



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2024

INCLUDING
HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2023-2024



CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.
CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT, INC.



WHO WE ARE

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) is a not-for-profit Community Action Agency that has been serving the low income population of Chautauqua County, NY since 1965. COI served 2,999 households in 2024 with a budget of over \$22,000,000.

The agency's services are designed to provide individuals with a ladder out of poverty and improve the overall well-being of the entire household. We are committed to maintaining each individual's dignity while assisting each one to achieve short and long term goals that help them move toward economic stability.

DESIGNATIONS

Community Action Agency
 Community Development Entity (CDE)
 Community Development Corporation
 Registered New York State Charity
 Licensed Child Care Center
 Licensed Home Care Service Agency
 Licensed Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter
 Licensed Transitional Living Program for Youth
 HUD Certified Housing Counseling Agency
 Building Performance Institute (BPI) Certified Contractor
 Provider of Head Start and Early Head Start
 Child Care Resource and Referral Organization
 Family Day Care Registrar
 Certified Personal Care Aide Training Program
 NYS Designated Rural Preservation Company
 Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)
 U.S. Department of Justice Credit Counseling Agency and Provider of Debtor Education

OUR MISSIONS

Leading the fight against poverty by mobilizing resources and creating partnerships to promote empowerment, economic independence and opportunities.

- Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.

Leading the fight against poverty by mobilizing resources and creating partnerships to promote and create economic independence through business development and opportunities.

- Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As a customer of COI or CODI services you can expect:

- To be treated fairly and with respect.
- To be served equally without regard to race, national origin, gender, age, disability, religion or sexual orientation.
- To be a partner with staff in developing a plan for services to meet your needs.
- To have your service needs met in the most timely manner possible.
- Full confidentiality and privacy.
- Services of the highest quality possible.

Letter from the CEO

Dear Community Members, Partners & Supporters,

I'm honored to share the 2024 Annual Impact Report for Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) and Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. (CODI). Together, we've made meaningful strides in addressing our community's most pressing needs. This report highlights key achievements we've made, particularly in areas where support is most needed.

Homelessness remains a critical issue in Chautauqua County, NYS and nationwide. COI is committed to finding ways to address this growing challenge. COI leads the Homelessness Coalition which brings local leaders, service providers, and advocates together to create a unified, compassionate strategy in response.

In addition, COI has been working to support vulnerable populations through the development of the Hope Haven Women's Shelter. Construction started in March 2024 with the expectation of opening in March 2025. This shelter will provide both immediate refuge and long-term resources for women to regain stability and independence.

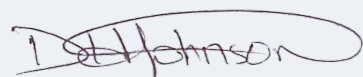
On the national stage, the Presidential election occurred in November 2024, resulting in significant shifts in policy and funding priorities. While Continuing Resolutions (CR) passed in March and September 2024 which temporarily averts a government shutdown, we remain prepared to adjust to any changes in federal funding that may affect our work. The March 2025 deadline is looming with the expectation of another 6-month CR to pass.

Despite these challenges, we have much to celebrate. For the second consecutive year, COI was recognized as a "Top Work Place," reflecting the strength of our team and the culture of collaboration we've built. We're also marking the 60th anniversary of the Economic Opportunity Act and the creation of Community Action, reaffirming our commitment to providing equity and opportunities for Chautauqua County residents.

In April 2024 the solar eclipse was a reminder of our shared power and collective purpose. Just as millions gathered to witness this awe-inspiring event, our community's united efforts to tackle homelessness and uplift each other continue to prove the lasting impact of working in harmony to drive meaningful change.

None of this would be possible without you — our donors, partners, and advocates. Your belief in our mission inspires us daily. Together, we're building a brighter future, and we invite you to continue standing with us as we work to create opportunities for all to thrive.

Thank you for your continued support.
With gratitude,



Diane Hewitt-Johnson, COI CEO



Boards of Directors

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. Board members

Seated: Kevin O'Connell, Susan Forrester-Mackay, Douglas Richmond, Veronice Jones
Standing: Marie Carrubba, Michele Bautista, Janet Keefe, Natalie Luczkowiak



Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. Board members pictured from left to right:

Seated: Susan Parker, Kristen Kathman, Magdalena Dye
Back Row: Rebecca Brumagin, Dave Thomas, Thomas Whitney

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.

Kevin O'Connell, *Chairperson*
Rebecca Ruiz, *Vice-Chairperson*
Tricia Moore, *Treasurer*
Douglas Richmond, *Secretary*
Janet Keefe
Rebecca Brumagin
Laura White
Kevin Whitaker

Robert Bankoski
Natalie Luczkowiak
Susan Forrester Mackay
Marie Carrubba
Veronice Jones
Michele Bautista
Thomas Whitney
Robert Moore

COI's volunteer Board of Directors is comprised of one-third representatives from the public sector, one-third representatives from the private sector, and one-third representatives of the low-income population or agencies that serve them.

Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc.

David Thomas, *Chairperson*
Kristen Kathman, *Vice-Chairperson*
Jena Willebrandt, *Treasurer*
Kevin Muldowney, *Secretary*
Thomas Whitney

Rebecca Brumagin
Magdalena Dye
Susan Parker

CODI is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors that includes individuals with extensive experience in lending and business administration. A Loan Committee meets monthly to review applications from businesses and startups for loans or lines of credit.

