



north central west virginia  
**community action**

# ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2019

*North Central West Virginia Community Action Association, Inc.*

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**NCWVCAA Board of Directors**  
**Joyce Floyd, Michael Brantmayer, Cindy Shockey, Linda Sanders, and Jeff Van Volkenburg**

# To Our Stakeholders ...

## **NCWVCAA'S ANNUAL STATISTICS REPORT**

- ✓ 4,764 people were served from January through December 2019 by North Central WV Community Action Association, representing 2,173 Households.
- ✓ 458 had employment as the household's only source of income
- ✓ 1478 had employment income plus one other source
- ✓ 685 families reported zero income
- ✓ Of all customers that NCWVCAA served below are other sources of income outside of regular Employment:
  - 425 households reported receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - 571 households reported receiving Social Security &/or Pension benefits
  - 30 households reported receiving Unemployment benefits
  - 27 households reported receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) through WVDHHR
  - 710 households reported receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through WVDHHR
  - 311 households reported receiving Other benefits (such as family member cash support, trust fund or savings support only, HUD Utility allowance, veteran benefits, etc.)

## **NCWVCAA's OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS**

- ✓ Employed 229 of local residents from Preston, Monongalia, Marion, Taylor, Barbour, Randolph, Tucker, Pocahontas, Greenbrier and Webster Counties
- ✓ Paid \$6,019,560 in wages
- ✓ Paid \$663,060 in employment benefits
- ✓ Paid \$456,531 in taxes
- ✓ Spent \$4,745,013 with regional vendors
- ✓ Deposited \$12,226,816 with financial institutions

## **NCWVCAA'S FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- ✓ The total federal funds are approximately \$10.5 million from the Department of Health and Human Resources, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Housing and Urban Development, Department of Veterans Affairs, and as a pass-through the WV Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and the WV Housing Development Fund.
- ✓ State Dollars are approximately \$251 thousand primarily from the WV Department of Health and Human Resources.
- ✓ The Private and Other funds will amount to approximately \$670 thousand and primarily come from program income, private donors, low income housing rental income and the United Way Agencies in our service areas.

# Board of Directors

## REGION I: MONONGALIA, MARION, AND TAYLOR COUNTIES

<b>Member</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Sector</b>
Angela Copney	Marion	Low-Income
Michael Brantmayer	Monongalia	Public
Zana (Kay) Nesselrotte	Marion	Public
John Capriotti	Taylor	Private
Jeff Van Volkenburg, President	Marion	Private
Christopher Morris	Monongalia	Private
Whitney Oliverio	Marion	Private
James Danesh	Monongalia	Low-Income

## REGION II: GREENBRIER, POCAHONTAS, RANDOLPH COUNTIES

<b>Member</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Sector</b>
Joyce Floyd, Secretary	Randolph	Low-Income
Linda Sanders, Vice President	Randolph	Public
Karen Begg	Randolph	Public
Brian Mullins	Greenbrier	Private

## REGION III: BARBOUR, PRESTON, AND TUCKER COUNTIES

<b>Member</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Sector</b>
Joyce Metheny	Tucker	Low-Income
Sharon Lanham	Barbour	Public
Alcinda (Cindi) Shockey	Preston	Public
Bruce Kolsun	Tucker	Private

### Policy Council Representatives

Rose Mcle	Webster	Low-Income (PC Rep.)
Sara Davis	Randolph	Low- Income (PC Rep.)

