

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2025



INCLUDING
HEAD START ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2024-2025

COMMEMORATING 60 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

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 3,110 households in 2025 with a budget of over \$19,900,000.

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
Community Development Corporation
Registered New York State Charity
Licensed Child Care Centers
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.

COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

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.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As a client/customer of COI/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 COI/CODI 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,

As I reflect on the past year, I'm amazed at how quickly the year has passed. Despite the challenges we've experienced, we've been able to accomplish many things. I am pleased to share the 2025 Annual Impact Report for Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) and Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. (CODI), which highlights our accomplishments.

Over the past year, Community Action as a whole has witnessed many changes. Nationally, we continued to face significant shifts in policy and funding priorities resulting in Continuing Resolutions and the ever-present possibility of a government shutdown. At the state level we've seen the possibility of massive cuts to the Weatherization Assistance Program that so many New Yorkers rely upon. As a result, Community Action remained poised to advocate and respond to any changes that might affect our ability to serve our communities.

Despite these challenges, we have much to celebrate. COI commemorated its **60th anniversary as a certified Community Action agency** providing much needed services to combat poverty in Chautauqua County. We kicked off the celebration with the Grand Opening of COI's Hope Haven Women's Shelter in March 2025. Since then, we've witnessed many success stories within a short period of time as the women sheltered there are empowered to lift themselves out of homelessness. Throughout the year, COI continued to celebrate locally as well as at the state and national levels.

For the third time, COI was recognized as **1 of 5 "Top Workplaces" in the Buffalo/WNY Region**, which is a testament to the organization's culture of teamwork and collaboration as well as the employees' dedication to the work we accomplish.

With the support of our partners, funders and community members, we have been able to overcome many barriers and provide critical services to those in need. As we continue our journey to make Chautauqua County a better place to live and work, I invite you to provide your input throughout the year by joining us at our quarterly Community Conversation meetings.

We will continue to stand strong in our mission to empower and encourage everyone to become more self-sufficient and economically secure.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue background.

Boards of Directors



Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. Board members

Front Row: Thomas Carle, Laura White, Marie Carrubba, Janet Keefe, Brittany Cerrie-Allen, Michele Bautista

Back Row: Chad Bongiovanni, Bob Bankoski, Melissa Potter, Wil Pekrul, Kevin O’Connell, Kristen Kathman, Doug Richmond

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.

Kevin O’Connell, *Chairperson*
Rebecca Ruiz, *Vice-Chairperson*
Robert Moore, Jr., *Treasurer*
Douglas Richmond, *Secretary*
Marie Carrubba
Robert Bankoski
Janet Keefe
Thomas Whitney
Michele Bautista

Veronice Jones
Laura White
Thomas Carle
Kristen Kathman
Chad Bongiovanni
Brittany Cerrie-Allen
Melissa Potter
Will Pekrul

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
Melissa Potter

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 | 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 2025, the county 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 several local non-profit organizations and municipalities to respond with appropriate services and resources.

COI's 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.

1,234

customers received budget counseling

1,261

individuals retained safe and affordable housing for one year with all bills paid on time

332

households were assisted with rental subsidies through the HUD Housing Choice Voucher Program

690

Homeless customers obtained emergency shelter

20

homes were made lead-safe

29

homes were made energy efficient, including **2** multi-unit properties

23

renters purchased a home

After participating in housing counseling with COI's certified Housing Counselor and working on her credit, Lizette did it - she achieved her dream of becoming a homeowner! Lizette's new home will be affordable with the support of the Section 8 Homeownership program. Becoming a first-time homeowner can take some time and a lot of effort. COI can guide and support customers on that path to success!



LEAD REMEDIATION BEFORE AND AFTER

COI's Healthy Homes team recently had the privilege of serving a large family consisting of five young children. Three of the children are under the age of six --- the developmental stage which is most vulnerable to the effects of lead poisoning. At least one child was already known to have elevated levels of lead in their system. The case was referred to COI by the Chautauqua County Health Department (CCHD) and was deemed a high priority due to the number of children in the household and the number of lead hazards present within the home.



COI permanently removed lead hazards from the home. The process includes hosting an open house where lead safe certified contractors can conduct a walk-through inspection of the home and meet the residents before submitting their sealed bid for the project. At the open house it was apparent that the home had more safety hazards in addition to lead. There were multiple broken stairs in the stairwell and a hole in the bathroom floor. Although these did not pertain to the lead abatement process, permission was granted to add these items to the scope of work.



