

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership Annual Report • 2008-2009

helping people



changing lives



2008-2009 Outcomes



Employment

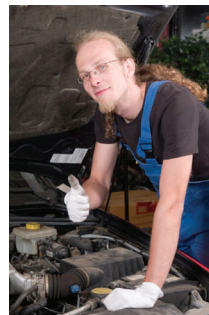
This category reflects low-income participants in BVCA Partnership employment initiatives who got a job or became self-employed.

- BVCA programs assisted 79 unemployed individuals to employment.
- 48 individuals obtained an increase in employment income.
- 89 individuals achieved “living wage” employment and benefits.



Employment Supports

This category reflects low-income participants for whom barriers to initial or continuous employment were reduced or eliminated through assistance from BVCA Partnership. BVCA assisted persons in acquiring and maintaining employment as follows:



- 72 individuals obtained pre-employment skills required for employment.
- 1 individual completed and received their ABE/GED certificate.
- 5 individuals received their post-secondary diploma.
- 5 individuals were awarded BVCA Partnership Scholarships to help them obtain college educations and acquire marketable work skills.
- 49 children were enrolled in “before” or “after” school programs.
- 94 were assisted in obtaining childcare for children or other dependents.
- 46 individuals obtained access to reliable transportation and/or a driver’s license.
- 88 individuals obtained healthcare services for themselves or a family member.
- 52 individuals obtained safe and affordable housing.
- 76 individuals obtained food assistance in support of employment stability.

Economic Asset Enhancement and Utilization

This category reflects low-income households that achieve an increase in financial skills as a result of community action assistance.

- 9 individuals obtained housing finance access.
- 14 individuals received home ownership counseling.
- 107 individuals obtained rental housing subsidy.
- 14 individuals received home energy conservation education.
- 207 individuals demonstrated the ability to complete and maintain a budget for over 90 days.
- 61 individuals contributed to their savings account for a total of \$39,416 accumulated savings.
- 23 individuals were assisted with the preparation of their tax returns to receive \$33,118 in Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).



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A Message from BVCA Partnership

On January 19, 2010, Blue Valley Community Action Partnership celebrated its 44th birthday.

The preceding year had been a challenge considering the poor economy and the many job losses coming from the crash of 2008. However, it was also a year of hope. America saw a historic election and the first year of the new presidency saw many efforts to bolster the economy. Many came our way, so as we look to 2010 we have much to do and substantial resources too. Of course, all we had hoped to do will not be possible, even with the Recovery Act funding, as we were unable to be awarded all our applications. Still we are in better financial position than we’ve been in a while and we’ll need every penny to keep up with the increasing demands for services. We have hired several new staff and have added contractors to help meet the need.

Significant increases in demand for some services unfortunately come at a time when some of our private funding is leveling off or declining. This is a major challenge as much of our local efforts depend on contributions to fill in gaps that exist in many government-assisted programs. Much of our private fundraising actually comes from lower income folks, so when the economy is bad, they are most impacted in quality of life issues and they make cuts. So we will need to step up our efforts at middle-class and upper-class donors to off set the losses. Your help, as always, is appreciated.

We hope as you consider contributing, you will look at the enclosed information to see how beneficial your help can be. Your contribution is an investment in your community. Almost 94% of BVCA revenues go to programs and client assistance. Leveraged resources of 99.4% for every local government dollar invested are returned to the community. The organization is proud of its return on investment and hopes such wise use of resources will encourage further investment in our efforts.

However, if you are not in a position to invest, please review the enclosed information anyway. Perhaps, you are need of some of the services Blue Valley Community Action Partnership offers. Perhaps your group can partner with us to solve a community problem. We stand by certain principles that require us to help or help you find someone who can help. We care about our entire community, your community. Thank you for your participation in whichever situation you encounter us.



Tony Likens
Board President '09-'10



Richard Nation
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Directors 2008-2009

Officers

President—Velma Lutz, Seward County Low-Income Sector

Vice President—Tony Likens, Jefferson County Public Sector

Treasurer—Albert Simacek, Fillmore County Public Sector

Secretary—Len Hoss, Gage County Private Sector



Public Sector Representatives

Tony Krafka, Butler County

Ray Capek, Fillmore County Alt.

Dennis Byars, Gage County

Rex Adams, Gage County Alt.

Michael Simonsen, Polk County

Michael Smith, Polk County Alt.

Willis Luedke, Saline County

Janet Henning, Saline County Alt.

Larry Dedic, Seward County

Diana Garske, Seward County Alt.

Chris Frye, Thayer County

Eugene Bergen, York County

Pat Bredenkamp, York County Alt.

Private Sector Representatives

Hugh Wilkins, Fillmore County

Terry Keslar, Gage County Alt.

Wayne Nestor, Polk County

Joyce Knudson, Polk County Alt.

John Milligan, Seward County

Tim Goldhammer, Thayer County

Jean Gaver, York County

Nancy Lee, York County Alt.

Ex-Officio Representatives

Sonia Grupe, Homeless

Christina Auman, Policy Council

Darci Shibley, National Service

Kristi Most, Early Childhood

Education Consultant

Low-Income Sector Representatives

Audrey Skretta, Butler County

Samantha Kosch, Butler County Alt.

