

BLUE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

**ANNUAL
REPORT
1996**



**30TH
Anniversary**

**THIRTY
YEARS
GIVING A
HELPING
HAND**

BLUE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Blue Valley Community Action
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Fairbury, Nebraska 68359-0273
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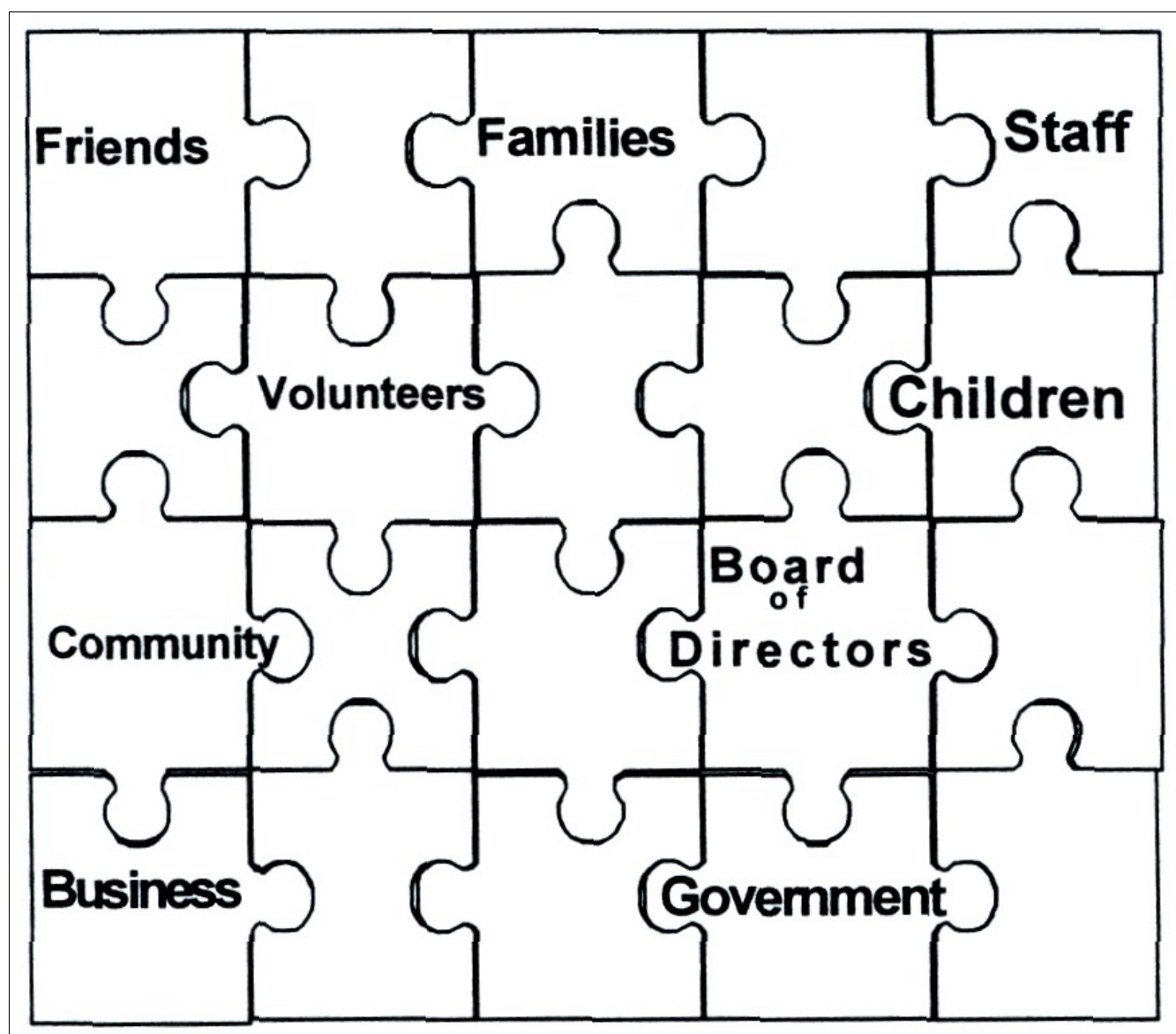


***Serving the people of Nebraska and Kansas
1966 – 1996***

March 1997

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Blue Valley Community Action, Inc., wishes to thank the great people of the State of Nebraska and the State of Kansas who have made this nonprofit corporation a success. Thirty years of support from the communities, individuals and families helped create, develop and maintain our programs and services. Without your assistance and dedication, we would not have been conceived and we could not have survived. With your past support, we have grown. With your present support, we thrive. With your continued support, we go forth and meet the challenge of the future.



