



Community Action
Partnership of Hennepin County

2025 Annual Report

Table of Contents

- 2 Our Mission, Vision, and Values
- 3 Organizational Leadership
- 4 A Message from Leadership
- 5 Community Profile
- 6 Addressing Immediate Needs
- 10 Building Toward Prosperity
- 13 Our Financials
- 14 Collaboration and Gratitude

Our Mission, Vision, & Values

OUR MISSION

Partner with community to provide effective and responsive services to reduce the impact of poverty in Hennepin County.

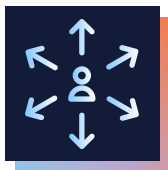
OUR VISION

Hennepin County without poverty.

OUR VALUES



Building Relationships



Creating Opportunities



Eliminating Barriers



Equity & Inclusion



Responsible Stewardship



Strengthening Communities

Organizational Leadership

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Josh Schaffer, Chair
LaTrisha Vetaw, Vice Chair,
Minneapolis Council Member
Tyanna Bryant, Secretary
Kevin Myren, Treasurer
Dimitri Audie
John Baker
Adriana Cerrillo,
Minneapolis Public School Board Member
Victoria Chambers
Tray Douglas, Member at Large
Heather Edelson,
Hennepin County Commissioner, 6th District
Mark Fox
Debbie Goettel,
Hennepin County Commissioner, 5th District
Marion Greene,
Hennepin County Commissioner, 3rd District

Christine Koch
Emily Koski,
Minneapolis Council Member
Jim Lehman
Ashley McNamara
Solomon Ogunyemi
Dominique Pierre-Toussaint
Brian Smith
Kathilyn Solomon
Antanisha Spears
Dr. Kimberly Wilburn,
Minnetonka Council Member
Miles Wilson
David Ziegler

STAFF LEADERSHIP

Clarence Hightower, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Tammy Alto
Director of Energy Assistance Programs
Todd Blooflat
Chief Financial Officer
Katherine Castille
Marketing & Communications Manager
Angelique Flemons
Director of Client Services

Lia Kang
Director of Finance
Kendra Krolik
Chief Strategy & Advancement Officer
Jalynn McLaughlin
Executive Assistant
Kab Xiong
Director of Human Resources

A Message from Leadership

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are delighted to share the positive impact of Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County's (CAP-HC's) work in 2025 with you, a trusted partner in our mission. In 2025, we served more than 40,700 children and adults through programs that build stability and expand economic opportunity. You'll learn more about each program's service numbers and impact in the following pages.

The needs and resources of our community continue to evolve rapidly. Families are navigating rising costs, housing instability, and financial uncertainty. Meanwhile, nonprofits are navigating major shifts in funding, even from long-standing sources of support. Despite these uncertainties, CAP-HC remains steadfast in our vision of Hennepin County without poverty.

The final year of our 2023–2025 Strategic Plan marked the culmination of several significant organizational improvements. We made it easier for residents to access our services by adding offices in Brooklyn Park and Bloomington as well as expanding our Minneapolis office. In early 2025, we launched a redesigned website with enhanced accessibility features. We also improved the client experience by simplifying applications across programs, adding online applications, and upgrading our database systems to better serve our clients.

Our commitment to Responsible Stewardship—one of our organizational values—is also reflected in our 2025 audit results. For the fifth year in a row, CAP-HC is reporting a clean audit. These consecutive clean audits clearly demonstrate the strong fiscal management of the staff and Board of Directors and our ongoing dedication to transparency and accountability.

Still, balancing financial resources with demand for services remained challenging in 2025. While investments from funding partners allowed us to expand the reach of our Financial Wellness Services, demand for basic-needs programs such as Water Assistance and Rental Assistance continued to exceed available resources. The tension of these realities underscores the importance of CAP-HC's work.

As we reflect on 2025 and our accomplishments, we are grateful to the staff, board members, funders, partners, and supporters who make CAP-HC's work possible. Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, we remain committed to innovating, collaborating, and responding to community needs.