## 2019 BOARD OFFICERS

Jeff Van Volkenburg, President  
Michael Brantmayer, Vice President  
Alcinda Shockey, Secretary  
Linda Sanders, Treasurer  
Joyce Floyd, Member-At-Large

# Financial Statement

North Central West Virginia Community Action Association  
 Budget Revenue  
 Fiscal Year 2019

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>ESTIMATED BUDGET</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>
Head Start	6,546,537.00	FEDERAL
Early Head Start	718,959.00	FEDERAL
EFSP	15,000.00	FEDERAL
Vets Per Diem	95,312.00	FEDERAL
Next Step HUD	100,521.00	FEDERAL
CSBG	969,440.00	FEDERAL
WX-DOE	682,758.00	FEDERAL
WX-DHHR	882,804.00	FEDERAL
SSVF	270,258.00	FEDERAL
DHHR-Shelters, VITA	250,848.00	STATE
USDA (HS, EHS, SUMMER FOODS)	160,403.00	FEDERAL
ESGP	124,999.00	FEDERAL
Program Income	500,000.00	OTHER
Corporate	15,000.00	OTHER
Rentals	60,000.00	OTHER
United Way	20,000.00	PRIVATE
Donations	75,000.00	PRIVATE
	<u>\$ 11,184,512.00</u>	

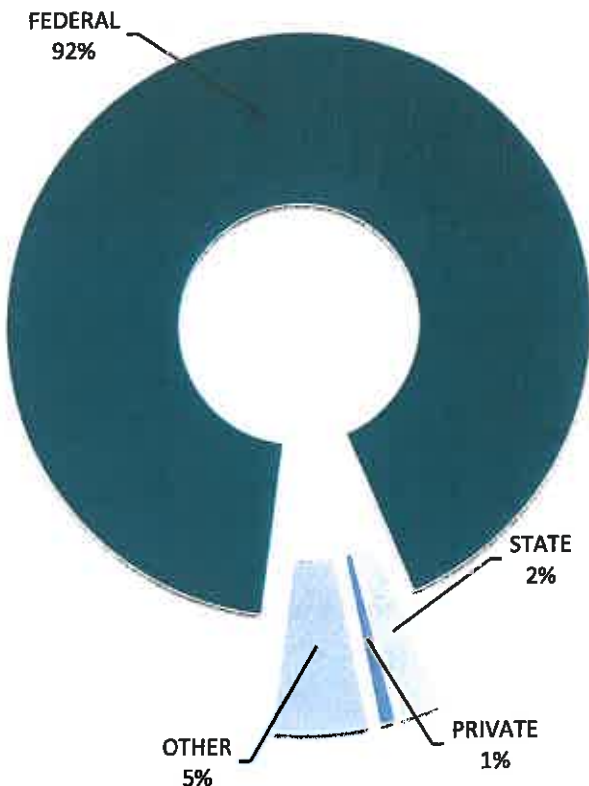
**North Central West Virginia Community Action Association, Inc.**  
**Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets (Unaudited/Unadjusted)**  
**As of June 30, 2018**

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT:</b>			
Grant revenue			
Federal direct	\$ 5,823,421	\$ -	\$ 5,823,421
State/pass through	2,824,964	-	\$ 2,824,964
State -- West Virginia Housing Development Fund	-	93,982	\$ 93,982
Program income	568,913	-	\$ 568,913
In-kind matching	1,358,688	-	\$ 1,358,688
Miscellaneous income	25,816	-	\$ 25,816
Donations	<u>170,055</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,055</u>
<b>Total revenues and other support</b>	<u>11,771,857</u>	<u>93,982</u>	<u>11,865,839</u>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
Salaries and wages	5,745,526	30,822	5,776,348
Payroll taxes and employee benefits	1,056,810	4,934	1,061,745
Contractual services	1,259,232	48,548	1,307,780
Supplies	760,044	6,140	766,184
Travel	153,311	3,210	156,521
Insurance	138,324	9,587	147,911
Facility expenses	504,212	5,132	509,343
Vehicles expense	219,420	(142)	219,278
In-kind services	1,358,688	-	1,358,688
Depreciation	-	-	-
Food purchases	195,323	-	195,323
Other	<u>314,192</u>	<u>6,068</u>	<u>320,259</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>11,705,082</u>	<u>114,299</u>	<u>11,819,381</u>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>66,775</b>	<b>(20,317)</b>	<b>46,458</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>3,603,387</u>	<u>276,529</u>	<u>3,879,916</u>
<b>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 3,670,162</u>	<u>\$ 256,212</u>	<u>\$ 3,926,374</u>