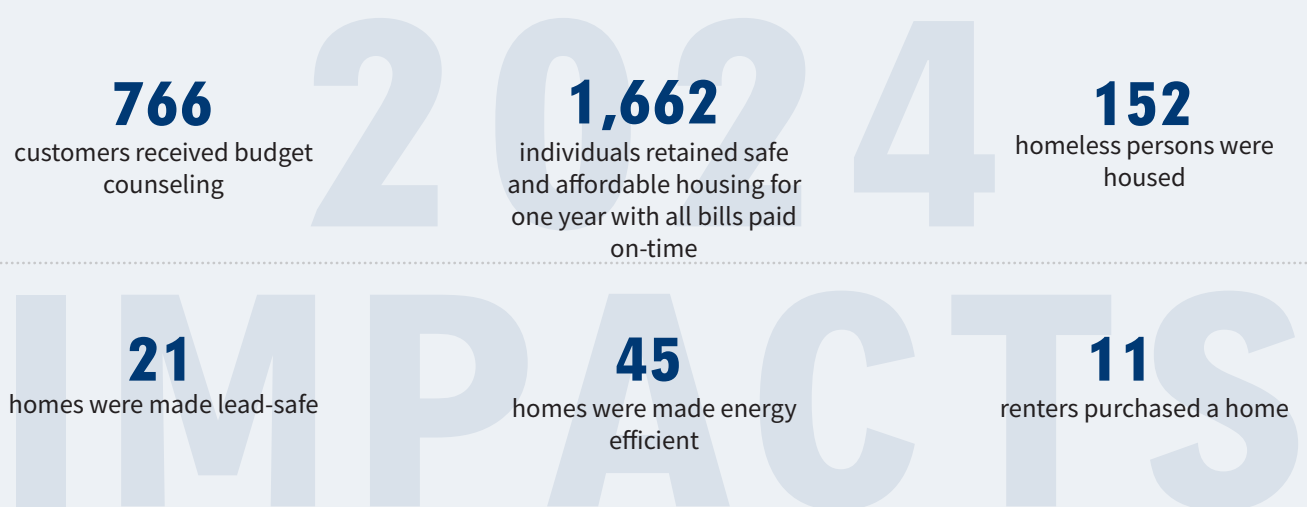


Housing and Community Development

Tenant Services | Fair Housing Outreach & Education | Homebuyer Education
 Foreclosure Prevention | Credit & Debt Counseling | Housing Rehabilitation
 Homeless Prevention & Rehousing | Weatherization | Financial Literacy Education

The Housing and Community Development Division provides housing services that meet low-income individuals and families at their level of need and offers them the opportunity to become self-sufficient and economically secure through asset development. In 2024, the division continued to face a surge in homelessness at a time when many customers were struggling to meet basic needs. As the lead agency for the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition, COI collaborated with many local non-profit organizations and municipalities to provide services and resources to respond.

Our Housing Rehab services continue to assist low-income homeowners and tenants. The Weatherization Assistance Program helped reduce the cost of energy bills for homeowners, making their housing more affordable. In 2024, the Lead-Chautauqua Healthy Homes Program (Lead-CHHP) really hit its stride and reduced lead hazards in the homes of 21 families with a child under the age of six.



LEAD REMEDIATION BEFORE AND AFTER

Chautauqua Opportunities partners with the Chautauqua County Department of Health to reduce lead hazards in Chautauqua County homes that were built prior to 1978, when lead-based paint was banned. Children under the age of 6 must reside in the home and the household must meet income eligibility requirements. The properties are assessed for lead hazards and repairs are carried out by Lead-Certified contractors to ensure the property is lead-safe. The program includes referrals for testing children in the home for elevated blood lead levels.

“The work was done to a high standard and we are so happy to be living in a house that had the lead hazards remediated. We have been able to improve the health of our children with no cost to ourselves. We recommend you apply to see if you are eligible.” - Andrew Johnston, Lead-CHHP Program participant



HOPE HAVEN WOMEN’S SHELTER

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) is getting ready to open its Hope Haven emergency shelter for homeless women. Demolition and rehabilitation work began in March 2024 to convert a building in Jamestown into an emergency shelter for homeless women. COI is now getting ready for a grand opening celebration in 2025. The three-story building had previously contained a laundromat on the first floor and apartments on the upper floors. The completed emergency shelter now has 12 one-bedroom fully furnished units. Units on the second floor are fully adaptable and provide room for one person per unit. Bedrooms on the third floor are slightly larger and can accommodate up to 2 persons each. The first floor consists of common areas and space for onsite staff. The shelter has the capacity to house up to 18 adult women at a time and will be staffed 24/7.



The project will address the lack of emergency shelter options for the homeless, who are currently placed in hotels and motels at high cost. The project will provide a place to shelter homeless women who would otherwise be living in places not meant for habitation, such as on the street or in abandoned buildings. The building is centrally located in the downtown area of the City of Jamestown, within walking distance of most services that the target population would need, including the Department of Social Services and Chautauqua Works. Case management and supportive services will be provided to residents to address the causes of homelessness and assist them with acquiring and maintaining permanent housing.



