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BVCA Partnership

Committed to serving the needs of individuals and families in the counties of Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York in Nebraska. Limited services provided in other counties.

A Message from BVCA

This is Blue Valley Community Action Partnership's Annual Report which celebrates our 50th Anniversary. It covers the period of October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. It tells the story of an idea that blossomed into an organization that has helped hundreds of thousands of Nebraskans, several thousand Kansans, and many visitors passing through our area. Each year we serve nearly 10,000 people in need.

Please review the pages herein and try to imagine what would have been without these services and the developments that this organization has accomplished over the years. Many of you may have helped contribute to these efforts either as a partner, a funder, or an advocate. Now imagine what could have been, or what may be, if all of you had been an advocate, a partner, or a contributor. We ask you to join us in the future to see what true partnerships within our communities can do to move us forward and improve the lives of all citizens, young and old, struggling or thriving, long time members of the community or new arrivals. Together we can accomplish many great things to bring the "Good Life" to all residents of our area.

Helping People ... Changing Lives

Leadership Team

Richard D. Nation
Chief Executive Officer

Shari Wurtz-Miller
Deputy Director

Heather Lytle
Administrative Director

Ardith Hoins
Family & Community Services Director

Tiffany Shoner
Children Services Director

Jamie Swartz
Fiscal Director

Kim Vicars
Housing Director

Kelly Davis
Weatherization Director

Collena Laschanzky
Juvenile Services Director

Roxanne Hammond
Human Resources Officer

Kim Robbins
Research & Development Officer

Alise Verhage
Health Services Manager



Board of Directors 2015-2016

Officers

President—Terry Keslar, Gage County Private Sector

Vice President—Tony Likens, Jefferson County Private Sector

Treasurer—Randy Williams, Fillmore County Private Sector

Secretary—Ray Capek, Fillmore County Public Sector

Public Sector Representatives

Tony Krafka, Butler County
Kevin Slama, Butler County (A)
Jerry Galusha, Fillmore County (A)
Erich Tiemann, Gage County
John Hill, Gage County
Mark Schoenrock, Jefferson County
Michael Simonsen, Polk County
Michael Smith, Polk County (A)
Willis Luedke, Saline County
Janet Henning, Saline County (A)
Whitney Fleischman, Seward County
Mike Luebke, Seward County (A)
Chris Frye, Thayer County
Kurt Bulgrin, York County
Bill Barnesberger, York County (A)

Private Sector Representatives

Tracy Wallick, Fillmore County (A)
Lori Stanley, Gage County (A)
Jim Hull, Jefferson County (A)
Wayne Nestor, Polk County
Chris Young, Polk County (A)
Dan McElravy, Saline County
Kayleigh Schadwinkel, Saline County
Truc Doan, Saline County (A)
Wendy Elston, Seward County
John Milligan, Seward County (A)
Julie Johnston-Hermann (A)
Jeff Hammer, Thayer County
Nancy Lee, York County
Dave Dohmen, York County (A)

Ex-Officio Representatives

Chasity Meyers, Project FIRST
Ashley Rasmussen, Policy Council
Emma Johnson, Senior Youth Leadership Council
Andrew Crow, Senior Youth Leadership Council (A)

Consumer Sector Representatives

Luellen Schauer, Butler County
Kassia Schauer, Butler County (A)
Michelle Schauer, Fillmore County
Sandi Danskin, Fillmore County (A)
Chasity Meyers, Gage County
Michelle Keylon, Gage County (A)
Sam Mishler, Jefferson County
June Church, Polk County
Keith Hannum, Saline County
Randy Kratke, Saline County (A)
Janice Weber, Seward County
Kenny Vieselmeyer, Thayer County
Janelle Culp, Thayer County (A)
Elizabeth Sobotka, York County
Helen Lulow, York County (A)



Our Mission

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

TOP ADVOCACY ISSUES 2016

ADOPTED BY THE BVCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



- Support policies that reward those on the road to self-sufficiency.
 - Support prioritization of programs that move toward the goal of self-sufficiency, while ensuring a safety net.
 - Support public policy to increase potential income generation and opportunities.
- Promote education and the tools necessary to bring individuals up to a living wage.
 - Promote financial literacy education.
 - Support public education regarding discrimination against the poor.
- Promote job creation programs, policies and legislation.
 - Support equal pay for equal work.
- Promote rural equity in human service opportunities.
- Promote less reliance on government by motivating the non-government sector to invest in charitable endeavors.
- Encourage favorable taxation policy towards low-income tax-payers and charitable organizations.
- Support healthy lifestyle opportunities for low-income families and individuals.
 - Support healthcare that offers affordable universal coverage.
- Support multi-year federal budgeting, similar to state two year cycle.
- Support a streamlined process toward becoming a U.S. Citizen.
- Support the right of low-income to have adequate legal counsel.



Terry Keslar
Board President
2016



Richard Nation
Chief Executive Officer
1978-2015

Client Demographics

FY 2016

*During FY 2016
BVCA Partnership served
8,272 individuals.*



Family Structure

The average community family size is 2.55 people per household compared to the average BVCA client family size of 2.08.

Family Size:

40%	One Person
22%	Two Persons
13%	Three Persons
12%	Four Persons
8%	Five Persons
4%	Six Persons
1%	Seven Persons
>1%	Eight or More Persons



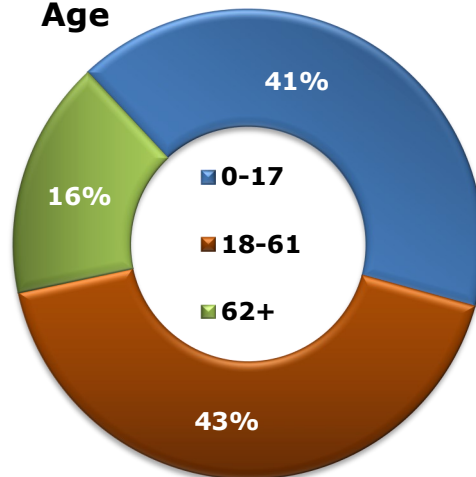
Household Types:

24%	Two Parents
20%	Single Parent
10%	Couple, No Children
40%	Single Persons
6%	Other

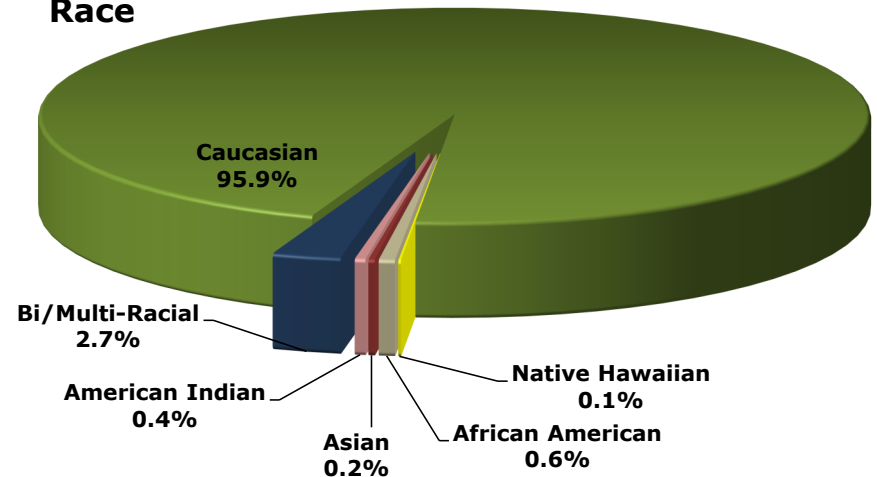
Our Vision

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.

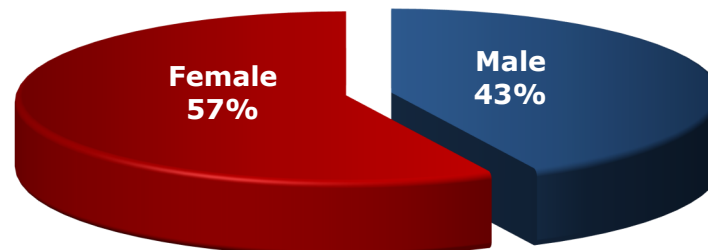
Age



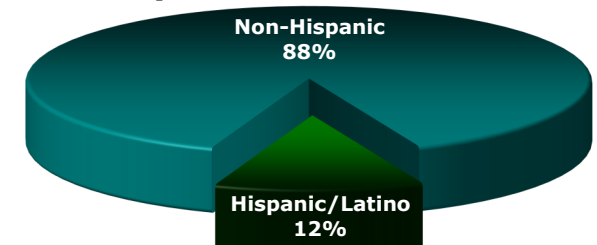
Race



Gender



Ethnicity



Poverty Among BVCA's Clients' Families

Percent of the poverty rate and percent of BVCA clients at that rate:

50% or less	24%	101%-125%	20%
51%-75%	16%	126%-200%	13%
76%-100%	24%	201% or higher	3%
	64%		36%

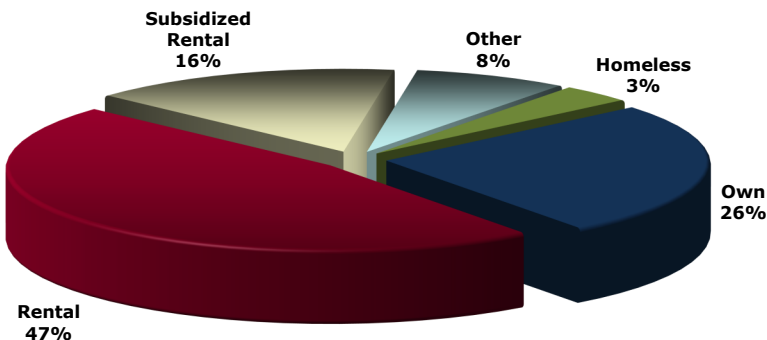
What does it mean in real dollars for a family of four?