North Central West Virginia Community Action Association  
 Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)  
 For the Year Ending June 30, 2013

		<u>Unrestricted</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
	Cash	\$ 1,010,588
	Grants Receivable	1,021,098
	Other Receivable	9,177
	Notes Receivable, current portion	-
	Assets held for resale	-
	Other Assets	
	Prepaid expenses and deposits	<u>59,689</u>
	Total current assets	<u>2,100,552</u>
	<b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET</b>	<u>3,041,914</u>
	<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>	
	Notes Receivable, net of current portion	<u>-</u>
	Total other assets	<u>-</u>
	Total Assets	<u>\$ 5,142,467</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
	Notes Payable, current maturities	\$ 6,000
	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	774,638
	Accrued payroll and benefits	308,789
	Other Payables	260,747
	Deferred revenue--CHDO	-
	Deferred revenue	<u>14,682</u>
	Total current assets	<u>1,364,856</u>
<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>		
	Note payable, long-term portion	<u>26,127</u>
	Total long-term liabilities	<u>26,127</u>
	Total liabilities	1,390,983
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
	Temporarily restricted	274,655
	Unrestricted	<u>3,476,829</u>
	Total net assets	3,751,484
	Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 5,142,467</u>

**North Central WV Community Action Agency, Inc.  
Budgeted Funds for 2017-2018**



The total expected federal funds are approximately \$10.5 million from the Department of Health & Human Services, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Housing & Urban Development, Department of Veterans Affairs, and as a pass-through the WV Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and the WV Housing Development Fund.

The expected State Dollars to be received are approximately \$251 thousand, primarily from the WV Department of Health and Human Resources.

The Private and Other funds will amount to approximately \$670 thousand and will primarily come from program income, private donors, low income housing rental income and the United Way Agencies in our service areas.

<i>Direct Federally Funded Programs</i>	<i>State or Federal Flow Through Funded Programs</i>	<i>Private &amp; Other Programs</i>
Head Start	Weatherization	Group Work Camp
Early Head Start	Community Services Block Grant	United Way
Continuum of Care Program	Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing	Donations
Emergency Food & Shelter	Homeless Shelter Grants	Low Income Housing Rental Income
VA Homeless Per Diem	Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Grant	
Supportive Services for Veterans Families	WV Housing Development Fund	



# Children Services

## **HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START**

Services provided as a result of NCWVCAA Head Start in Barbour, Marion, Monongalia (Delegate), Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, and Webster Counties. Services provided as a result of NCWVCAA Early Head Start in Marion, Preston, Randolph, and Tucker Counties.

### **Enrollment:**

1,066 applications were received for Head Start Delegate (217) and Head Start/Early Head Start Grantee (849). Total funded enrollment was 850

- 593 slots are funded for HS. However, 662 children were served as a result of NCWVCAA's grant agreement for Head Start Program
- 76 slots are funded for EHS children. However, 140 children were served as a result of NCWVCAA's grant agreement for Early Head Start Program
- 181 children served by Delegate agency, Monongalia County Board of Education

### **Funding:**

- \$7,140,728 funded budget for Head Start/Early Head Start Program
- \$4,989,744 in federal funds were expended for operations
- \$1,077,245 in federal funds for Delegate (including T&TA)
- \$128,340 was spent on training and technical assistance
- \$ 2,557,162 was received in non-federal match funds

### **Head Start Program Results:**

- 88.4% (Grantee) and 87.3% (Delegate) of children were up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care according to West Virginia's EPSDT schedule for well child care.
- 82.1% (Grantee) and 55.8% (Delegate) of children received dental exams.
- 430 (Grantee) and 119 (Delegate) children transitioned into kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.
- 35 (Grantee) and 50 (Delegate) children were on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and received special education services

### **Grantee Early Head Start Program Results:**

- 92.8% children were up-to-date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care according to West Virginia's EPSDT schedule for well child care.
- 98.4% of children had a dental home established.
- 33 children were on an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and received special education services.