The residents were not only thankful for the lead abatement work, but showed even more gratitude that COI was able to go above and beyond to ensure they had a home where they could safely raise their children. The HUD Lead Hazard Reduction Grant includes Healthy Homes Supplemental funding that allows for repairs to safety hazards on projects that are not necessarily lead related. The grant-funded initiative represents a successful working partnership between COI and the CCHD.

STABLE HOUSING SUCCESS

In May 2025, a single mother and her two young children relocated to Chautauqua County from Florida in search of stability. With no permanent housing, they initially stayed with friends before seeking assistance from the Department of Social Services. After a brief placement in temporary housing in Jamestown, they moved into one of COI's homeless houses in Dunkirk.

The mother showed determination from the outset, meeting weekly with her case manager to secure housing and connect with community resources. Through COI's wraparound services, her oldest child—who has autism—was linked to a pediatrician, child psychologist, and Dunkirk City Schools, while her youngest enrolled in COI's Head Start program.

After several months, the family was approved for an apartment at COI's Arrowhead Apartments and qualified for the Rental Supplement Program, which covered the security deposit and continues to assist with rent. In November 2025, they moved into their fully furnished home and are now thriving. The children are doing well in school, and the family continues working with COI's Life Coach to build long-term stability.

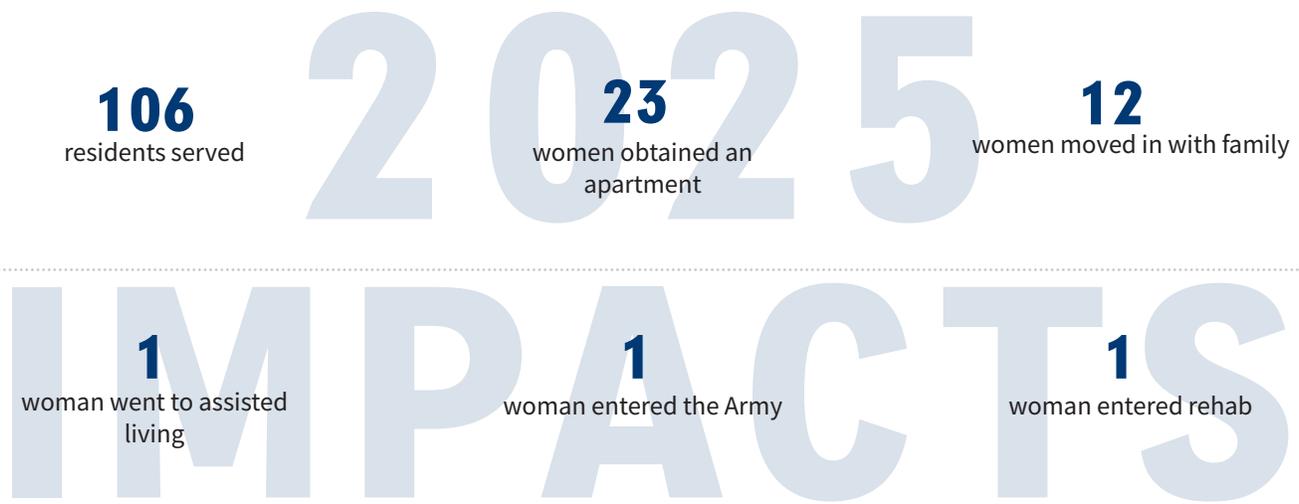
COI also assisted the children's father in securing housing through the Solutions to End Homelessness Program. With both parents now stably housed, the family can focus on co-parenting and supporting their children's future.



Hope Haven Women's Shelter

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. hosted a ribbon cutting on June 25, 2025 to celebrate the grand opening of Hope Haven Women's Shelter. To complete the project, COI acquired an existing building that contained an abandoned laundromat and storage on the first floor, with small apartments on the upper two floors. A new floor plan was designed by an experienced architect, and COI secured a \$3.12 million Homeless Housing and Assistance Program grant from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Additional funding sources for the project included the City of Jamestown, the Chautauqua County Land Bank, the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

The opening of Hope Haven helps to address the lack of emergency shelter options for the county's unsheltered population. It provides 18 beds in 12 units for single adult women. Hope Haven has staff onsite 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, and case management is provided to help the women in residence address the obstacles in their lives with the goal of moving into permanent housing. Homeless women may access the shelter through a referral from the Chautauqua County Department of Social Services. The shelter has been continuously at or near its capacity since opening in April 2025.



