health care issues and opportunities for Pawnee County.**

Gene Evans, M.D., has volunteered at UCAP's Pawnee County Area Health Center, Inc., Free Clinic for 18 years, with an unwavering focus on all of the opportunities and differences he can make in peoples' lives. His work in health has touched innumerable people, and his vision continues to be a positive force, showing in action what can be accomplished when people come together to help one another. Dr. Evans attended Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas, and received his medical degree from Kansas University. After receiving his medical degree, Dr. Evans served in the army at Fort Steward, Georgia. He has been married to his wife Holly for 33 years in May, and they have two adult children, Joel and Hailey. Dr. Evans started his family practice clinic in Pawnee in 2000 and began volunteering at UCAP's Pawnee County Area Health Center, Inc., Free Clinic in 2003. Dr. Evans said he made an intentional choice to be a doctor for smaller towns because he believed it would be more meaningful to him and he hoped also more meaningful for those he formed relationships with too. Dr. Evans is a member of the Pawnee Nation, and along with his many years of volunteer work at UCAP's Free Clinic, he is President of the Pawnee Public School board, serves as Medical Director on Unity Healthcare Association, and is on the Pawnee Nation College Board. His giving through countless ways to his community and the area free clinic continues to have a positive, enduring impact on health, as well as spreading light in all that it means to give to others.

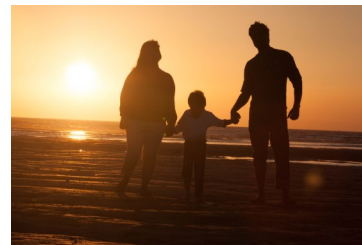
## CASA

### PAWNEE AND OSAGE COUNTIES

- 23 advocates served 83 abused and neglected children in 46 cases
- Volunteers donated 1,279 hours advocating for children.
- 1 child went to guardianship
- 14 children were adopted
- 8 children were reunited with families
- 1 child aged out of system

Jurisdictions: Pawnee District Court, Pawnee Nation Court, Osage District Court and Osage Nation Court.

*Helen Norris, Director*



## CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM

56 DHS-licensed home child care providers were reimbursed for serving nutritious meals, which met U.S. Department of Agriculture requirements. The Federally-funded program sponsored 184,967 meals to 525 children, playing a vital role in improving the children's health and the quality of their care. In addition, the assistance of the program made child care more affordable for low-income families. Child care providers also received training in healthy meal preparation and management, as well as training on Federal and State program regulations.

Serving providers in Alfalfa, Creek, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Kingfisher, Lincoln, Logan, Major, Noble, Oklahoma, Osage, Pawnee, Payne, Tulsa and Washington counties.

*Rozanne Worden, Child and Adult Care Food Program  
Director*





# Cimarron Transit

- Replaced 2 vehicles
- Operated 66,178 hours
- Traveled 1,026,083 miles
- Provided 79,106 trips
- 52% of trips for seniors and individuals with disabilities



Driver barriers were installed in all vehicles.



Acrylic barriers and sanitizing dispensers were placed at each site. PPE deliveries year kept employees and riders at reduced risk.



From Left: Jack Park & Skyler McMinn load PPE supplies for Skiatook.



# Community Alcoholism Services

Community Alcoholism Services offered a supportive environment to provide outpatient substance abuse services to low/no income individuals with drug and alcohol issues. Staff are licensed or certified through the state board of licensed alcohol and drug counselors. The program is funded and certified through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



Services include screening, assessment, case management, individual and group psychotherapy, as well as individual and group rehabilitation services. Staff also provide peer recovery support and DUI Schools.

Two staff members are certified Peer Recovery Support Specialists and Behavioral Health Wellness Coaches.

- 14 clients completed treatment
- 35 individuals were served during the year

*Ronnie Jestes, Program Director*

*Lynn Walker, Clinical Director*



## ***Family & Community Services***

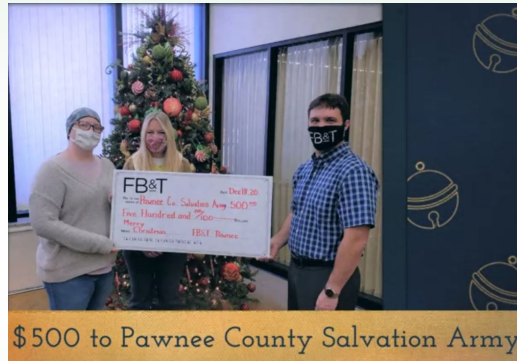
Low-income people achieved potential, and families were strengthened as a result of the following supportive services:

- 2,637 received emergency food assistance
- 16 received emergency prescription assistance
- 2 received assistance purchasing fuel
- 295 received utility assistance
- 109 received emergency rent or mortgage assistance
- 1 received assistance for emergency medical care
- 131 individuals received Volunteer Income Tax Preparation Services
- Partnerships with local food banks assisted families with distribution of 15,822 food bags of food.
- Local collaborations assisted 2,924 individuals with 8,772 units of clothing
- 269 youth in Pawnee County received Christmas gifts through alliance with the Salvation Army for the Angel Tree project
- Pawnee County Free Health Clinic provided medical services to 252 individuals





**From left: Monica Sewell, Administrative Assistant, and Crystal Kirkham, Program Input Clerk.**



**\$500 to Pawnee County Salvation Army**  
**First Bank & Trust donated \$500 to Pawnee County Salvation Army. From Left: Kirkham, Sewell and Clark Shouse, Jr.**  
**Salvation Army in Pawnee County is an agency partner.**

## Outreach Locations

Associated Charities, 212 E. Bridge Avenue, Blackwell

580-363-1290

Operation Blessing, 803 Market Street, Perry

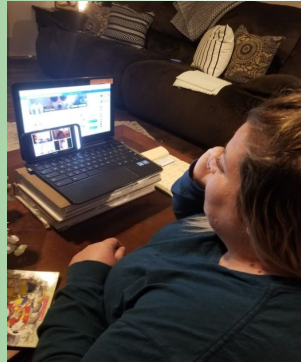
580-336-3313

UCAP Headquarters, 501 Sixth Street, Pawnee

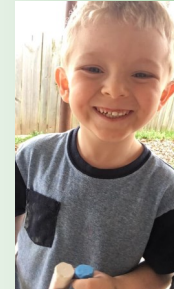
918-762-3041

# Early Head Start

Newborn to 36 months & Pregnant Women



- 473 children served
- 55 pregnant women



## Head Start 3 & 4 year olds

- 967 Head Start children
- 12.4% of four (4) year-old children received disability services
- 88.3% families received additional services

Counties served: Creek, Kay, Logan, Noble, Okmulgee, Osage, Pawnee, Payne and west Tulsa.

*Kim Rice, Early Head Start and Head Start Director*



# Teacher & Staff Credentials



## 46 Head Start Teachers

54% hold Associate Degrees

33% hold Bachelor Degrees

2% hold Advanced Degrees

11% working toward Child Development Associate Degree (CDA)

## 72 Early Head Start Teachers

1% hold Bachelor Degrees

6% hold Associate Degrees

51% hold CDA

42% working toward CDA



## 26 Family Support Advocates

34.6% hold Bachelor Degrees

30.7% hold Associate Degrees

11.5% hold Family Development Credential (FDC)

23% working on FDC

## Health Services

95.4% of enrollees received medical services. Of these, 20.4% were diagnosed for treatment; 60% received treatment needed.

## Technology Updates

- **Online Parent Portal** established to allow families to apply for Head Start and/or Early Head Start services.
- **Remote Engagement** created to provide a holistic approach to supporting and engaging children and families safely.

# Housing

## Single-Family Rental Homes

Billings—2

Blackwell—1

Fairfax—4

Newkirk—4

Pawnee—9

Tonkawa—6

Perkins—1

Perry—2

## Multi-Family Housing

Cambridge, Sapulpa

Copper Ridge, Ponca City

Edgewood, Sand Springs,

Glenshire, Glenpool,

Willow Creek, Ponca City,

Pawnee Townhomes

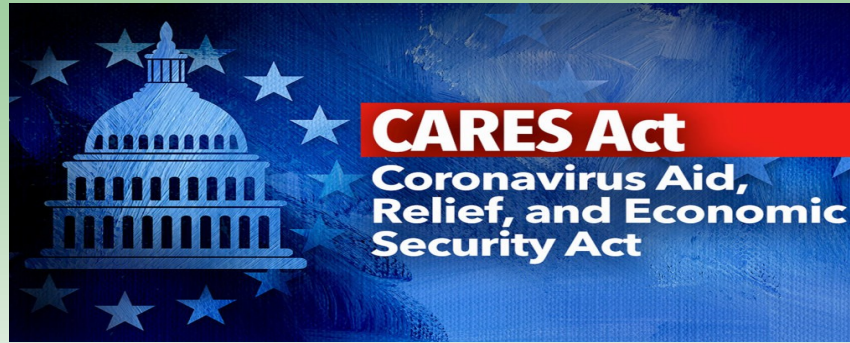
Total Units... 370



Willow Creek, Ponca City

*Charmaine Benedict, Housing/Property Manager, HCCP and  
Housing Compliance Manager designee for HUD*