### **Grantee Early Head Start Classrooms:**

- 2 Center-Based Classrooms in Marion County
- 6 Home-Based Sites in Barbour, Randolph, Taylor (two), Tucker, and Webster Counties

### **Grantee Head Start Classrooms:**

- 59 Center-Based Classrooms of which there are:
  - 36 Full Day Board of Education Collaborative Classrooms amongst Barbour, Marion, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, and Webster Counties
  - 1 Full Day/Full year Childcare Collaborative Classroom in Pocahontas County
  - 2 Full Day Classroom Non-Collaborative in Taylor County

### **Monongalia County Board of Education- Delegate Head Start:**

- 33 Centered Based Classrooms/Full Day Collaborative Classrooms

### **Head Start/Early Head Start News:**

**FAIRMONT, W.Va.** – Mayor Brad Merrifield visited students at the Edgemont Head Start on Tuesday to read to the class.

Students were excited to welcome a new face to the classroom and read a few of their favorite stories.

There are eight head start programs and two early head start programs in Marion County. These Programs were put into place for low income families so children would have equal opportunity to receive healthy growth and development in the early stages of life despite adversity.

Mayor Merrifield commended administration and teachers at the school for their efforts, and said it was refreshing to take a step back and give back to community for a morning.

“I just think people sometimes need to take a minute, step back and **see** how important that this can be for any child, no matter who you are or what you do,” said the mayor.

It's National Head Start Month and the school is looking forward to having more visitors before the month ends.



**Fairmont Mayor, Brad Merrifield reading to Edgemont Head Start Program**

### **NCWCAA Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council Officers 2017-2018 School Year**

**James "Beau" Murphy, Chairperson**  
**Kayla Stemple, Vice-Chairperson**

**Jacqueline "Jackie" Mahaney, Secretary**  
**James Danesh, Parliamentarian**

# Community Services

## COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (CHDO) PROJECTS

### **Morgan Manor – LIHTC (Partner Capacity – Consultant):**

- 32 units will be rehabbed
- Greenbrier County obligated to project
- \$46,029 to be received in 2019 for involvement
- Rehab to be completed in 2019
- 32 individuals or families that will be provided affordable housing as a result of NCWVCAA

### **Southside Square Apartments –CHDO Project:**



## You're Invited!

Please join us in celebrating the completion of  
Southside Square Apartments.

*Property tours and light refreshments will be available.*



**Date:** December 18, 2019

**Time:** 1:00-3:00 PM

**Contact person:** Tina Boyer

**Phone:** (304) 457-3420 ext. 1303

**Email:** tboyer@ncwvcaa.org

**Location:**

Southside Square Apartments

Camden Lane, Belington, WV

(Top of the hill from the City Park)

north central west virginia  
**communityaction**



- 4 rental units committed to build
- Barbour County obligated to project
- \$783,000 amount received
- Units were completed and approved for occupancy in December 2019
- 4 individuals or families that will be provided affordable housing as a result of NCWVCAA.

### **Rental Housing: (Applies only to Barbour and Tucker Counties)**

21 individuals or Families received rental housing as a result of NCWVCAA

- 6 Country Way Apartments, Barbour County
- 15 Jameson Street Apartments, Pine View Apartments, and Mountain View Apartments, Tucker County.

### **Other:**

North Central WV Community Action Association's Housing program will be offering Financial Capabilities seminars/classes/support to clients/tenants interested in learning more about becoming financially responsible beginning in 2020. NCWVCAA also has an ongoing agreement with FAHE (Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises, Inc.) to offer USDA 502 loan packaging when available.

## **WEATHERIZATION**

93 unduplicated Weatherization completions from November 1, 2018 to October 31, 2019, with an average job cost of \$6,610.