VIRGINIA'S STORY

After staying at COI's Hope Haven Women's Shelter for just over 3 months, Virginia received the keys to her new apartment! During her stay at Hope Haven, Virginia became like family to the Hope Haven staff and other residents. Many refer to her as "grandma," which she loves. Virginia was found eligible for the Housing Choice Voucher Program, commonly known as Section 8 rental assistance. Virginia's participation in the rental assistance program will enable her to maintain permanent housing and meet her basic financial needs, both of which have been a long-term struggle that Virginia has endured. It's only up from here for Virginia, and the smile on her face says it all!



HOUSING SUCCESSES



Meretta had been staying in a hotel for a couple of months prior to residing at Hope Haven. She has now found permanent housing and enrolled in vocational school.



Donna had difficulty finding housing for years. Donna was able to find assisted living housing with the help of the staff at Hope Haven.



Amber moved into her own apartment and is continuing to progress in a positive direction while building a relationship with her son.



Tammy shows off the keys to her new apartment.



Health and Family Services

Licensed Home Care | Transitional Independent 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 2025, COI exceeded the number of hours of Home Care provided compared to the prior year, despite a continued shortage of Personal Care Aides. Health care outreach continued to provide transportation and translation services to ensure that migrant farmworkers accessed medical and dental care. Homeless and at-risk youth accessed shelter and other services in 2025 in increasing numbers. The number of dads accessing Fatherhood services remained stable for those in the community, but the program experienced a decrease in the number of incarcerated fathers enrolling the program. The number of crisis calls from individuals experiencing mental health issues continued to climb in 2025, increasing the need for Mobile Crisis Outreach response.

39

individuals received MAT, lactation, CPR, or health care consulting and training

80

elderly or homebound clients received over **9,400** hours of personal care services

114

at-risk, runaway, or homeless youth received safe shelter and/or support services

195

father figures were trained through DADs education and training. **143** Participants graduated with increased knowledge in parenting skills, financial stability, and job readiness

523

crisis intervention situations were reached and **412** unnecessary ER visits were diverted through the Mobile Crisis Outreach Program



GRADUATING FATHERS

The Inside/Out Dad program graduated it’s 6th class in 2025 from the Chautauqua County Jail. These dads really come together during the 6 weeks and realize that they want to be a better father to their kids once they are released. They make a promise to themselves and their kids to make personal progress and help their kids stay away from the life that led them to incarceration. Congratulations to all who have graduated and have reconnected with their children!

24
Young adults were served in Transitional Independent Living Program



16
Young adults transitioned to independent living



18
Young adults obtained employment

TORI'S STORY

Tori joined COI’s Transitional Independent Living Program (TILP) in April 2024 after experiencing homelessness. Throughout the 16-month stay, Tori’s independent living skills were enhanced through participation in Life Skills classes. Tori held two part time jobs through Chautauqua Works while enrolled, demonstrating a strong work ethic. A recent graduate of Jamestown High School, Tori finished 10th grade early, skipped 11th grade completely and entered 12th grade, ultimately graduating in the top 20 percent of the senior class. Tori was a member of the National Honor Society and entered Jamestown Community College on an academic scholarship.

While at the TILP, Tori became involved in CCS-TV (Collaborative Children’s Solutions Television), contributing both on-camera and voiceover segments. One of the most notable experiences was interviewing the Swedish Ambassador during a visit to Jamestown. Tori has had no behavior issues at school or TILP and reported improved mental health since enrolling in the program.

Tori has been an active community volunteer and member of Youth Corps and plans to continue these activities. COI’s Youth Services team is very proud of Tori and are so excited to see what the future holds!





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 supports families and child care providers across Chautauqua County by helping to improve access to care, strengthening program quality, and building a more stable early childhood workforce. Our work helps to reduce barriers for working families while improving the safety and quality of care available in the community.

As income eligibility guidelines for the NYS Child Care Assistance Program have expanded, more families are now able to access financial support. This has helped parents stay employed and maintain consistent child care arrangements for their children.

