# 2021 Annual Report



communityactioncoalition

FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN

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### About Us

We've been serving Dane, Jefferson and Waukesha County for more than 50 years, and are working toward a just and equitable community for every person. Thanks to a network of strong partnerships, we can identify and act in the areas of greatest need.

#### **Focused on the Bigger Picture**

We work to transform systems so that all people can achieve social and economic security.

### **Broad Goals, Specific Strategies**

We're collaborators who apply innovative, targeted strategies to identify and serve the areas of greatest need.

### Helping People Live with Dignity

We believe that food and housing insecurity are public health crises. Everyone deserves a place to call home and food on the table.



## Letter from the Executive Director

As an agency, Community Action Coalition has a 55-year legacy serving our community. In that time, we have made an immeasurable impact on the lives of so many clients, volunteers, board members, staff and community partners.

We have so much to be proud of in 2021. Most notable is the purchase of our new Dane County Social Service center. With the help of Forward Community Investment, CAC transitioned from renting our office space to owning it. This change will help us save significant resources for years to come, which means we can invest more in CAC programs, staff and our community.

Our Community Program Department delivered, gleaned and grew millions of pounds of free food for local feeding organizations. We started to think differently about our role in food security. With the Supporting Jefferson FOOD project our team has developed an assessment tool, trainings and supports to help area pantries and feeding agencies in Jefferson County improve operations to better serve vulnerable people. This is a huge step for CAC, one that doubles down on our commitment to foster the growth of our partners for the betterment of us all.

Our Housing Department began a major overhaul of our housing services. We breathed new life into our policies, procedures and practices. We did this by revising our tools, changing how we used technology and centering a dignified housing-first framework for all our programs.

I'm deeply proud to work alongside our dedicated board of directors, staff and community collaborators as we work to make our community a more just and equitable place for everyone.



**Executive Director** 

## 2021 Highlights

We made a mark by providing community members with housing services, food assistance and more.

35,409 unduplicated individuals served

6,694 unduplicated households served

424,908 individual contacts

80,328 household contacts

# Board of Directors

Samantha Wendt

President

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Vice President

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John Voqt Secretary

**Jennifer Andrews** Katie Gillespie **Betty Groenewold Jude Hartwick** Linda Ketcham Kirk Lund **Emi Reiner** Jennifer Rowedder **Julie Spitzack Sandy Wareing** 



### Letter from the **Board President**

CAC had a transformative year in 2021. We reached milestones in food distribution, emergency rental assistance and coat distribution through our tri-county Winter Glow event. That's a testament to the commitment and compassion of our partner agencies, our financial supporters, our volunteers and our staff. It hasn't always been easy. We've had to adjust our processes and make hard decisions. We've asked more from our supporters than ever. But the result of all that effort is undeniable.

This moment has proven that when communities work together, we are able to make a difference. I am inspired by our donors, partners and staff who have risen to the challenges of this past year. They have demonstrated resilience and a dedication to the communities we serve. Despite uncertainty in the face of a global pandemic that magnified and exposed social and economic inequalities, there was an unwavering commitment to our mission to lead positive systemic change.

Our most vulnerable communities faced disparities and barriers to access in everything from vaccinations and Wi-Fi to housing and food. Amid these crises, our various donors and funders overwhelmed us with their outpouring of support and partnership. I am deeply grateful to each of our donors, community leaders, funders and partners for meeting the needs of our communities in a remarkable way. Thank you for inspiring us.

I am proud to say that CAC has emerged stronger and remains even more committed to serving at a time when the need is greatest. We are not done.

I invite you to learn more about our commitment to systematic change as we reimagine and build more equitable communities.



Samantha Wendt **Board President** 



### Our New Look

As a nonprofit working to end poverty and help people live better lives, we underwent a rebranding process to reflect our transformative mission. Our new logo is inspired by a thumb-print, which speaks to the individuality of our clients and the shared humanity of our work to end poverty. It symbolizes how we seek to make a mark on our communities. The chevrons in the design stand for the three counties we serve, while also representing our three program areas.