Child Care Council

Child Care Resource & Referral | Summer Food Program | Legally Exempt Child Care
 Family Day Care Registration | Family Court Child Care | Child and Adult Care Food Program
 Child Care Business Development | Provider Mentoring/Training/ Assessments

The Chautauqua Child Care Council works to break the cycle of poverty by building a network of quality child care that supports economic development and working families. The division works with school districts, communities, business owners and others to identify the child care needs of the future and to develop the resources necessary to meet that need. Our mission is to foster collaborative relationships in order to build a strong responsive child care support system that meets the needs of all Chautauqua County families, child care providers, businesses and communities.

The Child Care Council has worked to promote the child care assistance program to Chautauqua County. With new, higher income guidelines, more parents are qualifying for help paying for their child care.

355

Legally Exempt Child Care providers were enrolled as providers

42

Registered Family and Group Family Child Care Providers

242

Customers called or searched online for child care resource and referral

70,873

Summer Food meals and snacks were served

254,812

Meals reimbursed to providers by Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The focus of the Child Care Council is on locating child care that is tailored to meet the needs of each family, helping families determine if they qualify for help to pay for child care, providing training for those who work with children, recruiting additional child care providers and providing relevant consultations in child care programs. Each year the Child Care Council provides quality, support, development and education to children, families, and providers across our county.

It is our goal that all children will be cared for in safe, nurturing, and healthy environments growing to become contributing members of their communities and capable of nurturing their own children.



The Child Care Council showing their support to end child abuse during Child Abuse Prevention

48 Professional Development Trainings provided to

757 Early Care and Education staff

62 Evidence-based assessments conducted

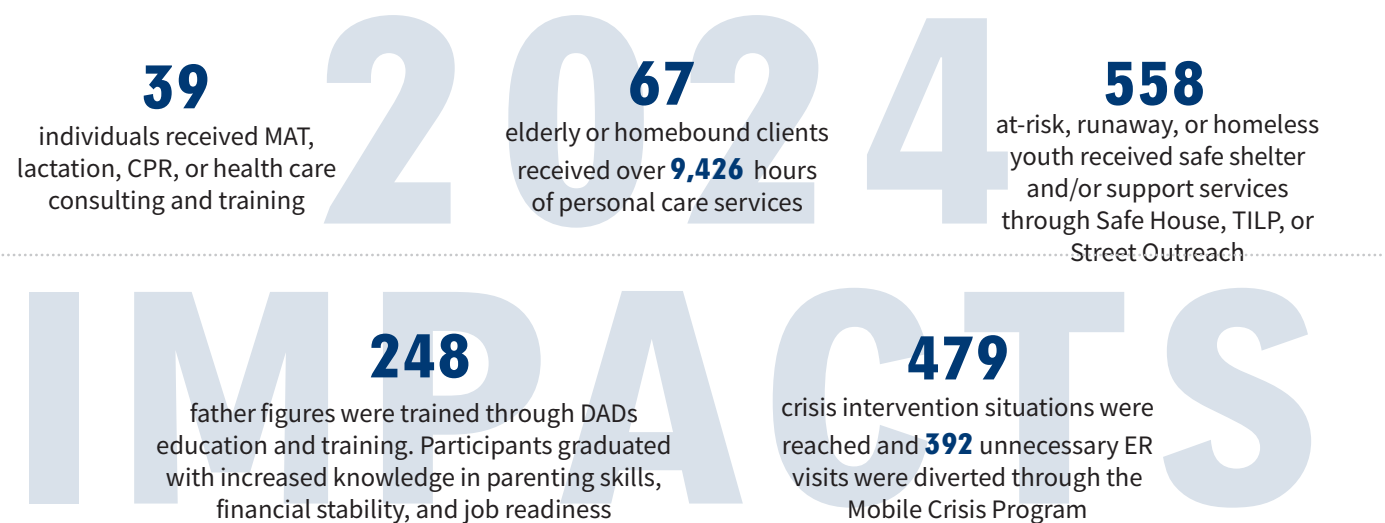


Health and Family Services

Licensed Home Care | Transitional Living Program | Mobile Crisis Outreach | Migrant Health Outreach
 Fatherhood Support Services | Training | Runaway & Homeless Youth Shelter

The Health and Family Services Division is dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyles and empowering individuals to be physically and emotionally healthy through access to health care, education, and family supports. Support is provided to individuals requiring immediate intervention and to those who will benefit from a long standing relationship, which includes providing specific education, assessments, support groups, and respite services.

In 2024, Home Care maintained a steady number of clients while delivering more service hours compared to the previous year. However, the shortage of Personal Care Aides in the Home Care field persists. Transportation and translation services remained available for migrant farm workers to help them access doctor and dental appointments. Services for homeless and at-risk youth continued to increase in numbers in 2024. There was also a rise in community and incarcerated participants in fatherhood services during the year. Mobile Crisis Outreach services experienced a significant increase in call volume in 2024.



