



**Blue Valley
Community
Action**

2024 IMPACT REPORT

October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024

BVCA Partnership assisted **8,060** individuals by offering life-changing services that provide solutions to help build lives of stability, dignity and prosperity.

3,441 children | **3,962** adults | **657** elderly

Of the **6,084** individuals enrolled in goal-setting programs, **5,938** achieved one or more outcomes.



housing

350 individuals obtained safe, affordable housing.

71 individuals obtained safe, temporary shelter, which was 91% of those enrolled.

1,503 individuals maintained independent living.

86 individuals received services resulting in their home being weatherized, preserved, and/or otherwise improved.

188 individuals avoided eviction.

135 individuals were provided Housing Counseling, which includes homebuyer, rental and mortgage education as well as case management. Of these,

- **25** completed the homebuyer education workshop,
- **17** households improved their financial capacity,
- **21** individuals increased their credit scores,
- **28** households gained access to resources to help improve their housing situation, and
- **6** purchased a home.

education & cognitive development

233 children became school ready.

222 children improved social and emotional skills.

243 improved positive approaches toward learning.

828 families improved their family functioning skills.

1,144 adults and children received educational case management.

financial stability

68 people increased their financial knowledge and skills, through credit management, credit repair and credit counseling.

40 unemployed individuals obtained a job to improve employment skills or increase income, which is 87% of those enrolled.

81 people increased their savings.

11 used their savings to purchase an asset.

34 people improved their credit score.

health & well being

- 4,029** people received nutritious food.
- 1,866** individuals improved their physical health.
- 379** improved their mental and behavioral health.
- 184** received dental screenings and exams.
- 336** received immunizations.
- 1,647** received physicals.
- 223** received vision screenings.
- 1,251** received developmental screenings.
- 1,144** received substance abuse screenings.
- 750** received mental health assessments.

community building

- 554** volunteers engaged in activities to support BVCA, themselves, and the community.
- 518** community volunteers | **36** foster grandparents

Volunteers donated **26,082** hours that were valued at **\$383,676.36**.

9 child care centers and their employees improved their quality of care by participating in professional development training and support provided by BVCA.



human resources

184 individuals were employed by BVCA.

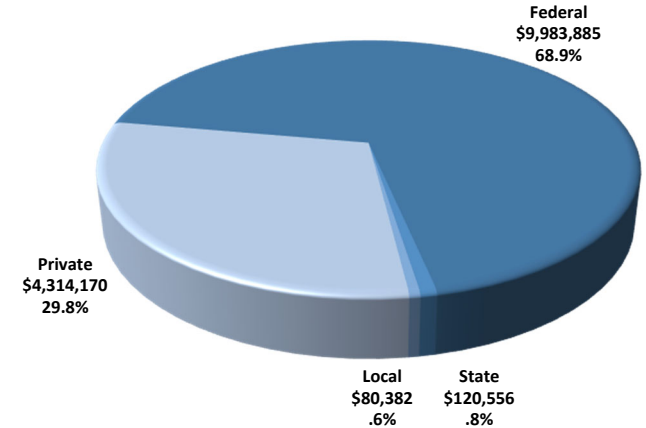
Employees are based throughout our service area:

- 1 employee in Butler County
- 4 employees in Douglas County
- 17 employees in Fillmore County
- 24 employees in Gage County
- 50 employees in Jefferson County
- 0 employees in Polk County
- 43 employees in Saline County
- 12 employees in Seward County
- 5 employees in Thayer County
- 28 employees in York County

