



**COASTAL GEORGIA AREA
COMMUNITY ACTION AUTHORITY, INC.**

2015



**COASTAL GEORGIA AREA
COMMUNITY ACTION AUTHORITY, INC.**

VISION STATEMENT

Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, Inc. will educate families and communities on how to become self-sufficient.

MISSION STATEMENT

Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, promote self-sufficiency and will strive to improve the quality of life of families through education, training, comprehensive services and advocacy.

BIG HAIRY AUDACIOUS GOAL

Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority will become the largest comprehensive human service agency in the state with measurable outcomes that will demonstrate that families are moving from poverty to self-sufficiency.

TRES HAMILTON

Chief Executive Officer



Since 1967, Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, Inc. has been providing a pathway to self-sufficiency for individuals facing challenging times. Over the years we have evolved into a multi-faceted agency providing innovative, high quality programs and services; working to empower the people of Coastal Georgia with the knowledge, skills and support needed to elevate their quality of life.

Unfortunately, one unchanging factor is the ever increasing poverty of a number of residents within the coastal Georgia communities which we serve. With a greater demand for our services and less funding, it is more important than ever for the community to come together to support those in need. After all, everyone deserves the best life possible.

We have always been an organization committed to helping people. We simply could not provide the services we do without the commitment and contributions of our partners, supporters and funders. Working together, we can continue to make an impact; moving families from poverty to being self-sufficient. I am confident that with the help of our staff, board, volunteers, and communities, together we will *Help People, Change Lives and Build*

Families!

CHARLES STEWART

Board of Directors, Chairman



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am honored to present the annual report of Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, Inc. The past year has brought about many challenges and changes, both of which have been embraced and confronted with professionalism, commitment and enthusiasm.

There are growing needs within the communities we serve, but our Board remains committed to ensure that we deliver a continuum of programs and services that address the gaps and create opportunities for positive change within the lives of the individuals, children and families in our region.

We hold ourselves to the highest levels of public accountability and transparency, recognizing our role as a steward of the community's trust and resources. Once again, Coastal Georgia Area CAA received an excellent financial audit this year, having no noted findings or deficiencies.

After reviewing the documentation in this report, I think you will agree with me that Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, Inc. is indeed a vital resource in our community. None of this would have been possible without the commitment and hard work of the professional well-trained employees.

I want to say thank you to all of the members of the Board of Directors, community leaders and corporate partners for your support of this organization.

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charlie Stewart, Chairman

Marion Stevens, Vice Chairman

Johnnie Robinson, Secretary

Allen Booker

Elizabeth Hinson

Towanna Walker-Miller

Kenneth Howard

Marcus Howard

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katherine Robinson

Cassandra Keaton

Wendy Sims

Judy Cook

Cornell Harvey

Charles Jordan

Jerome Clark

In Loving Memory of Dr. Leonard Dawson

1936-2015

Dr. Leonard Dawson was born in Kingsland, Georgia. He was born to the union of the late Rodgers Dawson, and the late Oneida King Dawson. He enlisted in the Army in 1958 and served his country until 1960. He married Louise Mitchell of Kingsland, Georgia in 1961; they remained happily married until her passing in 2004. From their union they had two children, the late Alvis Merritt who passed in 2014, and Neil Dawson. At an early age he joined First African Missionary Baptist Church of Kingsland where he remained a member until his passing.

Leonard graduated from the historic Ralph Bunche High School in Camden County. Upon graduation, he attended Savannah State College in Savannah, Georgia. He later earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Edward Waters College and Doctorate of Jurisprudence from John Marshall Law School.

In 1972, Leonard became the Executive Director of Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, Inc. His leadership and service to the Community Action movement and its mission to “Help People Help Themselves” spanned over 42 years to the communities of Coastal Georgia, the state as well as the nation. During his tenure, he served as the President of the Georgia Community Action Association, the Southeastern Association of Community Action Agencies, the National Community Action Directors Association, and implemented the first year round Head Start Program for Coastal Georgia.

Dr. Leonard Dawson was true visionary whose compassion for human kind has impacted the lives of many and many to come.