- * 50% of poverty is \$12,300 gross
- * 100% of poverty is \$24,600 gross
- * 125% of poverty is \$30,750 gross

Current minimum wage is \$9.00 per hour or \$18,720 full-time gross, significantly below the poverty rate. Even at \$10.00 per hour, the wage for a family of four would be \$20,800—still well below the poverty rate.



Client Shelter Arrangements



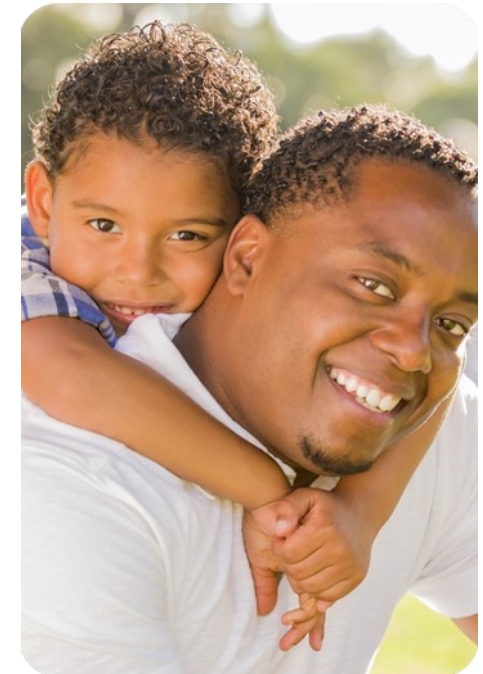
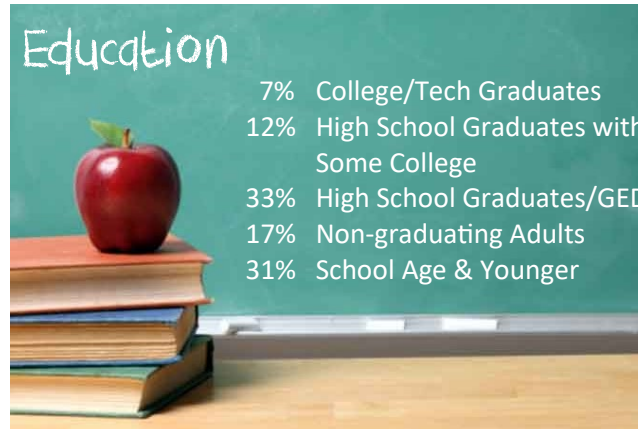
WORKFORCE

% of Clients

Employed (either full or part-time)	54.4%
Self-Employed	2.1%
Receiving Workers' Compensation	.2%
Receiving Unemployment Compensation	1.2%
Retired	42.1%

Education

7%	College/Tech Graduates
12%	High School Graduates with Some College
33%	High School Graduates/GED
17%	Non-graduating Adults
31%	School Age & Younger



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.

Insurance

% of Clients Change From FY 2015

No Insurance	13%	-8%
SCHIP-Children's Health Insurance Pool	19%	-9%
Medicaid	17%	-3%
Medicare	14%	-1%
Private Coverage	16%	+5%
Employer Provided	7%	+4%
Veterans Administration	5%	+3%
Multiple Sources of Insurance	9%	*



*Not Previously Counted



Six National Community Action Goals

- *Low-income people become more self-sufficient.*
- *The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.*
- *Low-income people own a stake in their community.*
- *Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.*
- *Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.*
- *Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems.*

Programs—A Year In Review

FY 2016

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Available: All BVCA Counties

Individuals and families are assisted with emergency requests including housing provision, transportation, prescriptions and various small emergencies.

- Number of individuals receiving emergency assistance:
 - Rent: 388
 - Medical Care: 1
 - Unduplicated number for all these services total 1,085 individuals in 786 households.
 - Utility: 682
 - Transportation: 75
 - Shelter: 104
 - Clothing: 89

PROJECT FIRST (FAMILIES IN RESIDENCE WITH SUPPORT IN TRANSITION)

Availability: All BVCA Counties

Homeless families with children engage in the family development process to achieve self-sufficiency and housing stability through scattered site housing in the community of their choice.

- 15 families with 45 family members (19 adults and 26 children) were served.
- Of the persons entering FIRST during the year, 19 came from emergency shelter.
- Program goal results included:
 - 4 of 6 individuals that currently remain on the program had the same or more income compared to time of entry.
 - 27 of 31 individuals who exited the program remained in permanent housing.
 - 8 of 9 households with debt of \$47,213 reduced it by \$33,207 (70.3%).
 - 42% of households contributed to their savings account.
 - 5 households saved \$2,270.22.

FILLMORE COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT SERVICE

Available: Fillmore County

County-wide transportation services within and out of the county are available for a small fee for the general public.

	FY 2016	Forever
Boardings	5,762	205,212
Days of Service	64	8,469
Miles Traveled	20,190	920,035
Average Monthly Elderly Ridership	223	
Average Monthly Non-elderly Ridership	210	

ONE WAY TRIPS			
Shopping	874	Education	547
Medical	831	Nutrition	138
Employment	8	Return Trips	3,364
TOTAL:			5,762

FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS

Available: All BVCA Counties

Individuals and families who are facing a shortage of food are assisted through donations from generous individuals, communities and organizations. There are various options for securing food.

- 2,189 individuals/962 households received food assistance.
- 8,384 food boxes were distributed.
- While most food is donated, some items must be purchased (i.e. milk, meat, paper products and hygiene products). During FY 2016, BVCA spent \$8,589.85 on additional items.
- In addition, Walmart donated 329,254 pounds of food (bakery items, fresh fruits and vegetables) to BVCA's Fillmore, Jefferson, Saline, Seward and York food pantries, which was distributed as part of the Feeding America program.

COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (CSFP)

Available: All BVCA Counties as well as Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee and Richardson Counties. Permanent distribution sites at David City, Fairbury, York, Hebron, Beatrice, and Humboldt; Tailgate distribution sites at Crete and Wilber.

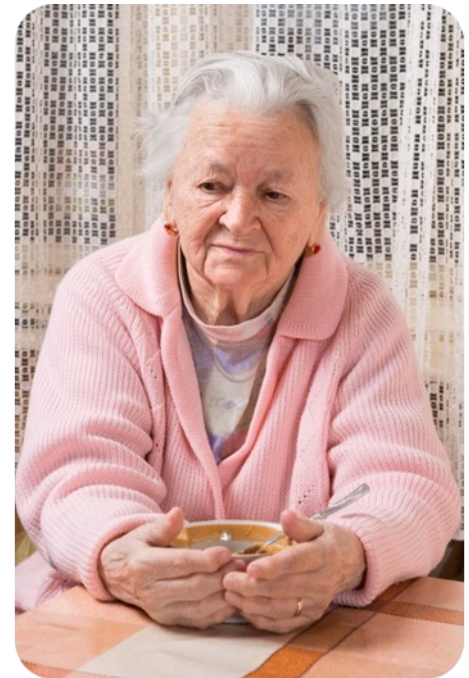
Government purchased food commodities are distributed to eligible individuals age 60 or older to foster good health and nutrition. Food packages focus on supplementing the diets of seniors with protein, iron, calcium, vitamin A and vitamin C. Products included in the food package are canned fruits and vegetables, bottled juices, peanut butter or dried beans, cheese, shelf-stable and non-fat dry milk, hot and cold cereals, pasta, rice and canned meat.

- A total of 1,103 individuals were enrolled:
 - 1,102 elderly individuals enrolled.
 - 1 child enrolled. (Previously, some women and children were eligible for CSFP, but because Congress changed the Farm Bill, they are no longer able to apply. Those enrolled in CSFP as of 2/6/14 were allowed to stay on the program until they are no longer eligible according to the previous age guidelines.)
- A total of 10,587 monthly food packages were distributed.
- Home delivery was offered in 14 communities.
- USDA value of food distributed through BVCA: \$208,474.62/year or \$17,372.89/month
- Retail value of food distributed through BVCA: \$391,542.22/year or \$32,628.52/month
- Average retail value of food given each participant per month: \$36.98

SNAP OUTREACH

Available: All BVCA Counties

BVCA Partnership is partnering with the "Food Bank for the Heartland" to increase awareness, provide education, and increase participation in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). BVCA staff will assist applicants with the online SNAP application.



The Seven Principles of Community Action

OPENING DOORS & 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.



Helping People ... Changing Lives

COMPASSIONATE PROJECTS

Available: All BVCA Counties

Time, materials, food, toys, gifts, skills and love are donated by volunteers, community groups, and local businesses to low-income individuals through seasonal projects.

- 88 children received school supplies.
- 739 individuals participated in various holiday events.
- 425 fans were distributed for the Department of Health & Human Services.
- 163 children participated in “Ready, Set, Go” to help kids prepare for school by providing school supplies and various health screenings.
- 52 children participated in the Family and Youth Involvement (FYI) Center’s Project Santa, and 156 family members of youth received gifts. The approximate value of Project Santa donated gifts totaled \$780.

CLOTHING AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS DISTRIBUTION

Available: Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Polk, Thayer, Seward and York Counties

Community donations of clothing and household items are available to the general public for a small handling fee at the BVCA Centers in David City, Geneva, Fairbury, Hebron, York, Osceola and Seward.

- 89 individuals received free clothing.
- Through the “Sewing for Babies” initiative, 10,000 items were given to newborns enrolled in WIC.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS PROGRAM (IDA)

Available: All BVCA Counties

Assists low to moderate income individuals over the age of 16 to work toward economic independence by creating a matched savings account for an asset purchase. Financial literacy training and support is also provided.

- 3 participants were enrolled towards purchasing a home.
- 4 participants were enrolled towards education assistance.
- 1 participant was enrolled towards starting a business.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL ASSISTANCE

Available: All BVCA Counties

Local staff provide needed information regarding services; make appropriate referrals to community organizations, agencies and other resources; and complete follow-up services.

