2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Schoharie County Community Action Program, Inc.

Building stronger, healthier communities and empowering families



795 East Main Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043 518-234-2568 | www.sccapinc.org



Child Care Resource & Referral

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) provides resources and information that is helpful to parents, child care providers, employers and the community to improve the availability of quality child care in Schoharie and Otsego Counties. CCR&R offers referrals to families to licensed and/or registered child care providers who meet their identified needs along with counseling on how to choose the best quality child care for their family. CCR&R offers information and referrals to employers for their employees who may be in need of child care or other services. The department is a Legally Exempt enrollment agency, enrolling and monitoring child care providers who are paid through child care subsidies. CCR&R also provides feedback to local and state agencies regarding community and child care needs and policy.

CCR&R provides technical assistance and professional development trainings and workshops to child care providers to help them stay in compliance with NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) training requirements.

CCR&R administers the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which reimburses daycare

2017 Accomplishments

Child Care Resource & Referral—Schoharie County

- 56 Total child care referrals provided to families
- 299 Technical Assistance (TA) hours provided to child care providers
- 73.75 Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) hours provided to child care providers
 - 2 Number of child care providers who received a Health & Safety Grant

Child Care Resource & Referral—Otsego County

- 42 Total child care referrals provided to families
- 96 Technical Assistance (TA) hours provided to child care providers
- 32 Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) hours provided to child care providers
- 2 Number of child care providers who received a Health & Safety Grant

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

- 15 Number of monitoring visits
- 8 CACFP participants

\$59,895.67 Dollars reimbursed to daycare providers for serving healthy food











Community Services Department

The Community Services Department provides emergency services for basic life needs including utilities, housing, clothing and food, financial literacy, community resources, referrals and advocacy. The department provides application assistance for SNAP, HEAP, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), and the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP). Special activities include back to school supplies, early childhood literacy program, and Coats for Kids.



2017 Accomplishments

- 336 VITA Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- 545 Outside referrals
- 3,762 Telephone contacts
 - 204 Number of individuals receiving winter clothing, Coats for Kids, Pajama Project
 - 13 Homeless prevention through advocacy
 - 71 Food pantry referrals
 - 5 Prescription assistance and advocacy
 - 136 Department of Social Services referrals
 - 25 Forms assistance
 - 89 Continued support, advocacy, phone calls, etc.
 - 372 Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) applications processed
 - 11 Food purchases including formula
 - 34 Emergency diaper assistance
 - 14 Utility advocacy (non-payment)
 - 8 Utility advocacy, service retention SCCAP payment
 - 13 Homeless prevention SCCAP payment
 - 43 Transportation bus tokens and vouchers
 - 17 Federal phone enrollment (Safelink and Assurance)
 - 322 Food pantries provided to clients
 - 35 Number of children receiving books
 - 275 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applications processed
 - 232 Number of children receiving school supplies











Community Services Department

New Programs: Based on previous experience the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY chose SCCAP to be the first agency to work with Save-A-Lot food stores for the Feeding America program. Retailers partner with local food pantries under the auspice of the Regional Food Bank to reduce waste and donate unmarketable, but usable food and grocery items. Through this program, SCCAP

received 22,877 pounds of donated food for distribution through their food pantry. Additionally, excess product is shared with other Regional Food Bank member pantries throughout the county.

2017 Accomplishments:

- Schoharie County Farmers Market committee, to increase use of SNAP benefits and Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) vouchers at local markets
- Back to School supply drive
- Grant written and selected for an AmeriCorps volunteer whose time was dedicated to the SCCAP food pantry
- Participated in the all-day NY Connects/Schoharie County Office for Aging event
- Cancer Services in-house service presentation and coordination of mobile events on-site
- Two Saturday tax preparation events held
- VITA training for tax preparation and greeters
- VITA disability day held in coordination with the Schoharie County ARC
- Coordination/host of Regional Food Bank and Food Safety Training allowing local pantry members to attend this required training
- Coats for Kids
- Receipt of first Regional Food Bank delivery to SCCAP food pantry
- Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Inc. provided in-service focused on the financial impact to individuals and their families due to addiction and recovery
- Participated in the First New York Community Day
- Partnered with United Way of the Greater Capital Region and SCCAP Employment Training Center on the Bank On program
- Regional Food Bank Dinner
- Schoharie County Maple Festival