*Robyn Domeny, Housing Assistant*



### **October through December CARES Projects**

- **Assisted twelve (12) households with mortgage/ rental or utility assistance combatting homelessness.**
- **Purchased Health Care Center exterior sign.**
- **Provided equipment and food items to various food pantries ensuring proper nutrition throughout communities.**
- **Purchased and distributed Personal Protection Equipment throughout communities.**
- **Purchased laptops to allow staff to work remotely and continue service.**
- **Funded thermal imaging cameras.**



# Making A Difference

*Low income lives were transformed throughout the year as a result of community action programs. The following community needs were addressed in 2020.*

## Nutrition and Health

- 252 uninsured individuals managed chronic health conditions through the Pawnee County Area Free Health Clinic Partnership.
- Community Alcoholism Services strengthened the lives of 35 clients. By providing a supportive environment, these clients were able to achieve their potential and remain free of drugs and alcohol.

## Housing

- 83 families were provided safer, more stable and affordable housing to allow them to better manage daily lives.

## Education

- 12.4 % of four(4) year-old children received disability services.
- 29 low-income, single-parent families and their 21 children had access to education, training and employment to enhance their ability to support their families and be more self-sufficient, as the result of public transit.



## Tax Preparation

- 131 individuals achieved increased financial potential through Volunteer Income Tax Preparation Services.

## Other outcomes:

- Cimarron Transit provided a supportive environment and improved lives of 345 older, vulnerable Americans. These Oklahomans were able to remain in their homes and live independently as a result of free public transportation.
  - 8,824 trips were provided to 231 seniors in Creek County
  - 4,916 trips were provided to 64 seniors in Ponca City
  - 2,115 trips were provided to 50 seniors in Osage County
- More than 1,071 Medicaid recipients received 21,735 trips to medical appointments at no cost. The program improved health outcomes for low-income individuals and families by providing dependable access to preventive health care services as well as treatment for chronic and other health and wellness services.
- Public transit removed a barrier and provided a supportive community service to allow 194 low-income individuals to be more self-sufficient. Individuals received 11,043 reduced fare rides to work and education.
- Public transportation provided 1,070 trips to deliver food to individuals affected by COVID-19.

# Capacity Building

Each program provided continuing education opportunities for staff through in-service, on-line, industry, association and conference training.

4,400 Volunteer hours were donated to increase community engagement.

Board Members Development: 154.25 hours

Transit staff training: 531 hours

# Partners



# TECHNOLOGY

- **Virtual Private Network (VPN) established for staff to work remotely during the Pandemic or when traveling to conferences. A VPN connection establishes a secure connection between staff and the internet. Via the VPN, all data traffic is routed through an encrypted virtual tunnel, disguising the IP address, making its location invisible to everyone. A VPN connection is also secure against external attacks.**
- **Virtual Board, Management and Team Meetings.**
- **Information Systems expanded to accommodate new accounting software.**
- **Employee Web Services supports secure world wide web access for time sheet submission for large number of employees, streamlining the payroll process and saving paper.**
- **Employees have access to vacation and sick leave accrual, pay stubs and can update personal information online.**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Johnny Bryant, Executive Director*  
*Michelle Turner, Chief Financial Officer*

*Harold Harris, Chair    Susan Case, Vice Chair*  
*Margie Janzen, Secretary*  
*JoBeth Spears, Treasurer*

*Members: James Adams, Beverly Brownfield,  
Larry Clark, Chris Burnett, Bronson Grimes,  
Teresa Bates Rutherford, Jo Beth Spears, Rhonda  
Wallace, and Mike Waters.*



**During the Pandemic, board members were able to meet virtually using Zoom Video Conferencing software.**



United Community  
Action Program, Inc.

501 Sixth Street, Pawnee, OK 74058

918-762-3041

Visit us at [www.ucapinc.org](http://www.ucapinc.org)

Like us on [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)