- 3,452 information and referral services were provided.

“My life has changed so much since I became involved with BVCA and the IDA program. For the first time in a long time, I am on the road to success. I am so grateful, and happy!”

—IDA Participant

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Available: All BVCA Counties

The goal of SSVF is to promote housing stability among very low-income Veteran families who reside in or are transitioning to permanent housing. Through provision of outreach and case management, assistance is given to obtain VA benefits and other public benefits.

- 42 individuals (27 adults and 15 children in 19 households) were assisted.
- 55% were homeless; 100% obtained temporary financial assistance (rent, utilities, deposits, etc.).
- 45% were at-risk of becoming homeless; 100% obtained temporary financial assistance (rent, utilities, deposits, etc.).
- 92% were in permanent housing at the time of exit.
- 32 households were screened, but were not eligible for services.

SSI/SSDI OUTREACH, ACCESS & RECOVERY (SOAR)

Availability: All BVCA Counties as well as Saunders, Lancaster, Adams, Clay, Nuckolls, Webster, Nemaha, Cass, Otoe, Johnson, Pawnee and Richardson Counties.

Provides assistance in navigating through the process of applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

- 11 applications filed.
 - 1 Veteran served.
 - 1 homeless individual was served with an average length of time of homelessness of 2 months.
- 6 applications approved for SSI/SSDI and 5 denied; 115 days average to initial decision.
- 2 appeals filed and approved; 78 days to appeal decision.
- Retroactive payments-SS = \$7,839
- Average SSI award/month = \$733
- Average SSDI award = \$970.20

MARKETPLACE NAVIGATORS

Available: All BVCA Counties

Local staff members are trained to assist families, individuals, and small businesses with enrollment in health insurance plans under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The Marketplace is a way to compare health coverage from a variety of private insurance companies and select a plan which meets both their needs and their budget.

- 7 BVCA staff have received certification to serve as ACA Marketplace Navigators.
- 86 consumers were assisted with enrolling in a new health plan or renewing their coverage.
- 66 consumers were assisted with post enrollment.
- Navigators participated in outreach events reaching 440 consumers.
- 713 consumers were reached through appointments, phone calls, outreach and promotional activities.



"I doubt very seriously that I'd still be around were it not for my Family Development Partner's commitment to her work and to the people she serves."

—BVCA Client

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward & York Counties

The Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program provides health and nutrition services for infants, children up to age 5, and at-risk pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women. After medical and nutritional screening, vouchers are given to certified individuals for food from local stores.

- 1,272 individuals were served:
 - 338 women
 - 557 children
 - 377 infants
- 217 referrals to other services were given.
- Car Seat Safety Project:
 - Car seat education was provided to approximately 300 WIC families. BVCA has two staff certified car seat technicians who attend clinics. All families with newborns receive a car seat inspection and additional education is given at their recertification visits every six months.

WIC PEER COUNSELING

Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward & York Counties

Provides education and support for pregnant and post-partum women to ensure a successful breastfeeding experience.

- 139 women received services.



ORAL HEALTH PROJECT

Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward & York Counties

BVCA's WIC program partners with Four Corners Health Department and Public Health Solutions to provide WIC clients and their family with free oral health screening, sealants, and oral hygiene kits. The Oral Health Project ended in July 2016. The grant allowed oral health kits to be distributed to every member of the household.

- 507 WIC children received services.
- 973 dental kits and "Stop Tobacco Use" information was distributed.



"It's nice to know that I have someone I can call when I have a breastfeeding question."

—WIC Participant

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (IAP)

Available: Jefferson, Saline & Seward Counties

Provides free immunization to keep children and communities healthy from life threatening and or debilitating diseases protecting infants six weeks of age or older, children, adolescents, and adults who are on Medicaid or uninsured. Private pay vaccines are offered to all ages and BVCA files insurance claims.

- 345 individuals received a total of 1,093 immunizations.
 - 330 infants and children received immunizations.
 - 15 adults received immunizations.
 - 52 were non-English speaking.
- 577 private insurance immunizations were provided.



YORK PARTNERSHIP FOR REDUCING DISPARITIES

Available: York County

Case management is provided for pregnant and post-partum Hispanic women and their families. Support is given for interpretation at WIC Clinics, interpreting and transportation for medical appointments as needed, and assistance with application and/or referrals for other community resources.

- 16 pregnant and post-partum women received case management.
- 4 health education classes were held with 45 women in attendance.

DIVERSITY EDUCATION

Available: All BVCA Counties

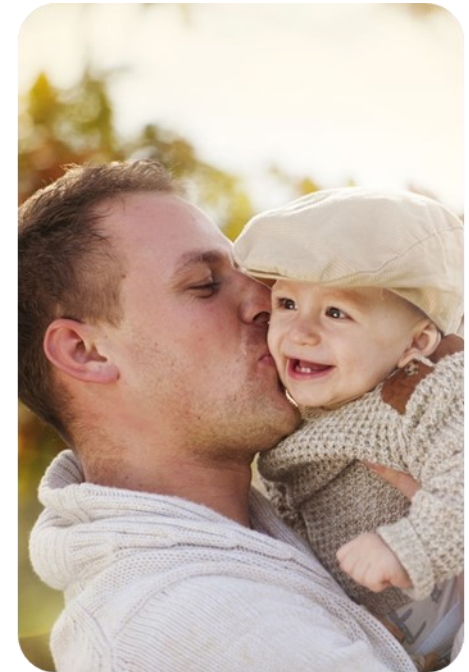
Provides diversity education and training to staff and communities to help raise awareness of cultural differences within our society, and to celebrate the similarities and differences in race, religion, ethnicity, and socioeconomics.

PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT

Available: All BVCA Counties

Bundled employment preparation and placement opportunities including preparing for and getting a job, on-the-job training, and increasing job skills/competencies.

- 107 individuals were unemployed and got a job.
- 8 obtained skills/competencies required for employment.
- 35 obtained increase in employment income/benefits.
- 11 achieved “living wage” employment.



“BVCA provides us with a better and happier life, it allows us to feel a part of the community, and helps us feel better about ourselves.”

—BVCA Client

HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (HOP)

Available: All BVCA Counties

The Homeownership Opportunity Program provides assistance for the purchase of existing or newly constructed single-family homes. Funds are available to assist individuals and families with closing costs, down-payment assistance and/or rehabilitation of the home. The funds are a deferred loan that does not incur interest and no payments are due during the first five years after purchase. Beginning in year six, the individual or family will begin to repay the deferred loan with an interest rate of 3% amortized over ten years.

- 29 individuals/14 households were assisted in purchasing their own home—leveraging \$792,766 privately with \$158,558 in down-payment assistance.
- 4 First-Time Homebuyer Education classes in combination with the online course, ehomeamerica.org, were provided to 39 individuals.

HOUSING COUNSELING

Available: All BVCA Counties

As a Housing Counseling Agency, BVCA will provide housing counseling services to potential homebuyers. Housing Counseling services consists of pre-purchase workshops and one-on-one case management. Clients who are enrolled in the Housing Counseling Program will agree to make a 6-24 month commitment to get them "mortgage ready".

- BVCA became a HUD approved Housing Counseling agency on 6/8/16 and began serving families on 7/1/16.
- 7 households were served in a three month period.

DID YOU KNOW...

According to the September 2016 Urban Institute Report, delinquency rates of 90 days or more for homebuyers that participated in pre-purchase counseling are 16% lower than those homebuyers that did not participate.

OWNER-OCCUPIED REHABILITATION

Available: All BVCA Counties

Low and moderate income homeowners are offered low-interest loans and/or forgivable loans to rehabilitate their homes to meet health and safety needs, limited by type of need or the extent of work needed. The program is designed to bring the eligible property owner's dwelling into compliance with locally adopted housing standards to reduce ongoing and future maintenance costs, and to preserve safe, decent and affordable housing. The Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program also promotes revitalization of a neighborhood as well as the community.

- 16 owner-occupied housing units have been rehabilitated to reduce ongoing and future maintenance needs this year.



"BVCA made my ugly home safer, warmer and prettier. It is truly the best house on the block."

—BVCA OOR Participant



AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING

Available: Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Thayer & York Counties

BVCA Partnership manages 188 affordable rental units, including 60 lease-to-own homes. These rentals are designed to make safe, quality housing available to income eligible individuals and families. Funding sources included are Low Income Housing Tax Credit, USDA Rural Development and HOME assisted units.

- 219 individuals/65 households in lease-to-own homes.
- 298 individuals/138 households in rental units.

RENTWISE

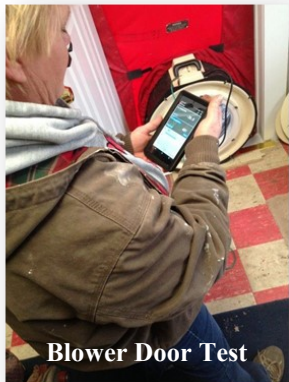
Available: Gage & Jefferson Counties

RentWise provides classes to individuals who are renting a home or an apartment. Classes inform participants about communication, money management, finding the right place, the legal process of renting, the importance of a clean home and also the moving out process.

WEATHERIZATION

Available: All BVCA Counties

The Weatherization Program was designed to make homes safer, healthier and more energy efficient. Inspections are performed on all heating systems in the home. Efficiency and safety tests are done on all furnaces and water heaters. Combustion Appliance Zone (CAZ) testing is done on all combustion appliances, including furnaces, water heaters, gas cook stoves, and gas clothes dryers. Homes are also checked for moisture and mold problems. The house is checked for insulation or the lack thereof in walls, attics, crawl spaces and basement areas. All windows and doors are evaluated for possible repairs or replacement. All information gathered is then entered into a computerized energy audit that indicates which improvements are cost effective and those that are not. After the audit, a work order is made and given to the contractors and crews to do the work.