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BLUE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION

STATEMENT OF MISSION

To Build Upon Strengths and
Provide Diverse and Innovative
Opportunities to Impact
Personal Responsibility,
Family Well-Being and
Community Development

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1996 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

How do you celebrate an anniversary? Blue Valley Community Action celebrated its thirtieth year by awarding scholarships to children of families it had partnered with to improve their living standard. It celebrated by building affordable homes for families working hard to fight their way out of poverty. It celebrated by awarding a community with a monetary prize (the first annual Blue Valley Award) for its efforts to help all of its citizens, regardless of income, to enjoy better child care, housing and human services. It celebrated by serving over 14,000 individuals with a range of services from immunizations for kids to transportation for seniors, from child care to ElderCare, food and shelter to education and nutrition, from volunteer opportunities to employment, from HIV/AIDS awareness to the perils of domestic abuse and a whole lot of other services and opportunities to make families viable and safe in our changing world.

Others celebrated with us. The Nebraska Education Commissioner, Doug Christensen, joined us at our 30th anniversary banquet to present two high school students (Elizabeth Jacobe of Deshler and Michael Schmidt of Fairbury) \$1,000 scholarships. Mayors Kerry Bresson of Crete and Gene Siefford of Fairbury shared our celebration. State Senators Elaine Stuhr and George Coordsen and their spouses joined us. The Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission helped us celebrate by awarding BVCA the non-profit developer of the year. Many volunteers at the local level celebrated with us. They are the unsung heroes and heroines of community action. They share their time with preschool children in Head Start centers, work in clothing rooms and food pantries, help children and parents enjoy holidays and learn the true meaning of giving, go into the homes of elderly citizens to help with tax preparation or just helping around the house, or give a little extra when pleas go out at the holidays and when the pantries are low.

It seems appropriate that all this community activity and action is the best way to celebrate Blue Valley Community Action. We thank our employees for your dedicated work, our volunteers for your tireless efforts, our generous donors for your support, our local governments for your financial help, and the many neighbors who use and need our services and programs, who more often than not, give much more than they get.

Bonnie Schoenbeck
Board President

The best place to call . . .

...AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This report covers Blue Valley Community Action's thirtieth year as a private nonprofit corporation under the statutes of Nebraska and Kansas. It indicates over 14,000 people were helped by BVCA programs, staff and volunteers. It indicates our largest budget ever—over \$6 million dollars. And with more volunteers, employees, community partners, projects, and financial supporters than ever, it indicates BVCA initiated many efforts to improve the quality of life during this anniversary year.

But, it does not tell the full story. A report such as this never really can.

It does not tell the story of the rape victim who sees BVCA crisis workers as a supportive ladder back to self-confidence and trust. Nor does it explain the depth of feeling dealing with a teenager who discovers the HIV virus, which often leads to AIDS, has invaded her body before her fifteenth birthday – because she didn't know the truth in time. Nor can it show a family's relief when a BVCA collaborative effort finds a doctor for their infant. It does not express the tears of toddlers parting from their friends at the Blue River Family child care center, nor the smiles of a ninety year old great-grandmother who visits a child with developmental disadvantages. It cannot tell the story of people who struggle all their lives to make ends meet, yet show up every week at a BVCA community center to help their less fortunate neighbors. It does not show two high school seniors, whose families used BVCA assistance to improve upon their economic situations, beaming with pride as the Nebraska Commissioner of Education recognized their volunteer service and scholastic achievement with \$1,000 scholarships. In short—it cannot explain the emotions in the faces of those who first need and then succeed.

Look around. You see these faces and talk to them everyday. We are neighbors. I like to think, we are good neighbors. We do what we can when our neighbors suffer hardships. When we are better off, we try to ensure they are a little better off also.

In closing, let me personally thank our supporters and encourage others to join us. The opportunity to enjoy life, make a difference and feel good is here ... and we need you now.

Richard D. Nation
Executive Director

1996 Management Team

Executive Director

Richard D. Nation

Comptroller

Jodene Werner

Housing & Rural Development

Jerri Kerr

Housing Development
Weatherization & Rehab
Joint Housing Authority

Family & Community Services

Ardith Hoins

Health and Nutrition
Emergency Shelters
Transit
Eldercare
Foster Grandparents
County Coordinators

Blue Valley Crisis Intervention

Rhonda Drewes

Domestic Violence
Sexual Assault
Crisis Intervention
AmeriCorps
Public Information

Youth Services

Kathryn Molczyk

Blue River Family Center
Head Start, Nebraska
Head Start, Kansas
Friend Preschool

. . . when you want something done.