399

Legally Exempt Child Care Providers
 Received enrollment support and health and safety materials

46

Registered Family and Group Family
 Child Care Providers
 Provided expanded access to regulated, high-quality child care

43

Quality Improvement Grants Awarded
 To help providers enhance health, safety, and learning environments

38,834

Summer food meals and snacks were served at **20** sites

\$26,078.73

Invested in Health, Safety & Quality Materials
 Direct investments to improve child care spaces countywide

Our day-to-day work focuses on matching families with appropriate child care options, supporting enrollment in assistance programs, offering training and technical assistance to providers, recruiting new child care providers, and providing on-site consultation to strengthen program operations and learning environments. These efforts directly support safer settings, stronger provider practices, and improved outcomes for children.

The Child Care Council remains committed to building a child care system that is accessible, reliable, and responsive to community needs. Our long-term goal is to ensure that children across Chautauqua County have access to healthy, supportive early learning environments that prepare them for success in school and beyond.

79

Evidence-based assessments conducted

Measuring learning environments and teacher-child interactions

9

Individuals earned their Child Development Associate Credentials

59

Professional Development Trainings provided

Reaching **961** early care and education professionals across the county



Licensed Family and Group Child Care Providers were given the opportunity to strengthen and sustain their programs through grant funding from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. These grants helped cover the cost of essential materials, training, and program enhancements designed to support both providers and the children in their care.

Available grant categories included Health & Safety, Business Supports, Trauma-Informed Spaces, Mindfulness, and Health Care Consultancy—each aimed at improving quality, stability, and overall child well-being.

In early 2025, Brenda Voss, a Family Child Care Provider, was awarded a Trauma-Informed Spaces Grant. Pictured are just a few of the items she received to help create a nurturing and supportive environment for children. Additional items not shown include two soft seating chairs, an 8x10 area rug, a sensory table, and an additional activity table. These enhancements help to foster a calming, responsive space where children feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.



Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc.

Small Business Essentials Training Course | Entrepreneurial Technical Assistance
Small Business Loans and Grants | Home Appliance Loans | Incubator Space

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.

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. Small consumer loans help individuals by improving their personal financial position and establishing or improving credit histories.

88

entrepreneurs assisted with training/ technical assistance

10

entrepreneurs started or expanded a business with the help of CODI

8

aspiring entrepreneurs graduated from Business Essentials Training

8

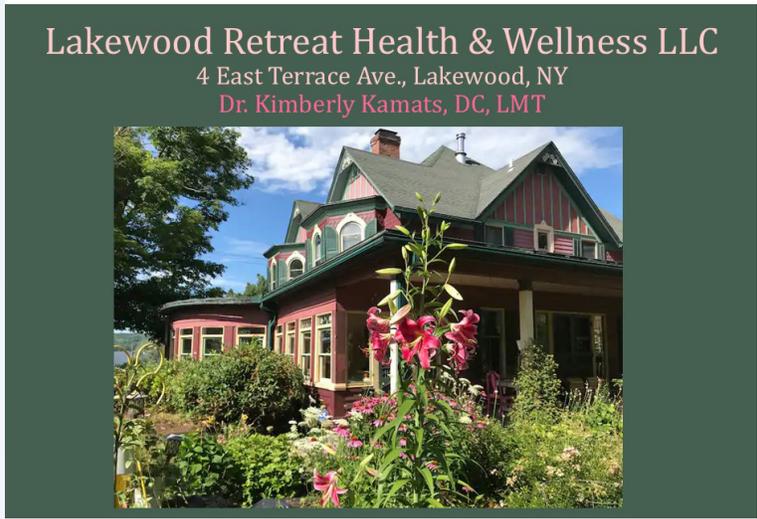
individuals benefited from low-interest rate home appliance loans

4

small businesses received a total of **\$100,000** in Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Funding and created **6** jobs.

Lakewood Retreat & Wellness Center

When Kim set out to open Lakewood Retreat & Wellness Center, her vision was clear: to create a peaceful sanctuary where clients could experience true wellness in body, mind, and spirit. With an impressive and diverse educational background—including a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from D’Youville University, a Master of Science in Nutrition and Human Performance from Logan University, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from SUNY Brockport, and licensure as a massage therapist through Onondaga School of Therapeutic Massage—Kim brought both clinical expertise and compassionate care to her community.