Karen Elznic, Fillmore County

Star Clark, Fillmore County Alt.

Judy Doerr, Gage County

Sam Mishler, Jefferson County

Roger Rupp, Jefferson County Alt.

Mary Blackwell, Polk County

Lucinda Johnson, Seward County Alt.

Kenny Vieselmeyer, Thayer County

Janis Banks, Thayer County Alt.

Chris Tonniges, York County

Julie Kirkpatrick, York County Alt.

During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, full Board meetings were held in: October 2008 with 15 in attendance; November 2008 with 21 in attendance; January 2009 with 16 in attendance; February 2009 with 20 in attendance; March 2009 with 25 in attendance; April 2009 with 20 in attendance; June 2009 with 21 in attendance; and August 2009 with 18 in attendance.



Leadership Team

<u>Chief Executive Officer</u> Richard D. Nation	<u>Administrative Assistant</u> Heather Lytle
<u>Family & Community Services</u> Ardith Hoins, Director	<u>Children & Youth Services</u> Shari Wurtz-Miller, Director
<u>Fiscal</u> Jamie Swartz, Director	<u>Health Services</u> Janie Fralin, Program Director
<u>Housing & Rural Development</u> Kelly Davis, Weatherization/Rehab Program Manager Kim Vicars, Housing Program Director	

OUTCOME #3: BVCA PARTNERSHIP ENCOURAGED LOW-INCOME PEOPLE TO HAVE A STAKE IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

Civic Investment

This category reflects the number of volunteer hours donated to BVCA Partnership.

The total number of hours volunteered were 106,139 for a total value of \$757,859. Hours donated to programs are as follows:

Thank You!

Head Start—15,452.75	Early Head Start—1,436
FCS—22,790.53	CSFP—969
Immunization—400	FGP—54,191.22
AmeriCorps/VISTA—9,855	Experience Works—1,044.5

Low-income individuals, community representatives and public officials also contributed to dozens of community and Board of Directors meetings throughout the year.



Katherine Wadsworth, volunteer of 20 years, celebrated her 90th Birthday while volunteering at a CSFP clinic. Pictured: DeAnn Huls, CSFP Manager; Katherine, Patti Seitz, CSFP Coordinator, and Richard Nation, CEO.

Community Empowerment Through Maximum Feasible Participation



This category reflects the number of low-income people mobilized as a direct result of BVCA Partnership’s initiative to engage in activities that support and promote their own well-being and that of the community.

- 42 individuals participated in BVCA Boards and Councils.
- 217 individuals engaged in advisory groups created or supported by BVCA.
- 1 individual acquired a business in their community.
- 9 individuals purchased their own home in their community—leveraging \$458,933 privately with \$66,400 in down-payment assistance. Homebuyer Education was also provided.

OUTCOME #4: BVCA PARTNERSHIP PARTNERS WITH LOCAL AND STATEWIDE SUPPORTERS AND PROVIDERS OF SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME PEOPLE.

Expanding Opportunities Through Community-Wide Partnerships

This category reflects the number of organizations, both public and private, BVCA Partnership actively works with to expand resources and opportunities in order to achieve family and community outcomes.

- BVCA collaborated with 347 organizations to promote family and community outcomes.
- BVCA collaborated with 12 organizations to improve services for ethnic, diverse and refugee populations.
- BVCA programs provided 45 various Community Education presentation to 1,175 participants.

OUTCOME #5: BVCA PARTNERSHIP INCREASED ITS CAPACITY TO ACHIEVE RESULTS BY BROADENING ITS RESOURCE BASE.

Broadening the Resource Base

This category reflects the number of dollars mobilized by BVCA Partnership.

- BVCA Partnership’s core funding is the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). \$290,575 was granted last year, which is 3.2% of BVCA’s budget.
- For every dollar of CSBG over \$31 were leveraged.
- Over \$20,000 of gaming revenue was generated.
- Volunteers donated enough time to relieve the organization from expending \$757,859 on personnel costs. These funds were not available, so the donated hours increased the organization’s capacity significantly.
- Value of contributions of clothing and other goods to thrift stores totaled \$1,028,054.

OUTCOME #6: BVCA PARTNERSHIP ASSISTED VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN ACHIEVING POTENTIAL BY STRENGTHENING FAMILY AND OTHER SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTS.

Independent Living

This category reflects the number of vulnerable individuals receiving services from community action that maintain an independent living situation as a result of BVCA Partnership’s services.

- 1,423 senior citizens are able to continue living independently.
- 1,105 individuals with disabilities are able to live independently.

Emergency Assistance

This category reflects the number of low-income individuals or families that sought and received emergency assistance from BVCA Partnership.

- Food pantries served 2,608 individuals.
- 106 households received clothing and household goods.
- 425 households were assisted with vendor payments including fuel/energy bills and rent & mortgage payments.
 - 26 households received rent/deposit assistance to secure housing.
 - 138 households received rent/mortgage assistance to avoid eviction.
- 7 households received emergency medical care.
- 34 households were provided with transportation.
- 42 households were provided with temporary shelter.
- 3 households were provided disaster relief from house fires and extreme weather conditions.