FATHERHOOD SUCCESS

Alan is a father who made a decision to work on a better life for himself and his special needs daughter. He began by enrolling in COI's 24/7 Dad Fatherhood Program, which enabled him to join forces with a Life Coach to help him reach his goals. During their initial meeting, Alan and his Life Coach discussed the goals he wanted to accomplish. The first steps were to secure a job and acquire state identification and health insurance. Working together, Alan and his Life Coach were successful in getting health insurance for him through Medicaid and establishing a connection with a new doctor. Although Alan faced challenges in gathering sufficient identification for his State ID application, his health insurance and Medicaid cards provided the necessary documentation. The Life Coach also helped him with transportation to the DMV, where he finally obtained his State ID. Alan also wanted to work on getting a job. While he was enrolled in the Fatherhood Program, a representative from Goodwill of Western NY came to talk with the group about their Good Skills Career Builder program. This inspired Alan to pursue that program as well. Once he got his State ID, he was able to enroll in the Good Skills program and has since graduated. He now has a much more positive perspective on job hunting and will have a job coach to assist him for the next three years. Alan was also able to get involved with the Jamestown Community Learning Council's Parents as Teachers program. He is now much more engaged in his daughter's education and frequently shares her progress. With just a little support and encouragement from the Fatherhood program staff, Alan successfully achieved many of his life goals within just six months.



ZION'S STORY

Zion Ayrhart enrolled in the Safe House in March 2024 as a homeless youth. While in the program, Zion participated in life skills, increased his independent living skills, and became an active participant in Youth Corps. Zion maintained his school attendance at Randolph Central High School and graduated early with his high school diploma. While in the Safe House, Zion applied for Job Corp and was accepted into their security program. Zion transitioned from the Safe House to Job Corp on May 14th and is looking to graduate from the security program in February 2025.



Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc.

Incubator Space | Small Business Essentials Training Course | Consumer Lending
Small Business Lending | Entrepreneurial Technical Assistance

CODI promotes economic development by providing technical assistance to existing businesses, as well as entrepreneurs who want to start their own business. Loans and lines of credit are provided to viable businesses and startups, which benefits the community through increased economic activity and job creation. CODI's development services are available to those who may not be able to access traditional forms of financing. Small consumer loans help individuals by improving their personal financial position and establishing or improving credit histories.

CODI's Home Appliance Loan Program offers low-interest loans for appliances such as refrigerators, washers, dryers, and stoves. The program offers significant cost savings for these items when compared to interest rates and rent-to-own charges available elsewhere.

100 entrepreneurs assisted with training/ technical assistance

8 entrepreneurs will start a business with the help of CODI

3 aspiring entrepreneurs graduated from Business Essentials Training

4 individuals benefited from low-interest rate appliance loans totaling **\$8,433**

7 small business loans totaling **\$174,000** were dispersed

IMPACTS

Epic Floats and Wellness

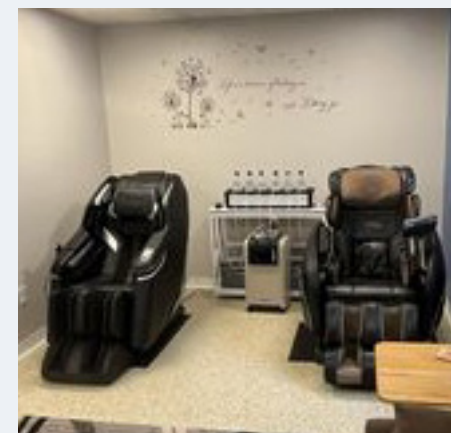
In 2023, Shawna Tellinghuisen and her husband opened Epic Floats and Wellness which is a unique wellness business that brings a holistic approach to relaxation in their community. They had a clear mission: to provide a tranquil space where people could escape the stress of daily life and focus on rejuvenating their minds and bodies. From float therapy to wellness services, Epic Floats quickly became a beacon of well-being in the area.



In celebration of Women in Small Business Month in October, Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. (CODI) launched a special Women in Business Facebook Feature to highlight and support women entrepreneurs in the region. When Shawna was approached by CODI to be featured, she was thrilled at the opportunity - not only for the exposure it would bring to her business but also to uplift and support other women-owned businesses in the community.



The Women in Business post showcased the incredible services available at Epic Floats and Wellness. Within just one day, the post reached 2,585 people which is such a fantastic response that has helped spread the word about Shawna's business to an even wider audience. The engagement was overwhelming, with new followers and many comments from people excited to learn about this unique wellness offering in their area.



Since the feature, Shawna has been an enthusiastic supporter of the other women featured by CODI. In following the posts, Shawna was the first to like, share, and cheer on the successes of fellow women entrepreneurs, which is truly what collaboration and community support is all about. This positive engagement has also resulted in an increase in likes and follows on the Epic Floats social media pages, helping the business grow its on-line presence.

The team at CODI is proud to continue supporting Shawna and her husband, offering technical assistance and guidance as their business grows. They look forward to collaborating with them in the future and watching Epic Floats and Wellness thrive.



END OF THE YEAR GRADUATION ACTIVITIES

Early Care and Education

Head Start | Early Head Start | Universal Pre-K
 Early Head Start Expansion - Child Care Partnership

The Early Care and Education Division works to break the cycle of poverty by providing quality child care that supports working families in a safe and nurturing environment that promotes school success and helps each child realize their full potential.

IMPACTS

416
children received educational services supporting developmental growth and school readiness

399
enrolled children received medical exams

299
enrolled children received dental exams

91%
4 years olds entering kindergarten met or exceeded Age Appropriate Cognitive Skills

89%
4 years olds entering kindergarten met or exceeded Age Appropriate Language Skills

87%
4 years olds entering kindergarten met or exceeded Age Appropriate Literacy Skills

82
children graduated to Kindergarten



The end of the 2023-2024 school year festivities were held at each of the agency's childcare centers to congratulate those who graduated from the program in late June. A total of 82 four-year-olds donned caps and gowns and were deemed ready for the transition to kindergarten in September. Graduates of Holy Family Center in Jamestown and families who were in attendance enjoyed a pizza party and participated in fun activities that included face painting, rock painting, bead bracelets, water play and plenty of bubbles.