Blower Door Test

- Homes were weatherized for 72 individuals in 30 households.
- 3 new, high efficiency furnaces were installed in homes.
- 5,309 total units have been weatherized since the program began in 1975.

DID YOU KNOW...

Weatherization reduces your energy bills for a long time. After a home has been weatherized, energy used for heating is often reduced by up to 25 percent. Some improvements, such as insulating your walls or attic, for example, will continue to provide savings for the lifetime of the home—30 years or more. Other improvements, such as making heating or cooling equipment more efficient, will provide savings for 10 to 15 years. On average, the value of the weatherization improvements to a house is 2.2 times greater than the cost of the improvement itself.



*"Since the work has been done, my utility bills have been cut in half."
—BVCA Client*

HEAD START 0-5

Available: Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Seward, Thayer & York Counties

BVCA Partnership's Head Start 0-5 program delivers comprehensive high quality services designed to foster healthy development in low-income and at-risk children. Head Start services are responsive and appropriate to each child's and family's developmental, ethnic, cultural, linguistic heritage, and experience. Head Start provides a range of individualized services in the areas of education, special education, nutrition, social services, medical, dental, mental health, and parent involvement.

- A total of 396 families received Head Start 0-5 services.
- Head Start:
 - 265 children/251 families/1,076 family members were enrolled.
 - Waitlist totaled 101 on the first day of school and 124 on the last day of school.
 - 250 health exams were provided.
 - 262 dental screenings were provided.
 - 173 were immunized.
 - 44,088 meals and 23,254 snacks were provided.
- Early Head Start:
 - 131 children/103 families/431 total family members were enrolled.
 - 15 pregnant women were served.
 - Waitlist totaled 32 on the first day and 50 on the last day.
 - 99 health exams were provided.
 - 37 dental screenings were provided.
 - 62 were immunized.
- Oral Health Access for Young Children: Head Start along with Public Health Solutions have partnered to improve dental health of children in Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline and Thayer counties. Fluoride varnish treatments, iodine treatments, informational pamphlets, and educational resources were provided to children who participated.
 - 444 fluoride varnish treatments were provided.
- The following were the most identified areas of need for families receiving services either through Blue Valley Community Action Partnership or another service agency:

1. Parenting Education	245 families
2. Health Education	247 families
3. Emergency/crisis intervention	69 families
4. Mental Health Services	83 families
5. Housing Assistance	25 families

AGES OF CHILDREN

Prenatal	15
under age 1	39
1 year old	38
2 years old	39
3 years old	111
4 years old	150
5 years old	4

TOTAL	396
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Seven Family Outcomes

- Family Well-Being
- Positive Parent-Child Relationships
- Families as Lifelong Educators
- Families as Learners
- Family Engagement in Transitions
- Families as Advocates and Leaders
- Family Connections to Peers and Community



EARLY CHILDHOOD COLLABORATION

Available: Beatrice, Crete, Fairbury, Hebron, Wymore & York

The Nebraska Early Childhood Education (ECE) Grant Program for ages 3-5 is designed to award state funds to public schools or Educational Service Units (ESUs) to assist in the operation of comprehensive early childhood education. The program is intended to support the learning and development of children who are three and four years old. The program increases opportunities for at-risk children to participate in early childhood education programs by creating new, expanded and/or combined programs funded with school district funds, federal funds, and/or parent fees, and involve collaboration with Head Start and other community programs. BVCA Partnership collaborates with school districts to expand opportunities for more preschool aged children using the quality of Head Start as a model.

- 579 children, in addition to the 239 Head Start children, received services because of these collaborations.



BLUE RIVER CHILDCARE & PRESCHOOL

Available: Saline County

Blue River Childcare & Preschool is a high quality, early childhood education and care program for children six weeks through twelve years of age. This program provides developmentally age appropriate educational activities in all care settings and nutritionally approved meals to all children in a licensed facility.

- 76 children were provided with safe and affordable childcare.
- 113 children were provided with preschool.
- 19 families have more than one child enrolled at the center.
- 38,204 meals and 16,822 snacks were provided.
- The center is open 71.5 hours per week to accommodate the needs of working parents.

INFANT/TODDLER QUALITY INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Available: Gage, Saline & Jefferson Counties

The overall purpose of the Early Head Start Infant/Toddler Quality Initiative (I/TQI) is to improve the quality of infant and toddler care in Nebraska. The program: provides professional development opportunities and other support to family and center-based partners; assists in training and mentoring for their child care partners on infant and toddler issues and development; and observes and reports the best outcomes, greatest challenges for childcare partners who participated in the initiative, and measures of quality within the childcare partners' child caring environments.

- BVCA worked with 13 providers during FY 2016.



"We couldn't be more thankful for all the help and support through these rough times."

—BVCA Client

EARLY HEAD START – CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

Available: Jefferson and Saline Counties

Early Head Start partners with regulated center-based childcare providers who agree to meet the Head Start Program Performance Standards. The program serves children ages 6 weeks to 3 years of age. Each child receives quality care while their parent is working or attending school. Teachers use an evidence based curriculum for lesson planning and assessment. Other services are integrated, such as medical, dental, mental health, and parent involvement.

- 47 children/40 families/145 family members were enrolled.
- Waitlist totaled 18 on the first day and 15 on the last day.
- 42 health exams were provided.
- 42 dental screenings were provided.
- 34 children were immunized.
- 274 home visits were completed.



SIXPENCE

Available: Seward County

Provides programs and services for infants and toddlers from birth to three who are most at risk. Promotes children's opportunities to experience positive environments that provide for their healthy growth and development during their earliest years. Home Visits are provided to income qualifying families, pregnant women, and teen parents. Sixpence collaborates with Seward Public School, Milford Public School, and Centennial Public School.

- Sixpence began serving families in October of 2015 and became fully enrolled with 24 children in December of 2015.
- 522 Home Visits were held.
- 27 Play and Learns were held.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Competition is open to individuals in all BVCA counties.

BVCA awards competitive scholarships to individuals. Financial need, volunteerism, aspirations and goals for furthering education are taken into consideration. Scholarships can be used for tuition, books and fees associated with enrollment. BVCA is currently seeking donors to help offer life changing opportunities through scholarships.

- 2015-2016 Recipients of the "Blue Valley Community Action Partnership Scholarships" were Tiffany Bernaske of Milford, and Alyssa Hakl of York.
- 2015-2016 Recipients of the "BVCA Partnership Vocational Scholarship" were Heath Boman of Geneva, and MaKenna Sempek of Stromsburg.
- The 2015-2016 recipient of the "BVCA Partnership SCC Scholarship" was Kaitlin Arena of Beatrice.



"Blue Valley Community Action Partnership is important in our community as well as in other communities like ours."

—BVCA Client

RURAL SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA CONNECTED YOUTH INITIATIVE

Available: Butler, Cass, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York Counties

This new program built upon and expanded BVCA's Project Everlast program. RSNCYI is designed to serve "unconnected youth" age 14-25 who: are currently or have been in the foster care system; have had contact with child protective services; do not have family support and have had experience with the juvenile justice system (within 6 months of exiting probation); or do not have family support and are homeless or near homeless.

- 32 youth were served.
- RSNCYI's goal by the conclusion of year two is to reach 200 eligible youth.

FAMILY AND YOUTH INVOLVEMENT CENTER (FYI)

Available: Jefferson County and Surrounding Areas

Provides a safe and supervised environment during afterschool and out-of-school time. Afterschool programming includes: Homework Assistance; Fitness & Recreation; Arts & Crafts; Computer Technology; Alcohol & Substance Abuse Awareness & Prevention; Invisible Mentoring; 4-H, Community Service Projects; Juvenile Diversion Outreach; Youth Leadership Council; President's Volunteer Service Award Program; and Higher Education Exploration.

- 257 children attended the center at least once during FY 2016.
- 91 children received homework assistance.
- 97 children were involved in community betterment activities via the President's Volunteer Service Award.
- 5 children were referred from school officials for issues in class such as behavioral problems and drop-out/throw-outs.
- 7 students completed Pre-Trial Juvenile Diversion.
- FYI's "Feed Your Neighbor" project collected 215 pounds of canned food for BVCA's Food Pantry.
- FYI's signature event is "Project Santa". A total of 52 youth participated, and 156 gifts were wrapped.



BVCA's Vice President, Tony Likens, volunteering at the "Seeds of Hope Youth Garden".

*"My daughter is passing math thanks to the FYI Center's homework help. Thank you!"
—FYI Center Client*

AMERICORPS & AMERICORPS VISTA

Available: All Counties

National Service programs allowing individuals of all ages to earn a stipend and educational assistance award in exchange for a year of community service.

- 17 AmeriCorps Members enrolled. (11 of the 17 members enrolled were alumni members!)

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

Available: Fillmore, Jefferson, Gage, Saline, Seward, Thayer, York, Otoe, Johnson, Pawnee, Nemaha & Richardson Counties
Persons who are 55 years and older, in relatively good health, and love children, volunteer at least 15 hours per week at various sites during the day to give supportive one-on-one service to children who have special needs.