COMMUNITY

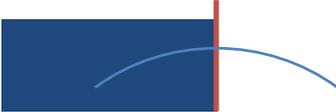
SERVICES

DIVISION

PROGRAMS OFFERED

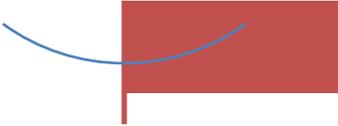
MEAL ON WHEELS, LIHEAP, FEMA, VITA, SENIOR DAY PROGRAM, AND CAYLI





COMMUNITY SERVICES

Helping People...Changing Lives...Building Families



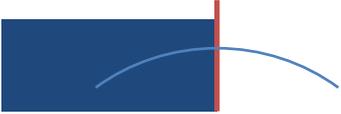
The Quality of Life program is designed to underscore the agency's mission statement and funded through the Community Services Block Grant. The root of this program is to implement and ensure the client receives expedient and quality services using a holistic methodology to ensure that the client can be assisted in any aspect of their situational weaknesses.

Community services are offered in five of the nine counties covered by Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority: Bryan County, Liberty County, McIntosh County, Glynn County, and Camden County.

Through case management, a client can receive financial assistance, as well as, counseling and/or referrals to local partnering agencies in the area. Services provided within the Community Services Division include: **employment assistance, soft-skill job trainings, education assistance, income management, housing assistance, budgeting, congregate meals, home delivered meals, nutritional services (food vouchers), youth and family development services, advocacy, health and wellness, financial literacy, income tax preparation, and linkage into the community.**

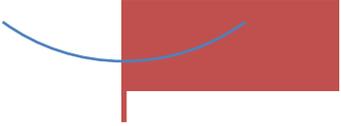
Other programs provided through the Community Services Division are the Low-Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Emergency Food and Shelter Program (FEMA), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), Senior Center Program (MCC), Community Action Youth Leadership Initiative (C.A.Y.L.I.), and the Meals-On-Wheels Program (MOW).





COMMUNITY SERVICES

Helping People...Changing Lives...Building Families



All numbers provided are approximate numbers across 5 counties served (numbers represent households served):

CSBG/QOL

Applications taken or services provided through community services- 3,356

Case management provided- 160

Rental/Mortgage Assistance- 241

Food vouchers provided- 28

GED obtained/classes attended- 22

Post-secondary education obtained- 15

Employment Assistance- 21

Youth Services- 1,097 volunteer hours provided

Budgeting/Debt counseling services- 252

LIHEAP/EAP

Regular Energy Assistance and Crisis Assistance- 3,066

VITA

Establish banking services- 60

Income Tax services provided- 154

EFSP/FEMA

Rental assistance- 17

Utility assistance- 6

AGING/MOW

Congregate meals served- 5,528 meals

Seniors served- 58

Home delivered meals- 74

Wellness Activities- 52



WEATHERIZATION

PARTNERSHIP

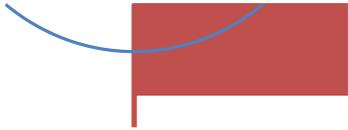
HOME DEPOT, LOWES, JOB CORP, AND REBUILDING TOGETHER





WEATHERIZATION

Helping People...Changing Lives...Building Families



As defined by the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) differs in many ways from what is commonly called "weatherizing your home." The latter involves low-cost improvements like adding weather-stripping to doors and windows to save energy.

WAP serves low-income families free of charge and limits the amount of money that can be spent on any single residence as determined by federal rules. (The average expenditure is \$6,500.) As a result, only the most cost-effective measures are included in the upgrade of a particular home. This constant pressure for low-cost energy savings has become the trademark of weatherization and distinguishes it from the larger home retrofit industry.

Another distinguishing feature of weatherization is attention to an all-around safety check. Many buildings receiving attention are old and in need of repair. Weatherization service providers check major energy systems to ensure occupant safety.

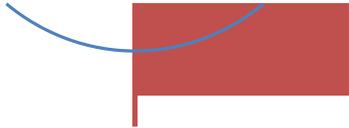
Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority Inc. provides WAP services in 6 counties in southeast Georgia; Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, Long, Liberty and Bryan counties. Our Staff are trained and certified in the leading industry standards; Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Building Performance Institute (BPI).