Community Services Department

2017 Accomplishments: (continued)

- Food drives:
 - Local financial institutions (banks)
 - Wal-Mart
 - US Postal Service
 - Scouting for Food
 - Daily Star
 - Save A Lot Summer and Fall drives
- NOEP webinars:
 - On line system
 - SNAP and outreach for homeless individuals
 - SNAP and outreach to veterans
 - SNAP and rural households
 - Program Orientation



Food Pantry donation from SEFCU

Multi-Partner Success story:

A veteran came to SCCAP stating that he was in need of food. An emergency food pantry was provided, as well as an application for SNAP. He was referred to the Community Services Department for additional assistance. Upon interview, it was determined that he was residing in an unsafe location. Initially he did not want to be deemed as homeless or avail himself of any housing assistance. Working with him over a period of several weeks, the client changed his mind and requested housing assistance. SCCAP worked with Vet Help (Veteran's Homeless Prevention rehousing program), Eilene Fisher, a Schoharie County Veteran Officer, and the Christian Community Church of Faith to enroll him at the Stratton VA for Health Services and registered for housing assistance. Vet Help picked up the client and transported him to their veteran's shelter. He wrote back to SCCAP saying, "I am typing a little note to express heartfelt gratitude for all that you have done in the interest of my well-being." He is now safely housed, has food, medical care, and social interaction. The outcome took a lot of time and labor by all of the partners.

Multi-department Success story:

A family came to SCCAP because the main wage earner of the household had a heart attack and was unable to work. They were struggling to purchase food. A SNAP application, food pantry, and referral to WIC were

completed. approved for expedited a food family.



The family was SNAP as an case, providing resource for the

Back to School Program from Donna Lavigne Agency

Employment Training Center

Brief summary of departments:

- NYS Displaced Homemaker Program (DHP):
 - Provides displaced adults with the guidance, training and support needed to enter the labor market. Services provided include hands on computer workshops, job development, resumes, interviewing, career exploration, and financial literacy
- Skills to Success class training (STS):
 - Career readiness services provided to public assistance recipients referred from the Department of Social Services in compliance with their welfare to work initiatives
- Staff computer training:

2018 Legislative Education Days

- In house computer training provided on an as-needed basis to SCCAP staff
- Customized Business Computer Training (Fee for Service):
 - Customized, billable computer classes for the community
- Bank On (Financial Literacy Training):



Displaced Homemaker Program Success Story:

A young woman came to the Displaced Homemaker Program after seeing our flyer in the My Shopper for computer skills workshops. She had recently relocated to Schoharie County after a divorce and although she had experience in her field, she felt her lack of computer skills was holding her back from getting the jobs she wanted. She began attending some of our Microsoft Office workshops and was catching on very well. We helped her with creating a very professional resume and accompanying cover letters. She started getting requests for interviews very quickly, but was worried about not having appropriate clothing and shoes for the interviews. We were able to assist her with picking out and purchasing some professional clothes and shoes. She was offered and accepted the very first position she interviewed for and she was extremely grateful to our program for all the assistance provided to her. We received a very nice thank you letter from her stating that the computer skills training and interview clothing gave her a lot more confidence. She is very grateful to the Displaced Homemaker Program and SCCAP for the assistance.

Energy Services Department

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and Energy Services Department is committed to reducing energy costs for low-income families by improving the energy efficiency of their homes and ensuring their health and safety.