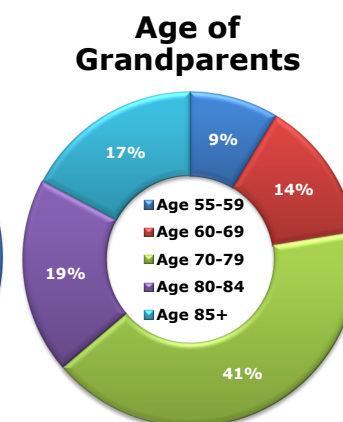
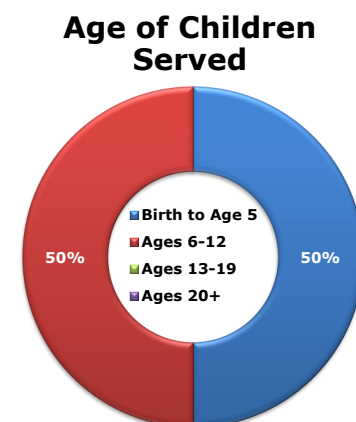
- 54 Grandmas and 4 Grandpas served as Foster Grandparents.
 - 1 Veteran serves as a Foster Grandparent.
- 290 children were mentored.
 - 107 children demonstrated gains in social and/or emotional development.
 - 81 children in the mentoring/tutoring program improved academics.
- 870 children were positively indirectly impacted by Senior Corps volunteers involved in CNCS programs (children in classrooms where volunteers are serving but are not receiving direct one-on-one, but are present in classroom and being impacted).
- 50 children are awaiting Foster Grandparent services.
- 64,701 hours were served by Foster Grandparents.
 - 24 Foster Grandparents served 15-19 hours/week.
 - 24 Foster Grandparents served 20-29 hours/week.
 - 10 Foster Grandparents served 30-40 hours/week.

Special Needs	Children
Development Disabilities	23
Emotional Disabilities	19
Language Barriers	15
Learning Disabilities	37
Physical Disabilities	1
Significantly Medically Impaired	1
Visually Impaired	3
Teen Pregnancy/Teen Parenting	1
Other Special Needs	110
Substance Abuse	2
Hearing Impaired	2



"Serving as a Grandma gets me out of the house and I make such wonderful little friends."
—Foster Grandparent

"I love the opportunity to serve as a volunteer. It makes me feel alive."
—Foster Grandparent



FRIENDS OF BLUE VALLEY

Available: All BVCA Counties

Friends of Blue Valley provides volunteer opportunities to those who wish to share their time and talents helping others throughout our service area. Volunteers are recruited, trained and placed within BVCA Partnership and throughout communities. Friends of Blue Valley also participates in fundraising activities and other special events.

- 719 individuals volunteered in BVCA's centers and classrooms, and at various events.
- 42,854 hours were donated by volunteers.
 - 106 of our volunteers donated 100-500 hours!
 - 12 of our volunteers donated 500-1000 hours!
 - 4 of our volunteers donated over 1000 hours!
- The value of hours donated totaled \$1,146,158.
- Private cash donations totaled \$273,391.43.
- BVCA's 4th Annual Duck 'N' Run raised \$6,844.50.
- Faith based organizations continue to donate to assist in helping families in need. BVCA is very thankful for their generosity and support. Their contributions totaled \$80,092.97.
 - Faith based cash donations totaled \$35,043.16.
 - \$45,049.81 of donations were received in the form of food, clothing and other miscellaneous items.



BVCA's 50th Anniversary Block Party Volunteers

Get Involved!

Visit www.bvca.net and click on "Get Involved" to find out how you can make a difference in your community!



"My Family Development Partner was extremely kind, courteous, and compassionate while assessing our family's needs. She also offered information on additional services she felt would benefit our family."

—BVCA Client

Staff Stats

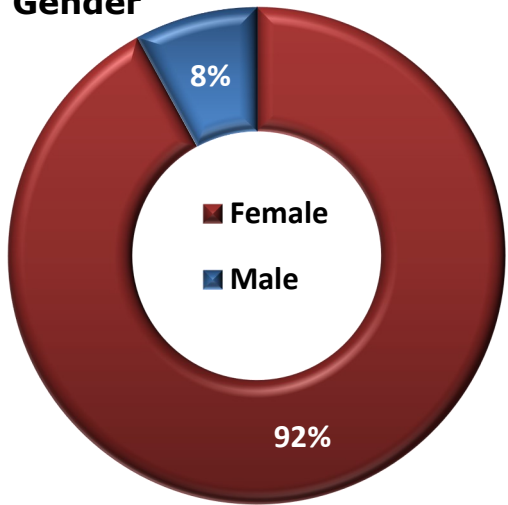
FY 2016

Employment Status

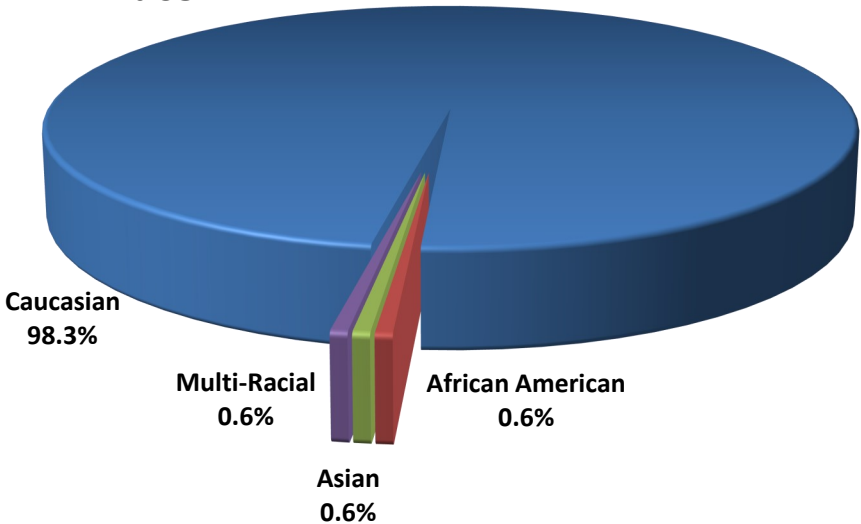
BVCA Partnership employed a total of 176 individuals over the past fiscal year.

- 135 full-time, 25 part-time, and 16 on-call

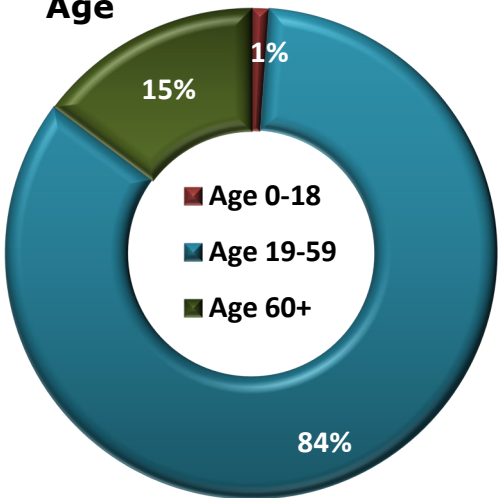
Gender



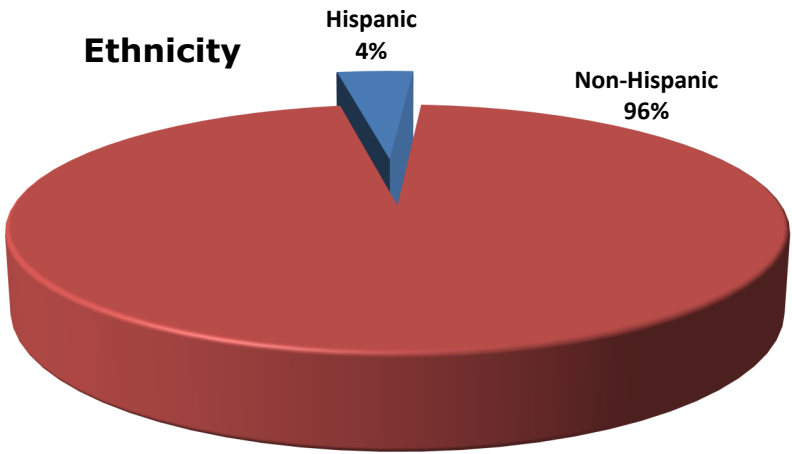
Race

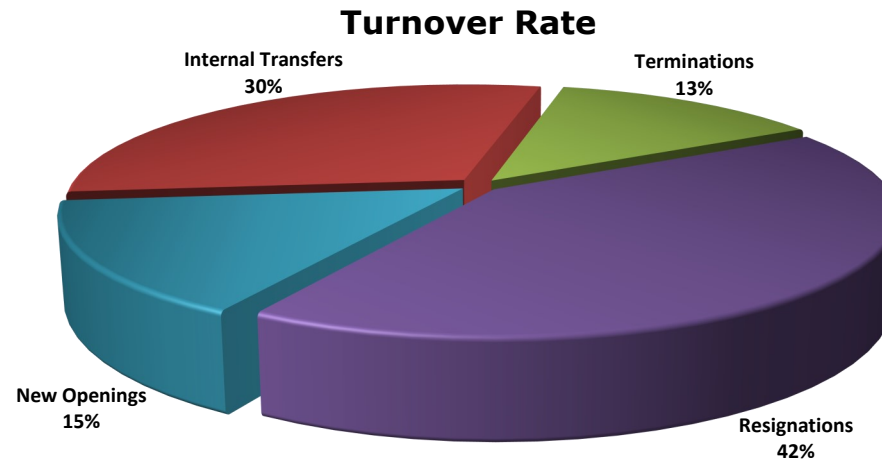
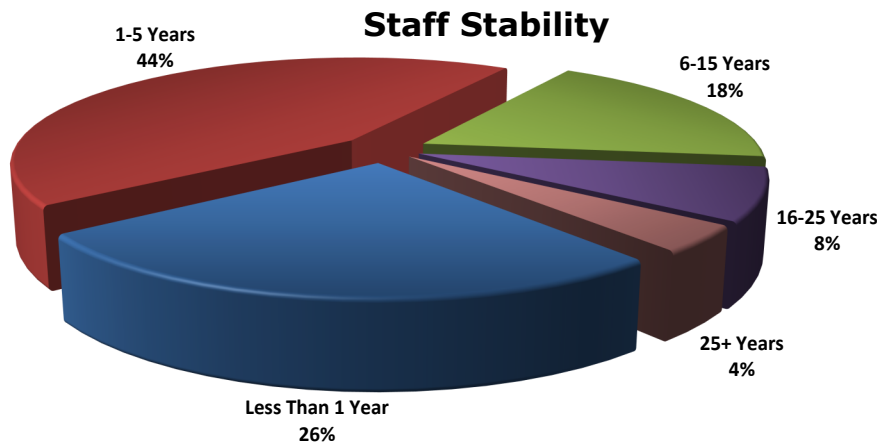


Age



Ethnicity





"Eldon called! Eldon was the homeless man we helped a while back and whom we assisted with transportation to the shelter. He called to say thank you and to let me know that he now has a good job, a place to live, and he is happy. SO COOL!!!!"