WEATHERIZATION

Helping People...Changing Lives...Building Families



WEATHERIZATION FISCAL 2015 JULY 1, 2015-JUNE 30, 2016	
DHS HHS 2015-2016	57574.77
DOE REGULAR 2014-2015	18930.46
DOE REGULAR 2015-2016	53681.12
GPC 2015	19824.98

19 weatherized units



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PROGRAMS OFFERED

Early Head Start, Head Start, Pre-K



HEAD START/EARLY HEAD AND PRE-K SCHOOL READINESS GOALS

Introduction

Coastal Georgia CAA Head Start/Early Head Start and Pre-K provides quality, comprehensive services to pregnant moms, children ages birth to five years and their families, across a nine county service area, in Southeast Georgia. We are committed to providing services to children and families to improve their quality of life. Our program promotes school readiness by providing diverse opportunities for children and families to develop their autonomy, social and academic skills. Research states, parental involvement has a positive impact on early education. Therefore, we encourage parents to participate in every phase of our program operations and in their children's learning to ensure progress as they continue their educational journey.

Head Start defines school readiness as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life. The Head Start Approach to School Readiness means that children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children's learning, and schools are ready for children. The Coastal Georgia Area CAA School Readiness Goals are developed in order to meet the Office of Head Start mandated school readiness goals, which are defined as "the expectations of children's status and progress across domains of language and literacy development, cognition and general knowledge, approaches to learning, physical health and well-being and motor development, and social and emotional development that will improve readiness for kindergarten goals" and that "appropriately reflect the ages of children, birth to five, participating in the program".

Our SRGs are aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards Common Core, Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning GELDS, the Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies GOLD and the Head Start Parent, Family and Community Engagement Framework (PFCEF). Our mission is to provide opportunities that will empower children and families to achieve "Social Readiness Goals" in an effort to become lifelong learners. We recognize that parents are their children's primary teachers and advocates thus continuously consult with parents in establishing/revisiting/modifying school readiness goals.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DIVISION

Head Start

Quality child care services provided to three, four and five year olds at NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited, Quality Rated licensed facilities. We currently provide Head Start services to 871 children in nine Southeast Georgia counties: Bryan, Camden, Evans, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Tattnall and Wayne. Educational activities are providing in center-based classrooms and facilitated using the Creative Curriculum. Our teacher's assess children's progress ongoing and outcomes are provided to parents during the fall, winter and spring via data tracked in Teaching Strategies GOLD. An enriched educational environment is provided to foster an enjoyment for learning, develop a positive attitude about school and to help each child reach their maximum potential. The program, federally funded, also supports the children with nutritious meals, health services and transportation, Enrolled families are also provided social services, parent involvement activities and training opportunities.

All families must be enrolled based on eligibility requirements

The mission of the program is to value a high standard of living for all persons living within its service area. The program continuously involves itself in the provision of services that will improve the quality of life for children, families, and employees through education and comprehensive social services.

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool is a research –based system that offers Head Start/Pre-K educators a comprehensive collection of resources with the “what”, “why”, and “how” of quality early childhood education. It is based on 38 objections for development and learning that are predictive of school success and aligned with the state early learning standards. Creative curriculum for infants and toddlers and two's is a research based and research proven curriculum that helps teachers understand development appropriate practice and how to create daily routines are well as meaningful experiences that respond to children's strengths, interest and needs.

Pre-K

Our Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning state, lottery funded program provides services to four year old children in eight (8) classrooms located in Bryan, Camden, Glynn, Liberty, Tattnall and Wayne counties. These classrooms use the Creative Curriculum and provide developmentally appropriate activities in learning areas that are rich in materials for the children's exploration and learning. Field trips are also used to compliment the lessons.

A program assessment, the CLASS is used to ensure that teachers are providing continuous quality care to the children.

Transition planning is extremely important in our EHS programs. The Family Partnership Agreement process offers pregnant moms the opportunity to begin planning for EHS services following the birth of the baby. This requires long term planning on two levels. First, we consider how both parties will simultaneously provide services to pregnant women while ensuring that there will be space available for the infants (once they are born) in the appropriate EHS program setting. The second level of long-term planning occurs with the expectant family at the time of enrollment as they work to determine the appropriate program option for the child after birth.