2017 Accomplishments

Energy Savings

- 44 Homes receiving Weatherization services
- 6,235.53 Gallons of fuel usage saved (approximate)
- \$18,343.45 Energy costs savings (approximate)

Improvements including Health & Safety

- 9 Refrigerators
- 3 Heating systems
- 95 Carbon monoxide detectors
- 492 Fluorescent bulbs
 - 3 Air conditioners



95 Carbon monoxide detectors



492 fluorescent bulbs







Success Story:

One particular home had no functioning hot water heater for nearly 2 years and a damp uninsulated basement causing the home owner to breathe unhealthy air.

The weatherization crew installed a new hot water heater, air sealed and insulated the basement, and installed a moisture barrier in the basement as well. To make a healthier environment the crew also installed a fresh air ventilation system in the home.

Family Support & Resource Center

The Family Support & Resource Center is a strength-based, family and child focused set of programs with the goal of wrapping community supports around children and their families to help maintain family stability and to keep children safely in their homes and community. We offer Family Partners that work 1:1 with families (provide support, advocacy, education and liaison with providers), different types of Skill Building (individual and families), Creative Connections for Youth which includes: Mentoring (both 1:1 and groups) and Time Banking (where youth work to earn Time Dollars - not real money - and use their 'dollars' toward camps, special activities, school clothes or the Holiday Store). Family Team Conferences (teams of providers and the family meet to develop goals and work towards strengthening the family system) are offered as a way to build supportive teams for families. Two new staff members joined us this year: Sara Schulz, Family Support Coordinator and Melissa Bevins, Creative Connections for

2017 Accomplishments

- 130 Number of families who worked with a Family Partner
- 898 Face to face contacts with families
- 70 Number of families who participated in Family Team Conferences
- 143 Number of meetings held
- 69 Number of individuals who participated in Skill Building
- 530 Skill Building sessions held
- 45 Number of youth active in Time Banking
- 24 Number of youth receiving school clothes and/or winter clothing
- 5 Number of youth with 1:1 mentors
- 34 Number of youth participating in groups or special activities
- 28 Number of youth attending camp
- 29 Number of youth participating in the Holiday Store









Success Story:

The Family Support and Resource Center has been working as a Family Partner with a woman with cognitive impairment and mild medical issues. She lives independently with her daughter who has a more significant developmental disability. Although her daughter, now 20, had technically graduated from high school, she was still enrolled in a self-contained classroom. SCCAP's Family Partner coordinated a transition meeting including the daughter, her family, school and ARC workers. Given the input generated at that meeting, the daughter has transferred to a BOCES program that assists her in working for pay as well as developing her social and academic skills. She loves to work and looks forward to transitioning to

Healthy Families/WIC

The Healthy Families Center administers the Woman, Infants and Children (WIC) program which is a federal supplemental food program that provides low income families with healthy foods along with nutrition and breastfeeding education. The WIC program serves approximately 500 participants. Our staff consists of two nutritionists, two certified lactation consultants, one nutrition assistant and one part time outreach coordinator. The department networks with other community partners including Community Maternity Services, Head Start, and the Schoharie County Department of Health, to offer a plethora of services from breastfeeding and nutrition education, high risk counseling, child birthing classes and lead screenings.

In September 2017, the Healthy Families department officially became the New York Milk Bank at Mothers Milk Depot of Schoharie County. The Mother's Milk Depot of Schoharie County adheres to the guidelines of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA) to provide safe, pasteurized milk from carefully screened donors to New York's fragile and sick infants; thus improving their potential to survive and thrive.