—BVCA Employee

Financial Revenues & Expenses FY 2016

PRIVATE REVENUES:

In-kind Donations Used As Match	\$1,018,651.00
Cash Donations	\$242,707.00
United Way Awards	\$26,846.00
Foundation Awards	\$34,270.00
Local Projects	\$250,466.00
Contracts	\$85,053.00
Fees	\$619,948.00
Rents	\$782,105.00
Corporate Investments	<u>\$213,494.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$3,273,540.00</u>

FEDERAL DIRECT:

USDA CSFP Commodities Value	\$208,475.00
CNCS Foster Grandparents	\$288,961.00
HHS Childcare Partnership	\$1,580,762.00
HHS Head Start	\$1,915,668.00
HHS Early Head Start	\$1,177,527.00
HUD Supportive Housing	\$193,375.00
Veterans Affairs Support Services	<u>\$134,231.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$5,498,999.00</u>

STATE REVENUES:

School Partnerships	\$152,816.00
Jefferson County Enhancement Grant	\$6,047.00
NE Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Regional Rehab	\$68,652.00
NE HTF Home Ownership Program	\$200,286.00
NE Department of Economic Development	\$42,376.00
NE HTF Disaster Relief	\$84,800.00
NE Homeless Assistance Trust Fund	<u>\$33,708.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$588,685.00</u>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT:

County Support	\$85,868.00
Juvenile Services Aid	\$29,077.00
City of Fairbury/Jefferson County FYI Support	<u>\$16,548.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$131,493.00</u>

FEDERAL VIA STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

<i>HHS via:</i>	
Region V Systems	\$21,370.00
DHHS Community Health	\$3,702.00
DHHS Minority Health	\$11,200.00
DHHS Immunization Action	\$20,824.00
DHHS CSBG	\$322,203.00
DHHS/NEO Weatherization LIHEAP	\$209,474.00
NDE Early Childhood Initiative	\$40,234.00

<i>SSA via:</i>	
DHHS SOAR	\$41,961.00

<i>DOE via:</i>	
NEO Weatherization	\$102,518.00

<i>USDA via:</i>	
NDE Childhood & Adult Food	\$113,581.00
DHHS WIC	\$313,604.00
DHHS CSFP (except for commodities)	\$98,675.00

<i>HUD via:</i>	
DED Emergency Shelter Grant Program	\$158,053.00

<i>DOT via:</i>	
NDOR Fillmore County Rural Transit	\$81,365.00

<i>CNCS via:</i>	
ServeNebraska	<u>\$10,863.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$1,549,627.00</u>

FEDERAL VIA PRIVATE SOURCES :

<i>HHS via:</i>	
Community Action of NE ACA Navigator	\$48,570.00

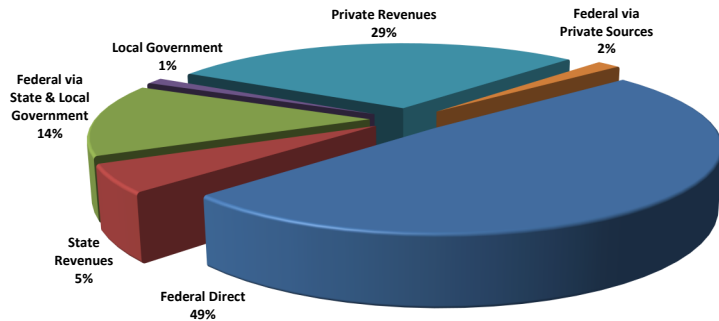
<i>CNCA via:</i>	
Boys Hope Girls Hope AmeriCorps	\$93,665.00
Rural CYI	\$37,134.00

<i>HUD via:</i>	
HMIS	<u>\$1,604.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$180,973.00</u>

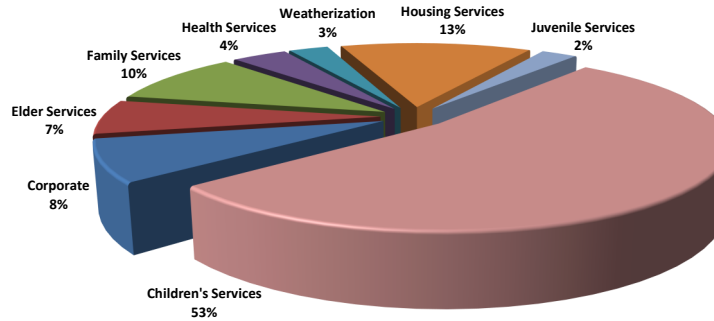
"Your work is a dedication of many people."

—BVCA Client

BVCA'S FY 2016 TOTAL REVENUES:
\$11,223,317



BVCA'S FY 2016 TOTAL EXPENSES:
\$11,580,449



BVCA's 2015-2016 Assets

Beginning of the Year Net Assets:
\$7,053,823

End of the Year Net Assets:
\$6,696,691

BVCA PARTNERSHIP ACTS AS THE GENERAL PARTNER IN THREE LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS WITH PRIVATE INVESTORS. (SEE CHART BELOW.)

<u>REAL ESTATE LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS*</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Assets</u>
Prairie Woods CROWN, Ltd., York & Geneva	\$95,881	\$981,823
Blue Terrace CROWN, Ltd., Crete	\$90,656	\$1,112,008
York CROWN, Ltd., York	<u>\$70,959</u>	<u>\$1,184,669</u>
<i>*Not included in BVCA audit, as each is a separate company.</i>	\$257,496	\$3,278,500

BVCA PARTNERSHIP LEVERAGE

- BVCA's core funding is the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). \$322,203 was granted last year, which is just under 2.8% of BVCA's total budget.
- For every dollar of CSBG, over \$34.83 was leveraged from other sources.
- For every \$1.00 of county support, BVCA leveraged \$162.04 of support from outside sources.
- \$11,733 of gaming revenue was generated.
- Volunteers donated 42,854 hours which relieved the organization of the need to raise \$1,146,158 additional dollars or hiring 20.6 FTE's for each month of the fiscal year.
- Value of contributions of food, clothing, and other goods to thrift stores totaled \$957,024.29.

50 Years of Community Action...



1966 ■ Local citizens begin BVCA. ■ State approves incorporation as private non-profit. ■ IRS approves tax exempt status of Blue Valley Community Action, Inc. ■ Robert Gerdes was named Executive Director. ■ First grant was in the amount of \$15,954. ■ Head Start receives its first grant in the amount of \$3,298.

1967 ■ Summer Head Start program begins in Fillmore, Jefferson, Saline and Thayer Counties.

1968 ■ Head Start has two counties and 40 children. ■ Head Start receives a \$50,525 grant. ■ Emergency Food and Medical Services Program begins in four counties. ■ Pilot program for senior citizens, Hebron Recreation Center, begins.

1969 ■ BVCA and counties begin Food Stamp Program. ■ John Keller becomes Executive Director, followed by Don Nickell.

1970 ■ Meals on Wheels program launched. ■ First recognition day held. ■ Robert Catherall hired as Executive Director.

1971 ■ BVCA offers first home improvement loans.

1972 ■ BVCA starts first rural transit program, The BV Line, which later becomes Saline County Area Transit. ■ Gilbert Jackson, Board President, serves as Executive Director until James Crisp was hired. ■ BVCA's budget reaches \$446,177 with 56 employees and eight directors. ■ 28% of families in four counties are below poverty.

1973 ■ BVCA receives notice that funding would end after October with the dismantling of the Office of Economic Opportunity. ■ Executive Director from Missouri sues President Nixon to keep funding for Community Action. He succeeded!

1974 ■ Neighborhood Youth Corps begins in eight counties. ■ Meals Together

program for senior citizens in full swing in Geneva. ■ Pilot program, Fuel Conservation Project for Senior Citizens, begins in four counties. ■ Social Security asks BVCA outreach to identify persons eligible for new program called Supplemental Security Income (SSI). ■ Community Services Administration replaces Office of Economic Opportunity to administer anti-poverty programs.

1975 ■ Community Service Administration awards BVCA first weatherization funding in the amount of \$10,000 for Winterization.



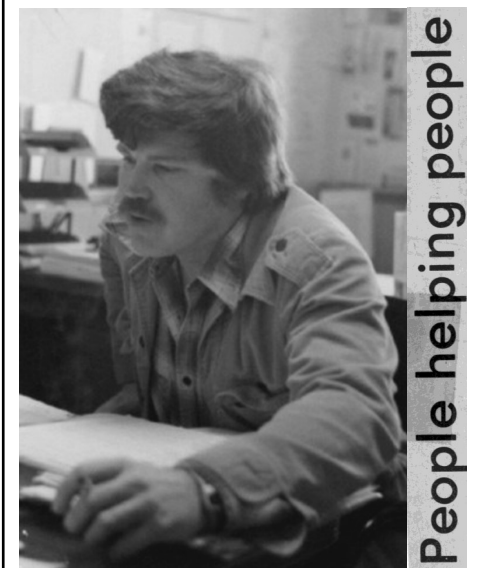
1976 ■ BVCA celebrates 10 years. ■ Dan DeLong hired as Executive Director. ■ Big Brothers/Big Sisters program begins. ■ BVCA adds Gage County to original four counties with Polk County soon to follow. ■ READY (Rural Educational Alternatives for the Development of the Young) Child Development Center opens. ■ Joins with Practical Enterprises for People in Saline County. ■ Summer Recreation Program begins. ■ Manpower project ends. ■ Became the sole sponsor of the U.S. 136 Stage Line. ■ BVCA Housing Department is organized.

