



COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Program Year 2021

A plan to illustrate the sub-grantee's various activities within the upcoming CSBG program year.

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2020 COMMUNITY ACTION REPORT

2020 AGENCY INFORMATION

In 2020, Area IV Agency on Aging and Community Action Programs, Inc. (Area IV Agency) had 63 employees. The Aging Programs Care Manager Supervisor and Wellness Coordinators positions were filled after becoming vacant in late 2019. Area IV Agency created the new positions of In-Service Coordinator and Information and Referral Team Leader in the Aging Programs Department in 2020.

MANAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENT

Area IV Agency would consider the opening of two housing developments and leasing all units to be the top management accomplishment in 2020.

Area IV Agency partnered with RealAmerica LLC to construct the H38 East Apartments in Lafayette. These apartments are part of the Moving Forward 2.0 initiative and provide additional resources to residents with the goal to end generational poverty. Wrap-around services are provided to address the symptoms of poverty including, but not limited to, education, affordable housing, job training and coaching, affordable childcare, and net-zero utilities. Our Executive Director provided guidance and established partnerships within the community to provide opportunities to residents looking to improve the financial standing of themselves and their families. A Life Skills Coach was hired to assist individuals and families with establishing goals and providing linkages to services to accomplish these goals.

Area IV Agency partnered with Keller Development to adapt a vacant nursing facility into the Otterbein Commons apartments. The leadership decision to refurbish an existing building would lessen the carbon footprint of the building and help save money on the construction. Otterbein Commons is a 32-unit affordable housing project, which has set a number of units aside for those individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability who are seeking an independent living situation.

2020 SERVICES

CSBG-REQUIRED SERVICES OR REFERRALS

Area IV Agency completes income verification for all individuals receiving services. However, there are services which have a limited intake procedure and participant income cannot feasibly be verified.

Listed below are the instances in which participant income would not be verified as part of the limited intake procedure:

- Services are provided on a group, rather than individual, basis and circumstances indicate that those benefiting are likely to meet CSBG income eligibility requirements
- Services are provided on an individual basis but circumstances make it impossible or impracticable to obtain income documentation and indicate that those benefiting are likely to meet the CSBG income eligibility requirements and/or that the services facilitate linkages and coordination of services to low-income people in the community

Services are intended to increase community awareness of or involvement in poverty issues

COMMUNITY-TARGETED SERVICES

Area IV Agency reviews the most recent Community Needs Assessment to ensure that identified needs are being addressed in services which provide a community-wide benefit. For example, in 2018, the top identified needs for our region was access to affordable healthcare, reliable transportation, utility payment assistance, safe and affordable housing, and access to affordable childcare.

H38 East Apartments, which opened in early 2020, provides individuals and families with access to safe and affordable housing, units have net-zero utility costs, and transportation sharing. H38 East Apartments has established Memorandums of Understanding with Franciscan Healthcare and the nearby YMCA to provide residents with access to affordable healthcare and childcare.

H38 East also has Memorandums of Understanding with the Lafayette Adult Resource Academy, Ivy Tech College, and businesses that have agreed to reserve spots for residents to receive job training and placement. These services address root causes of poverty. This benefits the community by lowering unemployment and poverty rates.

INNOVATIVE APPROACH

Area IV Agency addressed causes and conditions of poverty by developing the H38 East Apartments, which opened in early 2020. This Moving Forward 2.0 housing initiative provides individuals and families with access to safe and affordable housing, units have net-zero utility costs, and transportation sharing. H38 East Apartments has established Memorandums of Understanding with Franciscan Healthcare and the nearby YMCA to provide residents with access to affordable healthcare and childcare.

The development of H38 East Apartments would not have been possible without the support and partnership of the City of Lafayette and Mayor Tony Roswarski.

H38 East also has Memorandums of Understanding with the Lafayette Adult Resource Academy, Ivy Tech College, and businesses that have agreed to reserve spots for residents to receive job training and placement. Our job-training partnerships include Wabash National, WorkOne, and Subaru of Indiana. These services address root causes of poverty. This benefits the community as a whole by lowering unemployment and poverty rates.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

In 2020, Area IV Agency received considerable input from the community as to the assistance that was needed in response to COVID-19. Individuals reported needs such as utility payment assistance, housing payment assistance, assistance with food resources, and other financial support.

As a result, Area IV Agency utilized CARES Act funding to address the needs reported by our communities and was able to assistance a larger population as many individuals were impacted financially because of COVID-19. Area IV Agency also was approved to be become a HUB for ESG funds to provide financial assistance and services to prevent homelessness.