Milestones 1996

The 1996 Housing Our Community Developer Award

Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission presented to BVCA

National Association of Community Action Agencies

BVCA holds 10 Dialogues of Poverty, over 250 people; 450 CAA's nationally: 150,000 people

Commerce Department Technology Grant awarded to City of Crete, Crete Schools & BVCA
Community Internet access; multiple terminals throughout the City; Home sites: City of Crete, Crete Schools, BRFC and BVCA

Saline Eldercare's "**Friendly Visitors**" recognized by Diane Nelson, First Lady of the State of NE

Child Development Associates awarded to: Jennifer Behrens and Freddie Murphy

CDBG Administrator Certifications

awarded to Jerri Kerr, Faith Medina, LeAnn Kile and Jodene Werner

Blue River Family Center & EastWest Meadows

a guided tour for **Congressman Douglas Bereuter**

Summer Head Start—in Jewell County and Smith County, Kansas and in Saline County, Nebraska.
Summer Head Start alternative in Gage County, Nebraska - Parents of All Ages

Seward Youth Day—a day to help the young people of Seward County find focus in their lives and to provide information to the community about available youth-oriented opportunities and services. The day's activities included a talk by Ken Sierp, father of a son who died from a methamphetamine overdose. Senator Robert Kerrey was keynote speaker.

30th Anniversary Banquet—A March celebration that involved hundreds of BVCA supporters, volunteers and staff.

The first **BVCA College Scholarships** awarded by BVCA and presented by Nebraska Education Commissioner Doug Christianson to Michael Schmidt of Fairbury and Elizabeth Jacobi of Deshler

The first "**Blue Valley Award**" presented to a community for its efforts to help lower income residents benefit from community services, civic participation and opportunities. Awarded to the City of Crete, accepted by Mayor Kerry Bresson.

AmeriCorps Successes:

- Youth Violence Prevention Conference/Kids Team
- Peer Mediation/Conflict Resolution
- HIV/AIDS prevention counseling
- Seward Youth Day

Milestones 1996

Fannie Mae Foundation's Maxwell Award

Honorable Mention Award to BVCA in developer competition

Partners in Planning's Certified Community Assessor

presented to Terry Keslar

Head Start State and Regional Van Driver of the Year

Nina Lugenbill

The National Development Council's Housing Development Finance Professionals

certifications awarded to Faith Medina and Jerri Kerr

CATCH (Community Access to Coordinated Health Care)

15 counties Southeast Nebraska—A collaboration of the Lancaster, Polk and Nemaha County Health Departments; the Nebraska Health and Human Services System, Lancaster County Medical Society and BVCA to implement a regional health care access program in southeast Nebraska for medically underserved and Medicaid populations; BVCA administers CATCH in Fillmore, Saline, Thayer, Jefferson & Gage Counties. CATCH is negotiating with the Blue River Valley Healthcare Network, the Southeast Rural Physicians Alliance (SERPA) and the Nebraska Health and Human Services System regarding additional roles in the next year.

First Nebraska Housing Collaborative Project

construction begun on an eight-plex in Hebron: Trailview

The "Baby-Think It Over" Project

project adopted by the Southeast Nebraska Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition

Commercial Drivers Licenses presented to:

Joyce Morgan, Jaci Jacobsen, Tammy Loft, Judy DeBuhr, and Judy Weyers

BVCA's First Single Family New Construction completed in Milligan, Nebraska

Housing Duplex units completed in Exeter, Fairmont, Grafton, Ohioa and three in Geneva

First-Time Homebuyer programs started in Hebron, Crete and Wymore/Blue Springs.

Head Start State Teacher of the Year

presented to Doris Thornburg

People Caring for People—a collaborative project of Beatrice Community Hospital, the Beatrice Family Resource Center and BVCA was presented the

