

Albany Community Action Partnership



2014 Annual Report



THE POWER OF CHANGE



2014 Annual Report

THE POWER OF CHANGE

Started in 1966, ACAP is one of New York's 52 Community Action Agencies (CAA's) and one of 1,000 nationwide. CAA's are independent nonprofit organizations designated by the federal government in 1964 to combat poverty in various locales. ACAP's purpose as Albany County's CAA remains the same today as when we opened our doors nearly 50 years ago, which is to offer connections and services that help economically vulnerable individuals strengthen their families through The Power of Change. As ACAP continues to expand and diversify our services and partnerships, we remain committed to our core values and mission – making ACAP an exceptionally accessible and safe place for people to seek a better way of life and a great place for our employees to maintain fulfilling careers.

All the programs at ACAP are offered to address the economic, emotional, social and educational needs of individuals and families in the communities we serve. In an effort to keep services relevant and vital, ACAP maintains a qualified staff and a tri-partite board of directors that includes government leaders, private leaders and low-income representatives. When customers come to ACAP, they are truly respected and understood for where they are at the moment and where they can be in the future.

ACAP is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation registered in the state of New York. With outreach offices in Albany and Cohoes, and numerous early childhood development classrooms throughout Albany County, ACAP is able to provide social services to diverse cross-sections of our community.

Our Mission

ACAP works in partnership with families and communities to empower people to achieve economic self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life.

Vision for the Future

The Albany Community Action Partnership will be known as:

1. A trusted and reliable partner in our customer and community relationships.
2. A transparent business operation, demonstrating continual improvement in the skills, systems and teamwork that create change.
3. A good neighbor, investing human and financial resources in the communities around us.
4. A leading advocate, naming and breaking down societal barriers to economic self-sufficiency.
5. An innovator and collaborator, allied with other organizations that seek creative, intentional solutions to longtime challenges and changing community needs.

ACAP Empowers

What's happening at ACAP?

February 2014 – ACAP opens new site at 170 Ontario St. Albany. The new center is a complete Early Childhood Education center working with children and families birth to age 5. An official Grand Opening was held in early September.



November 2014 – Neenah Bland formally named Executive Director of ACAP. Neenah has been with ACAP for over 11 years as the Director of Community & Career Services, and has been the Acting Executive Director for the past year.

How are we doing?



Customer

Achievements



518 Individuals volunteered over 5,600 hours in service

1,879 Families benefited from services provided by ACAP



138 Individuals obtained certification in a growth industry

104 newly certified individuals obtained employment



165 Women received work attire and employment support

423 Households received emergency food



567 Children benefited from Early Childhood Education services

50 Children received special needs services through Head Start



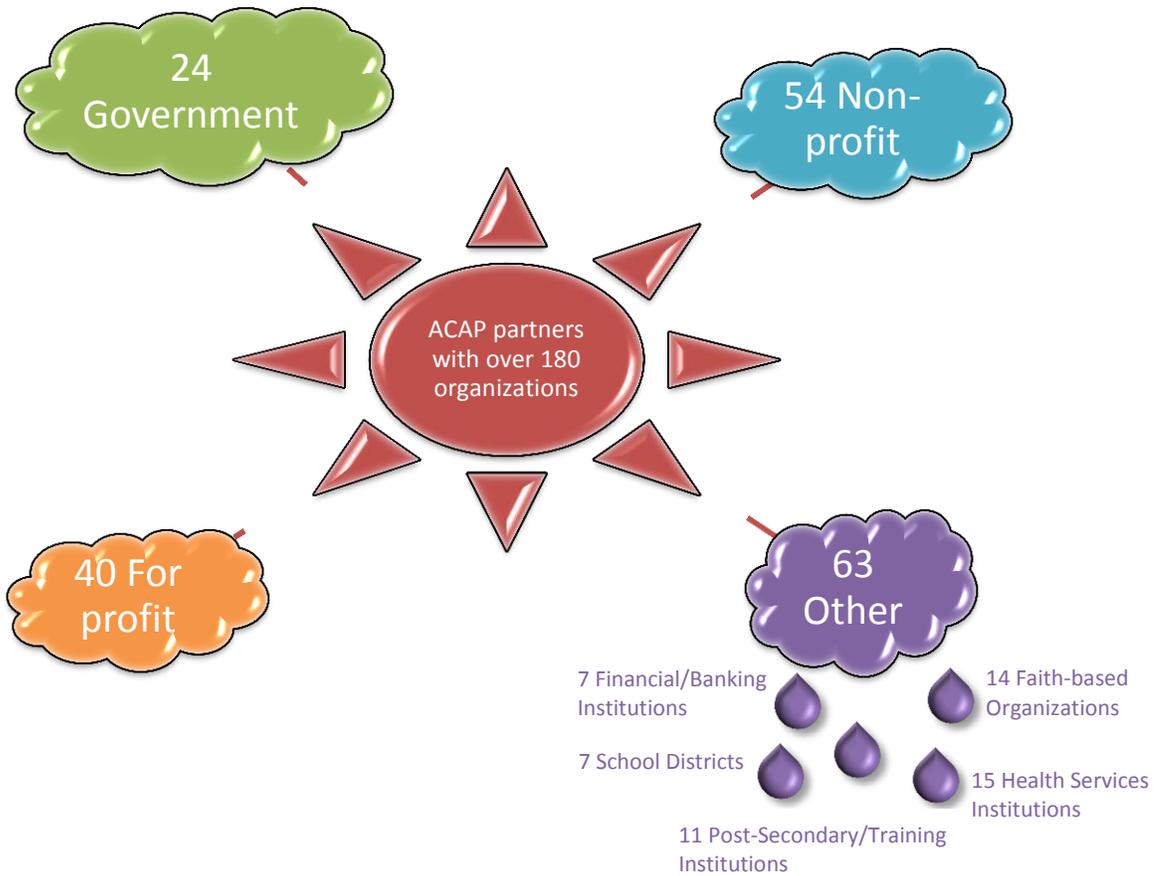
19 Individuals built an education savings asset

