

Helping People. Changing Lives.

community Action®

of NORTHWEST ALABAMA

**Annual
Report
2022**



“Our mission is to reduce the causes and adverse consequences of poverty and to empower low-income individuals, families, and communities to achieve self-sufficiency through advocacy, resource utilization, and service delivery.”

Taking Action... Changing Lives!

From the Desk of the Executive Director

This annual report reflects our Agency's ongoing commitment to our communities to assist, empower, and advocate through resource and service delivery in our effort to reduce the causes and adverse consequences of poverty.

I am honored to be the Executive Director of this organization and to work with such skilled and compassionate staff who truly embody the spirit of hope and help change lives in our community. Working together with the support of our dedicated board members, I have the pleasure of leading this agency in the fight against poverty.

This report represents all the hard work of our staff in their commitment to make a difference in the lives of others. It also tells the story of the individuals and families whose lives were impacted by our agency in 2022. We are dedicated to helping families and communities achieve self-sufficiency and to make our community a better place to live.

At Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama, we are taking action to change the lives of our residents in Northwest Alabama.

- David Crosby

In 2022 Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama

Assisted

3,313 Households

Impacted

6,203 Individuals

Provided

Over 9,000 Services

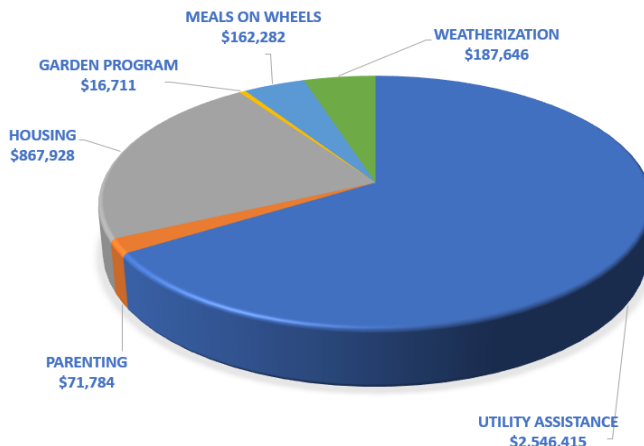
Of the 3,313 Families Served, 95% were low-income.

Community Action was honored to serve 100 active and retired military personnel.

Taking Action... Changing Lives!!!

Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama poured almost 4 Million dollars into the economy of the community we serve through direct aid last year.

Direct Aid to the Shoals Area
\$3,853,000.00



6,203 Total Individuals Served



Female

64%

Male

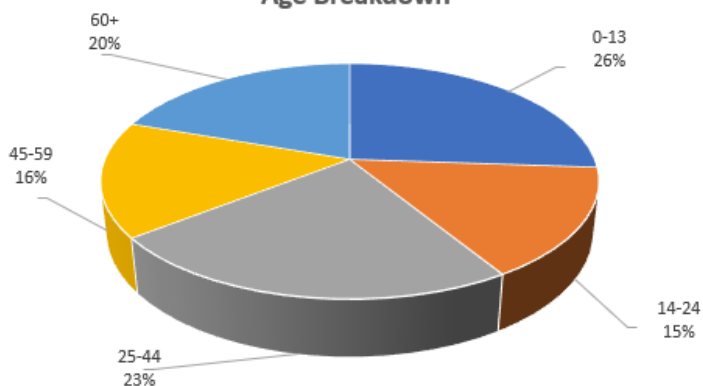
36%



Individuals By Age Impacted

- 0-13 1,619
- 14-24 937
- 25-44 1,442
- 45-59 985
- 60+ 1,220

Age Breakdown



Community Impact

Covid Relief Funding:

12,636 Children received educational supplies.

2,910 Received community meals.

1,524 Received Diapers.

Housing

Aided low-income individuals or families who were at risk for eviction/ foreclosure who obtained and maintained affordable housing through advocacy and case management.



- 791 Received case management
- 358 Avoided evictions
- 182 Obtained safe and affordable housing
- 253 Homeless at intake

We held two First Time Homebuyers Classes to educate those individuals on the home buying process.

Utility Assistance

Assisted low-income households to meet the cost of home energy, focused on vulnerable populations such as elderly, disabled and households with small children.



- 2,601 Were assisted with utility assistance
- 116 Received utility deposits
- 1,995 Avoided shut-off
- 1,884 Received utility arrears payments

Weatherization

Helped to increase the energy of dwellings occupied by low-income households with preference given to the elderly, disabled and families with children, thereby reducing their energy costs while safeguarding their health and safety.



- 22 Homes received energy efficient home improvements
- 12 Received emergency home repairs
- 17 Received Healthy Home Services

Parenting Programs

Endeavored to promote responsible parenting, healthy marriages and economic stability to improve the overall well-being of children through advocacy, linkage, and case management with local partnerships.



- 350 Parents were enrolled in the parenting classes
- 239 Parents attended our parenting classes
- 98 Obtained certificate/degree relating to a vocational skill
- 15 Individuals began to make child support payments
- 304 Children's lives were impacted.

Success story

Thirty-six year old Corey Morgan didn't always have the best of luck. His mother left when he was eight and his father at fifteen, leaving Corey homeless. He dropped out of high school during his sophomore year because he felt like that was what he had to do. During this time, he says "I guess I was one of those guys who was headed towards prison. I felt pretty hopeless and like I was left alone to face whatever life threw at me. I didn't always make the best decisions." At twenty-one he reconnected with an old friend Jerri who he had known since the 4th grade. "We were both in a very tough place in life and never separated after that." He worked construction and going from place to place, he tried to get his GED once but says, "Life got in the way and I never finished." He had moved off for a while and when he came back to Florence he was introduced to the FORWARD program at Community Action of Northwest Alabama. The FORWARD program is a fathering program with opportunities to better themselves. He excelled in the program taking advantage of the adult education courses and by the end of December he completed all of the coursework he needed for his diploma. He enrolled in the first year of the welding course and was on track to graduate. He says, "I want my kids to see me as an example of how to live and how to parent." Corey graduated and his children and father were all there to support him!



Meals on Wheels

Provided meals to elderly and homebound low-income persons enabling them to maintain independent living through good nutrition and daily contact with volunteers.

- 172 Household's received meals and maintained independent living
- Over 50,000 meals were delivered to individuals

Gerald Williams Cooperative Gardening Program

Encouraged families to grow their own food reducing household food expenses.

- 676 Household's received garden vouchers

We appreciate the partnerships we have formed with TVA Retirees and all our local Co-Op organizations that make this program possible.



Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama Board of Directors is composed of one-third private sector representative, one-third elected officials or their designee representing our service area, and one-third low-income community representation.



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Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama is a non-profit corporation., Incorporated under the law of the state of Alabama March 19, 1965 and organized for the purpose of planning, developing and administering programs and services designed to help eliminate poverty and encourage self-sufficiency . We are conveniently located in Franklin, Colbert and Lauderdale counties to serve the residents of each county.