

**Tri-County Opportunities Council**  
**Community Action Agency**  
**FACT SHEET – 2017**

**SERVICE AREA:** Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark, and Whiteside Counties in Illinois  
5454 square miles

<b>TOTAL 2017 FUNDING:</b>	\$ 14,466,779	<b>TOTAL 2017 STAFF:</b> (W-2's)	263
Federal:	\$ 11,465,225	<b>TOTAL 2017 PAYROLL/FRINGE:</b>	\$6.27 million
State:	\$ 2,338,704	<b>TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS:</b>	127,460 hrs.
Other:	\$ 662,850	<b>VOLUNTEER SAVINGS:</b>	\$1,274,600
<b>INKIND &amp; PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:</b>	\$ 191,733		

*Major Program Activities, Achievements, Results and Outcomes*

**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)**

Economic Development: In 2017, the Project Employment program provided funds for certification program enrollment, required supplies, employment support and interview training skills to 13 customers. An additional 9 customers were assisted with necessary clothing, Transportation and other supplies to begin new jobs.

Emergency Assistance: In 2017, 80 individuals received direct emergency aid to meet their basic needs as a result of an emergency crisis.

General Outreach Services: During 2017, 989 individuals were provided with comprehensive assessment, short term case management, information, advocacy and referral services.

Scholarship Program: 12 scholarships were awarded in 2017 to low-income students who are pursuing post-secondary educations at Illinois institutions.

Family & Community Development: 281 eligible customers received case management services to provide opportunities to the family/individual to support them to move towards self-improvement, stability and self-sufficiency. 11 customers received minor home repairs to address safety issues. 18 customers were provided assistance to address medical and/or dental issues. 20 youth were enrolled in extra-curricular activities to participate in community, school and family wellness activities.

Homeless Programs: Utilizing grants from the Department of Human Services (Homeless Prevention, Supportive Housing, Voucher Shelter) CSBG (Emergency Services), HUD (Transitional Housing), DCEO (Emergency Solutions Grant) we were able to help 137 households obtain housing or prevent eviction.

Bureau County Food Pantry: Using volunteers, donated funds and food, plus EFSP and the United Way funds, the Agency assisted 1,781 households during 2017. The pantry also distributed 135 Easter hams, 145 Thanksgiving food baskets and 70 Christmas baskets. 22 children received school supplies and 22 received winter coats, gloves and hats as a result of our annual school supply and coat drives.

## Foster Grandparent Program

Provides stipend volunteer opportunities for low-income persons age 55 and over who give supportive mentoring services to at-risk children. Impacts on the children are measured throughout the year. In 2017, the program had 73 Foster Grandparent volunteers working in 33 different volunteer station sites and providing mentoring services to a total of 310 children.

## Head Start/Early Head Start

### Head Start:

A comprehensive child and family development program, Head Start annually provides center based services for 534 three and four year old, low-income children. The program operates 17 licensed centers with 10 part-day classes, 19 extended day classes, and three full-day/full-year classes. Key components of the program are: school readiness skills; social and emotional development; medical, dental, mental health and nutrition services; support to children with disabilities and special needs; family supportive services; and parent education and involvement opportunities.

### Early Head Start:

Comprehensive Head Start services are provided for 116 pregnant women, infants or toddlers through both center and home-based options. This is a full-year program with the same services as those in the Head Start Program. This program option serves 32 children in three licensed centers and 84 children in the home-based programming option.

## Low-Income Home Emergency Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

This program assists households at or below 150% of poverty with their home energy needs. The PIPP Program (Percentage of Income Payment Plan) was re-instated September 1, 2016. Applicants were given the choice between the PIPP Program or the LIHEAP Program. In 2017, 7,344 clients were assisted with LIHEAP funding and an additional 1,463 clients were enrolled in PIPP. The agency also assisted 260 clients with intake/application for the Jo/Carroll Neighbor- to -Neighbor Program, 225 clients intake/application for the ComEd Hardship Program and 83 applicants with Ameren Supplemental Funding. Financial literacy and energy conservation tips are provided to clients at the time of application.

## Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program

Funded by HHS, DOE, and the State of Illinois funds, we made 78 homes more energy efficient during 2017. Weatherization includes such measures as weather stripping, caulking, insulation, set-back thermostats, replacement of windows, doors and refrigerators, if needed. There is also a furnace repair/replacement component. The outcome of this program is to reduce the amount of fuel needed to heat the home. Total program expenditures were \$768,669.42.

## Housing Program

The agency owns 14 buildings located in Sterling, Rock Falls, Dixon and Wyanet with a total of 29 rental units. All 29 units are now affordable housing for low-income individuals and families.

The Rental Housing Support Program assisted 38 very low income households in the amount of \$195,182.

