

# 2014 Annual Report

*Schoharie County*

## Community *Action* Program

### Schoharie County

### Community *Action* Program

(SCCAP), a non profit organization, was incorporated in 1965 to provide comprehensive wraparound services to social, emotional and economically challenged community members. We continually seek to address gaps in community services by expanding our current programs and obtaining additional funds to develop new programs.

SCCAP appreciates its many service partners, donors, staff and volunteers who have the shared commitment to empower families and build stronger communities.

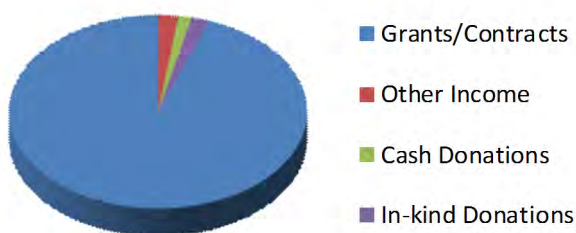


WIC Playgroup

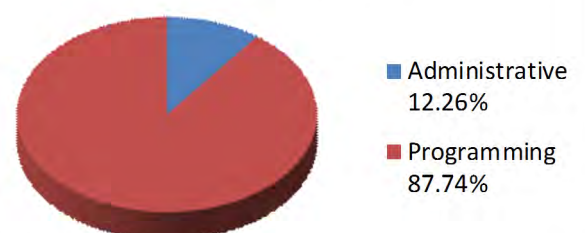
“My boys had a great time and loved the prize they had won!!!”

Ann Marie Bradley

### Revenues



### Expenditures



**Mission:** Provide consumers with the resources and skills necessary to enhance their quality of life and achieve self-reliance.

# Child Care Resource Center

The Child Care Resource Center (CCRC) serves parents, child care providers and employers in Schoharie and Otsego Counties. We are a resource and referral agency; providing resources to the community by improving the availability and quality of child care, counseling parents seeking child care as well as a referral service to employers regarding child care options for their employees and to parents who may be in need of other services. We offer training workshops and technical assistance to existing providers to help them stay in compliance with NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) training requirements. SCCAP's CCRC provides feedback to local and state agencies regarding community child care needs and policy. We are a sponsoring agency for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which reimburses providers serving nutritious meals to children in a day-care setting. We are also a Legally Exempt enrollment agency, enrolling and monitoring child care providers who are paid through subsidies.

## 2014 Accomplishments:

### CACFP:

- 5 new CACFP day care participants
- 23 CACFP monitoring visits
- \$57,176 to CACFP participants to offset daycare operation costs

### Child Care Resource & Referral:

#### Schoharie    Otsego

- |       |     |   |
|-------|-----|---|
| • 50  | 71  | families that received day care referrals               |
| • 479 | 249 | providers that received basic technical assistance      |
| • 145 | 128 | providers that received technical assistance (in hours) |
| • 3   | 3   | providers who received start-up grant monies            |
| • 4   | 6   | providers who received health and safety grant monies   |
| • 2   | 2   | providers that become licensed and/or registered        |
| • 37  | 42  | new enrolled legally exempt providers                   |



"I loved this project. The kids really enjoyed working with Deb!" Make It and Take It - Sensory Bottles - Schoharie County Child Care Provider

"This training was fun and educational. Deb is always so knowledgeable and helpful." - Training, Organized Play - Schoharie County Child Care Provider

"Amanda was very helpful and relieved some of my stress from doing all this paperwork." - Otsego County Child Care Provider

"I think Amanda is an excellent trainer and I look forward to meeting her again." - Child Abuse and Maltreatment Training - Otsego County Child Care Provider

## Community Services Department

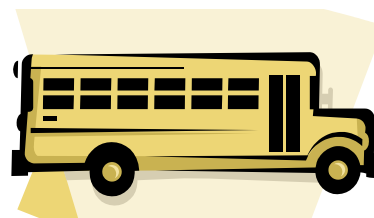
The Community Services Department provides emergency services for basic life needs including utilities, housing, clothing and food; community resource and referrals; advocacy; application assistance for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP); Social Security Disability; financial literacy; Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP). Special programs: back to school supplies and Coats for Kids.