OUTCOME #6: BVCA PARTNERSHIP ASSISTED VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN ACHIEVING POTENTIAL BY STRENGTHENING FAMILY AND OTHER SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTS.

Child and Family Development

This category reflects the number of infants, children, youth, parents and other adults participating in the developmental or enrichment programs that achieve program goals.



Nutrition

- 2,055 infants and children’s health and physical development are improved as a result of adequate nutrition via the CSFP and WIC programs.
- 1,348 individuals were enrolled in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). This included 1,105 elderly individuals, 82 women and 161 children.
- Head Start provided 37,747 meals and 6,388 snacks to children.
- Blue River Child Development Program provided 28,819 meals and 14,602 snacks to children.

Juvenile Services

- 459 youth improved their physical health and development through their participation at the FYI Center.
- 175 youth improved their social and emotional development and avoided risk-taking behavior. In addition, they increased their academic, athletic and/or social skills for school success through their participation at the FYI Center.
- 12 youth have reduced their involvement with the criminal justice system by participation in Youth Diversion programming at the FYI Center.
- 453 at-risk youth not yet within the justice system were supported with educational outreach.
- Drug prevention was provided in three public schools.
- AmeriCorps members hosted 5 community conversations focusing on youth substance abuse, 2 youth dances and 4 service clubs.
- 278 students were registered in after school programming at the FYI Center.



- 42 students were involved in the Homework Assistance Program.
- 97 students utilized the Computer Lab.
- 12 children were served through the diversion program.
- 9 youth are currently members of the Youth Leadership Council.
- 15 youth attended various conferences sponsored by BVCA Partnership.
- 5 youth were tutored.
- Bullying Prevention was presented to 37 students.
- 51 youth were served by the Project Santa program.

OUTCOME #2: BVCA PARTNERSHIP HELPED IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS IN WHICH LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS LIVE.

Community Improvement and Revitalization

This category reflects an increase in, or safeguarding of, threatened opportunities and community resources or services for low-income people in the community as a result of BVCA Partnership’s projects/initiatives or advocacy with other public and private agencies.



- 117 safe and affordable housing units in the community were preserved or improved through construction, weatherization or rehabilitation.
 - 14 families were assisted with housing rehabilitation.
 - 103 homes were weatherized, assisting 178 individuals with more efficient energy use within their homes. In addition, 21 families were provided with safe furnaces.
- 551 individuals obtained housing via BVCA’s 131 rental units.
- 220 individuals obtained housing via BVCA’s 60 lease-to-own units.
- Accessible and affordable health care services for low-income people were created or maintained.
 - 1,227 individuals received 4,273 shots via immunization clinics.
 - 96 women participated in BVCA’s Healthy Weights in Women Program.
 - 58 individuals were served via Minority Health.
- 175 children received “before” and “after” school program placement opportunities at the FYI (Fairbury Youth Involvement) Center.
- 11 individuals participating in Project FIRST received their GED.
- 88 children received quality childcare at BVCA Partnership’s collaborations with schools, including Crete’s Blue River Child Development Center, Preschool Learning Academy of York and Step Ahead in Fairbury.
- 125 individuals were provided transportation via Fillmore County Rural Transit Service. A total of 8,729 boardings were provided during 249 days of service for a total of 31,411 miles driven.



Community Quality of Life and Assets

The quality of life and assets in low-income neighborhoods are improved by BVCA Partnership’s initiative or advocacy.

- 12 childcare providers received training via BVCA Partnership’s Infant Toddler Quality Initiative.

2008-2009 Client Data



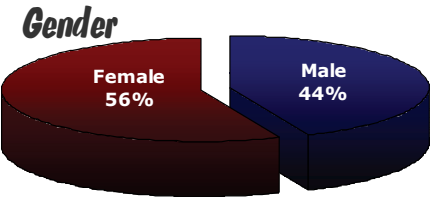
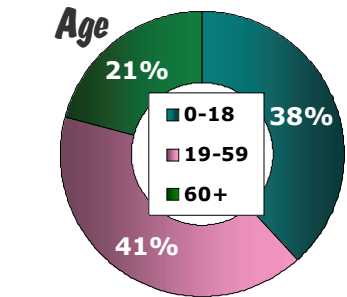
During Fiscal Year 2008-2009
BVCA Partnership served
over 14,500 individuals.

Our Mission

Overcoming Poverty by Helping People,
Improving Lives and Strengthening Communities.

Our Vision

Our vision is that communities are safe and supportive; differences and traditions are respected; individuals and families are financially secure; and everyone has opportunities to develop their potential.



Family Structure

The average community family size is 2.55 people per household compared to the average BVCA client family size of 2.8.