Completions per County: Barbour-15, Greenbrier-11, Harrison-11, Marion-19, Monongalia-6, Pocahontas-1, Preston-11, Randolph-10, Taylor-5, Tucker-4

- Weatherization energy auditors completed 160 dwelling specific computerized energy audits detailing energy efficient measures to be performed as well as the projected savings to be obtained.
- Weatherization and associated utility programs were responsible for installing 40 Energy Star certified refrigerators, 59 high efficiency heating systems, 24 high efficiency hot water heaters, and performed energy education at 160 dwellings within our service area.
- Dominion Hope funds totaling \$3,278.72 installed new high efficiency heating systems. Dominion Hope is geared towards our clients that consume Dominion Hope gas to fuel their primary heating system.
- Weatherization utilized \$67,649 of TrailCo utility funds on MonPower customers located in Monongalia, Preston, and Tucker Counties. The TrailCo Program is a program that focuses on saving MonPower customers located in the three aforementioned counties on their electric bills through an array of services such as installing high efficiency heat pumps, detailed Client Education, Energy Star certified appliances such as; window air conditioners, refrigerators, dish washers, Hot Water Heaters, and clothes washing machines. Or the funds may be used to install energy efficiency weatherization materials and associated labor that would have a positive impact on conserving electric energy.

## **CASE MANAGEMENT**

Emergency Assistance:

- 1,434 individuals were provided assistance to alleviate their financial crises. Temporary financial assistance may include; food, clothing, utility payments, mortgage/rent payments, infant or child needs, household furniture items, personal hygiene products, gasoline for transportation or medicine.
- \$85,113.94 total spent assisting clients with financial crises.

Seasonal Programs: (Turkey Vouchers, Backpacks, Garden Vouchers, Forgotten Angel etc.)

- 1,099 Individuals or families provided service or assistance as a result of NCWVCAA.
- \$62,071.29 total cost provided by NCWVCAA for these program(s)

Our Partnership with Workforce WV permits Case Managers in each of our Counties to provide free employment mentoring for our customers that need assistance with resumes, cover letters, and referrals to job service, and to help with employment issues/barriers. We also have a computer that our customers can use at the office and printer to perform job search and post resumes online, apply for employment, and help them with networking to find employment.

## **SUCCESS STORY:**

In July 2019 Miss Client age 20 came to the Randolph County Homeless Shelter. She relocated to WV from Virginia to stay with her aunt. Once her aunt moved into subsidized housing, she was not allowed to have anyone living in her home. Miss Client became homeless. After getting her settled into the shelter a service plan was developed to find her employment and housing. In a few weeks Miss Client obtained employment in the housekeeping department at the local hospital. Miss Client was also referred to the county case management program for assistance with uniforms she needed for her job.

Miss Client was referred from Coordinated Intake to our Rapid Re-Housing Program. The Re-Housing Case Manager assisted Miss Client in applying for HUD assistance and got her approved for housing. Miss Client exited from emergency shelter into permanent housing on Sept 9, 2019. Our last home visit was in December. She is still working at the hospital and is managing very well. She stated, "the shelter has helped me so much, I'm not sure what I would have done without your help".

Cindy Jividen, Case Manager



Randolph County Homeless Shelter in Elkins.

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*"The Shelter has helped me so much,  
I'm not sure what I would have done  
without your help"*

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### **SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM: (Barbour, Marion, and Taylor Counties)**

The Summer Food Program provides low-income, school aged children with free meals/snacks during the summer months throughout North Central's counties. In 2018 various sites within Barbour, Marion, Monongalia, Preston and Randolph counties participated in the program. The Summer Food Program is the single largest resource available for local organizations that combine a feeding program with a summer activity program for children. During the school year nutritious meals/snacks are available at local schools, but when school ends, so do these meals. This is where the Summer Food Program steps in and provides food and activities for young children who would otherwise go hungry during the summer months. The snacks provided follow the USDA snack recommendations for healthy choices.