While Area IV Agency helped with rental payments and landlord mediations, a partnership was established with Homestead CS to provide mortgage payment assistance. Homestead CS already had the experience of providing mortgage payment assistance and negotiating with banks to avoid foreclosure. Area IV Agency also partnered with the Lafayette Adult Resource Academy to provide technology support to students learning remotely who cannot afford the needed technology.

2021 COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

OVERVIEW

Community Action 3 National Goals



2021 SERVICES

ADDRESSING TOP COMMUNITY NEEDS

Area IV Agency is basing the top-identified needs from a regional Community Needs Assessment completed in 2018. Listed below are the top-five identified needs in our communities and the Area IV Agency services which address those needs.

NEED ONE: Wrap-around services to fully connect families to available resources

Area IV Agency Services:

- Life Skills Coaching
- Membership to Charity Check

NEED TWO: Improve access to safe and affordable housing

Area IV Agency Services:

- Housing Choice Voucher Program (also known as HUD or Section 8)
- H38 East Apartments (Workforce Development Housing)
- Otterbein Commons Apartments

NEED THREE: Expand transportation services to rural areas to ensure individuals and families have equitable access to services

Area IV Agency Services:

- Area IV Transit
- Area IV Public Transit of Tippecanoe County

NEED FOUR: Increased options for quality, safe and affordable childcare options

Area IV Agency Services:

- Park Place Learning Center

NEED FIVE: Increased support services and programs in our communities that promote healthy, thriving families

Area IV Agency Services:

- Life Skills Coaching
- Membership to Charity Check

PARTNERSHIPS/LINKAGES

AREA IV AGENCY PARTNERSHIPS

Homestead CS (Community Organization)

Area IV Agency has established a partnership to refer individuals in need of financial training, such as budgeting. Homestead CS also provides assistance to those in need of mortgage assistance while Area IV Agency provides rental assistance.

Salvation Army (Charitable Group)

Area IV Agency has established a partnership to refer individuals to needed services that Area IV Agency does not provide or to refer individuals in need of additional assistance.

WorkOne (Other)

Area IV Agency has established a partnership refer individuals seeking employment and job training opportunities.

City of Lafayette (Other)

Area IV Agency has established a partnership to develop H38 East Apartments and support for the affordable housing project in Tippecanoe County.

Lafayette Adult Resource Academy (Other)

Area IV Agency has established a partnership to provide adult education in Tippecanoe County and funding provided to the academy to provide technology support for those participating in online learning.

LINKAGES TO FILL SERVICE GAPS

Service Gap: Safe and Affordable Housing

- Area IV Agency has established a partnership with RealAmerica LLC to construct low-income housing

Service Gap: Utility Payment Assistance

- Area IV Agency, in partnership with RealAmerica LLC, has constructed H38 East Apartments, which has net-zero utilities

Service Gap: Access to Affordable Childcare

- Area IV Agency established a partnership with YMCA to provide affordable childcare in Tippecanoe County

LINKAGES TO AVOID DUPLICATION

Area IV Agency has partnered with local community service organizations to use Charity Check, which is an assistance referral portal for individuals in the community. Charity Check will ensure that all individual needs are being addressed and that efforts are not being duplicated among local organizations. Authorized portal users are able to view in real time the individuals in need of assistance, make referrals, and view the current status of an individual's referral. If the individual calls back for assistance, the portal user can let that person know where their referral stands with another agency and let them know if there is additional information needed to approve an application, such as copies of pay stubs, current bills, etc. Partner organizations include the Lafayette Housing Authority, City of Lafayette, Homestead CS, Salvation Army, and Township Trustees.

OFFICE LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Location

Address: 660 N 36th St.
City: Lafayette
Zip Code: 47905
Phone Number: 765-447-7683
www.areaivagency.org

Executive Director

Name: Elva James
Phone Number: 765-447-7683 ext. 220
Email: ejames@areaivagency.org

Finance Contact Person

Name: Theresa Bradley
Phone Number: 765-447-7683 ext. 250
Email: tbradley@areaivagency.org

Community Programs Manager

Name: Mary Paulsen
Phone Number: 765-447-7683 ext. 283
Email: mpaulsen@areaivagency.org

Community Action Plan / Annual Report Contact Person

Name: Shelby Allen
Phone Number: 765-447-7683 ext. 259
Email: srallen@areaivagency.org