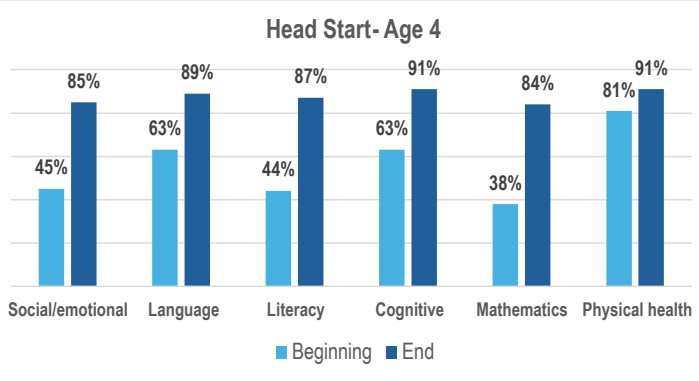
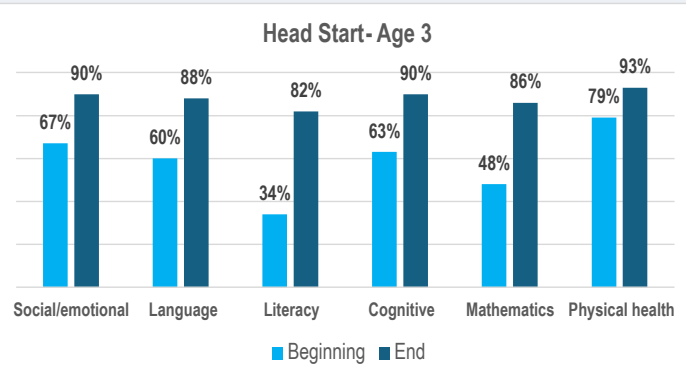
A Fire and Summer Safety Event was held at Connections North in Dunkirk, NY. The event was a huge hit with home-based and center-based children, who learned the types of vehicles that community helpers use to do their jobs. Children enjoyed to climbing into the fire truck and pretending to be fire fighters. They were also able to explore the inside of an ambulance. Excitement grew as the children watched the flashing lights and heard the sound of the sirens.

Head Start helps 3- and 4- year olds learn the skills necessary for later success in school and in life. Family engagement is a critical component to the process, as parents are their child's primary teacher. The areas of social/emotional development, language skills, literacy, cognitive, mathematics, and physical health are assessed three times during the year to measure each child's progress. On the previous page, charts illustrate the percentage of 3- and 4- year olds who met or exceeded age-appropriate milestones in each area at the beginning of the program year compared to the end of the year.

Early Head Start serves infants and toddlers under the age of 3, and pregnant women. Services are similar to preschool Head Start programs, but are tailored for the needs of infants and toddlers. The physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development of infants and toddlers is promoted in Early Head Start to prepare them for healthy growth and development that will lead to success later in school and in life.

COI also offers Home-based Head Start and Early Head Start services that are provided in the home environment, as well as opportunities for socialization with other children and families.

See attached Head Start Annual Report.



FINANCIALS

CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

2024 SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Federal Grants	\$ 13,386,727
State Grants	\$ 3,776,900
Local Grants/Other Contributions	\$ 1,215,820
In-Kind Contributions/ Property Donations	\$ 840,216
Program Fees	\$ 3,084,770
Misc. Revenue	\$ 233,574
Interest Income	\$ 147,756
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$ 22,685,763

CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT, INC.

2024 SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Grant Revenue	\$ 170,375
Interest and Fees	\$ 20,770
Miscellaneous	\$ 170
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$ 191,315

FUNDERS

U.S. Department of Agriculture
 U.S. Department of Education
 U.S. Department of Energy
 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 U.S. Treasury Department

NY State Department of Health
 NY State Department of State
 NY State Empire State Development Corporation
 NY State Homes and Community Renewal
 NY State Housing Trust Fund
 NY State Office of the Attorney General
 NY State Office of Children and Family Services
 NY State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

NY State Unified Court System

Brocton Central School District
 Cattaraugus Community Bank
 Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene and Social Services
 Chautauqua County Youth Bureau
 Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
 Clara Gould Foundation
 Credit Builders Alliance
 Dunkirk Public School District
 Jamestown Public School District
 Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation
 Richard Hartley Fund
 United Way of Southern Chautauqua County