Family Size:

39%	One Person
18%	Two Persons
12%	Three Persons
12%	Four Persons
9%	Five Persons
5%	Six Persons
3%	Seven Persons
2%	Eight or More Persons

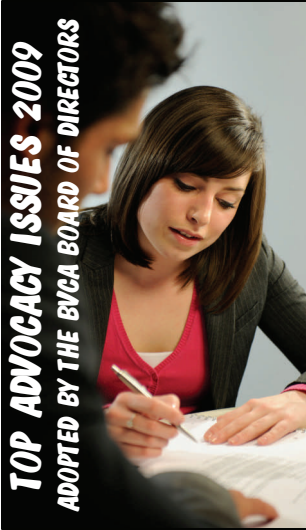
Household Types:

25%	Two Parents
18%	Single Parent
11%	Couple, No Children
40%	Single Persons
6%	Other



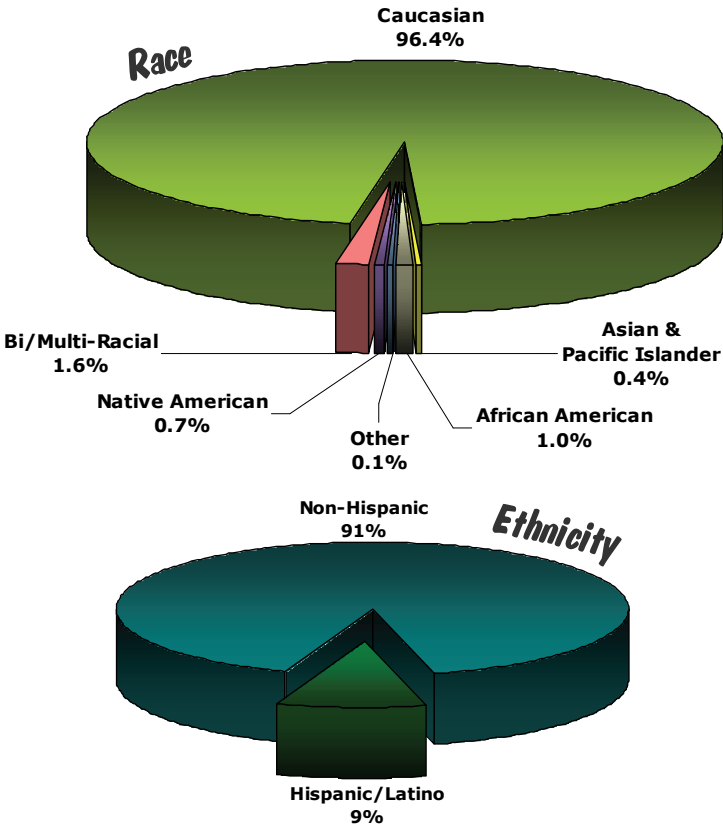
Our Core Values

- INTEGRITY** Demonstrates the highest standards of professionalism and personal ethics.
- DEDICATION** Committed to conducting business in an accountable and responsible manner.
- CARING** Treating people with compassion and empathy.
- RESPECTFUL** Valuing the inherent worth of all people. Creating an environment free of prejudice and discrimination.
- VISIONARY** Using futuristic approaches to arrive at innovative and creative solutions.



TOP ADVOCACY ISSUES 2009
ADOPTED BY THE BVCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Support healthcare reform that offers affordable universal coverage.
- Promote legislation prohibiting denial of health insurance for pre-existing conditions.
- Promote living wage and minimum wage increases.
- Promote rural equity in human service opportunities.
- Promote broader coverage of residents by human service programs by increasing the eligibility criteria whenever possible.
- Oppose immediate removal of benefits when a person or family initially comes out of poverty on their road to self-sufficiency.
- Support healthy lifestyle opportunities for low-income families and individuals.
- Encourage favorable taxation policy towards low-income and non-profit organizations.
- Support the right of low-income to have adequate legal counsel.



Poverty Among BVCA's Clients' Families

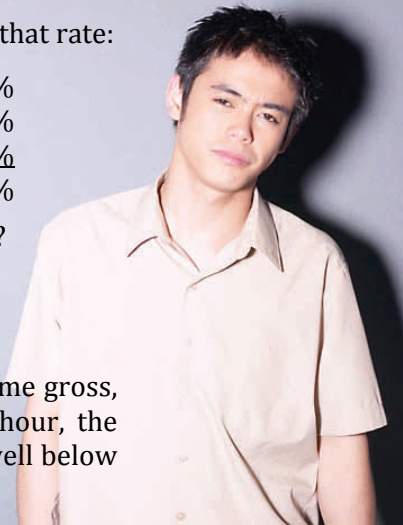
Percent of the Poverty Rate and Percent of BVCA clients at that rate:

50% or less	25%	101%-125%	19%
51%-75%	19%	126%-150%	6%
76%-100%	24%	151% or higher	7%
	68%		32%

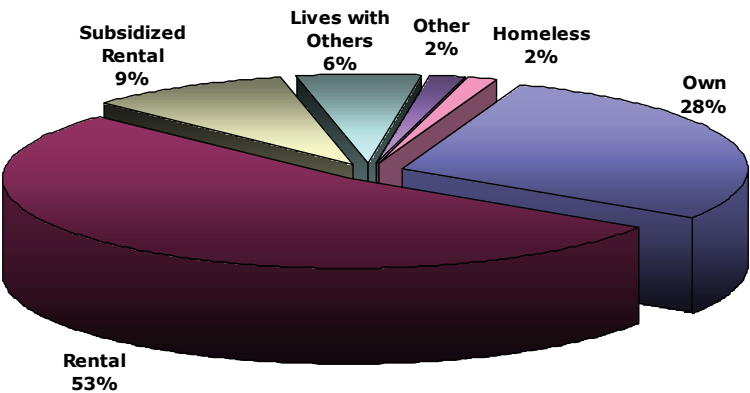
What does it mean in real dollars for a family of four?

