



GATEWAY

COMMUNITY ACTION

"Helping People, Changing Lives"

Annual
REPORT
2023



Serving Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan and Rowan Counties

Martina Roe - CEO Report

This has been a year of firsts as I entered into a new leadership role at Gateway Community Action as the Chief Executive Officer. With over 25 years experience working in this organization, mentoring from previous leadership, and the support of my colleagues and board of directors, I was able to smoothly transition into my new role and take immediate steps in advancing the organization on a continued path to success.



One of the greatest assets about being part of this organization is that we have the ability to create positive change based on our mission, values, and guiding principles. We believe in empowering staff to grow in leadership skills and recognize that they are the foundation of what we do.

Together, our biggest sustainability impact is through our service model. We are committed to setting clear, precise goals through our strategic planning process. I am thrilled to share the considerable progress we have made in the first year of our strategic cycle.

Sustainability in the workforce is an important indicator of employee engagement, retention, performance, and well-being. To increase capacity to become local leaders to affect the cause and conditions of poverty, we restructured the organization that provides adequate workloads and a revised salary structure that is comparable in benefits.

As we worked to nurture community involvement through volunteer opportunities, we were able to successfully enter into agreements with higher education institutes, expand

our partnerships with senior volunteer programs, and create a new volunteer orientation process.

Our 2023 achievements also included elevating our customers' experience by revamping our marketing materials, expanding our social media presence, and becoming more engaged in community outreach thus reaching more people.

We will continue to work diligently to execute our strategic priorities while remaining true to our mission. It's a privilege and honor to serve in this capacity as we continue to "work closely with community partners, empowering individuals and families in overcoming the causes of poverty through a range of human service programs."

Warm Regards,

Martina Roe

Brad LeMaster - Board Chair Report



I am pleased to present the Annual Report on Gateway Community Action for FY23, reflecting our organization's steadfast commitment to creating a positive impact on the communities we serve. As the Board Chair, I am immensely proud of the collective efforts and dedication demonstrated by our team, volunteers, and partners throughout the year.

Over the past year, we have continued to focus on empowering and enriching the lives of individuals in our community. Through a range of diverse programs and strategic partnerships, we aimed to address key challenges and work toward building a stronger, more inclusive society.

None of our accomplishments would have been possible without the support and dedication of numerous individuals and organizations. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend heartfelt gratitude to our donors, partners, volunteers, and staff for their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to our cause.

As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, we are excited about the prospects that lie ahead. We remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering positive change and creating a lasting impact on the lives of those in need.

We will continue to expand our outreach efforts, forge new partnerships, and implement innovative solutions to address emerging community challenges. We will continue to uphold transparency and accountability in all our actions, ensuring that every contribution makes a meaningful difference.

I am humbled and inspired by the collective strength of our community and the transformative power of our actions. Together, we will continue to build a better tomorrow, leaving a legacy of positive change for generations to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support. I encourage you to read the full report to gain deeper insights into our initiatives, impact, and plans for the future.

Brad LeMaster



Gateway Board Members

Target Sector

Pam Mattox, EC Specialist
Norma Patton, Secretary
Christina Adkins
Jamie Brunk
Michele Johnson
Margaret Ann Miller
Jennifer Munday
Wendy Puckett
Jacqueline Evans
Anthony Howard

Public Sector

Judge Harry Clark
Judge Chris Haddix
Judge Forest McKenzie
Judge Jim Gazay
Judge Rick Stiltner
Clayton Neal
Sheriff Greg Motley
Ruby Rice
Robert Hamm
Debbie Little

Private Sector

Brad LeMaster, Chairman
Phyllis Lawson, Vice Chair
Pam Branam
Marcelle Doggett
Margie Gross
William Shields 'Rusty' Hedrick
Rhonda Caudill
Brandon Wells
Brady Shultz
Dana Elam

Meet Our Leadership Team

OFFICERS



Kristy Murphy - **CCO**



Ryan Moore - **CFO**



Tristan Daniel - **CTO**

SENIOR PROGRAM DIRECTORS



Leah Kohr - **Sr. Director of
Community Initiatives**



Angie Elliott - **Sr. Director of
Economic Development**



Evan O'Neal - **Sr. Director
of Housing**



Tiffany Samaniego - **Sr. Director
of Early Childhood**

PROGRAM DIRECTORS



Jennifer Williamson -
**Director of
Kynect/LIHEAP**



Shelva Rowe -
Director of CSBG



Valrey Easterling -
Director of WIOA

ACCOUNTING - Summary Of Financial Activities

We are pleased to report another successful year of growth and achievement, as we continue to fulfill our mission of providing outstanding services to our customers. Our total revenue for FY23 increased by 25 percent. This remarkable growth is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our talented team members and the unwavering support of our valued customers.

Operating expenses for FY23 remained well-managed, thanks to our focus on cost optimization and efficiency measures. We continuously assess our expenditures to ensure that we operate in a lean and sustainable manner without compromising on the quality of our services.

Fiscal Year 2023

Revenue of all sources	\$ 19,649,244.00
Expenses from all services	\$ 19,168,576.00
Increase in net assets	\$ 480,668.00
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 3,108,193.00
Increase in net assets	\$ 480,668.00
Total net assets	\$ 3,588,861.00

Looking ahead, we are optimistic about the future of Gateway Community Action. We will continue to focus on innovation, ensuring that our services remain at the forefront of the community needs. We acknowledge the unwavering support and trust that you, our shareholders, have placed in us.

Our leadership team and employees are dedicated to maximizing shareholder value and achieving sustainable growth in the years to come.