To help launch her new wellness center, Kim applied for a Microenterprise Assistance Program (MAP) Grant from CODI. Her request focused on essential startup investments that would directly enhance client care and service capacity, including the purchase of a Red Light Halogenated Sauna, an electric lift treatment table for chiropractic and massage patients, and initial wellness inventory.

This investment allowed Kim to open her retreat fully equipped to provide chiropractic care, massage therapy, and holistic wellness services to the community. The MAP Grant not only supported the successful launch of her business but also strengthened local access to high- quality, integrative healthcare.





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.

384
 children received educational services supporting developmental growth and school readiness

99.7%
 of families of enrolled children had health insurance

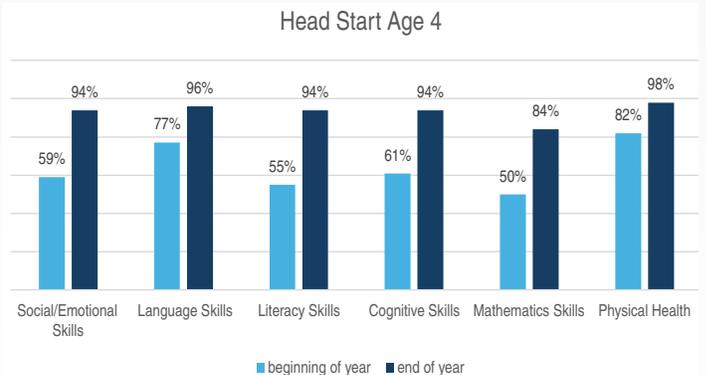
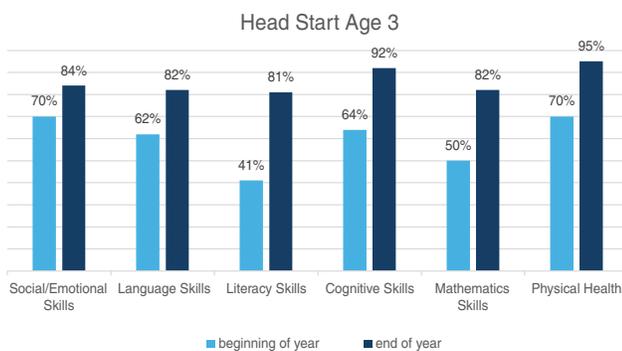
76
 enrolled children had an IEP or IFSP and received specialized services

94%
 of 4 year olds entering kindergarten met or exceeded Age Appropriate Cognitive Skills

96%
 of 4 year olds entering kindergarten met or exceeded Age Appropriate Language Skills

94%
 of 4 year olds entering kindergarten met or exceeded Age Appropriate Literacy Skills

62
 children graduated Head Start and transitioned to Kindergarten



TEAM EFFORT FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



Life Coaches and Family Educators are the heart of COI's Early Care and Education division and are there to help parents who are struggling to change the direction of their lives. COI's services offer parents a comprehensive range of opportunities for family support, involvement, and engagement. Life Coaches and Family Educators are trained to help parents and children overcome obstacles toward leading a better, more self-sufficient life.

Bruce and his young son Jeremiah joined COI's Head Start Home-Based program in January 2025, shortly after relocating to Jamestown. Bruce was navigating numerous challenges, including temporary housing and adjusting to life in a new city with limited support. He initially secured short-term housing through DSS, and shortly after was able to move into a more stable living environment.

During the first home visit, COI's Family Educator and Life Coach completed screenings with Jeremiah that suggested potential developmental delays. In response, COI's Disabilities and Mental Health Specialist coordinated a referral for further evaluation through the local school district. At the same time, Bruce also needed assistance in scheduling an updated physical for Jeremiah and completing kindergarten registration requirements.

The Life Coach and Family Educator provided hands-on support, including helping Bruce complete Jeremiah's kindergarten registration paperwork. The Family Educator connected Bruce with the district's school psychologist and explained that Head Start had completed initial developmental screenings and would share the results and coordinate the next steps with the Disabilities and Mental Health Specialist. Today, Bruce and Jeremiah have made significant progress. Jeremiah has entered kindergarten and has been evaluated for additional services.