102 Housing units were made more energy efficient



Community Partners

ACAP strives to partner with local area businesses and community members who share our vision for an empowered Albany County and its residents. We look to work with agencies from all sectors – such as faith-based, financial institutions, schools, for profit businesses, government entities, and health services agencies .



Customer Stories

ACAP Customer Success Story

Ms. N moved to the US from Cameroon with her young daughter in 2009. As a new American, she was finding it hard to find quality employment, even though she holds a Master's Degree in History from the university in her home country. In 2010 she heard about ACAP's Career Services Program. She worked with one of our Employment Specialists who assisted her with placement in a CNA training program. She received her CNA certification while simultaneously completing her workforce employability soft skills. She also sought the services of our **Dress for Success Albany (DFS)** suiting program, receiving interview clothing and career support. As a newly hired CNA, she joined our **Professional Women's Group (PWG)** that focuses on job retention, career advancement, and continued support.

She has been an active member of the PWG since 2011, and represented DFS Albany proudly at the 2013 DFS Worldwide Annual Success Summit. She has since completed her LPN licensing and works in a local nursing home as an LPN and plans on obtaining her Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration. On July 29th, 2015, she sat for her citizenship test and passed with flying colors. The swearing in ceremony is next on her checklist.

She dared to dream, believe and inspire and as she states, "Dress for Success Albany, the Professional Women's Group, and ACAP planted the foundation for me and gave me the courage to move on. They made me believe I can do it, whatever the obstacle is, and gave me the push to take the first step."

ACAP Customer Letter of Appreciation

To whom it may concern:

As a single mother I struggle with loans for school. I'm from Jamaica, and over the last 6 years, from 2008 to 2014, I've lost my Dad, Brother and Sister. For each death I had to borrow a loan to bury them.

I have my own car payment, rent, electricity, etc. A lot of time I've come out of pocket for the balance of a course and books. I would either have to borrow from a friend or pay partial of my bills. I was introduced to ACAP from a friend. Starting the program helped me so much with school.

It took a burden off me. ACAP helped me to continue pursuing my goals, because there were a lot of times I felt like quitting because of my financial difficulties. ACAP helped me to realize that there are people out there who care and want to help. I'm so glad that I've found ACAP in my life.

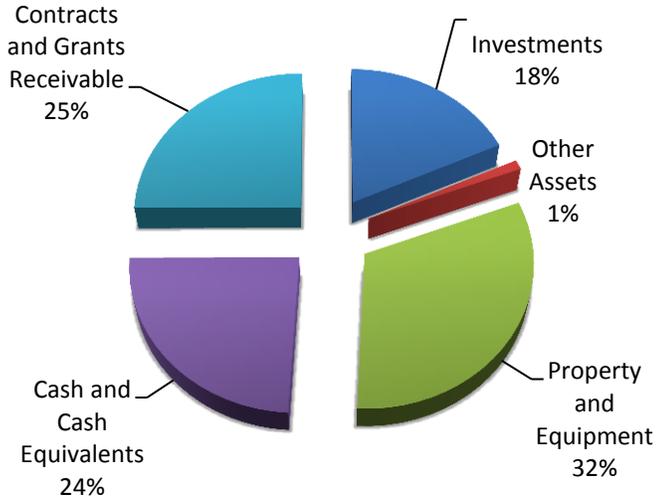
ACAP is one of the best things that ever occur in my life. The program helped me to continue and believe that you don't have to be a quitter, just keep searching. There is help.

Thank you ACAP

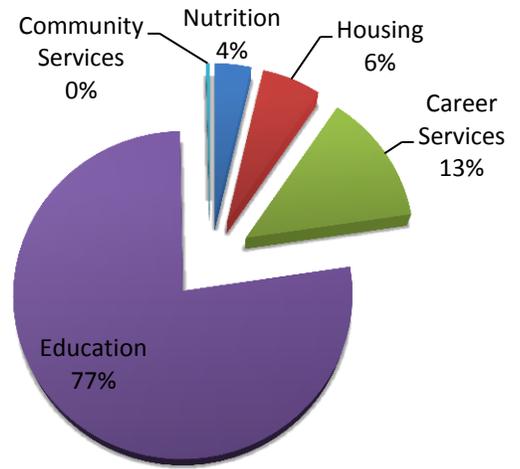
From an AFI participant

Financials

Assets



Funding Breakdown



Funding Sources