Early Head Start

Infants, toddlers and services to pregnant women provided in a center-based setting to promote early developmental learning. We currently provide Early Head Start services to 112 children and pregnant moms in four counties: Camden, Evan, Glynn and Liberty. Children are provided learning activities in a comfortable, home-like atmosphere. The classroom provides various places to explore, supporting all functional areas such as gross motor activities, early literacy development, symbolic, or dramatic play, manipulative play, and sensory play. Children with disabling conditions are served.

Families must meet eligibility requirements. We provide formula and diapers to children enrolled in our program as not to impose any additional hardships on families.

In addition to health services, pregnant women receive prenatal and postpartum home visits that include but are not limited to prenatal education on fetal development (including risks from smoking and alcohol), information on the benefits of breastfeeding to all pregnant and nursing mothers, labor and delivery, postpartum recovery (including maternal depression), parenting training, needs assessment and goal setting.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Parent Involvement is essential to the success of the Early Childhood Education programs at Coastal Georgia Area Community Action Authority, Inc. Parents affect almost every aspect of a child's life: self-esteem, health, values, behavior, readiness for school and success in life. Because parents have so much at stake, they have a lot to offer our program.

Parents are encouraged to take an active role in their child's education by volunteering in the classrooms, participating in family activities and events, and providing valuable feedback to the program. Parent Committee meetings provide the opportunity for parents at each site to meet throughout the year to develop family connections and discuss activities and ideas for each site.

The Policy Council is a group of parents and community members that work with the program Leadership team and the Governing body to address issues and policies that affect the entire Head Start/Early Head Start and Pre-K programs. Parents are encouraged to observe their child's classroom, work as a classroom volunteer, and serve on the Health Advisory Committee, Education Advisory Committee, School Readiness Focus Group and other committees. They also participate in program training.

For 2014/2015 we had a total of 1270 Head Start/EHS parents participate and attend our parent meetings and training. We had 631 volunteers with 295 of the number being former and current Head Start parents.

OUTCOMES

Coastal GA Area Community Action Authority, Inc. Head Start utilizes the scientifically based

Strategies GOLD (TSG) to assess children's progress, report child outcomes, and plan program improvements. TSG is research-based, research-proven—validated and shown to be effective by extensive research conducted by independent researchers. TSG support all types of learners, including our children with special needs and children with advanced knowledge and skills.

Assessments are complete on each child three times a year: Fall, Winter and Spring. The data obtained during assessment intervals is specific to children, classrooms, sites, and programs. The information is used for program planning at all levels across multiple systems.

Audited as of June 30, 2015

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS)

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$	390,714.00
Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)		1,225,452.00

SUBTOTAL **\$ 1,616,166.00**

U. S. DHHS, ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Early Head Start Federal / Federal T&TA	1,708,558.00
Early Head Start Non-Federal (Inkind)	565,598.00
Head Start Federal / Federal Training & Technical Assistance	6,122,818.00
Head Start Federal / Non-Federal (Inkind)	<u>1,978,472.00</u>

SUBTOTAL **10,375,446.00**

**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CARE & LEARNING
BRIGHT FROM THE START**

Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	826,113.00
Pre-K	<u>517,263.00</u>

SUBTOTAL **1,343,376.00**

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (GEFA)

DOE Weatherization	98,366.00
Georgia Power	51,468.00
HHS Weatherization	<u>78,468.00</u>

SUBTOTAL **228,302.00**

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION **84,154.00**

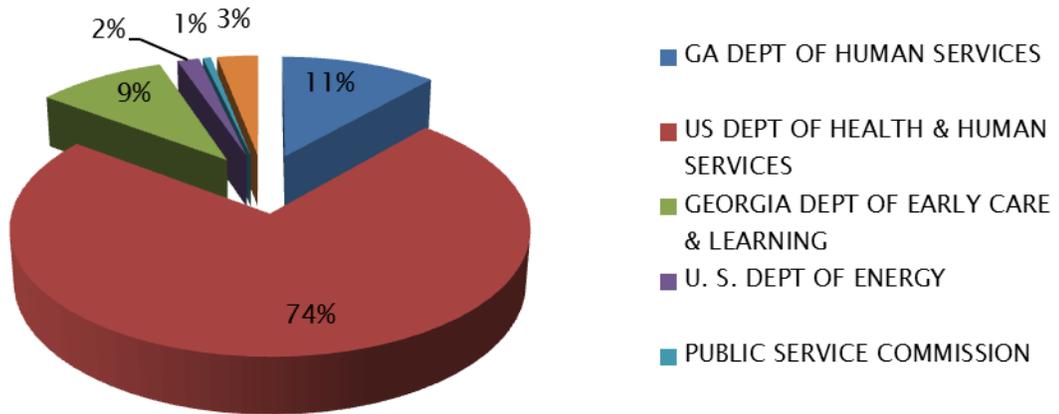
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH (MEDICAID) **22,169.00**