Thank you for being part of CAP-HC's network of support. Together, we will continue helping individuals and families build stability today while preparing them for tomorrow's opportunities.

With gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josh Schaffer'.

Josh Schaffer
BOARD CHAIR



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clarence Hightower'.

Dr. Clarence Hightower
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our Community Profile

FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services sets federal poverty guidelines each year. Often referred to as federal poverty level (FPL), these guidelines use household income and number of people in the home to determine poverty status and eligibility for assistance programs.

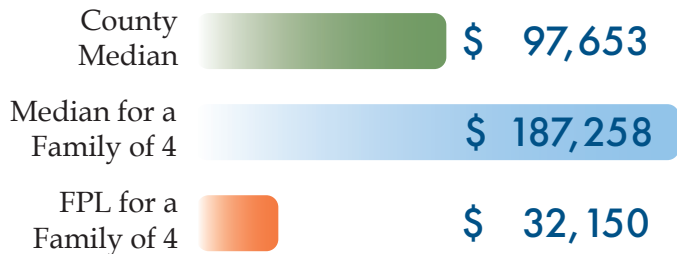


1 IN 10 PEOPLE
LIVING AT OR
BELOW FPL

1,245,652
TOTAL COUNTY
POPULATION

40,700+
CHILDREN &
ADULTS SERVED[^]

ANNUAL INCOME



LOCATION

	Minneapolis	Suburban Hennepin
County Population below FPL	53%	46%
CAP-HC Clients	50%	50%

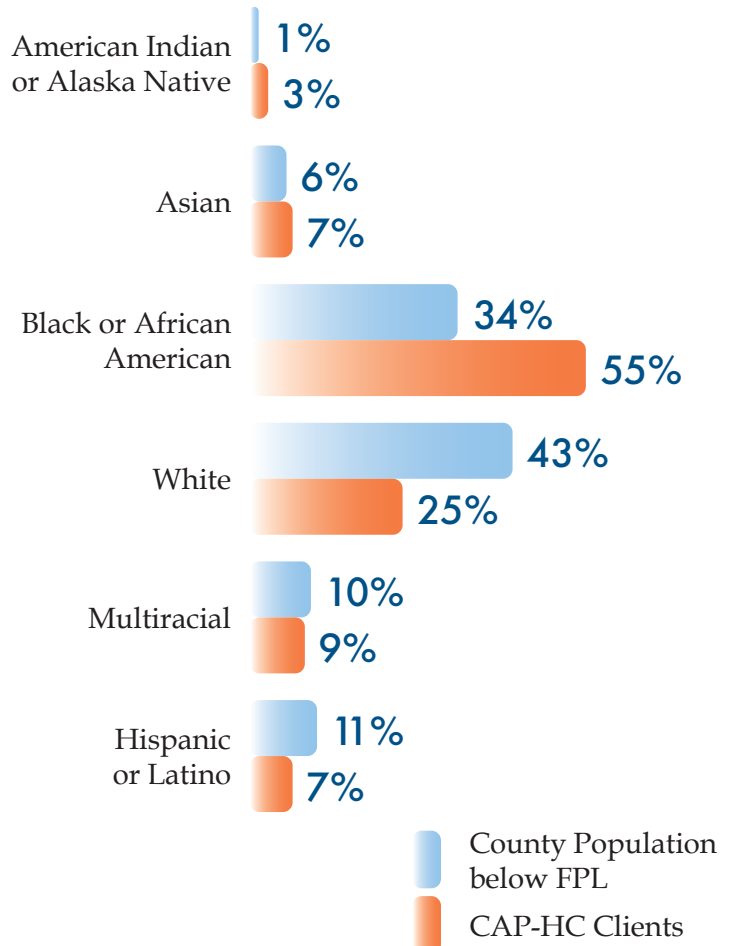
AGE

	Under 18	18-64	64+
County Population below FPL	22%	62%	16%
CAP-HC Clients	41%	46%	13%

GENDER

	Woman	Man
County Population below FPL	52%	48%
CAP-HC Clients	59%	41%

RACE & ETHNICITY



Sources: Hennepin County Quickfacts and 2024 ACS 1-Year Estimates, U.S.Census Bureau; CSBG Annual Report, Federal Fiscal Year 2025; [^]CAP-HC's 2025 Program Data Report, unduplicated as allowable by databases

Addressing Immediate Needs

UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Electricity and heating bill assistance grants paid to utility providers. CAP-HC has one of the largest Energy Assistance Programs in Minnesota.



CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Utility bill assistance grants paid to utility providers for families with shutoffs or disconnection notices.



ENERGY-RELATED REPAIR

Emergency repair or replacement of heating systems for homeowners. Home improvements may include reduction or elimination of lead, radon, carbon dioxide, fire hazards, electrical issues, and more.



WATER PROGRAM

Water bill assistance grants paid to utility providers. In 2025, CAP-HC had the only Water Program in Hennepin County.



SOLAR PROGRAM

Helps homeowners determine eligibility for clean, renewable solar energy with referrals for free installation.

AT A GLANCE

17,169 Families

improved energy efficiency and/or reduced energy burden in their homes

4,323 Families

received assistance that prevented a utility shutoff

368 Families

experienced improved health and safety due to home improvements

380 Families

received assistance that prevented a water utility disconnection

80 Families

had solar panels and equipment installed



Sharee, Energy Assistance and Energy-Related Repair client, standing between her new boiler and water heater

WARMTH RESTORED WHEN SHAREE NEEDED IT MOST

Sharee* thought she had done everything right. She had her boiler-water heater system serviced every year and, just a few months before winter, a technician told her it likely had a couple more years of life left. Then, in the middle of a Minnesota cold snap, it stopped working.

"My boiler-water heater was not that old but was working one day but not the next," Sharee recalled. "Of course, when it stopped it was double digits below zero!" The unexpected breakdown left Sharee without heat during one of the coldest times of the year. Since Sharee participated in CAP-HC's Energy Assistance Program, she knew where to turn for help.

CAP-HC's Energy-Related Repair (ERR) Program helps eligible homeowners in Hennepin County repair or replace non-functioning heating systems. As part CAP-HC's suite of utility assistance programs, ERR helps ensure families stay safe and warm while reducing their energy use and utility costs.

For Sharee, the assistance brought peace of mind during a stressful situation. After contacting CAP-HC, she was able to get the help she needed—a new boiler-water heater system. The positive impact was immediate. "Since receiving the help I had heat and [enough] hot water [for a bath and] hot water for dishes," Sharee said.

After having her broken system replaced, Sharee is "very happy to have heat and hot water" and grateful for the support she received throughout the process. "I feel that [CAP-HC] and all the folks that did the work were excellent and respectful! Great people and very helpful," she shared.

For homeowners facing a heating emergency, the Energy-Related Repair Program means more than fixing or replacing equipment. It means restoring safety and stability when people need it most.

*Names, stories, and photos in this report are shared with permission.

Addressing Immediate Needs

HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES



RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Grants for past-due rent, security deposits, or first-month's rent paid to property managers.



RENTER WORKSHOPS & COUNSELING

Free guidance offered via group workshops or individual counseling to help people avoid eviction, understand their rights and responsibilities as renters, develop a budget, determine assistance eligibility, and more.

HEALTHCARE & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



MNSURE APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

Trained staff help people determine their eligibility for low-cost health insurance options and explore potential tax credits while providing support through the MNsure application process.



VEHICLE REPAIR

Auto-repair assistance grants paid directly to repair shops to ensure safe, reliable transportation to work, school, health appointments, etc.

AT A GLANCE

320 Families

avoided eviction and were able to remain in their homes or obtained safe, affordable housing

83 People

attended workshops and/or received personalized counseling

AT A GLANCE

53 People

received MNsure Application Assistance

136 Families

had their vehicles repaired to ensure safe, reliable transportation

“[CAP-HC’s Energy Assistance] help was essential in letting me stay in my home.”