Bruce remains committed to building a better future and has a strong desire to help Jeremiah thrive. He is hopeful about the positive changes ahead. His engagement with the Head Start Home-Based program has been a key support on this journey, and we are proud to walk alongside him every step of the way.

To see the full impact for the Early Care and Education Division see the Head Start Annual Report on the following pages.



Head Start Annual Report FY 2024-2025

Serving children and families across Chautauqua County through early education, health services and family support.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN, STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) proudly provides Head Start and Early Head Start services to children and families throughout Chautauqua County. These programs offer comprehensive early childhood education, health services, and family engagement opportunities designed to support the development of the whole child while strengthening families and communities.

During the 2024–2025 program year, COI continued its mission of ensuring that children from families with limited financial resources have access to high-quality early learning opportunities that prepare them for success in school and life. Through partnerships with local school districts, community organizations, healthcare providers, and families themselves, the Head Start program continues to play a vital role in expanding access to early childhood education in Chautauqua County.

Despite widespread challenges facing the early childhood workforce and childcare system, COI remains committed to maintaining high-quality services and expanding opportunities for families in need. This annual report highlights the program’s enrollment, financial resources, school readiness outcomes, and community partnerships that made this work possible.

Children and Families Served



522

Funded Enrollment



390

Children Served



74.7%

Eligible Children Served



56.7%

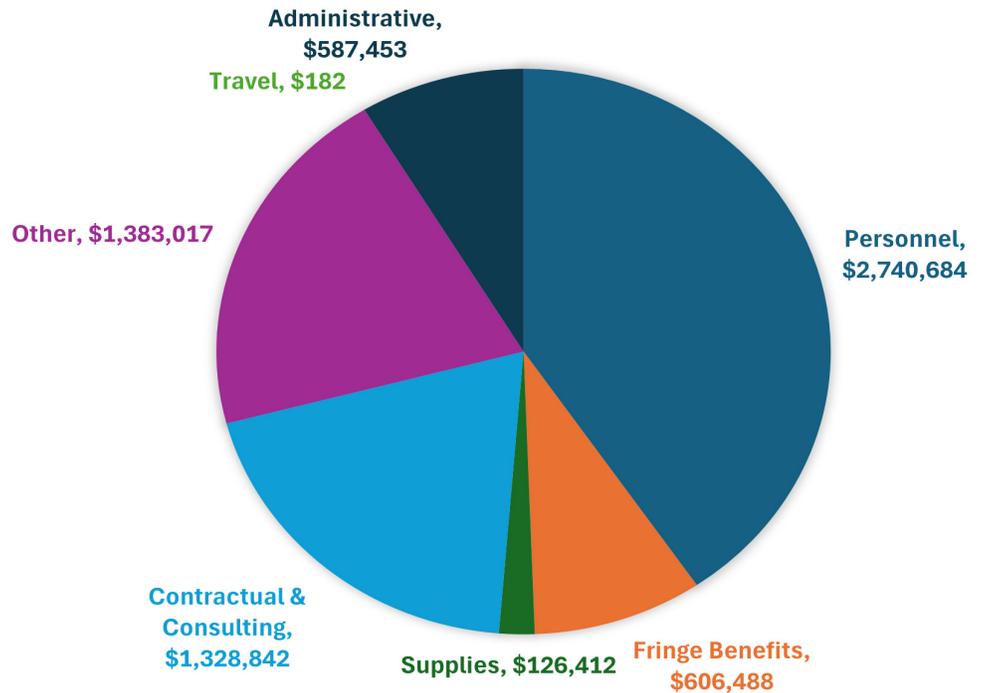
Average Monthly Enrollment

Head Start continues to serve a significant portion of eligible children in Chautauqua County while working to address staffing shortages and childcare capacity challenges that impact enrollment across the early childhood sector.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