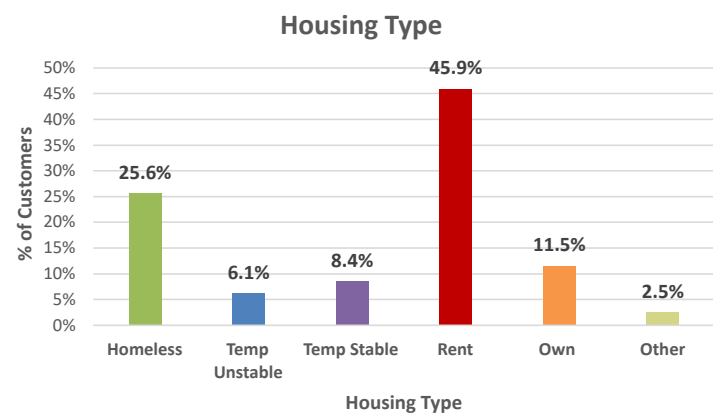
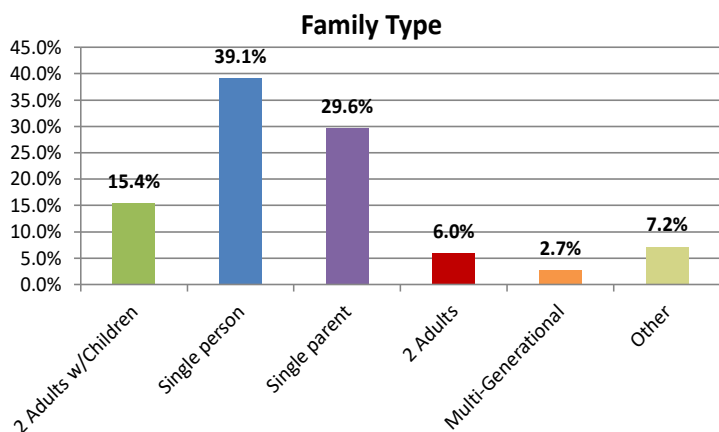
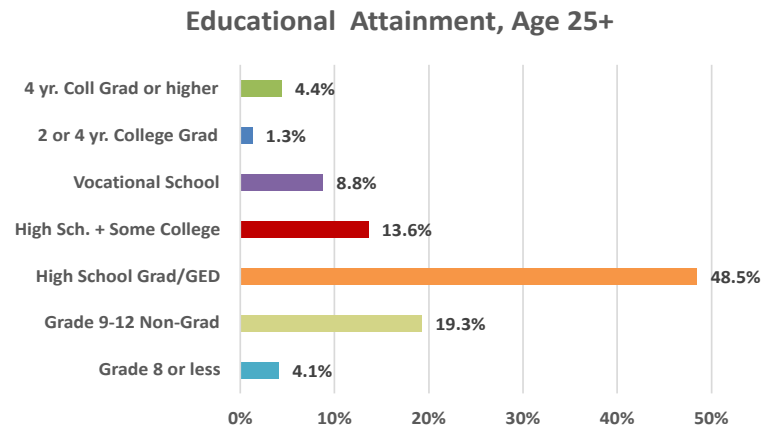
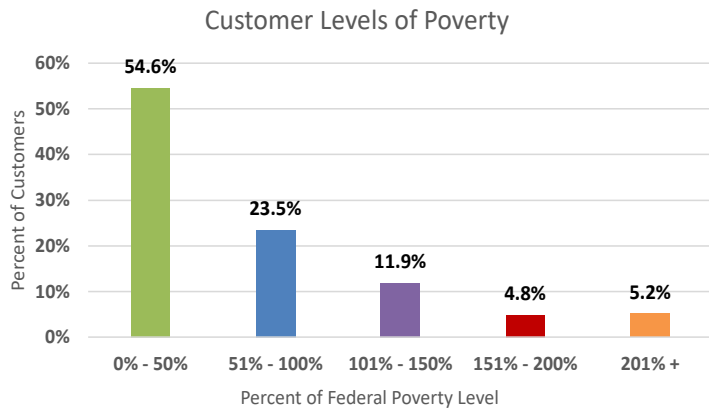
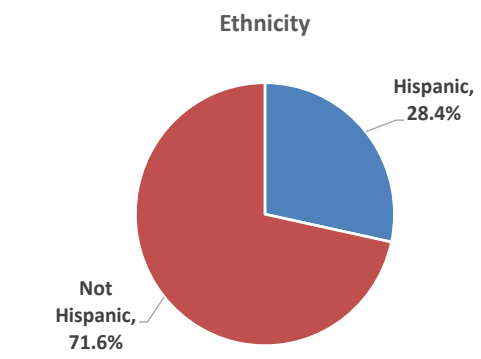
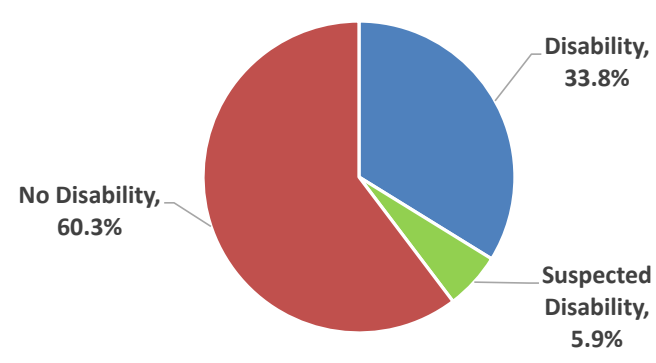
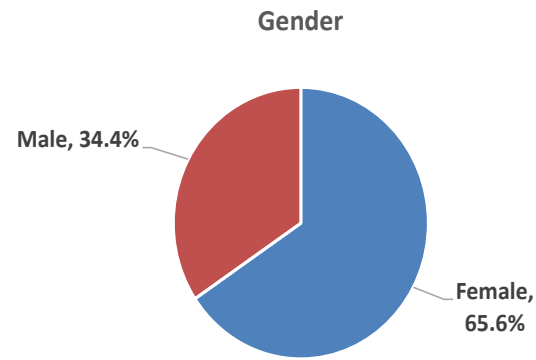
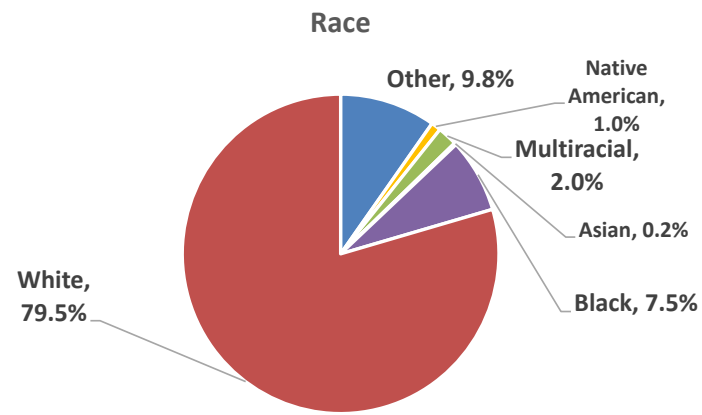
Support for Hope Haven Women's Shelter. Pictured Left to Right: Josiah Lamp, Director of Housing and Community Development, Sara Gilbert representing the Greater Jamestown AM Rotary, Mary Rappole representing the Zonta Club of Jamestown and Diane Hewitt-Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