- Timeframe: 8-week period (June through August)
- 5760 children were provided snacks
- 8 Summer Feeding Program sites
- \$3,974.40 in CSBG funding used to cover the costs of the snacks

### **SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES**

North Central WV Community Action Association (NCWCAA) will utilize the SSVF funding to assist very low-income Veteran families residing in or transitioning to permanent housing to provide a range of supportive services to eligible Veteran families that are designed to promote housing stability. NCWCAA aims to improve the housing stability of very low-income Veteran families and to provide outreach and case management services and provide assistance in obtaining other public benefits, including Veteran benefits.

- Grant Year: FY2019
- Timeframe: October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019
- Original Grant award: \$255,469.00
- Final Grant Award Total (after additional funding received & final reimbursement at closeout): \$268,744.00
- 59 Clients Served
  - 13 Prevention Clients
  - 47 Rapid Rehousing Client

## **VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE**

- 768 families/individual were provided tax assistance
- 364 Myfreetaxes.com online service VITA promoted
- 1132 total clients served with in person or online service
- 33 volunteers/staff
- 1152 hours of services
- 6 tax sites and 3 adhoc sites
- 7 counties served
- \$891,035 resulted in refunds
- \$283,841 saved in tax preparation fees
- 768 returns out of 195 were eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- \$543,841 was received in EITC refunds
- \$53,073 received Child Tax Credit
- \$93,582 received additional Child Tax Credit
- 7 households received Educational Credits
- Average of 1,178 Total of \$6,683
- \$21,573.50 was the adjusted gross income of tax filers.

## **HOMELESS SERVICES**

### ***Randolph County Homeless Shelter***

- 73 Homeless Individuals were provided shelter services
- 4 Families were provided shelter services
- 3,205 Total Shelter nights were provided by Homeless Shelter
- 414 Case Management hours were provided by NCWVCAA Staff to Individuals and Families residing at the Homeless Shelter
- 29 Homeless Individuals increased their income as of a result of NCWVCAA
- 13 Homeless Individuals/Families housed with RCHS-ESG Rapid Re-Housing

### ***Marion County Homeless Shelter***

- 96 Homeless Individuals were provided shelter services
- 4 Families were provided shelter services
- 365 total Shelter nights were provided by Homeless Shelter
- 249 Case Management hours were provided by NCWVCAA Staff to Individuals and Families residing at the Homeless Shelter
- 24 Homeless Individuals increased their income as of a result of NCWVCAA

### ***Supportive Veteran Services***

- 45 Veterans received Transitional Supportive Services provided by NCWVCAA
- 189 hours of Case Management Services were provided by NCWVCAA

### ***Permanent Supportive Housing through the Next Step Housing Program***

- 27 Individuals or Families received Permanent Supportive Housing provided by NCWVCAA
- 139 hours of Case Management Services were provided by NCWVCAA



***Permanent Supportive Housing through the Next Step Housing Program***

## ***Marion County Homeless Shelter's Multi-Tiered Approach to Homelessness:***

Recently, the folks at the Fairmont Times did a wonderful job of capturing the homelessness issue in Marion County in a fair light. They sought out service providers to get an inside view on homelessness in WV as well as Fairmont, and even took to the streets to speak with individuals experiencing homelessness. Nonetheless, there were some things I wanted to bring to the forefront of the community at large that may have been under-represented in these articles. I wanted to talk about housing, and how that is working to reduce the number of individuals experiencing street homelessness.

Some years ago, some very smart people did some very smart research about the causes of homelessness and come to some startling conclusions. They searched through mounds of data and discovered that the things the average person considers "causes" of homelessness were found as much or more in the upper echelons of society, than on the street. Mental illness, drug abuse, socio-economic status, history of trauma... these are all things people think of when they talk about why someone would become homeless. The truth is, drug abuse and mental illness exist at all levels of society. Just look at Hollywood! When a famous actor or musician dies from a drug abuse, it is seen as a preventable tragedy and lauded as a need for America to wake up. When someone dies on the street from the same drug, the same way, it is rarely noted to the public, except as a statistic.