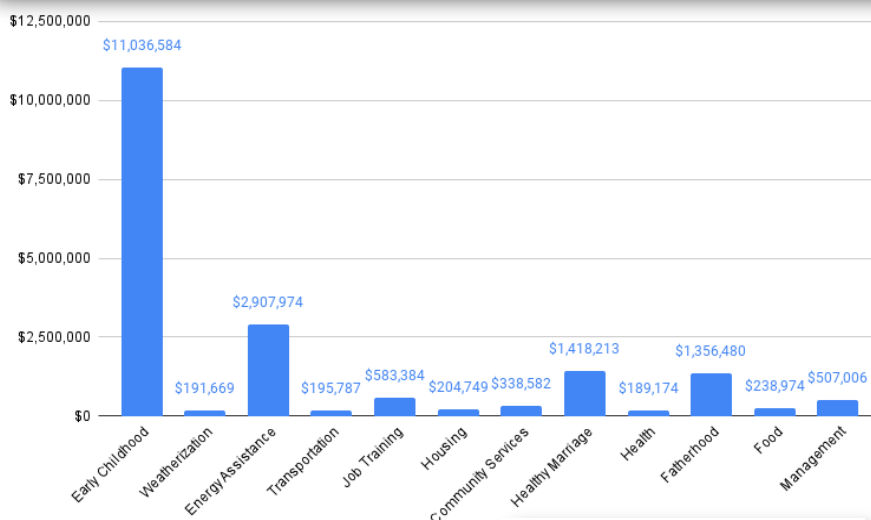
Sandy's journey with Gateway Community Action started in the early '80s when she joined the organization through the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) program. Her humble beginnings as a young and ambitious individual were marked by enthusiasm and a desire to make a difference in her community. With a passion for numbers and a drive to excel in accounting, she quickly found her calling in the organization's accounting department.

Over the years, Sandy proved to be an invaluable asset to Gateway Community Action, showcasing not only her exceptional numerical skills but also her ability to foster positive relationships with colleagues and clients alike. Her dedication, attention to detail, and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty set her apart as a pillar of the organization.

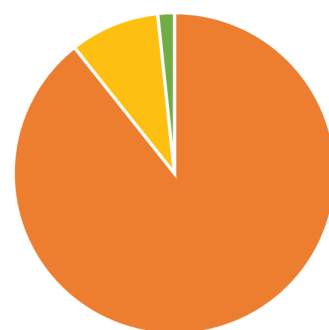
Sandy's legacy goes beyond her professional achievements; it is equally defined by her kindness and willingness to mentor and support her colleagues. Many of her coworkers fondly recall the countless times she lent a helping hand, offering guidance and encouragement to those who sought her expertise.

As Sandy Keeton embarks on her well-deserved retirement, Gateway Community Action takes a moment to reflect on the remarkable journey she has shared with the organization. Her legacy will continue to inspire current and future employees, reminding them of the power of dedication, perseverance, and compassion. Congratulations Sandy, on your retirement!

Total Expenses by Service Categories
Fiscal Year 2023



Revenue By Sources FY 2023



Grants \$17,553,631
Non-Federal Share \$1,768,603
Other Income \$327,010

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The HR Mission

Throughout the year, our HR team has remained committed to fostering a positive work environment, nurturing talent, and aligning HR strategies with our company's goals.

In 2023, Gateway Community Action continued to thrive in the face of challenging conditions. Our workforce grew, and so did our commitment to employee satisfaction, diversity and inclusion, learning and development, and overall employee well-being.

Our HR team conducted regular employee engagement surveys. The overall employee engagement score improved in 2023, indicating a positive work environment and strong employee satisfaction.

We continued to prioritize the well-being of our employees by offering comprehensive benefits packages, including health, vision, dental, and life insurance as well as paid time off. These benefits contribute to the overall job satisfaction and work-life balance of our employees.

Throughout the year, our HR department ensured strict adherence to all labor laws, regulations, and company policies. We embraced technology to streamline HR processes, improve efficiency, and enhance the overall employee experience.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to empowering our employees, promoting a culture of continuous learning, and fostering an inclusive work environment. Our HR team will continue to support the company's growth by attracting and retaining top talent, developing future leaders, and maintaining a strong commitment to employee engagement and well-being.

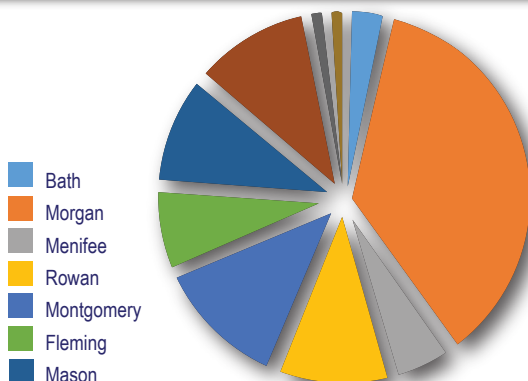
In conclusion, we extend our gratitude to our dedicated employees, management, and stakeholders for their continued support in making Gateway Community Action a great place to work. The HR department is excited about the possibilities that the future holds and remains steadfast in its mission to create a thriving and harmonious work environment.

Employee Appreciation Day 2023



A Fun Day at Cave Run Lake

Employee's By County



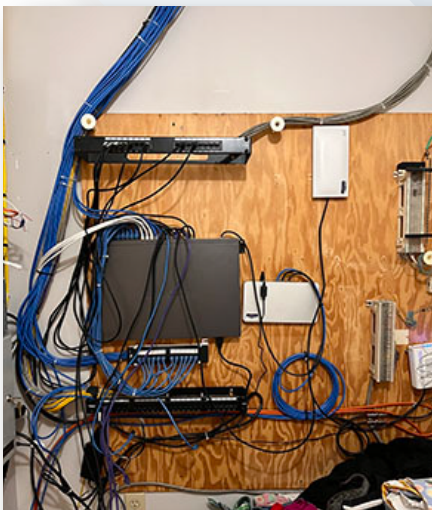
IT DEPARTMENT

Strategic Goals and Focus

The IT department had a productive and successful year, making significant progress towards the agency's strategic goals. Our focus was to employ technology to improve efficiency, and ensure the security and reliability of our systems. We aimed to optimize IT operations, foster collaboration, and deliver exceptional service to our internal and external stakeholders.