- *50% of poverty is \$11,025 gross
- *100% of poverty is \$22,050 gross
- *125% of poverty is \$27,560 gross

Current minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour or \$15,080 full-time gross, significantly below the poverty rate. Even at \$10.00 per hour, the minimum wage for a family of four would be \$20,800 still well below the poverty rate.



Client Shelter Arrangements



The Promise of Community Action
Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

OUTCOME #6: BVCA PARTNERSHIP ASSISTED VULNERABLE POPULATIONS IN ACHIEVING POTENTIAL BY STRENGTHENING FAMILY AND OTHER SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTS.

Child and Family Development Continued...

This category reflects the number of infants, children, youth, parents and other adults participating in the developmental or enrichment programs that achieve program goals.



- 62 women participated in the Healthy Weight in Women program.
- 58 individuals were enrolled in the Hispanic Healthcare Project.
- 80 women received free clinical breast exams, mammograms and assistance with transportation and interpreting for any follow-up medical appointments.
- 1,920 individuals were enrolled in the WIC Program. This included 536 women and 1,384 children.
- Infants and children obtained age appropriate immunizations, medical and dental care.
 - 311 Head Start and Early Head Start children received medical exams.
 - 285 Head Start and Early Head Start children received dental exams.
 - 50 infants in Early Head Start received dental screenings.
 - 1,227 individuals were immunized, including 336 age 0-5 within Head Start and Early Head Start; and 228 youth aged 6-17.
- 175 youth improved their physical health and development through programming at the FYI Center.



Health Services



Children Services

- 363 children participated in pre-school activities to develop school readiness skills.
- 194 children are now developmentally prepared to enter kindergarten or first grade.
- Head Start enrolled 289 children from 271 families. A total of 1,003 family members were served. The Head Start waiting list totaled 98 on the first day of classes and 97 on the last day of classes.
- Early Head Start enrolled 58 children and 7 adults. Fifty families were enrolled, for a total of 179 family members. The Early Head Start waiting list totaled 70 on the first day of classes and 55 on the last day of classes.
- The Blue River Child Development Program served 203 children. 31 families have more than one child enrolled. The Blue River Child Development Program is open approximately 71.5 hours per week to accommodate the needs of working parents.
- 313 parents and other adults have exhibited improved parenting and family functioning skills.



2008-2009 Resources and Support

PRIVATE REVENUES:

In-kind Donations	\$1,769,268.29
Cash Donations	\$73,053.79
United Way Awards	\$31,647.62
Foundation Awards	\$4,881.49
Local Projects	\$110,499.87
Contracts	\$82,664.33
Fees	\$489,854.78
Rents	\$462,394.51
Corporate investments	\$290,296.04
TOTAL:	\$3,314,560.72

FEDERAL DIRECT:

USDA CSFP Commodities Value	\$182,777.90
CNCS Foster Grandparents	\$245,991.89
HHS Head Start	\$1,826,754.61
HHS Early Head Start	\$493,680.81
HHS Head Start ARRA	\$9,279.12
HHS Early Head Start ARRA	\$5,334.95
HUD Supportive Housing	\$189,203.72
HUD HMIS	\$21,364.68
TOTAL:	\$2,974,387.68

STATE REVENUES:

NE HTF SE Regional Rehab	\$90,156.48
NE HTF Home Ownership Program	\$73,167.37
East/West Meadows Rehab	\$50,977.21
Midtown & Shady Elm Rehab	\$0.00
Ten County Disaster Assistance	\$181,831.89
NE HATF	\$74,169.89
TOTAL:	\$470,302.84

FEDERAL VIA STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

<i>HHS via:</i>	
Region V-Let's Build	\$5,000.00
Region V-SPF/SIG	\$2,912.31
NDHHS Minority Health	\$18,076.60
NDHHS Immunization Action	\$31,203.30
NDHHS Healthy Weights	\$84,661.45
NDHHS CSBG	\$290,575.00
NDHHS CSBG ARRA	\$28,212.14
NDHHS NEO Weatherization	\$298,068.45
NDE Early Childhood Initiative	\$23,168.12

DOE via:

NEO Weatherization	\$216,962.94
NEO Weatherization	\$6,542.24

USDA via:

NDEd Childhood & Adult Food	\$150,352.35
NDHHS WIC	\$833,471.00
NDHHS CSFP (except for commodities)	\$91,225.00

HUD via:

DED Emergency Shelter Grant Program	\$33,674.76
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DOT via:

NDor Fillmore County Rural Transit	\$79,465.72
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DoEd via:

NDEd Fatherhood Initiative	\$2,098.55
UNL Birth to Three Initiative	\$16,345.16
TOTAL:	\$2,212,015.09

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT:

County Support	\$82,220.00
Juvenile Services Aid	\$15,145.08
FYI Afterschool	\$5,604.77
Community Health Education	\$715.32
TOTAL:	\$103,685.17