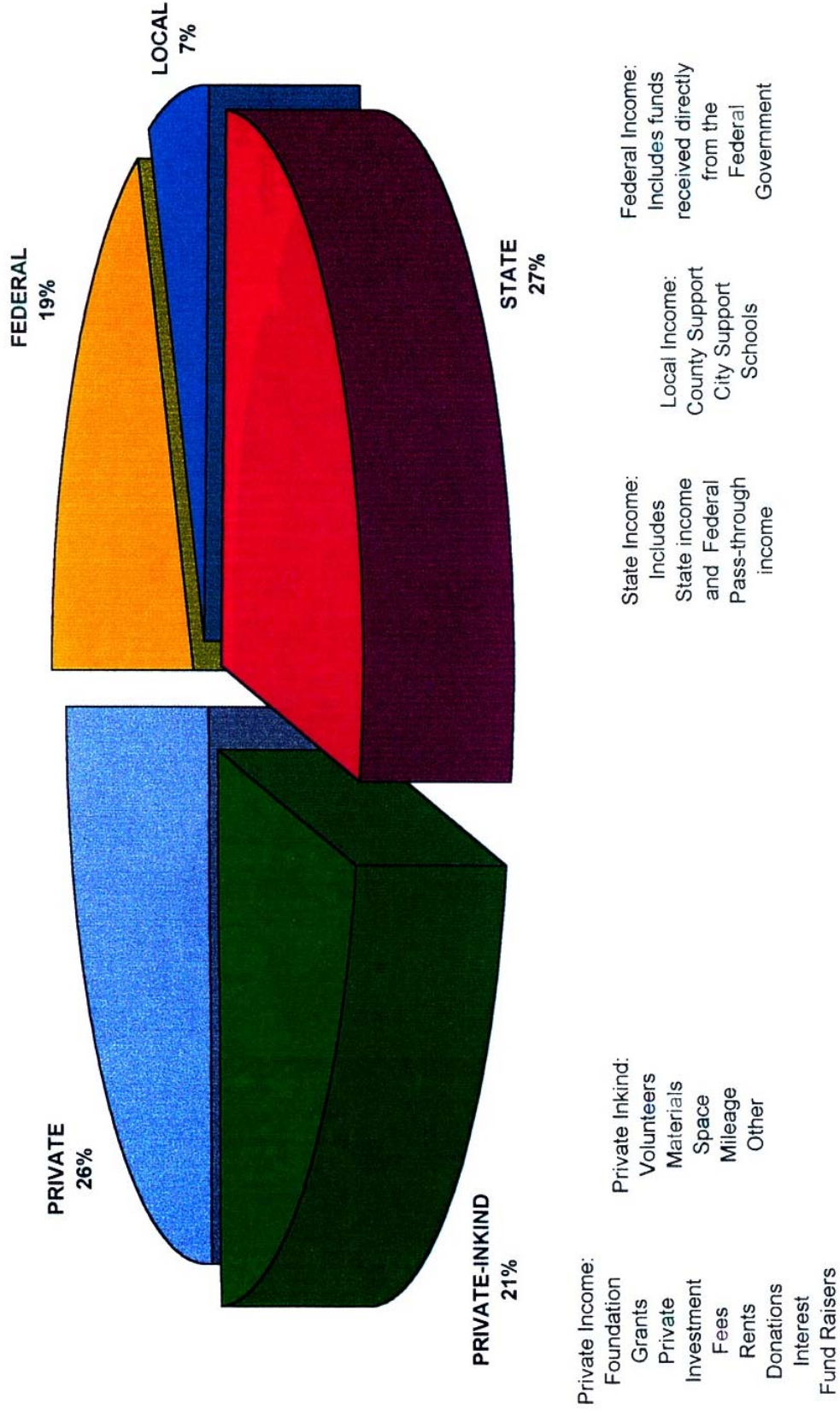
National Hospital Association's NOVA Award and the
Beatrice Chamber of Commerce's Good Neighbor Award

Blue Valley Community Action Resources & Support

United Way Support: 1. Cornhusker United Way - \$10,824 2. Gage County United Way - \$3,393 3. York United Way - \$1,596 4. United Way of America - \$7,952	State of Nebraska Grants 1. CSFP - \$79,407 2. WIC - \$126,571 3. HIV/AIDS - \$17,717 4. Immunizations - \$22,825 5. Alcohol-Drug Abuse Block Grant - \$2,064 6. Sexual Assault- \$3,529 7. Domestic Abuse - \$76,188 8. Crime Commission - \$10,632 9. CSBG Homeless - \$4,675 10. CSBG - \$180,704 11. Dept. of Educ. - \$263 12. CCDBG - \$21,045 13. Child Care Food Program - \$43,574 14. Homeless Assistance - \$56,947 15. CDBG/HOME Disaster- \$212,343 16. HOME - \$1,009,728 17. CDBG - \$477,463 18. Weatherization - \$175,985 19. TEFAP - \$874	State of Kansas Grants 1. SRS Jewell - \$17,383 2. SRS Smith - \$8,611 Local Government Support 1. Butler Co. - \$56,748 2. Fillmore County - \$53,099 3. Gage County - \$6,000 4. Jefferson County - \$4,075 5. Polk County - \$2,643 6. Village of Shelby - \$287 7. Saline Co. - \$10,547 8. Crete Schools - \$51,180 9. City of Crete - \$2,081 10. Village of DeWitt - \$280 11. Village of Dorchester - \$248 12. City of Friend - \$782 13. Village of Swanton - \$83 14. Village of Tobias - \$66 15. Village of Western - \$164 16. City of Wilber - \$1,079 17. Seward Co. - \$5,000 18. Thayer County - \$3,085 19. York County - \$7,279 20. City of Lincoln (LAAA) - \$32,996	Local Private Support of 1. Pantries - \$10,899 2. Clothing - \$60,209 3. Local County Projects - \$103,618 4. Agency Projects - \$5,056 5. In-kind Contributions - \$1,477,058 6. Endowment - \$3,086 7. Scholarship Fund - \$2,540 US Govt. Direct Grants 1. Head Start, Ks & Ne - \$1,122,633 2. Foster Grandparents - \$187,515 3. AmeriCorps - \$38,529 4. Learn & Serve - \$5,492 Other Revenues 1. Fillmore Transit * - \$49,832 2. Butler Transit * - \$26,798 3. York Transit * - \$578 4. BRFC Construction - \$63,234 Total Support for 1995-96: \$7,035,205
Private Foundation Support 1. Robert Woods Johnson Foundation - \$25,751 2. Peter Kiewit Fndn. - \$10,582 3. Fannie May Fndn. - \$3,000 Local Childcare Fees 1. Friend Preschool - \$9,881 2. Blue River Family Center - \$263,275 3. Parents of All Ages - \$7,279 Private Investmt. Revenues 1. Pickles - \$115,695 2. Corporate - \$87,202 3. Private Hsng. Investmt. - \$349,989 Rental Housing Income 1. Fillmore Co. Units - \$36,649 2. Crete Units - \$177,471 3. Fairbury Units - \$12,157	Revolving Loan Funds 1. Housing Preservation - \$42,553 2. Butler County Housing Rehab.* - \$27,350		