### 2014 Accomplishments:

- 607 outside referrals
- 197 SNAP applications, renewal and advocacy
- 86 continued support
- 453 income tax returns totaling \$924,838 in refunds
- 533 HEAP applications
- 4 heat payments
- 2 emergency shelter payments
- 77 electric utility advocacy and/or payments
- 45 forms assistance/application to other programs
- 47 transportation assistance
- 10 prescription assistance and/or advocacy
- 39 special funds miscellaneous
- 24 rent/mortgage payments and/or advocacy
- 10 food purchases
- 25 children provided with diapers
- 14 SAFELINK (cell phone) advocacy/enrollments
- 2311 telephone contacts/referrals
- 114 VITA volunteer hours



688 clothing items distributed (including Coats for Kids, hats, gloves and scarves)



172 children provided with backpacks and supplies

“Thank you, due to your efforts for the first time in years we have hope.” - VITA Client

**Success Story:** A client came to SCCAP for the first time in July 2013, after another local agency referred him to our services. The client had recently lost his job and was facing electric shut off and eviction. We first provided application assistance for unemployment insurance, a benefit the client had not previously realized he could receive. That first service provided a platform for a trusting relationship between the client and SCCAP. Throughout the following year, we provided application assistance for other available programs, advocacy to help him address his outstanding balances for rent and electricity, and financial literacy to ensure he could budget and pay his bills going forward. At the end of 2014, the client was employed, up-to-date on rent and electric bill payments and even had a modest savings. The original referring agency contacted us to share how impressed they were with the client's progress, due in part to the guidance, support and education he received at SCCAP.

# **Employment Training Center**

**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 and career exploration.

**Skills to Success 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:** In house computer training provided to SCCAP staff.

**Fee for Service Computer Training:** Billable computer classes for the community.

## **2014 Accomplishments:**

### **Programming:**

- 176 participants enrolled
- 146 training workshops held with 537 attending
- 90 secured employment
- 12 received National Work Readiness Certification

### **Staff Computer Training**

- 5 training sessions with 19 staff participants

### **Fee for Service Computer Training**

- \$125 created through class fees

**Success Story:** A shy participant came in because she had seen the ad for classes. She had recently been part of a cut back at work and knew that she would have to improve her skills if she wanted to get a new job. She attended PowerPoint, Excel, Word and QuickBooks classes; doing well in all of them. DHP helped her create a resume and cover letter for an office manager position that she had found locally. She called soon after to say that not only did she get the job, but the company said her resume and cover letter were by far the best that they received. She is on cloud nine and even offered to come and speak to future classes if we needed her - this from the shy woman who, at first, would hardly said anything.

I would not have had the courage or the skills to apply for the job without your classes” -  
DHP Participant

## **Energy Services Department**

The 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. The department provides services through the Weatherization Assistance Program, Empower and on a fee-for-service basis.

### **2014 Accomplishments:**

- 8314 gallons of fuel approximately saved
- \$31,743 in energy costs approximately saved
- 38 Weatherization energy audits conducted

Purchased and installed:

- 15 refrigerators
- 3 heating systems
- 53 carbon monoxide detectors
- 5 air conditioners
- 1217 fluorescent bulbs



306 smoke  
Detectors  
installed

**Success Story:** During an energy audit it was noted that a particular home had thick ice formed on the inside walls of the kitchen. The homeowner had a very small wood stove for heat and could not afford wood. The homeowner was going out into the woods and gathering pieces of fallen trees and branches to burn in their stove. An old propane floor furnace was present, but inoperable and the entire home was not insulated well. A referral was made to the local Department of Social Services for a heating system replacement. The homeowner was approved to have a new propane wall furnace installed. The weatherization crew insulated all of the walls and attic of this home, provided air sealing measures along with carbon monoxide and smoke detectors. This home is now a comfortable place to live and is completely ice free.