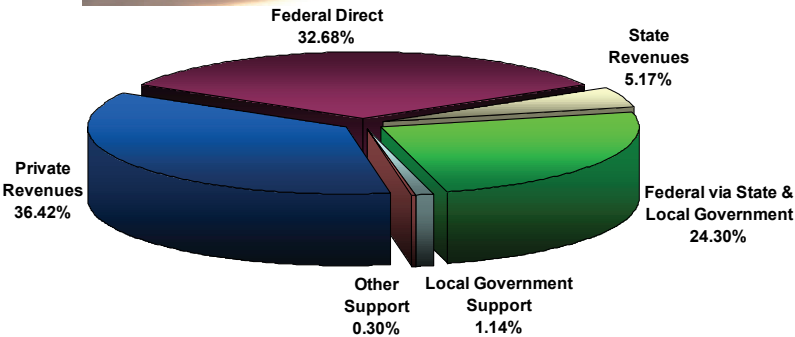
OTHER SUPPORT:

Every Woman Matters	\$9,692.92
Client Escrows	\$6,731.08
Miscellaneous Support	\$10,437.92
TOTAL:	\$26,861.92

In addition, BVCA Partnership acts as the general partner in nine limited partnerships with private investors. (see chart below.)

REAL ESTATE LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS*	Income	Assets
East Meadows, Ltd., Crete	\$35,087	\$426,229
West Meadows, Ltd., Crete	\$35,083	\$425,737
Pinegrove, Ltd., Wymore	\$21,808	\$365,329
Trailview, Ltd., Hebron	\$20,448	\$408,577
New Horizon, Ltd., Beatrice	\$59,546	\$919,001
Prairie Woods CROWN, Ltd., York & Geneva	\$70,339	\$1,637,119
Blue Terrace CROWN, Ltd., Crete	\$94,247	\$1,891,216
Sunset CROWN, Ltd., Beatrice	\$86,817	\$1,522,698
York CROWN, Ltd., York	\$73,363	\$2,030,275
Total	\$496,738	\$9,626,181

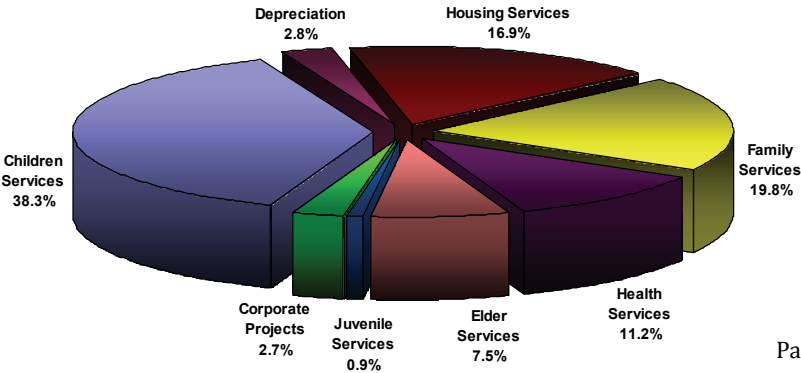
*Not included in BVCA audit, as each is a separate company.



**BVCA's
2008-2009
Total Revenues:
\$9,101,813.42**

BVCA's 2008-2009 Beginning of the Year Net Assets: \$3,511,977.19	BVCA's 2008-2009 End of the Year Net Assets: \$3,681,517.66
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**BVCA's
2008-2009
Total Expenses:
\$8,918,976.07**



PROGRAMS/SERVICES PROVIDED

AmeriCorp/VISTA: A national service program allowing people of all ages to earn educational assistance in exchange for a year of community service. *Available: Varies*

Child Care: Infant, toddler, pre-school, before- and after-school & drop-in childcare at a multi-shift setting. *Available: Saline County*

Clothing/Household Items Recycling: Community donations are available to the public for a small handling fee. *Available: Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Polk, Seward, Thayer, & York Counties*

Commodity Supplemental Food Program: To foster good health & nutrition, government purchased surplus food commodities are distributed to income eligible families with children to age 6, women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or have given birth within the last 12 months, & persons 60 years and older. *Available: All Counties: Sites at David City, Fairbury, York, Hebron, Beatrice, & Humboldt*

Early Childhood Collaboration: Provides professional development and support to home-based, center-based, and child care staff to improve quality care. *Available: Crete, Fairbury and York*

Early Head Start: A home-based program for pregnant women and families with children ages 0-3 that focuses on parent education, comprehensive health services and nutrition. *Available: Gage & Saline Counties*

Emergency Assistance: Donated funds are used to assist low-income people with small emergencies. *Available: All Counties*

Fairbury Youth Involvement Center: A safe, supervised activities after-school for youth 5-18 in Fairbury area. *Available: Fairbury*

Farmer's Markets: Homemade & homegrown products are sold by producers during the summer & early fall. *Available: David City & Fairbury*

First-Time Home Buyer Assistance Project: Down-payment assistance for first-time homebuyers. *Available: All Counties*

Food Pantries: Community groups & individuals donate non-perishable food & paper products & funds to purchase perishable items that are distributed to families/individuals in emergency situations. *Available: All Counties*