Throughout the year, our department has effectively completed 372 trouble tickets, ensuring prompt resolution of issues. Additionally, we have processed 252 employee checklist activities, including entries, transfers, and exits, providing smooth employee transitions. These statistics demonstrate our commitment to delivering excellent support services to our employees.

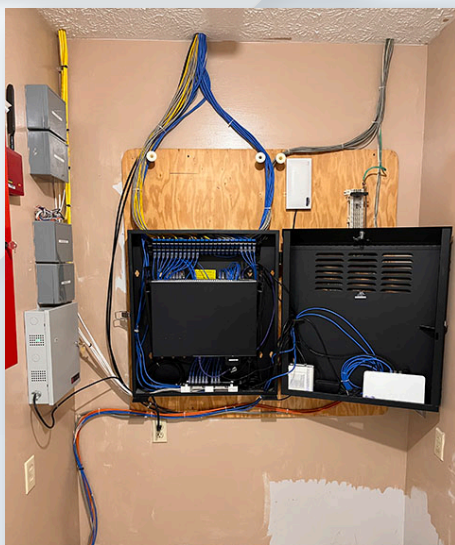
Investment In IT Infrastructure



Before

We invested in upgrading our IT infrastructure, including power upgrades, cabling enhancements, and hardware replacements. These improvements have resulted in increased performance, reliability, and scalability, supporting the evolving needs of the agency.

Following a weather event that resulted in a water line break at the Head Start Maysville site, our department successfully undertook a restoration project. Our primary objective was to ensure functionality of the facility. To achieve this, we thoroughly removed and replaced cameras and other essential equipment across all classrooms. Additionally, we meticulously rewired and thoroughly tested all data connections to guarantee seamless functionality. By addressing the impact of the water line break, we have restored the site's infrastructure, ensuring a secure and operational environment for the Head Start program.

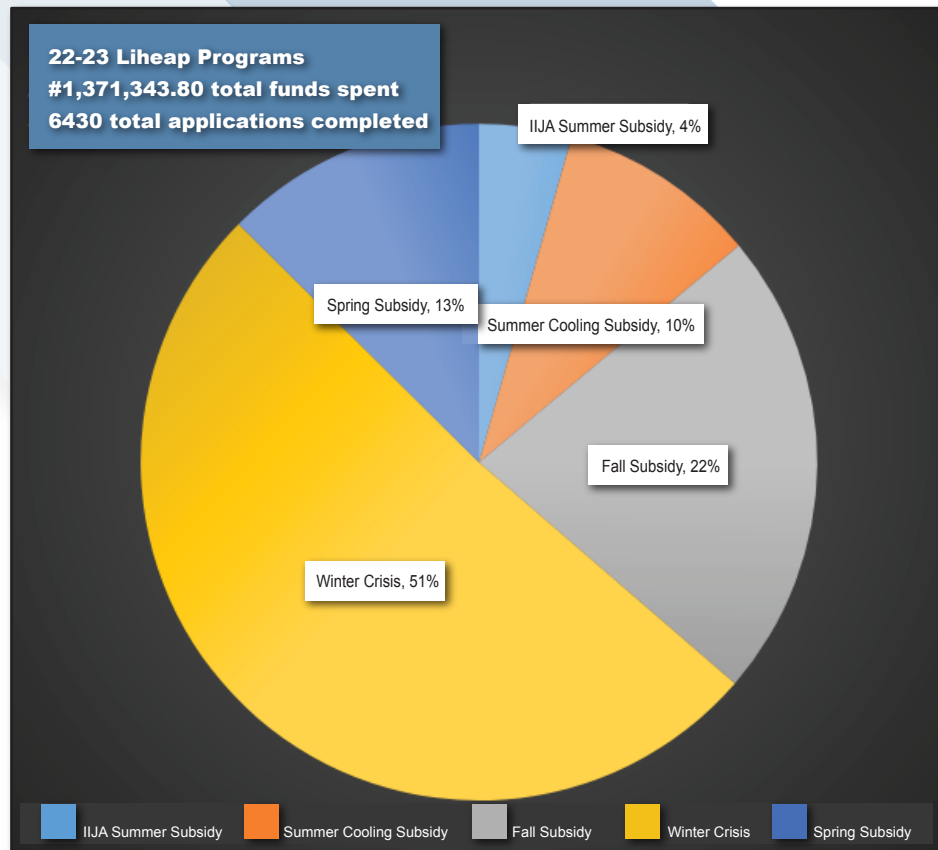


After

As we look toward the future, our strategic focus remains on migrating our onsite resources to a cloud environment. This forward-thinking approach will unlock numerous advantages for our agency such as improved cost efficiency, substantial upfront investments in hardware, and maintenance costs on aging equipment. By embracing cloud computing, we can enhance scalability, security measures, and ensure robust protection for our data.

The IT department has made significant strides in enhancing technology infrastructure, delivering successful projects, and providing reliable support. We remain committed to driving innovation, security, and operational excellence in support of the agency's strategic goals.

CSBG/LIHEAP



Through the LiHeap program, we provided financial assistance to low-income households, helping them cover the cost of home energy expenses during extreme weather conditions. This ensured that vulnerable individuals and families had access to a safe living environment.