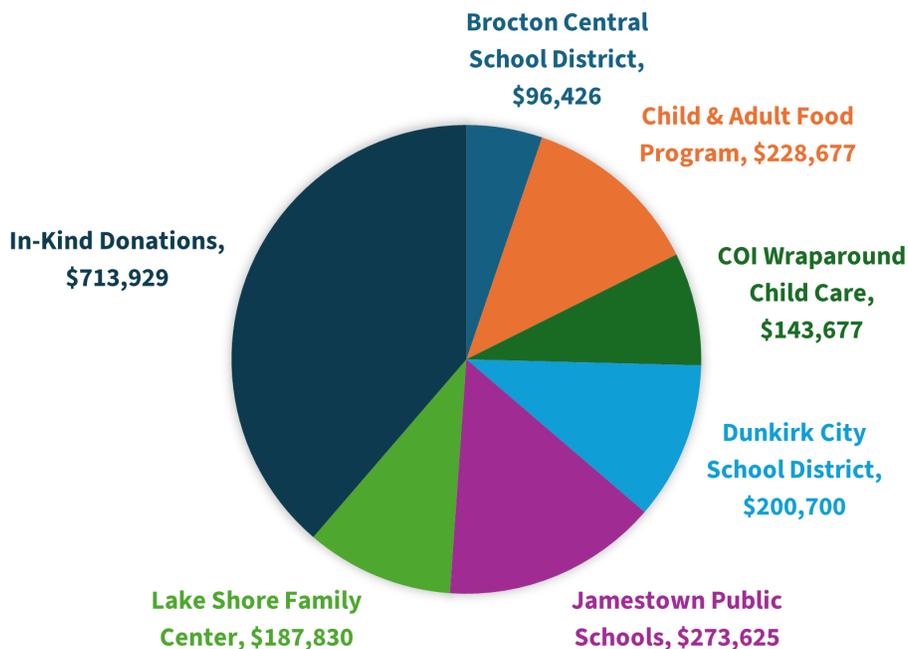
Over \$6.7 million in federal funding supports early education, health services, family engagement, and program operations.

FEDERAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTION



Supporting Funds and Community Contributions

In addition to federal funding, we received state and local funds amounting to \$1,844,864. These funds were provided from a variety of sources:



FEDERAL MONITORING REVIEW

COI's most recent federal monitoring review was conducted by the Administration for Children and Families from **December 11–15, 2023**.

The review identified **one Area of Noncompliance** related to classroom safety involving accessible cords from window air conditioning units in two classrooms.

Immediate Corrective Actions

COI addressed the issue immediately by:

- Rearranging classroom furniture to block access
- Constructing wooden safety compartments covering cords and outlets
- Ensuring all classrooms meet safety requirements

The corrective action eliminated the hazard and restored compliance with federal standards.

Financial Audit Results

The most recent audit was conducted for Fiscal Year 2025 by Saxton Kocur and Associates, LLP.

Audit findings confirmed:

- ✓ Financial statements fairly represent the agency's financial position
- ✓ No findings or material weaknesses were identified
- ✓ Compliance with federal program requirements, including Head Start

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

HEALTH SERVICES

 100%

of enrolled children received medical exams from a healthcare professional.

 72.7%

of enrolled children received dental exams from a dental provider



PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Parent Engagement

Family involvement is a cornerstone of the Head Start model.

The **Policy Council** includes:

- **9 elected parent representatives**
- **4 community representatives**

The Policy council participates in program planning, oversight, and decision making.

Parent Activities

Parent Committees organize events twice per month, including:

-  Family picnics
-  Pumpkin festivals
-  Reading week
-  Health fairs
-  Holiday celebrations
-  Community outings to parks, libraries, and children's activity centers

These activities help strengthen family connections and build supportive communities.

SCHOOL READINESS AND LOOKING AHEAD

Preparing Children for Kindergarten

COI uses **The Creative Curriculum** in all classrooms to support developmentally appropriate learning experiences for infants, toddlers, and preschool children.

This research-based curriculum promotes:

- exploration and discovery learning
- individualized teaching
- strong teacher-family partnerships
- ongoing developmental assessment

School Readiness Outcomes

Percentage of children entering Kindergarten meeting or exceeding developmental milestones.

Social / Emotional Skills — 94%

Language Skills — 96%

Literacy Skills — 94%

Cognitive Skills — 94%

Mathematics Skills — 84%

Physical Health — 98%

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

As COI looks toward the future, the organization remains committed to expanding access to high-quality early childhood education throughout Chautauqua County. COI's 2026 Community Needs Assessment highlighted both the strengths of the program and the challenges facing the childcare system, including limited capacity and workforce shortages.

To address these challenges, COI will continue to strengthen partnerships with local school districts and community organizations. Expanding opportunities such as three-year-old pre-kindergarten programs and increasing geographic access to services will help ensure that more children and families can benefit from early learning programs in their own communities.