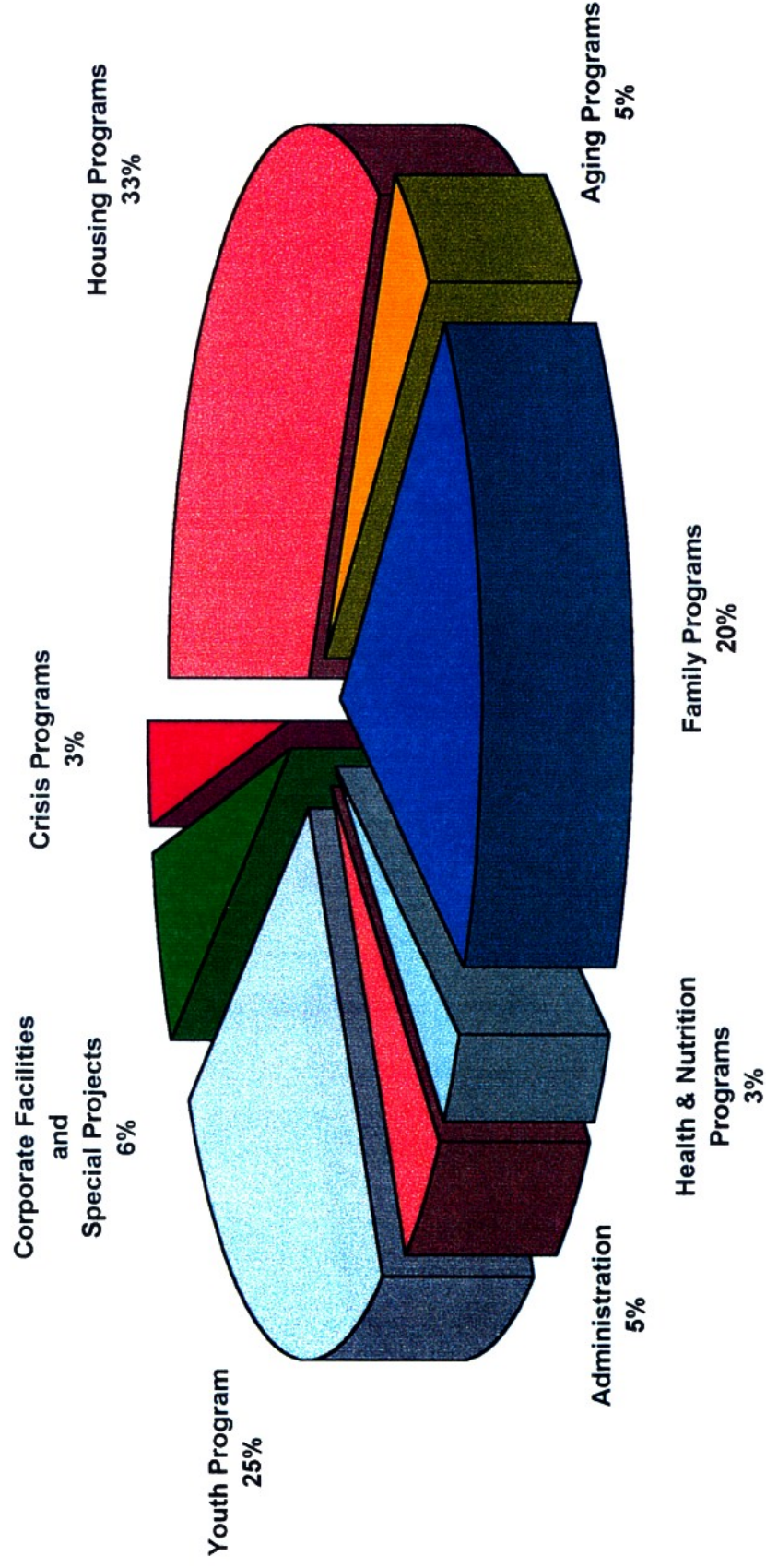
* Included in County contributions

BLUE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION, INC. 1995-96 REVENUE