HOPE HAVEN WOMEN'S SHELTER FUNDERS

NY State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
 City of Jamestown Department of Development
 Chautauqua County Land Bank
 Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene and Social Services
 Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
 Zonta Club of Jamestown
 Greater Jamestown AM Rotary
 Gebbie Foundation
 Sherman Church Congregation

Special thanks to all individuals who provided donations to support furnishing the shelter to get it up and running in 2025!

Customer Demographics & Data



Poverty in Chautauqua County

Total County Population: 126,329

County Poverty Rate: 17.0%

NYS Poverty Rate: 13.7%

County Median Household Income: \$76,149

NYS Median Family Income: \$105,060

County Families with Children Under Age 18 in Poverty: 19.7%

NYS Families with Children Under Age 18 in Poverty: 14.9%

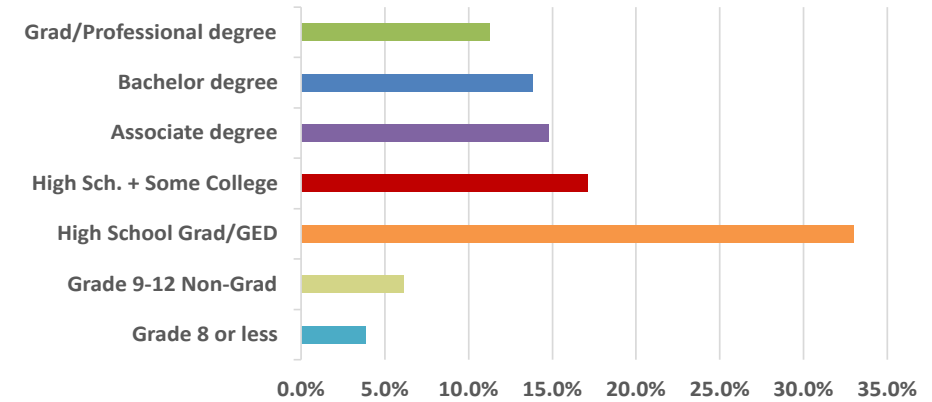
Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2023-2025 year Estimates

Persons in Family/ Household	Poverty Guideline
1	\$15,060
2	\$20,440
3	\$25,820
4	\$31,200
5	\$36,580
6	\$41,960
7	\$47,340
8	\$52,720

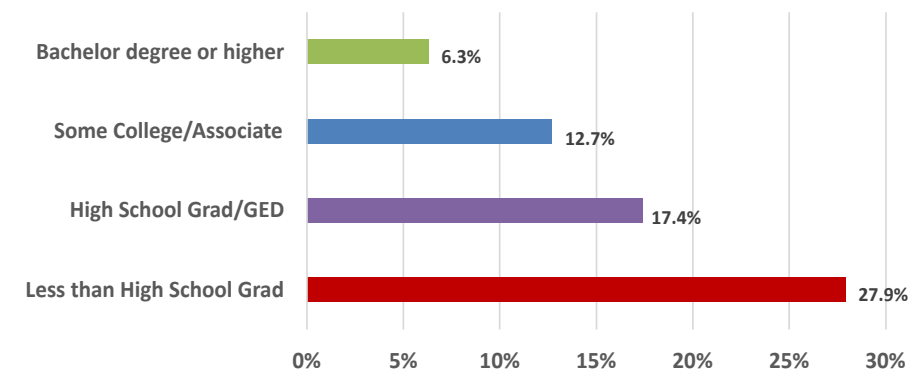
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,380 for each additional person.