In collaboration with local partner organizations, we delivered a wide range of services under the CSBG program. These services included emergency assistance, housing assistance, and employment programs. By addressing multiple facets of poverty, we aimed to enhance the overall well-being and self-sufficiency of individuals and families in need.

We streamlined our internal processes, ensuring a swift and efficient application review and assistance

distribution. Additionally, we maintained stringent program integrity measures to safeguard against fraudulent activities and ensure funds reached those who genuinely required support.

As we move forward, we remain committed to supporting the most vulnerable members of our community. We will continue to actively advocate for increased funding from federal and state sources to extend our reach and provide assistance to a greater number of households in need.

Winter Crisis

Total Applications - **2470**

\$700,452.06 funds spent

Fall Subsidy

Total Applications - **2135**

\$307,241.74 funds spent



Spring Subsidy

Total Applications - **1227**

\$172,450 funds spent

Summer Cooling Subsidy

Total Applications - **416**

\$130,500 funds spent

IIJA Summer Cooling

Total Applications - **182**

\$60,700 funds spent

HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Welcome to Head Start Spotlight



Brittany Howard

Meet Brittany Howard, an exceptional individual whose journey within the Head Start program has been nothing short of inspiring. From her humble beginnings as a student to her current role as a manager, Brittany's dedication and passion have left an indelible mark on the program.

Brittany's involvement with Head Start began when she was a young student herself. Recognizing the transformative impact of the program on her life, she eagerly pursued her education, fueled by the support and encouragement she received from her teachers and mentors.

Brittany returned to the Head Start program as a parent. This time, she experienced the program from a different perspective, gaining valuable insights into the challenges and joys that parents face while navigating their children's early education. As a devoted and engaged parent, she became a strong advocate for the program, serving on the Policy Council, advocating for resources and opportunities that would benefit all the children and families involved.

As a manager, Brittany continues to inspire and uplift her team, fostering a nurturing and empowering environment where both staff and children can thrive. Her journey from student to parent to manager exemplifies the transformative power of the Head Start program and serves as an inspiration to all who cross her path. **Welcome to our team, Brittany!**

The end of one thing is only the beginning of another. Life begins like a dream, becomes a little real, and ends like a dream. I've always heard every ending is also a beginning.

Author Unknown

Happy Retirement from Gateway Community Action

Kathy Whitt, Morgan County Area Coordinator, retired from her position at the end of the 2022-2023 program year. Kathy's commitment to the programs and agency has been commendable throughout her 28 years of service. She has shown great dedication to the children and families served within our communities. Kathy attained the ability to work well with others, develop a positive rapport with families, and was respected by co-workers and the staff she supervised. Although we are sad to see Kathy leave, we hope the best for her in this new phase of her life.



Kathy Whitt

HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Mock Classroom Training Spaces



Gateway's Head Start and Early Head Start programs utilized supplemental funding from the CARES Act to create mock classroom training space for new and seasoned staff. This has offered new staff the opportunity to become familiar with a Head Start or Early Head Start classroom, as well as their basic job duties before beginning work in their assigned classrooms. As a result, staff feel better equipped to take on their new roles within our programs.

Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood. ~ Fred Rogers



PARENTS, THE MOST IMPORTANT TEACHER

In Head Start and Early Head Start, we recognize parents as their child's first and most important teacher. Strong family engagement is the key to promoting a healthy development. Throughout the year our cooks and classroom staff ensured multiple family engagement activities were implemented in the classroom and at home. Through these activities students were able to learn about healthy eating habits, develop stronger fine motor skills, regulate behavior, and increase social-emotional development.

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Gateway's Weatherization Assistance Program serviced 16 homes this year. 63% of those homes were occupied by elderly and/or disabled clients who were all under 200% of the federal income guidelines.



Residential Energy Efficiency

WX CREW ATTENDS ONLINE KHC LEARNREE TRAININGS

Gateway Community Action Weatherization program strives in operating an exceptional Weatherization program providing our clients with informed, and well trained staff. Our Retrofit Installer Technicians (RIT) are a key element of our team and for our success in providing quality services to our clients.



Winston Manning, Jackie Hembree, and Dylan Stevens



Weatherization comes together to collaborate new ideas and celebrate Community Action Month



Pictured left to right- Brian Nichols RIT, Roderick McCarty RIT, Evan O'Neal Housing Director, Braxton Ball RIT, Jessie Stidham QCI

WEATHERIZATION



Gateway Weatherization Program
Implementation of
Management Systems.

ASSETTIGER



Tracking program assets, such as power tools, vehicles, technology and vehicle maintenance made easy. We are able to set reminders for regular vehicle maintenance such as oil changes

and annual vehicle inspections, and track programmatic power tools through barcode scanning while being able to pull real time reports of current assets location with updated pictures of assets.

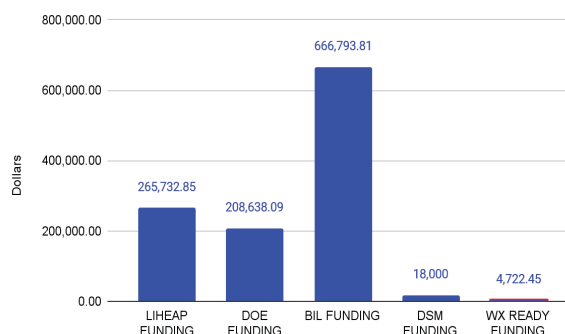


Weatherization crews improved the living conditions of occupants through the following efforts

- Installed 472 bags of insulation
- Applied 216 tubes of caulk
- Installed 147 LED light bulbs
- Replaced/Installed 15 new heating systems
- Installed 12 low flow energy efficient shower heads
- Installed 18 carbon monoxide monitors
- Installed 78 smoke alarms
- Installed 16 bathroom exhaust fans