Total Revenue \$7,035,205

BLUE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION, INC. 1995-96 EXPENSES



Total Expenses \$6,988,030

Blue Valley Community Action Expenses & Projects

Aging Programs 1. Saline ElderCare - \$74,623 2. RWJ - \$25,751 3. Foster Grandparents - \$215,354 Housing Rehabilitation 1. Housing Preservation Loan Fund - \$5,930 2. Butler County Housing Rehab. - \$8,724 Crisis Intervention 1. Sexual Assault- \$1,186 2. Domestic Abuse - \$89,169 3. AmeriCorps - \$41,997 4. Drug/Alcohol - \$2,395 Administration 1. Board - \$105,965 2. Management - \$288,745	Transportation 1. Butler Transit - \$26,798 2. Fillmore Transit - \$74,684 Youth Programs 1. Head Start - \$1,227,752 2. Friend Preschool - \$12,413 3. Blue River Family Center - \$325,318 4. Scholarship Fund - \$2,000 5. BRFC Construction - \$165,348 Local Projects 1. Pantries - \$12,507 2. Clothing - \$77,175 3. Local County Projects - \$129,266 4. Agency Projects - \$3,777	Rental Home Development 1. Fillmore Co. Units - \$779,367 2. Crete Units - \$548,928 3. Fairbury Units - \$7,937 4. Wymore Units - \$252,869 5. Hebron Units - \$181,304 Business Rehabilitation 1. CDBG - \$1,934 Weatherization 1. LIEAP - \$81,053 2. DOE - \$137,448 Family Programs 1. Community Centers - \$65,167 2. Information & Referral - \$78,990 3. Outreach & Basic Intake - \$119,000	Health and Nutrition 1. Commodity Supplmtl. Food Program (CSFP) \$93,197 2. Women, Infants and Children (WIC) - \$124,905 3. HIV/AIDS - \$17,717 4. Immunization Clinics - \$25,314 5. Teen Pregnancy Prevention - \$21,975 6. Homeless Assistance - \$73,486 Total Expenses for 1995-1996 \$6,988,030*
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* Includes Inkind & Limited Partnerships

Facts & Figures

REVENUE



Money Matters



BLUE VALLEY CRISIS INTERVENTION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. The phone rings and the voice at the other end is scared and hesitant. The voice is desperate. It is reaching out for help. There is, in that voice, a need to trust and believe coupled with the experience of being betrayed by the person it has loved and trusted and believed.

It is the goal of Blue Valley Crisis Intervention (BVCI) to ensure that victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault are able to identify their options and access available resources. We help empower victims and families to recognize their own abilities, make informed decisions about their lives, and plan for a future free of abuse. To this end, we lend emotional support, provide emergency crisis intervention services, and offer an on-going program of community education and awareness in an effort to prevent violence.

SERVICES. Our crisis intervention services are completely confidential and are free of charge to anyone who requests our assistance. Unlike many programs, there are no income guidelines for BVCI services. This is because most victims are so controlled by their abusers that they lack access to the family's resources. Services provided by BVCI include: 24-hour crisis line (800) 777-7332, transportation, temporary shelter, legal advocacy, medical attention, emergency financial assistance, individual and group support, and community education.

INCREASING NEED. During 1996, we provided face-to-face crisis support to 523 victims and their families. An additional 4,674 units of crisis support were provided via the 24-hour crisis line. BVCI furnished victims and their families with 562 beds on 152 unduplicated shelter nights.

In other words, our phone rings twelve times a day. And approximately every other day, somewhere in our service area, three people were placed in a confidential shelter in order to escape abuse by someone who professed to love them. Unfortunately, since 1992, there has been a 35 percent increase in crisis line usage and a 41 percent increase in the need for direct services. In an effort to prevent and reduce the incidence of violence, BVCI gave 219 presentations to audiences of 7,382 individuals. While it is always a struggle to bring in sufficient resources to meet the increasing needs, BVCI is grateful for the funding that comes from public and private sources.

AMERICORPS. One of our greatest prevention assets is AmeriCorps. These members develop programs focusing on preventing and reducing violence among youth. They work directly with young people to develop and maintain school mediation, peer mediation, conflict resolution and student tutoring programs. These programs provide students with an opportunity to non-violently resolve their disputes. With AmeriCorps' help, schools establish mediation programs to reduce detentions and suspensions, encourage effective problem-solving, reduce teacher involvement in minor student conflicts, and improve the school climate.