So, what this boils down to, is that these things can contribute to homelessness but are not the determining factor by themselves. Lack of family, friends, and supports seems to be the final determining factor in most individual's homelessness, at least to my observation. Addiction and mental illness are not causing homelessness, but they are contributing to it and making it more complicated. Here's another interesting fact: Statistics indicate that the majority of individuals who are housed after experiencing homelessness, tend to stay there. This number declines a bit when an individual has been homeless for extended periods of time (chronic), but believe it or not, that fact is recognized by the government and a housing focused program has been designed specifically to cater to the needs of chronically homeless individuals.

With this, the mission becomes clear. The solution to homelessness is housing. Are there more layers needed than just that? Yes, usually. Most housing service providers have a stabilization case manager attached to implement wrap around services and ensure stability. For the most part, many individuals experiencing housing, have at one time, paid rent and utilities, managed their own money, cooked and cleaned for themselves and done all the things any of do to maintain our housing and take care of ourselves. Severe circumstances, loss of job, health issues and many other contributing factors can cause anyone to become homeless. Many of us are just a few paychecks away from a homeless situation and we don't even realize it. Do you have a home budget? Forecast it for the next two months as if you suddenly lost your job. The results will surprise you.

Housing for individuals experiencing homelessness is also the cheapest option to dealing with homelessness. Sound crazy? It's true. The Central Florida Commission on Homelessness, University of North Carolina Charlotte, as well as the Department of Housing and Urban Development have all released studies determining that the cost of leaving someone on the street far exceeds the cost of subsidized housing programs. Incarceration costs, judicial fees, unpaid emergency medical bills, encampment clean-up and other indirect consequences can cost between \$20,000-\$30,000 per year,

per person. Moving someone off the streets into stable housing can average between \$8000-\$10,000 per year. It should be noted that this latter housing figure assumes no income contribution in the first year, and many homeless individuals self-resolve or graduate their housing programs before that period, making that cost even cheaper.

Scott Place Shelter uses it's shelter as an interim, emergency option for individuals with nowhere to stay and housing is part of the first conversation for seekers of shelter. All individuals are expected to work towards a return to stability as quickly as possible. Towards this end, residents must be working or join a government assistance program that facilitates housing and income, in order to ensure a rapid turn-around time from homelessness to housing stability. Scott Place, a division of North Central West Virginia Community Action,

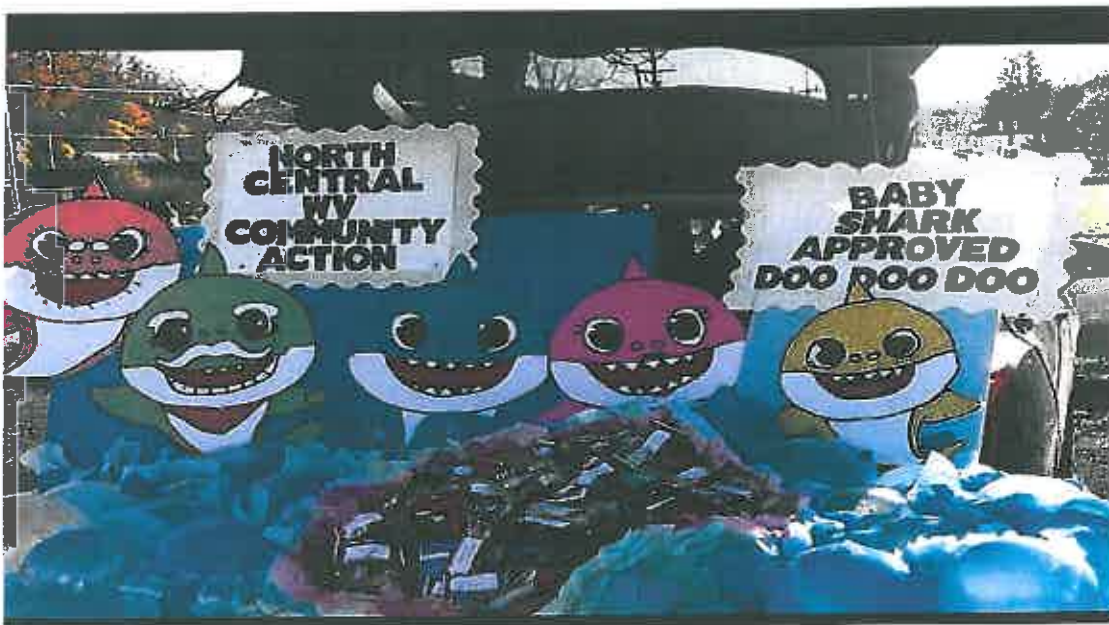
began emphasizing these solutions for all of its residents a few years ago and now implements multiple assistance programs geared toward helping individuals find their feet again.