GATEWAY WEATHERIZATION FUNDING

Funding FY 2022-2023



Total Funding 1,163,887.10

A Journey of 40 Years



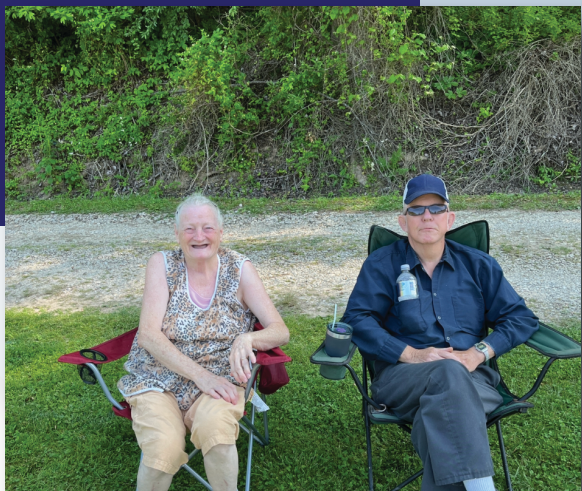
In the world of weatherization, where the mission is to create comfortable and energy-efficient homes, longevity and commitment are rare gems. This year, we bid farewell to a true weatherization pioneer, Anthony Wilson, an individual who dedicated four decades of his life to making a difference in the lives of countless families. As he steps into the next chapter of his life, it's time to celebrate the remarkable contributions and legacy left behind by this weatherization veteran.

For the past 40 years, our Weatherization hero has been at the forefront of transforming houses into energy-efficient, environmentally friendly, and affordable havens. His journey began in an era when Weatherization was still gaining traction, and the concept of conserving energy in homes was a novel idea. Undeterred, he embarked on a mission that would shape the lives of many and revolutionize the way we approach sustainable living.

The impact of our retiree's work is immeasurable. Beyond the numbers and metrics, his legacy lies in the lives he touched, the communities he uplifted, and the positive ripple effects that extended far beyond individual homes. His contribution to society is a true testament to the power of dedication and a reminder of the potential for change through determined efforts.

So, as we bid farewell to this remarkable individual, let us celebrate his achievements, cherish the memories we've shared, and carry his legacy forward. May his retirement be filled with joy, contentment, and the satisfaction of knowing he made a difference that will last for generations to come. Thank you for 40 years of outstanding service, and best wishes for the journey ahead!

Weatherization Customer Spotlight



Mr and Mrs. Hager

Mr. and Mrs. Hager were in desperate need of assistance with their increasing energy consumption, costs and efficiency of their home. After visiting their local outreach office for possible services, they heard about the Weatherization Assistance Program. Mr. and Mrs. Hager live in a mobile home in rural Morgan County. When they applied they stated, "We need help with our home, the furnace we have is on its last leg and we need help with the window and doors leaking. There are rooms colder than others in the winter and hotter in the summer and we are not able to make these changes ourselves. We have to keep back up heat and air to heat and cool the whole house during the winter and summer."

Once their application was approved, a thorough pre-inspection was conducted by our Quality Control Inspector that included

blower door testing, duct blaster testing, furnace inspection, combustion testing, existing levels of insulation and ductwork in the home and health and safety issues the home may have had. Those results were entered into our auditing system and it was determined that there were several measures that we could take to help solve their extreme high energy burden. Mr. and Mrs. Hager heated with an electric furnace original to the home and had propane wall heater and window AC unit to help assist the furnace during the winter and summer months.

Once approved, we were able to replace Mr. and Mrs. Hager's 20+ year-old furnace with a much more efficient furnace and heat pump system that provides both heating and cooling. We also conducted measures such as duct sealing to prevent air leakage in the duct system to ensure they received the air that they system was providing. We replaced LED light bulbs to increase energy efficiency. In addition, we utilized blow-in fiberglass insulation in the roof and floor of the home to keep the house more comfortable.

We also installed a new continuous-run bathroom exhaust fan to improve air quality as well as removing moisture from the home. Additionally, we installed CO and smoke detectors, fixed wiring problems, conducted general air sealing to prevent heat and cooling loss throughout the home, replaced shower heads with low-flow shower heads, and ensured all health and safety issues were repaired. We were able to do this with help from our local electric company assisting with costs associated with the heat pump and funding provided by KHC.



Mr. and Mrs. Hager expressed to us their gratitude saying, "Thank you guys so much for all that you have done for our home, you all have been the best people to work with. We would recommend this program to anyone we talk to, thank you all so much, we couldn't have done this without you." With these improvements Mr. and Mrs. Hager can expect to have lower utility bills and greater energy savings during the harsh summers and winters to come.

TBRA - Tennant Based Rental Assistance

Customer Spotlight



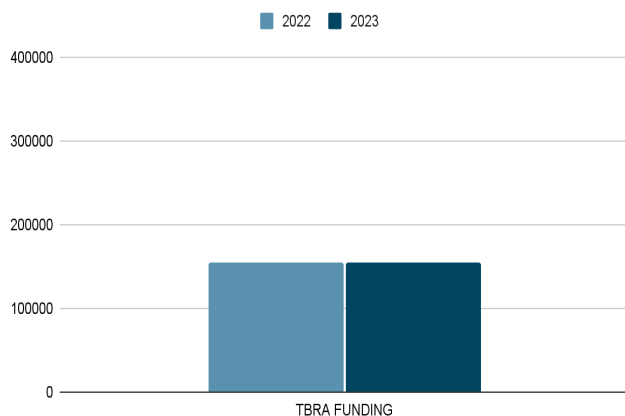
Denise Merriweather

Denise Merriweather originally from San Diego, CA, moved to Kentucky in hopes of getting a fresh start. She has endured a lot of loss in her life. Denise applied for assistance at Gateway Community Action and it has been a blessing to her. She has been able to save and build up her credit, all things many people take for granted, but not her! Our program, TBRA (Tenant Based Rental Assistance) was a stepping stone to help her get up and back on her feet. She was able to receive assistance for 18 months. She says that through the program, she was given the tools to be self-sufficient. It helped her immensely and she is very emotional about the impact it has had on her life and going forward! She is now working for Medicare and Amazon and told the shelter they can give her bed to someone else and give them a chance! She has her healing, independence, and her own place. Advice that she