1977 ■ First immunization clinic was held. ■ BVCA and Panhandle Community Services operate "Rural Home Repair Program". ■ 300 homes are weatherized in an 18-month period. ■ Telefriend program begins.

1978 ■ Richard D. Nation hired as Executive Director. ■ Butler County joins BVCA. ■ Two new Gage County programs: Rural Housing Repair Action program and a modified version of the

Head Start program were sanctioned by the Gage County Supervisors. ■ Weatherization begins in Polk County. ■ Supermarket coupon exchange was organized. ■ In collaboration with Jefferson County Ministerial Fellowship, the Community Pantry and Transient Relief Fund program was developed. ■ BVCA's budget passes a half million dollars for the first time. ■ Jefferson County Community Center moves to 303 "E" Street. ■ Since the inception of the Immunization Program one year earlier, children from 198 families received immunizations.

1979 ■ Seward County is added to BVCA. ■ Dental program begins. ■ Basic client intake form agreed on by all NE Community Action Agencies. ■ CISDA organized by BVCA and partners. ■ NEO begins funding weatherization. ■ Fern Shamburg was named the recipient of the Region VII Community Action Program Directors Association Volunteer Service Award. ■ Services expanded in Butler, Gage and Seward Counties to include Head Start, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and general community services.



Helping People ... Changing Lives



1980 ■ York County added to BVCA service area. ■ BVCA staff & VISTAS assist in Grand Island tornado disaster clean-up. ■ A free clearing house begins for odd job information and referrals. ■ Emergency heat assistance grant for \$48,000 received. ■ BVCA Crete center moves to a new location at 1217 Juniper Avenue.

1981 ■ BVCA celebrates 15 years. ■ Assistance provided to low-income and senior citizens in five additional counties (Butler, Gage, Polk, Seward & York) ■ A Solar Grant of \$10,000 received. ■ "Child Dental Health Program" begins. ■ BVCA provides public access to U.S. Census information.

1982 ■ Fillmore County Rural Transit Service begins. ■ BVCA funding impacted by the end of the Community Service Administration and the beginning of Community Service Block Grant (CSBG). ■ Funding cuts caused BVCA reorganization—FCS staff cut from four per county to one for every two counties. ■ Biscuit and Beans Coop begins. ■ NEO says "in October Weatherization will end." ■ Senior Lunch Bunch program begins.

1983 ■ First housing rehabilitation program started by Community Services Administration. ■ First BVCA Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) clinic opens in Polk County. ■ Twenty tons of food items were distributed during December & January.

1984 ■ Solar greenhouse built in Fairbury with Union Pacific funds and other

funding. ■ CSFP begins in Seward and Butler Counties. ■ Possible budget cuts affected Head Start, cutting sixth center in Utica. ■ Saline County Handibus celebrates its 10th anniversary. ■ Weatherization kits offered to Jefferson County residents. ■ In collaboration with Geneva Schools and the Geneva Police, Helping Hands program provides safe houses for youth.

1985 ■ Together with CISDA, BVCA opens a secondhand and craft shop, New Beginnings in Crete. ■ 130 kids enrolled in Head Start. ■ Hallmark donates \$200,000 of items. ■ Job Saving Energy Project initiated. ■ Office in Butler County opens. ■ Fillmore Center moves to 1343 "G" Street.

1986 ■ BVCA celebrates 20 years. ■ BVCA Cookbook is published. ■ First Housing Preservation grant from Farmers Home Administration serves Gage County. ■ CSFP begins in Thayer County. ■ Seward Food Pantry begins. ■ BVCA's York Clothing Bank opens in former Foundry building. ■ BVCA receives \$161,172 grant for the Weatherization Assistance Program. ■ 44 programs offered through BVCA.

1987 ■ BVCA's first budget year over \$1 million. ■ CSFP expands to Jefferson County. ■ Receives \$185,000 in Farmers Home Administration funds for housing restoration. ■ Three new projects in Butler county: Housing Rehabilitation Program, CSFP & making comforters and lap robes from unwanted clothing. ■ 4,000th ride given by Fillmore County Transit in a year. ■ Head Start begins its 20th year in Jefferson County.

1988 ■ Butler County Transit begins. ■ First homeless shelter grant obtained in Gage County. ■ BVCA develops "Get Rural" brand of volunteer crafts and popcorn sales. ■ York FCS Center moves to 1501 N Lincoln Ave. ■ BVCA awarded \$128,342 energy grant & \$96,824 Weatherization grant.

1989 ■ Head Start begins a combination program in Beatrice with 30 children

enrolled. ■ Thayer County Housing Preservation grant awarded. ■ BVCA speaks at a legislative hearing on three children & family service bills.

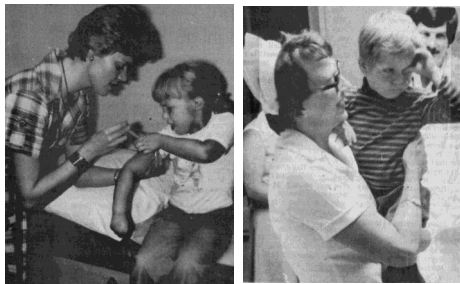
1990 ■ First Rural Health Outreach grant awarded to BVCA for People Caring for People project in Gage County. ■ Young Parents Program & Jobs-In-Families Program begin. ■ BVCA funded for WIC Program in 4 counties. ■ BVCA funded for Pioneer Foster Grandparent Program. ■ Head Start celebrates 25 years.

1991 ■ BVCA celebrates 25 years. ■ Endowment campaign begins. ■ Blue Valley Crisis Intervention forms and assumes services ceased by CISDA. ■ CSFP expands to Humboldt to serve four more counties. ■ Crib-Loan Project begins in Beatrice. ■ Head Start serves 235 children in nine counties.

1992 ■ BVCA is designated a Community Housing Development Organization. ■ Head Start in Beatrice serves 40 children. ■ BVCA provides Saline Eldercare services from Wilber office. ■ Saline County Housing Preservation grant awarded to BVCA. ■ BVCA Administrative Office moves into donated "old Lynch Clinic," 620 5th Street in Fairbury. ■ BVCA budget surpasses \$2 million.

1993 ■ Wymore Head Start opens. ■ BVCA offers shelter for homeless. ■ Seward Immunization Clinic begins. ■ BVCA assists with disaster relief. ■ Duplexes developed in Exeter, Grafton & Geneva. ■ 6,000th ride given by Fillmore County Rural Transit Service in a year. ■ Seward food pantry relocates. ■ Blue River Family Festival fundraiser held.





Helping People... Changing Lives

1994 ■ BVCA receives \$600,000 Disaster Relief Grant. ■ BVCA receives first year of funding for AmeriCorps. ■ Head Start becomes \$1 million program and expands to two Kansas counties. ■ First affordable housing unit built. ■ Duplexes developed in Fairmont, Ohio and Geneva. ■ Volunteer hours and donated items top \$1.1 million value. ■ Home Visitation & Chore Services now offered to Saline elderly. ■ Blue River Child Development services offered in several locations in Crete.

1995 ■ BVCA experiences largest growth year, operating budget over \$5.3 million. ■ Blue River Child Development Center opens for enrollment. ■ BVCA completes Exeter, Grafton and Geneva duplexes. ■ East Meadows Apartments opens. ■ People Caring for People given the Beatrice Chamber of Commerce Good Neighbor Award. ■ BVCA and partners establishes CATCH network to ensure health access to Medicaid and indigent population. ■ First emergency shelter in York opens. ■ Seward Head Start moves to remodeled church basement. ■ Farmer's Market begins. ■ Fillmore County Rural Transit Service provides 7,000 trips in a year for first time. ■ BVCA purchases building for Jefferson Head Start. ■ BV Joint Housing Authority forms with BVCA as administrator.

1996 ■ BVCA celebrates 30 years. ■ First year BVCA offers \$1,000 college scholarships for current or past clients. ■ West Meadows in Crete with eight apartments developed. ■ 10 Dialogue on Poverty forums held with 250 attending. ■ The NOVA award from the American Hospital Association was received for the People Caring for People program in Gage County. ■ Even Start Program begins at Blue River Family Center. ■ "Financial Information Program...From A Women's Perspective" begins sessions. ■ Saline County Coordinated Response to domestic violence established. ■ Milligan home built with Community Development Block Grant disaster funds was ready for occupancy. ■ BVCA receives a "Housing Our Community" award, presented by the

Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

1997 ■ Blue River Family Center opens. ■ BVCA receives a 3-year Rural Health Outreach grant with CATCH as partners. ■ Trailview & Pinegrove Apartments ready for occupancy. ■ Jewell County Head Start moves to Mankato School Administration Building. ■ Funds received for parent information & resource center. ■ Fillmore County Rural Transit celebrates 15 years. ■ BVCA awards \$1,000 scholarship to vocational students. ■ Saline County Violence Council forms. ■ Immunization clinic opens at Blue River Family Center thanks to a Good Beginnings Grant. ■ WIC creates waiting list due to federal funding cuts.



1998 ■ First full day/full year Head Start center opens in York. ■ Initial grant for the Down Payment Assistance Program awarded. ■ Housing Department receives an "Award of Excellence" from the Fannie Mae Foundation. ■ "Housing Our Community Award" from the Affordable Housing Commission. ■ Southeast NE Continuum of Care for the Homeless organizes. ■ Develops Crestland-16 apartments in Beatrice. ■ Seward FCS Center relocates. ■ Eldercare moves into BVCA owned building in Wilber. ■ First NE agency to sponsor Character Counts.