Foster Grandparent Program: Provides opportunities for low-income persons, 60 years & older, to give supportive person-to-person service to help alleviate the physical, mental, or emotional problems of children having exceptional or special needs. *Available: Fillmore, York, Gage Counties and surrounding counties*

Head Start: A nationally renowned child development program for preschool children ages 3 to 5, which stresses parent involvement, education, social services & health. *Available: Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Seward, Thayer & York Counties in Nebraska: Smith County in Kansas*

Healthy Weights in Women: Promote healthy weights in Hispanic women ages 19-64. Participants are provided nutrition education, exercise classes, free health screening and mental health support. *Available: Saline County*

Hispanic Healthcare Project: Provides case management for pregnant and post-partum Hispanic women by helping to navigate the healthcare system, and enroll in programs that will improve health outcome for mom and baby. *Available: Saline County*

Homeless Assistance: Homeless individuals/families can obtain emergency food, clothing, shelter &/or transportation. Other services may include locating permanent housing & referrals to other agencies for identified needs. *Available: All Counties*

Education

5%	College/Tech Graduates
8%	High School Graduates w/ Some College
31%	High School Graduates/GED
18%	Non-graduating Adults
22%	Current K-12 Students
16%	Preschool and Younger



The Seven Principles of Community Action

OPENING DOORS AND LEADING THE WAY We provide access to the opportunities people need to improve their lives, to help themselves and each other.

TURNING HOPE INTO REALITY We identify the needs of the entire community, collaborate with others in the community and take action to improve life for everyone in the community.

EMPATHIZING Our staff and volunteers are from the community they serve.

TREATING PEOPLE WITH RESPECT We treat people the way we want to be treated.

SAYING "YES" If we do not provide the needed service, we will link you to those who do.

GIVING A VOICE TO THE POOR Through our advocacy, we seek to make society more flexible and responsive to the needs of the poor.

MIRRORING THE DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES Our local boards include low-income people, local public officials, business and community groups.

Insurance	% of Clients	Change from FY '08	Healthcare
SCHIP (Kids Connection)	29.6%	-.5	
Medicaid	10.4%	-5.5	
Medicare	6.9%	+1.9	
Medicare (w/ Medicaid, etc)	10.7%		
Native American	.2%	+1	
Veterans	1.0%	No change	
Private Insurance	13.0%	-.1	
No Insurance	28.2%	+3.9	
While private insurance remains relatively stable, state budget cuts target low-income Medicaid clients, accounting for all of the increases in the uninsured.			

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OF BVCA PARTNERSHIP
620 5TH STREET, P.O. Box 273, FAIRBURY, NE 68352
PHONE: (402) 729-2278 FAX: (402) 729-2801
WEBSITE: www.bvca.net E-MAIL: changinglives@bvca.net

CHILREN & YOUTH SERVICES FIELD OFFICES

FILLMORE COUNTY HEAD START 0-5
1600 I STREET
GENEVA, NE 68361
PHONE: (402) 759-3699
fillmorehs@bvca.net

GAGE COUNTY HEAD START 0-5
BEATRICE CENTER
5109 WEST SCOTT RD.,
SUITE 412
BEATRICE, NE 68310

HEAD START:
(402) 223-6035
beatricehs@bvca.net

Early Head Start:
(402) 223-6056
beatriceehs@bvca.net

SMITH COUNTY HEAD START 3-5
221½ MAIN STREET
SMITH CENTER, KS 66967
PHONE: (785) 282-6011
smithhs@bvca.net

**RIISING STARS
PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**
THAYER COUNTY 3-5
335 EADS AVENUE
HEBRON, NE 68370
PHONE: (402) 768-6727
thayerhs@bvca.net



BLUE RIVER FAMILY CENTER
325 EAST 9TH STREET
P.O. Box 304
CRETE, NE 68333
PHONE: (402) 826-4216
blueriver@bvca.net

**STEP AHEAD EARLY
CHILDHOOD PROGRAM**
JEFFERSON COUNTY 0-5
1303 B STREET · P.O. Box 403
FAIRBURY, NE 68352
PHONE: (402) 729-2161
jeffersonhs@bvca.net

GAGE COUNTY HEAD START 3-5
WYMORE CENTER
517 NORTH 12TH STREET
WYMORE, NE 68466
PHONE: (402) 645-3441
wymorehs@bvca.net

SALINE COUNTY HEAD START 0-5
Head Start:
325 EAST 9TH STREET
CRETE, NE 68333
402) 826-5221
salinehs@bvca.net

Early Head Start:
1540 Grove Street
Crete, NE 68333
(402) 381-0057
salineehs@bvca.net

SEWARD COUNTY HEAD START 3-5
412 FAITH LANE, P.O. Box 53
SEWARD, NE 68434
PHONE: (402) 643-6272
sewardhs@bvca.net

**PRESCHOOL ACADEMY OF YORK
P.L.A.Y.**
YORK COUNTY 0-5
225 WEST 5TH STREET
YORK, NE 68467
PHONE: (402) 362-4299
yorkhs@bvca.net

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES FIELD OFFICES

BUTLER COUNTY FCS
416 E STREET
DAVID CITY, NE 68632
PHONE (402) 367-4347
butlerfcs@bvca.net