SCHOOL-BASED PROJECTS. In conjunction with the schools, we operate date rape prevention and HIV/AIDS awareness projects. We address pregnancy consequences in conjunction with the Teen Pregnancy Coalition's "Baby-Think It Over" project.



YOUTH SERVICES

HEAD START. Thirty years ago, BVCA began. Its first funding was for a Head Start summer program. Today, BVCA's comprehensive, nationally recognized, quality child development program serves 294 children in nine Nebraska and two Kansas counties. Head Start targets preschool children ages three to five and their families. Children attend a center twice a week for classroom and peer-based activities. Every other week, staff visit the child's home and work with the parents and child in a home-based setting. In addition to providing educational benefits to the child and family, Head Start provides enrollees with medical and dental screenings and follow-up, mental health services, nutritious meals and various opportunities for parents and families.

FRIEND PRESCHOOL. BVCA also co-sponsors the Friend Preschool. Twenty-four children attend semi-weekly sessions aimed at developing age-appropriate skills. The preschool, funded through tuition and private funds, is located in the Friend Public Schools.

BLUE RIVER FAMILY CENTER. The Blue River Family Center (BRFC), located in Crete, blends Head Start and public/private child care concepts with a family-focused, community-based service delivery system. BRFC includes: 1) Crete Public Schools (CPS) special needs preschool, Special Chapter I preschool, Even Start and CPS special programs; 2) BRFC early education and care programs serving children 6 weeks to twelve years; 3) BVCA's Blue Valley Crisis Intervention, Head Start, and Family and Community Services programs; 4) Nebraska's Health and Human Services System field office; and 5) Blue Valley Mental Health. The center provides child care to approximately 250 children.

BRFC runs a mentor/mentee project that partners five seasoned personnel trained in early childhood education, child development, child care and/or administrative roles with new teachers, early education supervisors, new child care providers and parents throughout the community. We have a community parent education and training project entitled "Families at Heart" and are implementing a nine month initial evaluation project to assess BRFC collaboration and services. Our Community Learn and Serve summer youth program correlated curriculum with "hands on" community service projects promoting recycling and environmental awareness. We serve on the Regional Training Grant committee, which receives grant funds to plan and implement early education training in the area, and are initiating a "Quality Campaign" in the community aimed to educate and assist in financial support towards quality, accessible and affordable programs and services for children and families at the Blue River Family Center.

As BRFC moves into 1997, we seek to expand on our goal of a family-focused, community-based, coordinated, comprehensive service delivery system to become a community focal point for the development of strong, healthy families. To this end, we will be seeking national accreditation to ensure family and community members that BRFC is committed to the creed that developing strong healthy families builds a strong community.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS

- **Food Pantries**—emergency food, privately donated for needy families in Beatrice, Crete, David City, Fairbury, Geneva, Hebron, Osceola, Seward, Wilber and York.
- **Clothing Recycling**—Very inexpensive clothing from private recycling in David City, Fairbury, Geneva, Hebron, Osceola, Seward and York.
- **BVCA Enrollment**—general intake applications for any and all BVCA managed programs, privately or publicly supported.
- **Volunteer Projects**—Opportunities for community involvement in various projects, center and office activities, seasonal projects and governance roles for several community, regional and state organizations.
- **Information & Referral**—FCS Coordinators, Green Thumb Workers and local volunteers provide needed information about BVCA and other agencies' programs and make internal and external referrals to families in need throughout the BVCA area.
- **Case Coordination**—FCS case workers coordinate with the client or client family and with other agencies to jointly address the family needs in a supportive environment.
- **Local Network Building**—FCS Coordinators and volunteers work to build collaborative teams to address a variety of local and state issues, such as the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition, the Food Pantry Network of Nebraska, the People Caring for People Project, transient assistance, Grocery Shopping Service, the Homeless Shelter Coalitions, Good Beginnings/Family Preservation Teams, farmers markets and other spontaneous local partnerships.
- **Homeless Assistance**—staff collaborate with local churches, the Salvation Army, state agencies and community groups to provide food, shelter, emergency services, transit services and case coordination for individuals and families without adequate shelter. In addition, BVCA operates shelters in three communities around the service area.



