



2021 Annual Report

United Community Action Program, Inc.



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

United CAP honors Harold Harris as the local hero for 2021. Harris currently serves as chairman for the agency's board of directors, devoting more than two decades of service to UCAP. Through activities both professionally and into retirement, Harris has helped to improve the lives of individuals and families.

Harris embraced the UCAP mission early on. He has dedicated hours facilitating projects, meeting auditors and monitors, reviewing financials, attending meetings and participating in on-going training. He takes his leadership role seriously, setting the example, mentoring new board members and asking good questions of program directors

Whether it is a sense of duty, a volunteer spirit, or passion for improving lives of low income individuals and families, Harold exercises his action through work and deed.

It was as a city planner for the City of Ponca City when UCAP housing staff first met Harris.



'I first met Harold running down some maps for the City of Newkirk, shared Chris Burnett, former housing coordinator and current UCAP board member.

"UCAP was working on a housing rehabilitation project in the 1990's. Getting to know Harold, Burnett confirmed, "he was the most down to earth and cooperative liaison for us in Kay County. Harold has proven to be a big asset to our agency and it's goals. He is also one of the funniest guys I know!"

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Harold, stated Susie Case, who works closely with Harris, serving as vice chair on the UCAP Board. "He always has a smile and a good word. Harold tries diligently to keep the agenda on point and not let us stray too far from any subject. He has a great sense of humor and an even greater sense of duty. Our board would be hard pressed to replace him."

CASA

PAWNEE AND OSAGE COUNTIES

- 26 advocates served abused and neglected children in cases
- Volunteers donated 959 hours/5,900 miles advocating for children.
- 10 children were adopted
- 12 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.

Kristin Donnelly, Director



Photo above: UCAP sponsored students at Drumright Central Tech to construct a playhouse raffled off as a fundraiser for CASA .



Photo Left: Judge Pickerall, Pawnee County Court, installs Trudy Brannan as a Pawnee County CASA volunteer.

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 183,110 meals to an average of 365 children per month, 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.

Program staff received local in-house training, as well as virtual training at State and National levels. 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

Cimarron Transit

- Replaced 13 vehicles
- Operated 74,282 hours
- Traveled 1,084,248 miles
- Provided 80,942 trips
- 52% of trips for seniors and individuals with disabilities



Promaster— a new vehicle style added to fleet.



PICK—Uber technology piloted to expand service to include evening hours in Bartlesville, Cleveland, Ponca City, Sapulpa & Skiatook.



Drivers demonstrate competency in mobility device securement in on-going training.



Above: Oklahoma Department of Transportation staff support post delivery of vehicles.



Staff engage in community activities. Above, Randy Heisler, transit operations manager/UCAP Procurement officer, speaks with Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell and Representative Mark Lawson of Sapulpa .



Clara Tucker, payroll coordinator, and Janet Thrasher, HR manager, mask up during COVID pandemic as part of agency protocol to keep staff safe.



Pictured above, Heisler, Shelby Jewell, transit operations specialist, Thrasher, and Holly Evans, HR support, attended a local hiring event, seeking potential applicants. Maintaining staffing levels created challenges to all programs during 2021.



Pictured above: Okmulgee Head Start and Early Head Start Center signage identifies the rural child development center. The center received a face lift during 2021, see photo left. A new coat of paint was added as part of ongoing facility maintenance.



Family & Community Services

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

- 3,179 received emergency food assistance
- 10 received emergency prescription assistance
- 3 received assistance purchasing fuel
- 251 received utility assistance
- 106 received emergency rent or mortgage assistance
- 1 received assistance for emergency medical care
- 144 individuals received Volunteer Income Tax Preparation Services
- Partnerships with local food banks assisted families with distribution of 19,074 bags of food.
- Local collaborations assisted 3,452 individuals with 10,356 units of clothing
- 195 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 31 individuals



UCAP partners with the Salvation Army in Pawnee County for the Angel Tree project, each year. Pictured left: Monica Sewell, Executive Administrative Assistant, and Crystal Kirkham, Program Input Clerk (pictured below right) went on a shopping spree to purchase Christmas gifts for local youth.



First Bank & Trust of Perry donated \$500 to Operation Blessing during FB&T's 12 days of Christmas Giving.

Pictured from left: Lou Ann Hunt and others from Operation Blessing.



First Bank & Trust of Pawnee donated \$500 during their 12 Days of Christmas Giving.

Pictured left, Clark Shouse, Jr. of FB&T and Johnny Bryant, UCAP Executive Director.

Outreach Locations

Associated Charities, 212 E. Bridge Ave., 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

- 399 children served
- 44 pregnant women



Head Start

3 & 4 year olds

- 497 Head Start children served
- 12% of four year-old children received disability services
- 79.4% of 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

39 Head Start Teachers

35.9% hold Bachelor Degrees

51.2% hold Associate Degrees

12.8% working toward Associate Degree

72 Early Head Start Teachers

7.5% hold Bachelor Degrees

10.6% hold Associate Degrees

57.6% hold CDA

42.4% working toward CDA



26 Family Support Advocates

96.2% hold a Bachelor or Associate Degree;

or a Family Development Credential (FDC)

3.8% working on FDC

Health Services

89.3% of enrollees received medical services. Of these, 2.6% were diagnosed for treatment; 90.1% received treatment needed.