2017 Accomplishments

- 460 Number of participants served on average each month receiving food packages ranging from \$75 to \$150 per person
 - 6 Breastfeeding classes held with 21 women attending
- 15 Hospital-grade, electric breast pumps loaned to participants
- 74.6% Percentage of moms who initiated breastfeeding
 - 4 Childbirth classes held with 9 women attending
- 1,950 Farmer's Market Coupons issued with a total value of \$7,800
 - 9 Number of lead screenings performed on children by the Schoharie County Health Department at the WIC Clinic
 - 9 Number of participants who received free bike helmets and bike safety information, provided by the Schoharie County Department of Health



Success Story:

In September, we officially became the Mothers Milk Depot of Schoharie County. Approved donors will be able to drop off their extra breastmilk at our location and we will ship it to the NY Milk Bank. There are only 2 other depots near us: Gloversville and Albany. The NY Milk Bank is a non-profit milk bank that adheres to Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA) guidelines to provide safe, pasteurized milk from carefully screened donors to NY's fragile and sick infants, thus improving their potential to survive and thrive. Accessibility to human milk is limited, so non-profit milk depots

Parent and Child Connections Center

The Parent and Child Connections Center provides the means for children and adults, usually the non-residential parent, to have the opportunity for safe, conflict free contact in the presence of a third party. The Center offers a child-friendly, comfortable environment for supervised or monitored visits and exchanges that allow children and parents who have been separated due to child abuse and neglect, substance abuse, domestic violence, or custody or visitation issues to maintain or rebuild positive relationships. Visiting parents are assisted in developing and improving their parenting skills and have an opportunity to implement those skills during visits.

The Parent and Child Connections Center receives referrals from the Schoharie County Department of Social Services and our staff works closely with Foster Care, Child Preventive and Child Protective caseworkers. Referrals are also received from Schoharie County Family Court and attorneys.

2017 Accomplishments

- 79 Families participated in the supervised visitation program
- 1,057 Supervised or monitored visitations
 - 22 Families have moved to unsupervised visitations or supervision by family members





Success Story:

A single mom of two boys completed in-patient rehab for alcohol abuse. Mom participated in skill-building classes and incorporated the skills she developed into supervised visits with her sons. Over a period of time, supervised visits became monitored visits. During monitored visits, Mom was able to spend time with her children without a supervisor present. Mom now has weekend and overnight visits with her sons and they will soon be home on a trial basis, full time.

Culinary Cook-Off Event

Held on December 7, 2017, 85 guest judges gathered in Champlin Hall at SUNY Cobleskill to enjoy a culinary smorgasbord. Prepared by students from the SUNY Cobleskill Culinary Arts program, teams created appetizers, entrees, and desserts for guests to sample and judge. Each team of students competed for the "Best of Show" title.

Guests also had the opportunity to purchase tickets for a variety of silent auction prizes generously donated by the following local businesses: Tagua Nut Gift Shoppe, Wolfe's Pizza & Wholesale, Chieftans Restaurant & Bar, 560 Salon and Spa, Justine's of Cobleskill, The Carrot Barn, Bull's Head

Cook-Off!

Cobleskill

Charity Culinary













Board & Staff

Board of Directors as of December 31, 2017

PRIVATE SECTOR

PUBLIC SECTOR

Larry Phillips *Treasurer* George McDonnell *Chair*

Anna VanDerkwerken

Rhonda Ferris

Jason Evans

Vacancy

CONSUMER SECTOR

Dolores Jackson Vice-Chair

Pastor Jonathan Litzner Secretary

Judy Warner

Staff as of December 31, 2017

Wendy Abbott-Egnor	Jodi Gregory	Sara Schulz
Lara Ackley	Marcy Holmes	Amber Shultes
Denelle Baker	Becky Kennison-Foland	Adam Smith
Nancy Becker	Jackie LaLonde	Jeannette Spaulding
Sarah Beekman	JoAnn McCann	Ted Strobeck
Melissa Bevins	Norman McHargue, Jr.	Richard Valetutto
Michele Bivona	Shelly O'Herin	Rhonda Wilty
Nardeana Bohringer	Debbie Palmatier	Kimberly Witkowski
Heather Fretto	Everett Palmer, III	Colleen Wojcik
Dawn Garvey	Melissa Pawlak	
April Glass	Kelly Pitt	