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) **4,021.00**

LOCAL GOVT CONTRACTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS **313,465.00**

GRAND TOTAL	\$ 13,987,099.00
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FUNDING ANALYSIS



GA DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 1,616,166.00
US DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	10,375,446.00
GEORGIA DEPT OF EARLY CARE & LEARNING	1,343,376.00
U. S. DEPT OF ENERGY	228,302.00
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	84,154.00
OTHER FEDERAL STATE & LOCAL	423,809.00

Bryan County Community Services

30 S. Industrial Blvd
Pembroke, GA 31324
PH: (912) 653-4993
FAX: (912) 653-4993

Camden County Community

Services Center

106 E. Hall Street
St. Mary's, GA 31558
PH: (912) 729-2580
FAX: (912) 729-2570

McIntosh County Multi-Purpose Center

1009 Eulonia Park Road, N.W.
Townsend, GA 31331
PH: (912) 832-2444
FAX: (912) 832-4116

Liberty County Multi-Purpose Center

P.O. BOX 1314
933 E.G. MILES PWKY, SUITE 106
HINESVILLE, GA 31313
PH: (912) 876-6173
FAX: (912) 876-2117

WEATHERIZATION

P.O. BOX 2016
ONE COMMUNITY ACTION DRIVE
BRUNSWICK, GA 31521
PH: (912) 264-3281

Bryan County Head Start

P.O. BOX 1089
166 BACONTOWN ROAD
PEMBROKE, GA 31321
PH: (912) 653-4990
FAX: (912) 653-5563

Camden County Head Start/

Daycare/Pre-K

P.O. BOX 418
1501 GEORGIA AVENUE
WOODBINE, GA 31569
PH: (912) 576-5923 & 576-9410*
FAX: (912) 673-6957

Claxton Head Start

P.O. BOX 382
720 N. CHURCH ST.
CLAXTON, GA 30417
PH: (912) 739-4576
FAX: (912) 739-8414

Glennville Head Start

119 VETERANS RD.
GLENNVILLE, GA 30427
PH: (912) 654-1170
FAX: (912) 654-4926

Glynn Head Start

ONE COMMUNITY ACTION
DRIVE
SUITE D
BRUNSWICK, GA 31520
PH: (912) 262-1400
FAX: (912) 261-8775

Glynn Early Head Start

419 Benedict Rd
Brunswick, GA 31520
PH: (912) 289-4893
FAX: (912) 275-7265

**Liberty County Early Head
Start**

200 Brantley Dr.
Hinesville, GA 31313
PH: (912) 876-5977
FAX: (912) 876-5977

**Liberty County Head Start
& Social Services**

P.O. BOX 371
9099 E.B. COOPER HWY
RICEBORO, GA 31320
PH: (912) 884-3134
FAX: (912) 884-3452

Long County Head Start

P.O. BOX 685
15 THORNTON DRIVE
LUDOWICI, GA 31316

McIntosh Head Start

P.O. BOX 1095
102 N. HWY #17 & 251
DARIEN, GA 31305
PH: (912) 437-6118 & 437-
3942
FAX: (912) 437-7893

Reidsville Head Start

P.O. BOX 1666
Reidsville, GA 30453
26466 Hwy #23
Collins, GA 30421
PH: (912) 693-2207
FAX: (912) 693-7014

Wayne County Head Start

724 N. FOURTH STREET
JESUP, GA 31545
PH: (912) 427-4527
FAX: (912) 427-6363



**COASTAL GEORGIA AREA
COMMUNITY ACTION AUTHORITY, INC.**

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