2024 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 contiguous United States, HHS

Educational Attainment, Chautauqua Co., Age 25+



Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment Chautauqua County, Age 25+



Education & Poverty

LOCATIONS



Michael G. Verico Administrative Building
17 W. Courtney Street
Dunkirk, NY 14048



Laughlin Community Action Center
402 Chandler Street
Jamestown, NY 14701



Connections North
10825 Bennett Road
Dunkirk, NY 14048



Safe House Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter & Luke's Place Transitional Living Program
16 E. 6th Street
Jamestown, NY 14701



NRG House Transitional Living Program
46 W. 4th Street
Dunkirk, NY 14048



Holy Family Center
1135 N. Main Street
Jamestown, NY 14701



Early Childhood Community Center Holy Trinity
1020 Central Avenue
Dunkirk, NY 14048

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. Head Start Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2023-2024



Head Start Annual Report FY 2023-2024

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report summarizes the financial and programmatic outcomes of the Head Start program at Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024, covering key data about funding sources, children and family services, program compliance, and activities that support child development. We strive for transparency and accountability in reporting and remain committed to delivering high-quality services for children and families in our communities.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Federal Funds

For Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024, the total federal funding allocated amounted to \$6,353,915. The breakdown is as follows:

Personnel	\$ 2,366,243
Fringe Benefits	\$ 507,184
Consultant & Contract	\$ 724,536
Staff Travel	\$ 8,821
Bussing	\$ 487,853
Space	\$ 984,278
Supplies	\$ 161,335
Equipment	\$ 450
Other	\$ 475,257
Indirect Costs	\$ 637,955
TOTAL FUNDING:	\$ 6,353,915

Local Supporting Funds

In addition to federal funding, we received local funds amounting to \$1,834,671. These funds were provided from a variety of sources:

Organization	Services	Amount
Brocton Central School District	UPK Services Contract	\$ 142,496
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	Wrap Around Child Care for HS & EHS children	\$ 12,294
Child & Adult Food Program	Food and Kitchen Staff Salaries	\$ 246,192
Dunkirk City School District	UPK Services Contract	\$ 388,176
Jamestown Public Schools	UPK Services Contract	\$ 297,250
Lake Shore Family Center	Infant & Toddler Child Care Services	\$ 187,830
In-Kind Donations	Donations, Volunteers, & Vendor Discounts	\$ 560,433

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the proposed budget reflects a total of \$7,382,228, including both federal and local funds.

Federal Funds:

Personnel	\$ 2,991,510
Fringe Benefits	\$ 739,213
Travel	\$ 1,500
Contractual	\$ 1,633,134
Other	\$ 1,150,727
Total Direct Charges	\$ 6,660,284
Indirect Charges	\$ 721,944
Total Federal Funds	\$ 7,382,228
Local Support Funds	\$ 1,845,557

Children and Families Served

Funded Enrollment:	522 children
Total Enrolled:	416 children
Percentage of Eligible Children Served:	79.7%
Average Monthly Enrollment:	333 children (63.8% of funded enrollment)

PROGRAM COMPLIANCE AND AUDIT

Recent Review by the Secretary

The most recent review by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the Head Start and Early Head Start programs was conducted from December 11, 2023 to December 15, 2023. The review identified an Area of Noncompliance regarding safety at the Early Childhood Community Center/Holy Trinity Center, where window air conditioning unit cords were accessible to children. The noncompliance was corrected immediately by rearranging furniture and covering cords, ensuring compliance with safety regulations.

Financial Audit Results

The fiscal year 2023 audit was conducted by Saxton Kocur and Associates, LLP. Their audit confirmed that our financial statements accurately represent our financial position. Furthermore, the audit did not identify material weaknesses, and it verified that we comply with federal program requirements, including Head Start regulations.

The audit report is available on <https://www.chautauquaopportunities.com/financial-information/>.

HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Exams: 95.9% of enrolled children received medical exams.

Dental Exams: 71.9% of enrolled children received dental exams.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

The **Policy Council** is composed of 9 elected parents, representing each child care location, and 2 appointed community members who support services for children and families.

The Council plays a vital role in decision-making, ensuring parents' voices are heard in the governance of programs.

In addition to the Policy Council, COI facilitates a **Parent Committee** that organizes a variety of family and community events, including:

- Picnics
- Pumpkin Festival
- Health Fair
- Holiday Parties
- Reading Week
- Explorations of local libraries, parks, and children's gyms



PREPARING CHILDREN FOR KINDERGARTEN

To support the transition to kindergarten, **The Creative Curriculum** is implemented in all Head Start and Early Head Start classrooms. This research-based curriculum ensures that children receive developmentally appropriate practices and experiences tailored to their learning needs. It emphasizes exploration, discovery, and responsive caregiving.

For 4-year-olds entering kindergarten, the program achieved the following milestones:

- **Social/Emotional Skills:** 85% of children met or exceeded age-appropriate skills
- **Language Skills:** 89% met or exceeded age-appropriate skills
- **Literacy Skills:** 87% met or exceeded age-appropriate skills
- **Cognitive Skills:** 91% met or exceeded age-appropriate skills
- **Mathematics Skills:** 84% met or exceeded age-appropriate skills
- **Physical Health:** 91% met or exceeded age-appropriate skills

CONCLUSION





As we close out the 2023-2024 fiscal year, we remain proud of the strides we've made in serving children and families, improving our programs, and managing resources responsibly. We are committed to ensuring that every child receives the support they need to thrive in a safe, nurturing environment. We look forward to continuing our work in the coming year, focusing on growth, compliance, and providing excellent care for our community.



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