would give to anyone needing the program who may be hesitant to ask for help is this. "Everyone needs a hand up sometimes. It is offensive to not ask for help. It's a hand up, not a hand-out. No matter what tsunami you are going through, it won't last forever!" This success story serves as an example of the transformative power of our Gateway Community Action Programs!

Gateway TBRA 2022 funding

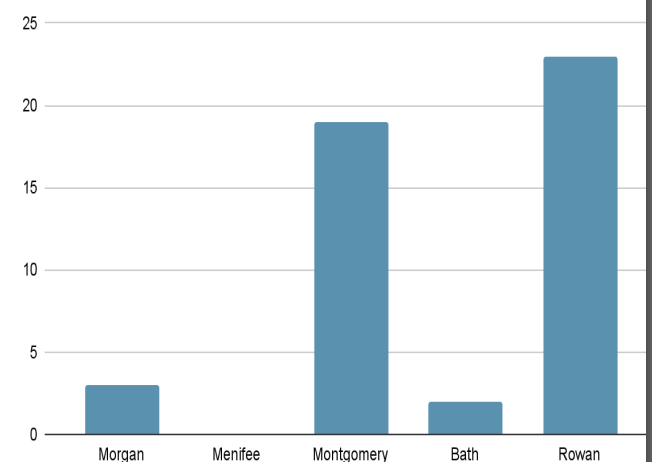
Total Funding



Preference is given to those who are homeless, disabled, elderly, families with small children, Veterans, and those experiencing domestic violence. In the last 12 months, Gateway Community Action TBRA Program has helped 68 families obtain or maintain stable housing.

Assistance is available to families who have a household income of less than 60% of the area median income.

Families Served by County



Partnerships are growing!



KHC connects the Gateway TBRA program with the local Gateway Homeless Coalition (Gateway House) located in Morehead to provide additional services to 8 households that needed resources after leaving the Gateway TBRA program.

Healthy Marriage And Responsible Fatherhood

June 2023 - Highlights

Mike Dement, MSU Farm Manager
John Allen, FPS



It is hard to believe that we are over halfway through our five year grant. In the past 12 months, our team has served over 1,200 participants. As one of the high performing grantees, we were excited to have a visit from our Washington D.C. Federal Program Specialist (FPS), John Allen. As John said, "I came to see if the team matched the scouting report. And it did!" He was looking for things we do well that could be replicated with other grantees. He also provided some great feedback on ways to improve. John grew up as a "city kid" so he was excited when we took him for a visit to the Morehead State University Agricultural Complex and Farm.

Fatherhood Program - Kenneth Watson



"I would like to thank Gateway Community Action for providing such great life skills in their Fatherhood Program." Kenneth now has a bank account and uses a budget. He is a car owner and has a driver's license for the first time in ten years. He is renting a home and has

enrolled in college for the fall semester. "I could not have done this without the program and learning important life skills. Life skills are just that, skills for life." We are proud to have Kenneth as a graduate of our program.

Fatherhood Program - John Quall

John Quall was one of the first fathers to complete the Fatherhood Program in the Montgomery County Jail. John expressed great thanks for all we did to teach and encourage him. John is now working as a Case Manager for Edgewater Recovery helping others move forward in their journey.



Healthy Marriage/Relationships - Devin Green

"When I first heard about this program with Gateway, I thought it would be about getting work ready. Little did I know that I would be learning about relationships and communication with family, friends, and self. I did not understand how body language, tone, and many other things played into communication." Devin felt comfortable opening up in class and taking a look at how he could improve his communication skills. He was also able to take a parenting module from the Fatherhood Program, which helped in understanding how his upbringing influenced his life choices and his own parenting style. The lessons learned helped him gain visitation with his youngest son. Devin has a message for others interested in taking the program, "Be open minded and be teachable. You will never know what you can learn until you try."



Team work

We could not continue to do this important work without the support of Gateway Community Action Leadership, and our partners Kentucky River Foothills and the University of Kentucky. Most importantly we could not serve so many in this important work without a terrific team of dedicated individuals who are passionate about helping others.

Funding

Healthy relationships and healthy families lead to healthy communities. Funding for these projects were provided by the United State Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant Numbers: 90ZB0013 and 90ZJ0012.



MOCO TRANSIT ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Report – Transportation - June 2023

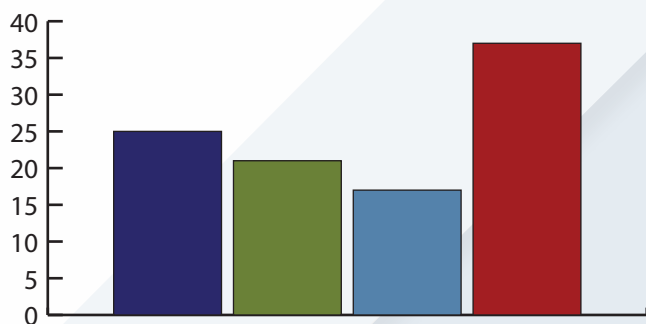
We have made some big changes in the last 12 months, all benefiting the community. MOCO Transit now runs five full days – Monday through Friday – 8:00am to 4:30pm. We also now have two drivers! This allows community members to have more independence than ever before. In addition, we partner with Federated Transportation of the Bluegrass (FTSB) to offer Medicaid transportation, and with Access2Care to offer Medicare transportation.