Our new logo says a lot about us. We want to put action back into the community, which is what the enlarged "a" represents. The chevrons symbolize growth and housing security. The trio also depicts our three areas of service and the three counties in which we work.



#### Making a Mark

Our goals may be universal, but we serve clients according to their specific needs. This personal approach is reflected in the thumbprint shape of the logo, which also speaks to our strategy of targeted universalism.





The visual system features a series of icons contained within the signature thumbprint shape that represent key service areas and core offerings.

power in unity. action in community. communityaction coalition

FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN

we transform together

I appreciate the mission of CAC and know that through our partnership, I am having a positive impact on the life of someone in our community.

> — Kyle Plath LANDLORD HOUSING





## Housing Security

We start here because all people deserve a place to call home.

**50,347** individuals accessed resources and referrals

Dane CORE 2.0 assisted 1,048 households

**68** individuals accessed temporary housing solutions

Dane CORE 2.0 provided **\$4,158,841** in direct aid

Supportive services for **209** veteran households **35** families obtained permanent housing



I am happy to be so graciously helped, and I am humbled to be a part of CAC, who is standing in the gap and helping one person or family at a time.

— Anonymous



# Food Security

We won't rest until there's food on every table.

Food was supplied to 130,496 households and 370,913 individuals via area feeding agencies (pantries, shelters, senior centers, etc.)

339,194 lbs of food gleaned or recovered from landfills

2,075 households accessed the Double Dollars program, generating \$97,000 in revenue to local farmers

**928** senior boxes distributed



The best accomplishment one can have as a caseworker is having a family moving closer to achieving their goals of financial independence and self-sufficiency. We assist not only with their financial needs, but with budget planning, goal setting and providing community resources.

— Mary Ann Forbes

COMMUNITY SYSTEMS COORDINATOR



### Essential Resources

When others step out, we step in to help people thrive.

Winter Glow coats distributed to **2,757** individuals

Home good boxes distributed to **106** households

Clothing vouchers distributed to **761** households

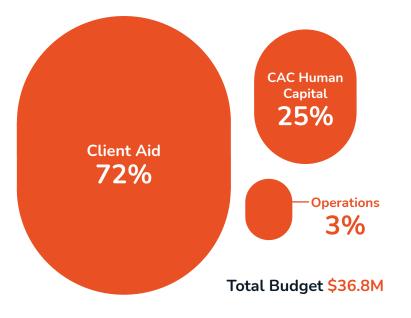
Toiletry boxes distributed to **106** households

# 2021 Budget Breakdown

We continue to make clients a priority by giving them the tools to thrive.

#### 2021 Grants & Contributions

\$11,596,336 Program Income Investments \$541,003 **Total Revenue** \$12,137,339 \$11.121.449 **Program Expenses** Salaries \$668,039 Other Expenses \$43.111 \$11,823,272 **Total Expenses Net Income** \$1,353,272



### 2021 Funding Sources

#### Federal

U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Corporation for National and Community Service (VISTA)

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

#### State

State of Wisconsin Dept. of Administration (DOA)

State of Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services (DHS)

Wisconsin Dept. of Children and Families (DCF)

State of Wisconsin Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources (DEHCR)

#### **Local County**

Dane County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Dane County Dept. of Human Services (DCDHS)

City of Madison

Workforce Development Board of South-Central WI (WDBSCW)

#### Private

**Buckets for Hunger** 

**Epic Systems** 

#### Individual Donors

Predolin Foundation Greater Watertown Community Health Foundation

Siemer Foundation Madison Community Foundation

United Way of Dane County Roots and Wings Foundation

United Way of Jefferson County **Epic Systems** 

Willy Street Co-Op

## Donors

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Sharon Hamilton

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