“Your program is fabulous. Norm placed my smoke detectors in very effective spots and my candles do not even set them off! Everett did a wonderful job insulating my back kitchen and I didn't even lose any storage space. Carl explored every possibility for the installation of a kitchen exhaust fan. And Kelly got the whole ball rolling. Thank you to all! “  
- Energy Services client



## **Family Support and Resource Center**

The Family Support and 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. The Center offers Family Partners who work 1:1 with families (provide support, advocacy, liaison with providers and education); supervised visitation; different types of skill building (individual and families) and mentoring (both 1:1 and groups). Youth participate in Time Banking to earn Time Dollars—not real money—used for camps, special activities, school clothes or the Christmas Store. Family Team Conferences are teams of providers and the family who meet to develop goals and work toward strengthening the family system.

### **2014 Accomplishments:**

- 79 families worked with a Family Partner with 1524 face to face family contacts
  - 87 families participated in Family Team Conferences, 185 meetings held
  - 80 families participated in Supervised Visitations, 584 visits happened
  - 31 individuals participated in Skill Building, 187 sessions held
  - 7 families were assisted with Christmas
  - 19 youth participated in the Christmas store
  - 50 youth were active in Time Banking
  - 12 youth received help with school clothes
  - 7 youth had 1:1 mentors
  - 25 youth participated in groups or special activities
  - 506 volunteer mentor hours
  - 23 youth attended camp due to \$3,541 in donations
- “I would like to thank you for the opportunity I was given to send me to the Environmental Studies Day Camp in Blenheim. I had a lot of fun and had enjoyed opportunities of canoeing, hiking, geo catching, and I also learned how healthy the water is by doing tests on. I had a great week ending with a nice barbecue for family too.” - Time Banking Participant

**Success Story:** In the spring of 2014 the Supervised Visitation program at the Family Support & Resource Center received a referral to supervise visits between a father and his children. The father was recently released from prison. This dad was eager to reconnect with his children and develop relationships with them. His interactions with the children were appropriate and he participated in activities with them while in visit. Dad attempted to split his time evenly between his children and tried to spend some individual time with each. He addressed behavioral issues with the children when they arose. The children also were eager to visit with their dad and seemed comfortable and relaxed with him. Dad requested parent education classes in order to learn more about children's development and care. He was able to utilize the skills he acquired in parent education classes into the visits with all his children. During this time Dad has only cancelled one scheduled visit. He is always on time and eager to see the children. Dad's visits at FSRC are now partially unsupervised and his goal is to find safe and stable housing and obtain shared custody of all the children. He is currently working with a Family Partner at FSRC.

## **Healthy Families Center**

The Healthy Families Center delivers the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. A federal supplemental food program that provides low income families with healthy foods and nutrition and breastfeeding education. Staff consists of two Nutritionists, two Certified Lactation Consultants, one Nutrition Assistant and one part time Outreach Coordinator. We network with other community partners to offer numerous services from breastfeeding and nutrition education, high risk counseling, child birth classes and lead screenings.

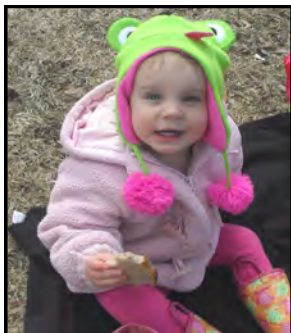
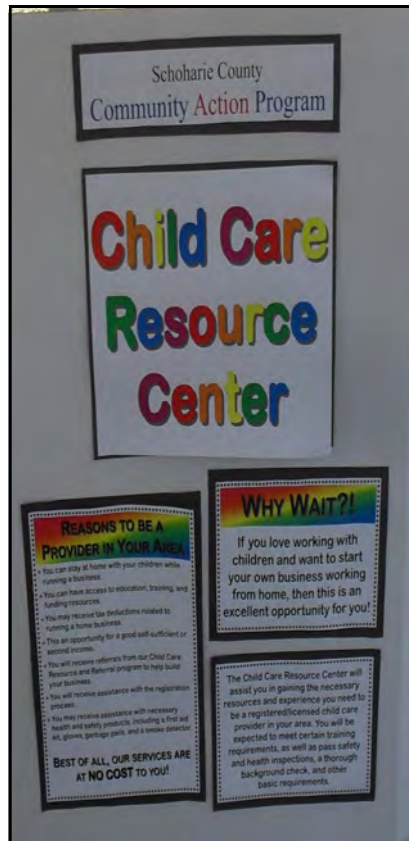
### **2014 Accomplishments:**