Next Step, the very modern looking buildings located downtown next to the shelter, was the first of these housing programs for North Central Community Action. Targeting chronically homeless, disabled individuals, Next Step provides a medium-to-long term housing in the form of low-income apartments with a revolving subsidy based on income. Next Step implements full time staff to provide intensive supports such as connection to mental health providers, budgeting resources, job referrals, and other rehabilitative services. The idea is to give individuals who have not known stable housing for a long time the ability to set their feet on solid foundation and analyze the things that have caused repeated or prolonged instances of homelessness, and begin implementing provable, lasting solutions. Many of these residents exit Next Step Permanent Supportive Housing using a Section 8 voucher, with working income, established primary care, and a lasting network of supports. Recidivism for this program is low.

For our shelter residents who are not chronically homeless, we work from day 1 to design a case plan for individuals to get back into housing that includes job referrals, landlord searches and a short-term subsidy called Rapid Rehousing which pays a portion of rents to facilitate rapid housing transitions. Within our 31-bed shelter, 10 beds are dedicated to veteran homelessness and we partner with the Veteran's Administration to insure the highest quality, low-barrier approaches towards working with high needs veterans and moving them towards housing. The veteran's program is fed into a third North Central West Virginia Community Action program known as Supportive Services for Veteran Families, or SSVF. SSVF employs a high-speed team of case managers trained to specially work and deal with veteran-specific issues and implement housing plans.

While homelessness is not a one-solution issue, housing as a solution for homelessness is making positive headway in Marion County, as well as many other parts of the state. Recruiting willing landlords, availability of affordable housing, finding furniture, and maintaining adequate sources of funding for these programs are ongoing challenges towards implementation but the effort is real, the results are positive, and goals are ethically and financially responsible.

Shelter Manager: Tim Dawson



Pocahontas County's Truck or Treat Outreach Event





# Annual Board & Staff Awards 2019



## Company Information

VICKI A. GEARY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Tel 304-363-2170 ext.115  
Fax 304-366-8846  
vgeary@ncwvcaa.org

PATRICIA MCFARLAND  
FINANCE DIRECTOR



Tel 304-363-2170 ext.135  
Fax 304-366-8846  
pmcfarland@ncwvcaa.org

KIM HILLING  
HR DIRECTOR



Tel 304-363-2170 ext.111  
Fax 304-366-8846  
khilling@ncwvcaa.org

TINA BOYER  
HOUSING DIRECTOR



Tel 304-457-3420 ext. 1303  
Fax 304-457-1367  
tboyer@ncwvcaa.org

KIM MARTIN  
CHILDREN SERVICES  
DIRECTOR



Tel 304-363-2170 ext.103  
Fax 304-366-8846  
kmartin@ncwvcaa.org

JENNIFER PARR  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
DIRECTOR



Tel 304-363-2170 ext.137  
Fax 304-366-8846  
jbenedumparr@ncwvcaa.org



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**community** *action*

Corporate Office  
1304 Goose Run Rd.  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
Phone: 304-363-2170  
Fax: 304-366-8846  
Website: [www.ncwvcaa.org](http://www.ncwvcaa.org)