Technology Updates

- New Parenting Curriculum shared with parents through text and app to provide parenting information, activities to do with children and access to a library.



HOUSING

Single-Family Rentals

Billings—2 Blackwell—1
Fairfax—4 Newkirk—4
Pawnee—9 Perkins—2
Perry—2 Tonkawa—6



Pictured above: The Home program is rehabilitating this three bed/two bath home in Perkins.



Pictured left:

After rehabilitation, this home, which is located in Perkins, will be available for rent to support low income disabled and/or veterans.

Multi-Family Housing

Total Units... 370 located throughout the following properties:

Cambridge, Sapulpa; Copper Ridge, Ponca City;
Edgewood, Sand Springs; Glenshire, Glenpool;
Willow Creek, Ponca City, and Pawnee Townhomes.

Charmaine Benedict, Housing Director/Coordinator, HCCP and Housing Compliance Manager designee for HUD

Robyn Domeny, Housing Assistant



CARES Projects

- **Assisted thirty-three (33) households with utility or rental assistance to help combat homelessness.**
- **Provided equipment and food items to various food pantries to ensure proper nutrition was available for individuals and families throughout communities.**
- **Purchased and distributed Personal Protection Equipment throughout communities.**
- **Reimbursed cost of fare to support transportation for individuals to obtain COVID Vaccinations.**
- **Provided funding to local schools to aid in fighting the spread of COVID.**
- **Increased outreach for health clinic services.**

UCAP Makes A Difference

Low income lives were advanced throughout the year as a result UCAP 's framework to address the following community needs in 2021.

Nutrition and Health

- 31 uninsured individuals received help to manage chronic health conditions through a partnership with the Pawnee County Area Free Health Clinic.

Housing

- 41 families received safer, more stable and affordable housing to allow them to better manage daily lives.
- 27 households avoided eviction and subsequent homelessness due to receiving rental/mortgage assistance.

Education

- 12% of 4 year-old children received disability services.
- 19 low-income, single-parent families and 12 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

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

Other outcomes:

- Cimarron Transit provided a supportive environment to improve the lives of 351 older, vulnerable Americans. These Oklahomans were able to remain in their homes and live independently as a result of free public transit.
 - 219 seniors in Creek County received 8,860 trips
 - 84 seniors in Ponca City received 6,766 trips
 - 48 seniors in Osage County received 559 trips
- 1,111 Medicaid members received 23,135 free trips to medical services. Dependable access to health care as well as access to treatment for chronic and other health and wellness services improved health outcomes for low-income individuals and families.
- 207 low-income individuals received 11,086 reduced fare rides to work and education. By removing a barrier, public transit provided a supportive community service to improve financial outcomes.
- 403 trips were provided to deliver food to individuals affected by COVID-19.
- 123 free trips were provided to support access to the COVID vaccines for improved health outcomes.
- 9 veterans received 33 free trips to medical appointments for improved health outcomes.
- 6 households received assistance with utility bills to maintain adequate living conditions.

Capacity Building

Volunteers donated 5,377 hours to increase community engagement.

Board Member Development: 94 hours

Public Transit staff received 882 hours of educational opportunities through in-service, on-line, conference and industry association training.

Agency Partners



OKLAHOMA
Commerce



OKLAHOMA
Transportation

MAKE SAFETY STICK TO IT EVERYBODY CLICK



DOING
THE MOST
GOOD



Oklahoma Department of
Human Services



United States
Department of
Agriculture



OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SoonerStart.



Veterans Ride
Connect

modivcare™

FORMERLY LOGISTICARE



United Way
of Ponca City



Survivor
Resource
Network



OKLAHOMA
Rehabilitation Services



PAWNEE CITY HALL



CLEVELAND
OK



OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME



City of
PONCA
City
Oklahoma



THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

City of
Bristow



Community In Action



Cleveland Head Start and Early Head Start staff provided Thanksgiving dinners to 10 families from their center. Walmart helped sponsor the project.



During the Christmas season, local youth volunteered time to collect funds to support the Salvation Army projects. In the left photo are bell ringers Gracie and Audrie Collins, daughters of Cole and Ciera Collins.

In the right photo, from left, Jaycee Burnes and Kate Sherrill, collected donations during the holiday season.

Donations helped to support qualifying Pawnee County households with utility bills and other needs as well as the annual UCAP Angel Tree Partner Project.

Stillwater Head Start and Early Head Start staff participated in outreach events. Pictured from left with OSU Pistol Pete are Traci Cook, FSA; Tammy Brown, teacher; Emberlee Crawford, teacher assistant, and Tiffani Gaches, FSA.



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,
Chris Burnett, Bronson Grimes, Billie Ponca, Teresa
Bates Rutherford, Jo Beth Spears, Rhonda Wallace, and
Mike Waters.*



United Community
Action Program, Inc.

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