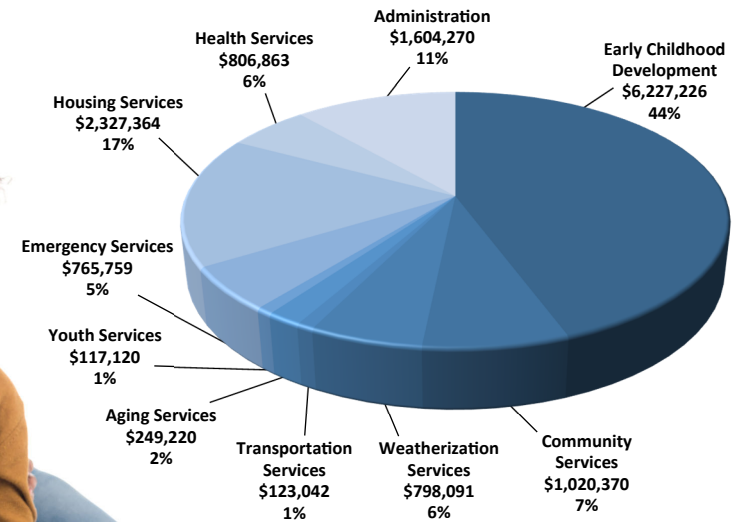
Benefit value per hour is **\$5.63** includes health, vision, dental, retirement, life and the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

funding & resources

\$14,498,993 in funding was secured. For each of those dollars, **\$.89** was used to meet the needs of BVCA's clients and mission.



\$14,039,325 was expended to provide quality service in our communities.



agency-wide client demographics

Race

- 91.2% of clients are Caucasian
- 5.7% of clients are Multi-Racial
- 2.1% of clients are African American
- .4% of clients are American Indian/Alaska Native
- .3% of clients are Asian
- .1% of clients are Native Hawaiian

Ethnicity

- 69% of clients are non-Hispanic
- 31% of clients are Hispanic/Latino

Gender

- 54% of clients are female
- 46% of clients are male

Age

- 43% of clients are between the ages of 0-17
- 49% of clients are between the ages of 18-64
- 8% of clients are 65 or older

Military Status

- 288 clients reported that they are veterans
- 5 clients reported that they are active military

Education Level

- 12% of clients are college/tech graduates
- 13% of clients are High School graduates with some college
- 43% of clients are High School graduates or received their GED
- 32% of clients have not yet or did not complete high school

Housing

- 63% of clients rent their homes
- 24% of client households own their homes
- 8% of clients are homeless
- 3% of clients have other permanent housing
- 2% of clients have provisional arrangements

Family Structure

The average BVCA service area family size is 2.5 people per household compared to the average BVCA client family size of 2.98.

Family Size:

- 40% One Person
- 10% Two Persons
- 18% Three Persons
- 14% Four Persons
- 9% Five Persons
- 9% Six or More Persons

Household Types:

- 37% Single Persons
- 31% Two Parents
- 19% Single Parent
- 10% Couple, No Children
- 2% Multigenerational
- 1% Other

Employment Status

- 37% of adults were employed, either part-time or full-time
- 16% of adults were unemployed
- 34% of adults were not in the labor force
- 13% of adults were retired

Income

Percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and percent of clients at those levels:

50% or less	29%	101%-125%	17%
51%-75%	11%	126%-200%	20%
76%-100%	<u>19%</u>	201% or higher	<u>4%</u>
	59%		41%

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

- 50% of poverty is \$15,600 gross
- 100% of poverty is \$31,200 gross
- 125% of poverty is \$39,000 gross
- 200% of poverty is \$62,400 gross

Current Nebraska minimum wage is \$13.50 per hour or \$28,080 full-time gross, significantly below the poverty rate for a family of four.



our programs

Our service area includes Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York Counties in Nebraska. Limited services are also provided in other counties. BVCA provides the following programs:

AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program: Provides opportunities for low-income persons, 55 years and 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, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York Counties

Blue River Early Learning Academy: High quality, early childhood education and care program for children six weeks through twelve years of age. Provides developmentally age appropriate educational activities in all care settings and nutritionally approved meals to all children in a licensed facility. Available: Saline County

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Government purchased food commodities are distributed to income eligible individuals age 60 and older to foster good health and nutrition. Available: All BVCA Counties

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

Early Head Start: A home-based program that provides pregnant women and children, birth to three, with family centered services and activities. Available: Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Thayer and York Counties

Early Head Start—Child Care Partnership: BVCA partners with child care providers who agree to meet the Head Start Program Standards which includes comprehensive and continuous services to low-income infants, toddlers and their families. The partnerships increase quality care and education to a center-based option while parents are working or going to school. Available: Jefferson and Saline Counties