—Dennis, Energy Assistance Client



Rochelle, Vehicle Repair Client

ROCHELLE KEEPS HER FAMILY MOVING FORWARD WITH VEHICLE REPAIR

Unexpected expenses can quickly derail a family's stability. In fact, more than half of U.S. adults (51%) say they could not cover a bill of \$1,000 or more using their savings.* For families already balancing work, school, childcare, and other responsibilities, a major vehicle repair can become a significant barrier to staying on track.

Rochelle was juggling a full-time job, part-time schooling, and the responsibilities of raising her children when her only vehicle began to break down. "I am a single mother of three just trying to survive ... I was already struggling to make ends meet so this unexpected expense broke me," she shared. "I thought it was the end of the road for me. I just knew my life was about to go downhill."

Rochelle found CAP-HC's website and learned about our Vehicle Repair Program. The program helps income-eligible Hennepin County residents address vehicle repairs that could otherwise jeopardize their ability to work, attend school, access childcare, or meet other essential needs.

CAP-HC helped Rochelle repair her vehicle and maintain the stability she had worked so hard to build. She credits much of her ability to maintain employment to the Vehicle Repair Program. "I'm still employed with reliable transportation," Rochelle said. "I am not stressing about my situation, and I'm able to get both me and my children where we need to be."

The relief has been about more than just fixing a vehicle. It has restored Rochelle's sense of confidence in the future. "Since seeking help, I feel relieved!" she said. "I feel a little more at ease. I'm optimistic about my future and not dreading the days to come." Through programs like Vehicle Repair, CAP-HC helps ensure that a temporary obstacle does not become a long-term barrier to opportunity.

\$13.2 MILLION FOR THE LOCAL ECONOMY

In 2025, CAP-HC, along with our partners and funders, remitted \$13,233,980 in utility, rent, and car repair payments on behalf of our clients, reducing economic burden on families with low income while strengthening the local economy.

*Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2024, Board of Governors of The Federal Reserve System

Building Toward Prosperity



EMPLOYMENT READINESS

Free guidance offered via group workshops or individual counseling to help people find job leads, complete job applications, prepare for interviews, and more.



FINANCIAL WELLNESS WORKSHOPS & COUNSELING

Free guidance offered via group workshops or individual counseling to help people learn about budgeting, managing their credit, building their assets, and more.



HOMEBUYER WORKSHOPS & COUNSELING

Guidance from HUD-certified[^] housing Counselors offered via group workshops or individual counseling to help people determine mortgage readiness, make a plan, and prepare for homeownership.

AT A GLANCE

44 People

participated in Employment Readiness workshops and/or counseling

22 Participants

successfully found job placements

155 People

attended workshops and/or received personalized counseling to improve their financial well-being and reach their financial wellness goals

52 People

attended workshops and/or received personalized counseling, taking meaningful steps on their path to homeownership

“Our car runs so much better. Check engine light is off, no oil leak ... thank you to the staff and program! You are so APPRECIATED!!”

—Gregory, Vehicle Repair Assistance Client

FAIM: INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE

CAP-HC is one of many FAIM partner organizations across Minnesota. The Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota (FAIM) program helps people build long-term financial security through asset acquisition. Through FAIM, eligible participants open a custodial savings account and receive a 3:1 match on deposits made from earned income. Funds can be used to build their assets, such as saving for a first home, pursuing post-secondary education, or starting a small business.

FAIM participants commit to 12 hours of financial management education, 10 hours of training specific to their chosen asset, and individualized financial coaching. With up to 30 months to complete the program, participants not only build assets, but also develop lifelong habits that will support their financial goals for years to come. In 2025, CAP-HC worked with three FAIM participants. We hope to serve many more people through this in-depth, long-term program in the future.



TRAY BUILDS THE FOUNDATION FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP

"My life has changed so [much] in the last 10 years," Tray reflected, thinking about her two, now elementary-aged, sons. Like so many parents, Tray wasn't sure how to adjust the way she managed her finances as her family grew. She felt overwhelmed and unsure of how to move forward.