- 593 participants were served on average each month
- 24 breastfeeding classes were held and 58 women attended
- 22 hospital grade electric breast pumps were loaned out
- 72% of moms initiated breastfeeding
- 12 moms participated in our second annual “Big Latch On” and family fun day
- 212 sets of Farmers Market Coupons were issued to participants during the season with a monetary value of \$5,080
- 256 participants received FIT WIC KITS to take home with them, encouraging physical movement and structural play
- 20 families participated in our structured WIC play group
- 78 children received lead screenings by the Schoharie County Health Department
- 36 participants received bike helmets along with bike safety information

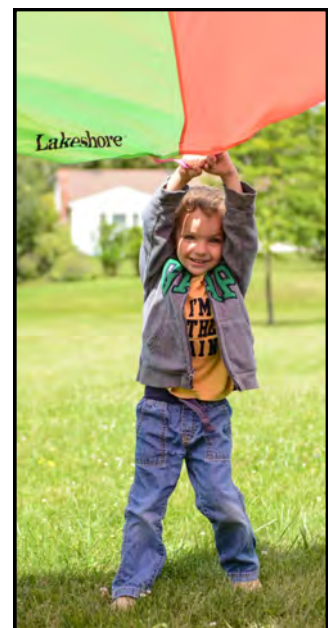
**Success Story:** A mom come into our office and her child tested very low for hemoglobin. We gave the mom a lot of information and many tips to increase her child’s iron in her diet and asked mom to return the following month so we could test her child’s iron again to see if the high iron diet was working to increase her hemoglobin. She returned to the office the following month and it was still very low. At this point we highly recommended she take her child to her pediatrician. Mom made the appointment before she left our office. She expressed her concerns and told the doctor her child tested very low for hemoglobin at WIC. As a result of this appointment, many tests were performed and it was discovered that the child had ***Hemoglobin Lepore Syndrome*** which is a blood disorder caused by genetic mutation. Mom said her child was not due for another physical for a year and if had not been for the WIC program, she would have never known that her child had this disorder and would not received the necessary treatment. The mom was extremely grateful the WIC program helped discover this disorder. The child is now on medication and her iron levels are being monitored by her pediatrician weekly until her hemoglobin is at a normal level.

# Community Activities 2014

## Week of the Young Child - April



## WIC Playgroup - August





## **Board & Staff**

### **Board of Directors as of December 31, 2014**

#### **PRIVATE SECTOR**

Barbara Parsons, Treasurer

Larry Phillips

Jason Evans

#### **PUBLIC SECTOR**

Anna VanDerwerken

Earl Van Wormer III

George McDonnell

#### **CONSUMER SECTOR**

Betsy Bernocco, Chair

Dolores Jackson, Vice Chair

Pastor Jonathan Litzner,  
Secretary

### **Staff as of December 31, 2014**

Denelle Baker

Chris Bent

Cheyln Bevlins

Nardeana Bohringer

Deb Dyer

Amanda Fitch

Heather Fretto

Kim Godin

Jodi Gregory

Krista Hesdorfer

Marcy Holmes

Carl Jackson

Jackie Lalonde

Norm McHargue Jr.

Pat O'Connor

Deb Palmatier

Everett Palmer III

Katie Palmer

Meg Parsons

Kelly Pitt

Amber Shultes

Jeannette Spaulding

Betty Taccone

Sarah Van Deusen

Rhonda Wilty

Colleen Wojcik

Lisa Zaba-Miller

*Schoharie County*

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**Community *Action* Program, Inc.**

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~Layout and Design By: SCCAP Administration ~