1999 ■ Early Head Start funding for 40 children received for Gage & Saline Counties. ■ BVCI begins 1st Juvenile Diversion program in Jefferson County. ■ BVCA awarded a 3-year HUD Supportive Housing Program. ■ Developed 4-plex in

Dorchester. ■ Developed Valley Height I—eight family units in Fairbury and ten elderly units in Beatrice. ■ Infant Toddler Quality Initiative funding is received. ■ New BVCA logo selected from the contest entry by Bonnie Rathje of Rising City.



2000 ■ First Youth Leadership Conference held in Fairbury. ■ KAMP21 begins. ■ Blue River Child Development Center becomes nationally accredited. ■ Lease-to-Own program builds 17 single family units in Beatrice. ■ 105 affordable rental housing units managed by BVCA. ■ Homeless Program awarded \$102,000 grant. ■ Butler FCS relocates. ■ Head Start celebrates 35 years. ■ BVCA surpasses \$9.5 million in revenues.

2001 ■ Develops 4-plex in Diller. ■ Purchases Midtown—an eight-unit apartment building in Osceola. ■ Fillmore County Head Start building purchased. ■ \$1.8 million grant dollars granted to build homes in Geneva and York. ■ Childhood Lead Screening funded. ■ BVCA funded for Respite Program. ■ Hispanic Healthcare funded. ■ More than \$1 million received to build apartments in Beatrice and Odell for elderly residents. ■ Juvenile Justice Program planning begins. ■ Collaboration occurred with the Bar-None Housing Program to put a home in Wymore. ■ Pioneer Foster Grandparent Program initiates the "File of Life" cards project.

2002 ■ BVCA's revenues exceed \$13 million. ■ Home down payment assistance begins. ■ Prairie Woods Crown, 15 single family homes, developed in York & Geneva. ■ Ground breaking for Valley Heights II. ■ Gage County Even Start Program begins. ■ First annual "Kid's Day Out/Parent's Day Off" was held through Respite Network. ■ Mercury thermometers gathered and new digital ones distributed.

2003 ■ New addition built on BVCA Administrative Office in Fairbury. ■ Blue Terrace homes opens. ■ New playground installed at the Beatrice Head Start location. ■ Head Start participates in the Hilton Special Quest Training Program. ■ Registered trade name as Blue Valley Community Action Partnership.

2004 ■ Purchases 4-plex in Bellwood and 4-plex in Rising City. ■ FYI Center opens its doors in Jefferson County. ■ Foster Grandparent program expands to Fillmore County. ■ National Civilian Community Corps spent week in Fairbury remodeling old Jeff Center. ■ Faith-in-Action Volunteer Association program receives grant.

2005 ■ Becomes administrator for Regional Owner Occupied Rehabilitation. ■ BVCA's Board sets up irrevocable trust/ permanent endowment. ■ York Place Crown developed—12 single family units. ■ Governor Dave Heineman tours the York Place Crown and was pleased with the progressive attitude and growth happening in the area. ■ Head Start begins collaboration with Fairbury Public Schools. ■ CSFP and WIC move to the Crete Medical Center Long Term Care Facility. ■ Blue River Family Center receives accreditation from the National Association of Young Children. ■ Blue River Center opens literacy room celebrating its 10th anniversary in Crete.

2006 ■ BVCA celebrates 40th year with a gala affair. ■ Leverage over \$41 for every dollar of core funding (CSBG). ■ Head Start and Early Head Start participate in "Good Start, Grow Smart"—President Bush's early childhood initiative. ■ First Annual "Rock for Toys" held. ■ Head Start ends center-based services in Butler County.

2007 ■ Volunteer mentor program at the FYI center implemented. ■ Friends of Blue Valley begins. ■ CSFP opens Fairbury distribution site. ■ BVCA spins off BVCI to self-incorporated Hope Crisis Center. ■ Participates in the "Winds of Change" campaign preventing child abuse. ■ Head Start begins collaboration with York Public Schools. ■ Head Start ends services in

Jewell County, KS. ■ Participates in Pandemic Planning. ■ BVCA had highest pass rate for Weatherization-monitored homes in NE. ■ Fillmore County Rural Transit Service celebrates 25 years.

2008 ■ Healthy Weight in Women program funded. ■ Missing Link Project funded. ■ New mission and vision adopted, and core values identified. ■ Fillmore County Rural Transit Service exceeds 8,000 trips in one year. ■ FYI 4-H Club begins.

2009 ■ Weatherization crews were hired. ■ Healthy Weight in Women funded. ■ WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counseling funded.

2010 ■ Head Start begins collaboration with Thayer Central and Deshler Public Schools. ■ Head Start funded for \$3 million. ■ Seward FCS relocates. ■ First statewide community survey completed by Community Action of Nebraska. ■ Wellness Project launched. ■ BVCA receives America Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for four programs. ■ BVCA Website, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube launched.

2011 ■ BVCA celebrates 45th year. ■ Head Start begins collaboration with Beatrice Public Schools. ■ Community Action survey focuses on Financial Behaviors. ■ BVCA manages New Beginnings Thrift Store operations in Crete. ■ RentWise offered in Gage County. ■ Fillmore County Rural Transit Service completes 30th year.

2012 ■ Funded for SSI/SSDI Outreach Access and Recovery Program. ■ Lease Purchase Program funded. ■ WIC expands to Butler County. ■ Community Action survey focuses on employment. ■ Fillmore County Transit relocates to Fillmore County East.

2013 ■ Head Start collaborates with Wymore Public Schools. ■ Head Start ends services in Smith County, KS. ■ Seward and Beatrice Head Start relocates. ■ Funded for Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). ■ Funded for Affordable Care Access Navigator grant to assist sign-ups in the Marketplace. ■ First Duck "N" Run fundraiser held. ■ York

Partnership for Reducing Disparities formed. ■ Partnering on Oral Health Access for Young Children with public health.

2014 ■ WIC expands to Polk County. ■ Capacity to bill insurance for private pays for immunization secured. ■ Saline Early Head Start relocates. ■ Head Start expands enrollment slots by 12 in Saline County. ■ Head Start ends services with Deshler Public Schools. ■ CSFP rules changes to only serve those 60 years and older. ■ Project Everlast funded to work with youth aging out of foster care. ■ BVCA assists with disaster relief in Seward County. ■ AmeriCorps Veteran Support Services begins. ■ Pathways to Employment begins.

2015 ■ BVCA 50th fiscal year began October 1. ■ York Center destroyed in early morning fire in January. ■ Focus groups conducted to address root causes of poverty. ■ Runza fundraiser organized by the BVCA Board of Directors. ■ BVCA was pilot for WIC Journey "paperless" computer system. ■ Head Start funded for Child Care Collaboration Project. ■ Foster Grandparent office moved to 121 S. 5th Street in Beatrice. ■ Financial Empowerment Program implemented. ■ Named fiscal agent for the DeWitt Assistance Recovery Team. ■ BVCA hosted statewide Community Action of Nebraska meeting in York—Lt. Governor addresses attendees.

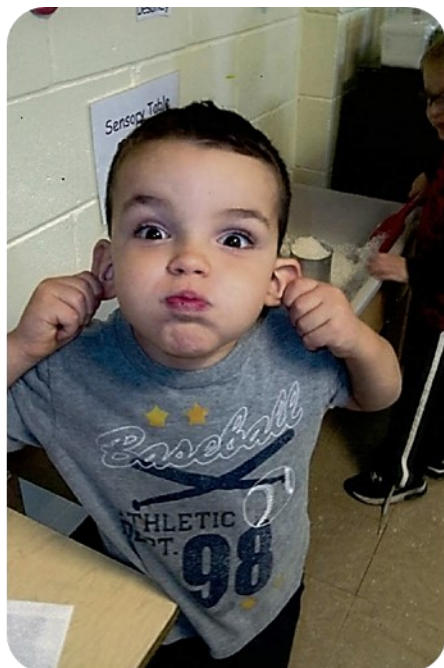
2016 ■ BVCA Celebrates 50th year. ■ BVCA is designated a HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency. ■ New construction of 9,000 sq. ft. York center nears completion. ■ Major Renovations to Kids Connection Childcare Center completed. ■ Relocation of Thayer County Head Start Classroom from the old Thayer Central Elementary School to a newly built classroom as part of the addition to the Middle School & High School. ■ Early Head Start center based services began to 44 children ages 0-3 (partnership with Blue River Child Development Center and Kids Connection).



GRADUATES OF HEADSTART Tuesday evening were back row



New Station Wagon for Head Start Here



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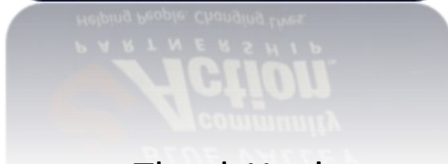
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"Thank you so much for everything! You really have no idea how much you changed my life and have helped me. You were always there for me and always made me feel comfortable talking to you. You taught me to budget, with which I've been doing really good. I'm so grateful for everything! You are wonderful at your job, and I just wanted you to know the impact you make on people's lives."

—BVCA Client



Thank You!

The key to our success rests in people like you, who embody the spirit of greatness by saying, "Yes I can and so can you!" Thanks for your inspiring dedication and tremendous example to the world!!

Acknowledgement

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership would like to thank the counties, communities, agencies, businesses, partners and dedicated individuals who make the work of our organization successful and positive for those we assist. As we complete our 50th year, our private non-profit charitable corporation has become a major community resource for those in need throughout the area, as well as to our communities. It would not have happened without dedicated staff, community support, and the hundreds of volunteers who assist us every year. We sincerely thank and acknowledge the generosity and community spirit of the people of Nebraska who are our fantastic neighbors, friends, and supporters for their 50 years of support, partnership and donations.

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BVCA Partnership would like to extend a special "thank you" to those generous individuals, corporations, foundations, civic clubs, congregations, and governmental entities who help make our efforts of "Helping People, Changing Lives" a reality. Although this space does not allow us to recognize each donor, every gift—large and small, monetary and inkind—is deeply appreciated.

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