Tray turned to CAP-HC for support. She attended one of our Financial Wellness Workshops in 2024. The workshop helped her begin building the financial foundation she needed. "I have a plan and manageable steps

to obtain my goals. [I use] a budget regularly and have increased my income, because I have a focus and a plan of how to get there."

As her financial confidence grew, Tray was ready to take the next step: exploring homeownership. In 2025, she enrolled in a CAP-HC Homebuyer Workshop. These workshops help prospective homebuyers understand the homebuying process, mortgage readiness, and financing options. Before the workshop, the idea of buying a home felt daunting. "I came in nervous and unsure ... but this workshop made everything click. The examples were easy to understand, and I never felt rushed—just supported every step of the way."

By the end of the workshop, instead of feeling uncertain, Tray felt hopeful. "The Homebuyer Workshop was such a relief! Everything was explained so clearly and patiently that I finally felt confident about buying my first home. I left with real knowledge and a plan I can trust."

Since attending the workshop, Tray says what once felt impossible now feels within reach. "This workshop turned what felt like an impossible dream into something achievable. I now understand the process, my options, and what I can do to get ready to buy my first home."

For Tray, the journey toward homeownership is about more than purchasing a home. It's about creating lasting stability for her family. She encourages others considering homeownership to take the first step. "Taking the workshop is a great place to start your home buyer journey with a community that will walk with you the whole way."

KRISTINA BUILDS HER FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE

Financial challenges can affect far more than a person's bank account. For Kristina, low credit, debt, and bankruptcy created barriers to employment, housing, transportation, and homeownership. "These challenges lowered my self-worth," she said. "It makes me feel like I will not be able to get ahead and prosper."

Kristina was living on a fixed income after losing her job due to not having reliable transportation. She shared, "my monthly expenses exceed my monthly income. So even though I am good with budgeting, I need more to work with, and it is impossible to create a savings."

While searching for resources that could help her move forward, United Way 211 referred Kristina to CAP-HC. "I found [CAP-HC] is a hub for many diverse needs, programs, and resources," she said.

Kristina enrolled in a CAP-HC Financial Wellness Workshop, a free program that helps participants build skills in budgeting, credit, debt management, and saving. Eager to strengthen her financial future, she found the workshop both informative and encouraging. "I was so happy this workshop was offered ... a wealth of knowledge that I can learn from," Kristina said.

Looking back, Kristina is grateful for both the practical knowledge she gained from the workshop, and the support she received from CAP-HC staff. "The counselors are helpful ... they are able to provide me with other resources available. I am so appreciative of CAP-HC," she said. Kristina has since been able to utilize other community resources to address her transportation challenges and maintain access to essential services.

Kristina's story illustrates how CAP-HC's model of connecting people with knowledge, resources, and support helps people build confidence and take meaningful steps toward greater economic stability. "Programs like this are greatly needed. It is a refreshing experience to know it is there when I needed it."



Kristina, Financial Wellness Workshop Client

"Just please keep doing what you are doing. This saves people's lives. Thank you and God bless every one of you."

—Charles, Energy Assistance Client

Our Financials

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION*

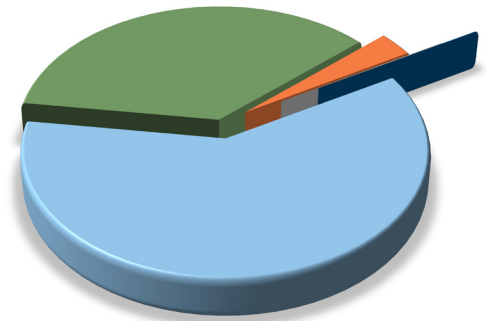
ASSETS

Cash	\$ 193,904	9.2%
Receivables	770,221	36.5%
Prepaid Expenses	59,525	2.8%
Property & Equipment, Net	39,855	1.9%
Right-of-Use Assets—Operating Leases	1,047,098	49.6%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,110,603	100.0%

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Payables	\$ 286,694	13.6%
Accrued Expenses	123,559	5.9%
Grant Advances	72,726	3.4%
Operating Lease Liabilities	1,072,652	50.8%
Assets without Donor Restriction	456,561	21.6%
Assets with Donor Restrictions	98,411	4.7%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 2,110,603	100.0%