TRANSIT PROGRAMS

- **Fillmore County Rural Transit Service**—reasonably priced public transportation to all citizens of Fillmore County. Trips around the county as well as outside the county.
- **Butler County Senior Services Transit**—BVCA collaborates with the Butler County Senior Services by supplying a bus and driver to provide county and inter-county transportation services to all citizens, seniors and disabled prioritized.
- **Vehicle Rental-York Senior Services**—BVCA rents buses to the York Senior Services for their transit programs.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

HEALTH & NUTRITION

- **HIV/AIDS**—prevention, education, referral to confidential testing.
- **WIC Clinics**—Women, Infants and Children nutrition and health screening, education & food vouchers in Geneva, Crete, Seward and York. Also, hospital & in-home enrollment pilot projects.
- **CSFP Clinics**—commodity foods supplement the nutrition of lower income elderly, infants, children and mothers; offered in Beatrice, David City, Dorchester, Hebron, Humboldt, Osceola, and York.
- **CATCH**—development of an affordable health care access system with public health nurse triage, physician referral service, ER follow-up and human service referrals via a toll free number (800-261-3332) and home visitation.
- **Immunization Clinics**—in Hebron, Fairbury, Friend, Crete, Seward and Wilber.



OLDER ADULT PROGRAMS

- **Foster Grandparents Program**—this nationally recognized program offers older adults an opportunity to work with special needs children via a stipend or non-stipend basis in Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Johnson, and Richardson Counties.
- **Saline ElderCare**—providing home chore, medication checks, center and meal program support, telephone reassurance, "Friendly Visitors" and other senior opportunities and services in Saline County.
- **Grocery Shopping Assistance**—shut-in seniors and individuals who are ill or disabled call in to the Seward office of BVCA, who has volunteers shop from these called-in lists at local grocers, who then deliver to the homes and are paid.
- **Other Programs**—such as transit services, commodities, pantries, recycled clothing weatherization and home rehabilitation also help older adults.





HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

One of the great tragedies of the 1990's is the inability of families to afford safe, decent housing. One of BVCA's greatest triumphs is our ability to leverage public and private resources to build affordable housing for low and moderate income families living in our service area.

RECOGNITIONS. In recognition of our efforts, the Affordable Housing Commission of the State of Nebraska recognized BVCA with its developer of the year award. National recognition came to us from the Fannie Mae Foundation. Our program received their Award of Excellence. Still, the most important recognition we receive is from the families who live in the apartments, homes and duplexes built and maintained by BVCA. Without BVCA's efforts, many of these families would be forced to rely on substandard housing for affordable shelter.

CONSTRUCTION. During 1996 BVCA created two additional partnerships and began to build two eight unit apartment houses: one in Wymore and one in Hebron. This will bring the total of affordable units to 50 scattered in a five county area.

REHABILITATION. In addition to new construction, we work with homeowners to bring housing units up to prevailing health and safety standards. BVCA has its own revolving loan home rehabilitation fund. This year, BVCA initiated a Housing Preservation Program for Butler County. Coupled with the Butler County CDBG loan fund, which BVCA operates, we can provide comprehensive housing rehabilitation services to low and moderate income residents of Butler County. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer all residents access to housing preservation programs.

WEATHERIZATION. Fortunately, there are other programs that can address specific needs that add to the health and safety of homes. The weatherization program focuses on strategies that will make housing affordable by reducing the cost of heating and cooling the structure. From a health and safety perspective, energy rehabilitation is an important means of securing a home from the ravages of the extreme heat and cold we experience in this area of Nebraska. During 1996, our weatherization efforts improved the housing conditions for 165 individuals living in 65 families.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE. BVCA supervises disaster funds to repair damage caused in 1993 storms in the nine county area. Health and safety is a major concern of the supplemental disaster contract that BVCA received. These funds are helping people in dozens of communities. It is gratifying to see how repairing shattered buildings has rebuilt shattered spirits.

HOME BUYER ASSISTANCE. One of our newest ventures is a First Time Homebuyers program. Here, we work with families to develop budgeting, negotiating and loan strategies that will enable them to afford their first home. This program provides qualified borrowers with down payment assistance. Homeownership Opportunity Programs (HOP) are offered in Hebron, Wymore/Blue Springs and Crete.

We are excited about our success at improving the quality and affordability of housing in our communities. Of course, there is still work to be done. ...And we intend to do it.



BLUE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

HOME OFFICE

620 5TH STREET

P.O. BOX 273

FAIRBURY NE 68352-0273

**HOUSING & RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT SITES**

**YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT
SITES**

Beatrice NE
Crete NE
David City NE
Fairbury NE
Friend NE
Geneva NE
Hebron NE
Jewell KS
Seward NE
Smith Center KS
Wymore NE
York NE

Crete NE
Exeter NE
Fairbury NE
Fairmont NE
Geneva NE
Grafton NE
Hebron NE
Ohiowa NE
Milligan NE
Wymore NE

**FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT SITES**

**BLUE VALLEY CRISIS
INTERVENTION
DEPARTMENT SITES**

Crete NE
Fairbury NE

Beatrice NE
Crete NE
David City NE
Dorchester NE
Fairbury NE
Geneva NE
Hebron NE
Humboldt NE
Osceola NE
Seward NE
Wilber NE
Wymore NE
York NE

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