Vernon May and Greg Manning, along with Manager, Scotty Back love serving our riders. Our drivers pick up riders at one location (most often at the rider's home), take them wherever they want to go in Montgomery County, and then bring them back. All of this for \$1 each time the rider boards the bus. The most visited community locations are medical related facilities (doctor, pharmacy, therapy, vision, and dental), grocery stores/food assistance, local banks employers, and restaurants. We offer free rides to those getting COVID vaccines and those in substance use disorder recovery programs.

MOCO Transit Bus



In the last year, MOCO Transit has driven over 31,000 miles, taken over 4,200 trips, and transported over 2,500 riders (cumulative not individuals). Positive community outcomes include:



25% used to meet medical needs.

21% used to meet nutrition needs.

17% used to get to and from work.

37% gained their independence and ability to better manage their day to day lives.

One of our regular riders is Judith Goldie. She has been riding with MOCO Transit since service began in 2020. She said there are so many people like her that need this service and she tells all her friends about it. She said especially as an older adult, she likes not having to get out and scrape her car in the winter, not worrying about finding her car while shopping, or worry about her car breaking down and getting stranded.

She doesn't have any other relatives here, so it gives her family peace of mind. Judith said, "I wish everyone would take advantage of MOCO Transit; they would love it like I do". As an individual citizen, Judith made a generous donation to help match the funding needed to continue services. She usually rides with our driver Vernon May and has only great things to say regarding his customer service. Judith said "If there were no other riders, I'd still be there!" She is so thankful and grateful and wants to further the reach of the program.

Vernon May, Driver and Judith Goldie, Rider



Transportation Services Grants and Guidelines

Mt. Sterling City Council



In order to run transportation services, the program receives funding from the Department of Transportation, Office of Service Delivery. This grant funding is equal to 50% of the yearly budget. The other 50% of the budget must be matched by fares and donations. Local government, local business, local agencies and banks contribute in order to continue this service.

This year's budget was \$100,000 covered by \$50,000 in grant funding and \$50,000 in fare and contributions. We have not raised the \$1 fare since service began. In 2023-24 the budget will likely double due to the rise in costs for fuel, maintenance, supplies, rent, utilities, etc.

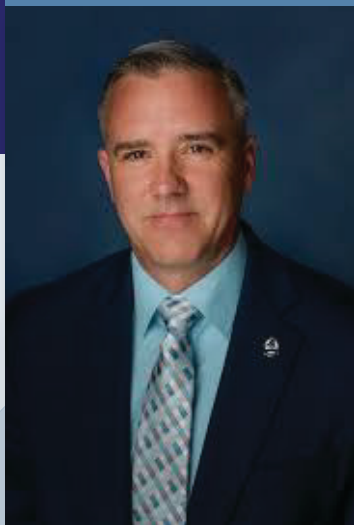
Without the support of the City of Mt. Sterling and the Montgomery County Fiscal Court this service would not exist. They provide at least half of the donation funds needed. Our local government understands the need and the value of transportation to the community.



Montgomery County Judge Executive, Chris Haddix



Mt. Sterling Mayor, Al Botts



Sponsors/Donors

Agency Donors

Traditional Bank
City of Jeffersonville
Community Trust Bank
Walmart Grant
Kiwanis
Mt. Sterling Clinic
Peoples Exchange Bank
St Joseph Hospital
Sterling Health Solutions
Wellcare
City of Mt. Sterling
City of Camargo
County of Montgomery Fiscal Court
Mt. Sterling Rotary
Whitaker Bank

Private Donors

The Helton Family
Judith Goldie

Ky Career Center/Job Site/WIOA

WIOA/ Kentucky Career Center

Participant Success One Participant at a time



Valrey Easterling, Jordan Weaver and Darlene Cantrell

I wanted to write a letter to commend the Gateway Community Action and Career Center of West Liberty, especially the women who work here: Namely Darlene and Valrey in particular!

My name is Jordan Weaver. I moved here to West Liberty on the 8th of February, 2023 from Indiana because my luck had taken a terrible turn. I battled homelessness and struggled to make ends meet by working daily jobs thru temp agencies, usually day labor jobs that were sporadic. Before the move to Kentucky I had landed a regular job washing dishes at a popular restaurant, the pay was ok as well as the tasks the job required, but the hours were drastically cut after the busy holiday season had ended. The temp agencies I had fallen back on in the past had suddenly nothing going on whatsoever.

I got in contact with an old friend from my childhood who had recently moved back to West Liberty. The farm he was born and raised on. All

he had was an RV and a couple boxes of canned goods, and no money to draw from as his luck starting the new year was unfortunately similar to my own.

He extended an invite to come and stay with him and his girlfriend to start a new life, and get the farmland back together after his dad passed away several years ago and had left to himself and his siblings.

Without money or food stamps coming in, we were in bad shape moving forward. Survival became a real and present concern.

That's when I stumbled across the Gateway Community Action Center. Here I found some of the most amazing people I had ever had the pleasure of meeting! They took extra time and effort to get myself and the ones I stay with some take home supplies we desperately needed. They treated me with genuine concern for my situation. Never making me feel down because of where I was at in the moment. To the contrary they rallied together to make sure I succeeded in the direction I needed moving forward. Not ever letting up.

They had some food and sanitation supplies that they gathered together for me on my very first visit. They also took special time to help put together a resume, and helped me fill out numerous job applications that I always avoided because my job history was shoddy at best. I never had the confidence to try to do these things myself. Truthfully I had no idea where to start had it not been for them.