REVENUE



- Federal Government Grants
- State & Other Government Grants
- Corporations, Foundations, & Other Grants
- Program Service Fees
- Other Revenue

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES*

REVENUE

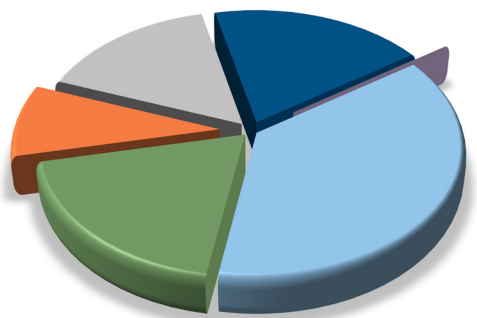
Federal Government Grants	\$ 4,264,408	60.5%
State & Other Government Grants	2,551,776	36.2%
Corporations, Foundations, & Other Grants	221,450	3.1%
Program Service Fees	4,652	0.1%
Other Revenue	3,716	0.1%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 7,046,002	100.0%

EXPENSES

Energy Services	\$ 2,589,014	37.4%
Housing & Community Services	1,313,177	19.0%
Planning & Development	628,225	9.1%
Direct Appropriation	1,086,021	15.7%
Management & General	1,302,307	18.8%
Fundraising	2,868	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 6,921,612	100.0%

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS \$ 124,390

EXPENSES



- Energy Services
- Housing & Community Services
- Planning & Development
- Direct Appropriation
- Management & General
- Fundraising

*For year ended December 31, 2025

Collaboration & Gratitude

OUR PARTNERS

A Mother's Love Initiative	Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder
AARP	Minnetonka Family Collaborative
African Immigrants Community Services	National Community Action Foundation
All Energy Solar	National Community Action Partnership
Bloomington-Edina-Richfield Family Services Collaborative	Normandale Community College
Bridging Inc.	Northwest Family Resource Collaborative
Building Talent Foundation	Orono Healthy Youth Family Services Collaborative
CAPI	Parents in Community Action Head Start
CAPLAW	Partners for Healthy Kids
Career and College Bound Hennepin	Prepare + Prosper, FAIR Banking Program
Cirtec Medical*	People Reaching out to People (PROP)
Cummins*	Robbinsdale Redesign
Edina Community Council	Sabathani Community Center
EMERGE Minnesota	Salem Inc
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis	Schools & Communities in Partnership
Framework Homeownership	Somali Community of MN
Hennepin County	St. Louis Park Family Services Collaborative
Hennepin County Library	Sustainable Resource Center
Homes for All	Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity
ICA Food Shelf	Twin Cities Road Crew (Turnkey)
Integrity	Twin Cities Urban League
Intercongregation Communities Association	UIF Corporation
Inver Hills Community College	Unify Aviation
Jericho Road Ministries Church	US Solar
LSG Sky Chefs	Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People (VEAP)
Lutheran Social Services	WeCAN Food Shelf
M Health Fairview*	Westonka Healthy Community
Minneapolis/St.Paul Airport	WFS Express
Minnesota Community Action Partnership	Williams AV*
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits	YouthPrise
Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association	

OUR FUNDERS



Greater Twin Cities
United Way



McKNIGHT FOUNDATION



**Jim and Linda Lee
Family Foundation**

**Strehlow Family Fund of The
Minneapolis Foundation**

**IWJ Charitable
Foundation**

**Kevin J. Armstrong and Lisa Goldson Armstrong
Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation**

**Walmart
Foundation**

We are grateful for the generous support of our funders and individual donors who make our anti-poverty work possible. Donate at:

caphennepin.org/donate

Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Our Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 41-1524088.





Community Action

Partnership of Hennepin County

7101 Northland Circle N, Suite 123

Brooklyn Park, MN 55428



BUILDING A HENNEPIN COUNTY WITHOUT POVERTY



Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County is a proud member of Minnesota Community Action Partnership and the National Community Action Network.