GAGE COUNTY FCS
5109 WEST SCOTT RD, STE 402
BEATRICE, NE 68310
PHONE (402) 223-6034
gagefcs@bvca.net

POLK COUNTY FCS
440 NEBRASKA AVENUE
P.O. Box 63
OSCEOLA, NE 68651
PHONE (402) 747-2102
polkfcs@bvca.net

SEWARD COUNTY FCS
640 SEWARD STREET, P.O. Box 342
SEWARD, NE 68434
PHONE (402) 643-6425
sewardfcs@bvca.net

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM
BEATRICE OFFICE
5109 WEST SCOTT RD STE 415
BEATRICE, NE 68310
PHONE (402) 223-6036
fostergrandparent@bvca.net



THAYER COUNTY FCS
135 NORTH 4TH STREET
HEBRON, NE 68370
PHONE (402) 768-6704
thayerfcs@bvca.net

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM
GENEVA OFFICE
130 SOUTH 8TH STREET
GENEVA, NE 68361
PHONE (402) 759-4555

FYI CENTER
FAIRBURY YOUTH INVOLVEMENT CENTER
514 “D” STREET, P.O. Box 352
FAIRBURY, NE 68352
(402) 729-6510

FILLMORE COUNTY FCS
130 SOUTH 8TH STREET
GENEVA, NE 68361
PHONE (402) 759-3564
fillmorefcs@bvca.net

JEFFERSON COUNTY FCS
624 5TH STREET
FAIRBURY, NE 68352
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SALINE COUNTY FCS
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3401 NORTH LINCOLN AVENUE
YORK, NE 68467
PHONE (402) 362-3516
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FILLMORE COUNTY TRANSIT
1120 F STREET
GENEVA, NE 68361
PHONE (402) 759-3345
fct@bvca.net

Acknowledgment

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership would like to thank the counties, communities, agencies, businesses and dedicated individuals who make the work of our organization successful and positive for those we touch and who touch us by their gratitude, resilience and generosity to others.

Our private non-profit charitable corporation has become a major community resource for those in need throughout the area. It would not have happened without dedicated staff, community support and the hundreds of volunteers who assist us every year. As we enter our 45th year, we sincerely thank and acknowledge the generosity and community spirit of the folks in Nebraska and Kansas who are our fantastic neighbors and friends.

Holiday Projects: Volunteers, community groups & local businesses donate time, materials, food, toys, skills & love which are used in a variety of seasonal holiday projects, especially at Christmas, benefiting low-income individuals & families. *Available: All Counties*

Housing Development: Construction of affordable rental housing units. *Available: All communities where needs assessments indicate a need for housing.*

Housing Rentals: Affordable rental housing properties are available to income eligible families. In some locations, Lease-To-Own is an option. *Available: Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Thayer, & York Counties*

Housing Rehabilitation Services: Low & moderate income homeowners are offered low-interest loans &/or forgivable loans to rehabilitate homes to meet health & safety needs, limited by type or extent of work needed. *Available: All Counties*

HPRP: The Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program focuses on stabilizing housing through temporary assistance serving as a bridge to long-term stability. *Availability: All counties.*

Income Tax Return Preparation: Free preparation of simple income tax returns is available to increase the access to Earned Income Tax Credits and Child Tax Credits. *Available: Butler, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Seward, & Thayer Counties.*

Immunization Clinics: Children, ages 2 months to 21 years, are immunized with serum provided by the NE Department of Health & through cooperation with local nurses, hospitals, community groups, individuals, doctors & BVCA. *Available: Jefferson, Saline & Seward Counties; Sites - Fairbury, Crete, Friend, Wilber & Seward*

Information and Referral Services: Local staff provides needed information regarding services, make appropriate referrals to community organizations, agencies & other resources & complete follow-up services. *Available: All Counties*

Project FIRST (Families in Residence with Support in Transition): Homeless families engage in family development process to achieve self-sufficiency & permanent housing. Transitional housing is provided in scattered site rental units. *Available: All Counties*

Project FOCUS (Families Opting For Change Using Strengths): Families engage in family development process to initiate positive change in their lives. The process is client-driven, strength-based & goal-oriented. *Available: All Counties*

Rural Transportation/Transit Services: County-wide transportation services within and out-of-the-county are available for a small fee for general public, with elderly & handicapped residents given priority. *Available: Fillmore County*

Temporary Emergency Shelter: Mini-shelters are available for displaced persons who suffer loss of homes due to fire, tornadoes, transience, domestic disputes or homelessness. Shelters are guarded & locations are confidential. *Available: Gage, Jefferson & York Counties*

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers become involved in advisory groups, fund-raising, holiday projects & many other opportunities. *Available: All Counties*

Weatherization: Homes from lower income families are tightened from heat & cold at no charge. *Available: All Counties*

Women, Infants & Children (WIC): A health/nutrition program for at-risk breastfeeding, pregnant & postpartum women, infants & children to age 5. After medical & nutritional screening, vouchers are given to certified individuals for food from local stores. *Available: Fillmore, Saline Seward & York Counties; Sites - Geneva, Crete, Seward & York*