Within the first week I was able to land a job at a local fast food restaurant. I was able to get signed up and approved for Medicaid and Snap benefits soon after, as well as the local food banks in the area. I have also recently had two new job offers since my hire.

I can truly say that they helped pull me out of a pit I had fallen in. Had it not been for them I know my lively hood would have been bleak at best, as well as the couple I stay with. Beyond that they have truly touched my heart and spirit.

I am beyond grateful for this Community Action Center of West Liberty and all the wonderful people who work here.

Special thanks again to Darlene and Valrey...You are the best!!!

Thank you,

Jordan Weaver

Ky Career Center/Job Site/WIOA

WIOA/ Kentucky Career Center

Participant Success One Participant at a time



Isaac Wright

Hello, my name is Isaac Wright. I recently graduated from Morgan County High School in May 2022. I was not sure what I wanted to do, but I knew that college was not what I wanted. I remembered when Valrey Easterling and Baylee Harris came over to the high school to tell us about the WIOA program at the Kentucky Career Center. I met with Valrey and we talked about the work experience program. We discussed employers that were available for Work Experience. I decided I would like to work with Allen's Construction.

I completed the Work Experience Program and got hired on by Allen's Construction. I learned a lot about construction, concrete work, as well as demolition work. I made some good friends at Allen's and they were always telling me what a great job I was doing.

I really enjoyed my time on the program and love my job. I would like to thank the ladies at WIOA and Allen Construction for all their support.

Isaac Wright

40 adults obtained
employment

10 adults received
credentials

WIOA Goals
Met

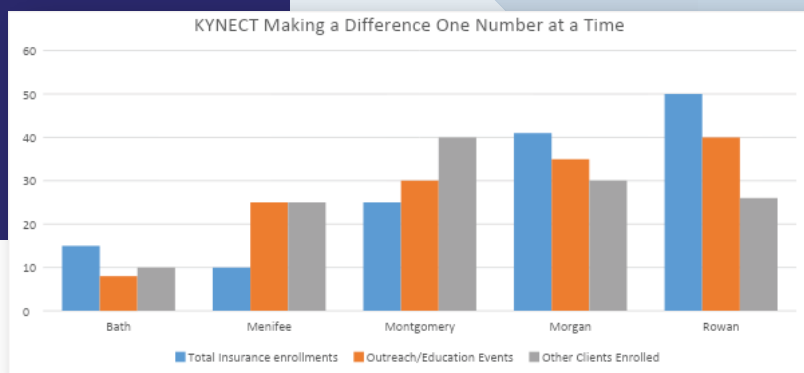
70% of youth enrolled
obtained employment

50% of youth enrolled
achieved measurable
employment skills

KYNECT: Connecting Communities & Healthcare for a Healthier Tomorrow

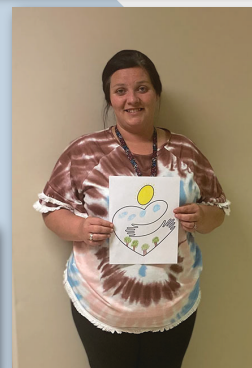
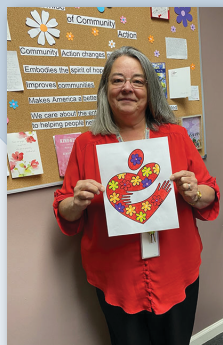
In today's fast-paced world, access to quality healthcare is crucial for the well-being of individuals and communities. However, many people face barriers when trying to navigate the complex healthcare system, leading to delays in seeking medical attention and suboptimal health outcomes. Recognizing this challenge, the state of Kentucky introduced an innovative solution called "Kynect" to bridge the gap between communities and healthcare services.

Gateway Community Action's Kynect program has demonstrated its effectiveness in increasing healthcare coverage and access for Kentuckians. By facilitating the connection between communities and healthcare services, Kynect has helped reduce healthcare disparities and ensured that everyone, regardless of their income or background, had a chance to lead a healthier life.



WORKING TOGETHER

Alone We Can Do So Little, Together We Can Do So Much ~ *Helen Keller*



WORKING TOGETHER

Alone We Can Do So Little, Together We Can Do So Much ~ *Helen Keller*



PROMISE, VISION, MISSION & VALUES

The Promise of Gateway Community Action

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 are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Considering the community action promise, Gateway Community Action reviewed our existing mission statement to determine if it captured the desired spirit of the agency and community action movement. We also envisioned what the future impact would be on our communities if the agency and our stakeholders were to achieve what they set out to do and achieve our mission, goals, and objectives.

The Vision of Gateway Community Action

Gateway Community Action envisions an organization of excellence where all staff engage and support community collaboration by providing a comprehensive high quality system of services. Through partnerships, people with low-income find resources, support, relations and opportunities that aid them in overcoming economic and cultural barriers to establishing and maintaining self-sufficient lives.

The Mission of Gateway Community Action

Gateway Community Action works closely with community partners, empowering individuals and families in overcoming the causes of poverty through a range of human service programs.

"Helping People, Changing Lives"

The Values of Gateway Community Action

At the essence of **compassion**, Gateway Community Action promotes human dignity and concern for the well-being of others. We promote respect by validating those of lowest status as much as those of high status in order to create healthy individuals in a supportive community.

We believe in being **optimistic** with each and every individual, helping them feel a sense of purpose and giving them hope that they can face the challenges ahead.

We also embrace the challenge of **credibility**. We are confident in our capabilities and understand the importance of establishing our business as a solid foundation that provides lasting stability.



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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GatewayCAA>

or

Give us a call!
Toll Free: 800-927-1833



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