Emergency Assistance: Individuals and families are assisted with small emergency requests such as transportation, car repairs, prescriptions, and various other small emergencies on a very minimal scale, depending on resources available at local level. Available: All BVCA Counties

Emergency Solutions Program: Assists individuals and families who are literally homeless or imminently at risk of homelessness by providing housing relocation and stabilization services to help quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis. Available: All BVCA Counties

Focused Youth on Rehousing, Empowerment & Stability (FYRES): Works with youth who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Works together with youth to identify and obtain housing, work on retaining that housing, connect to supports and resources, & to address the issues which led them to the homeless situation. Available: All BVCA Counties

Food Security Programs: Individuals and families who are facing a shortage of food are assisted through the generosity of donations by individuals, communities, organizations and businesses. There are various options for securing food. Available: All BVCA Counties

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

Housing Development: Construction of affordable rental housing units &/or lease-to-own units. Available: All BVCA Counties

Housing Counseling: Provides workshops, homebuyer education and one-on-one counseling to help customers correct issues that prevent affordable mortgage financing, stable rental housing and foreclosure. BVCA's counselor will also provide assistance in debt-load management with the preparation of a monthly and manageable budget plan. Individuals enrolled in the program will agree to make a 6-24 month commitment to get them "mortgage ready". Available: All BVCA Counties

Housing Rentals: Affordable rental housing and lease-to-own properties are available to income eligible families. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Thayer and York

Infant/Toddler Quality Early Childhood Initiative Program: Provides professional development and support to home-based, center-based, and child care staff to improve quality care. Available: Gage, Jefferson and Saline Counties

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

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

One-Time Needs Revolving Loan Program: Offers a low-interest, revolving loan for households that need financial assistance for unexpected large expenses such as emergency home repair, vehicle repairs, and/or employment-related expenses. Typical financial assistance is under \$2,000. Applicants receiving revolving loan assistance will be required to participate in financial literacy courses in addition to repayment of the loan within an agreed designated timeframe.

Project FIRST (Families in Residence with Support in Transition): Homeless families with children engage in family development process to achieve economic and housing stability through placement in scattered site housing in the community of their choice. Available: All BVCA Counties

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

Scholarship Opportunities: As part of a competitive application process, scholarships are available to income-eligible individuals planning to attend college. Scholarships can be used for tuition, books and fees associated with enrollment. Available: All BVCA Counties

SNAP Outreach: BVCA staff can assist applicants with the online Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application. Available: All BVCA Counties

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF): The goal of the 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. Available: All BVCA Counties as well as Cass, Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, Richardson, Douglas, Sarpy in NE; and Pottawattamie, IA

Telehealth: Individuals can utilize BVCA Partnership's equipment and internet services to access their virtual medical and mental health appointments. If needed, BVCA's friendly staff can help set them up and get them connected, while still providing privacy for their appointments. Available: All BVCA Counties

Thrift Stores: Community donations of clothing and household items are recycled and made available for a small handling fee. Used furniture is available in York. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Seward, Thayer and York Counties

Vaccines for Children & Private Vaccines (VFC): Vaccines are provided free by the Nebraska DHHS through BVCA's Immunization Program to uninsured infants 2 months or older, and children. Insured or private pay vaccine is also available. Available: Fillmore, Jefferson, Saline and Seward Counties

Weatherization: Provides no cost weatherization of homes to income eligible families. This may include: weather-stripping; patching damaged areas of homes: heating and cooling systems tuned and cleaned or replacement; insulation of attics, walls and foundations; and windows and doors repaired or replaced. Available: All BVCA Counties

Women, Infants & Children (WIC): A health and nutrition program for at-risk breastfeeding, pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children to age 5. After medical and nutritional screening, eWIC cards are given to certified individuals for food from local stores. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward and York Counties

WIC Peer Counseling Program: Provides education and support for pregnant and post-partum women to ensure a successful breast-feeding experience. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward, and York Counties

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.

Visit us at: www.bvca.net