Through collaboration, innovation, and continued community support, Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. will remain focused on preparing children for school success while building stronger families and healthier communities for years to come.





FINANCIALS

CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

2025 SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Federal Grants	\$ 12,458,570
State Grants	\$ 1,405,050
Local Grants/Other Contributions	\$ 1,774,329
In-Kind Contributions/ Property Donations	\$ 714,428
Program Fees	\$ 2,886,600
Misc. Revenue	\$ 585,132
Interest Income	\$ 123,768
TOTAL FUNDING:	\$ 19,947,907

CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT, INC.

2025 SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Grant Revenue	\$ 153,159
Interest and Fees from Borrowers	\$ 27,343
Interest Income - Bank	\$ 1,241
Change in allowance for uncollectible loans	\$ 14,500
TOTAL FUNDING:	\$ 196,243

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 Head Start Association
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

Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene
and Social Services
Chautauqua County Youth Bureau
Chautauqua Region Economic Development
Corporation
Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
Clara Gould Foundation
Richard Hartley Fund
No Kid Hungry
Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation

Brocton Central School District
Dunkirk Public School District
Jamestown Public School District

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS OF \$1,000 OR MORE

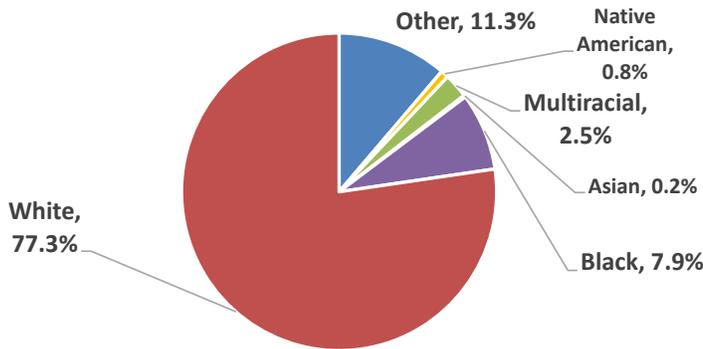
Community Bank, NA
Northwest Bank
NBT Bank
Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Board of Realtors
Rotary Club of Jamestown
Zonta Club of Jamestown
Breast Cancer Support Group of Jamestown
St. Luke's Thrift Center
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Tim Scoma, Lifted
David Switala/SEP, RMD Captial Group American
Christine Villella
Jim and Jolean Swanson
Anonymous, Women Helping Women



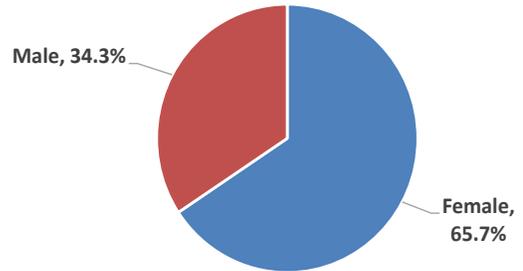
Diane Hewitt-Johnson, CEO, is pictured accepting a donation from representatives of Northwest Bank. The funding will support economic development activities provided by Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. (CODI).

Customer Demographics & Data

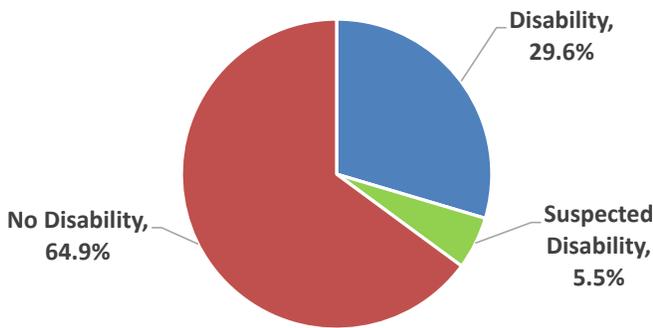
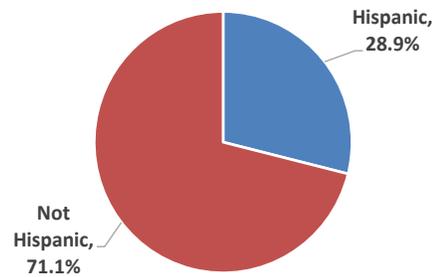
Race



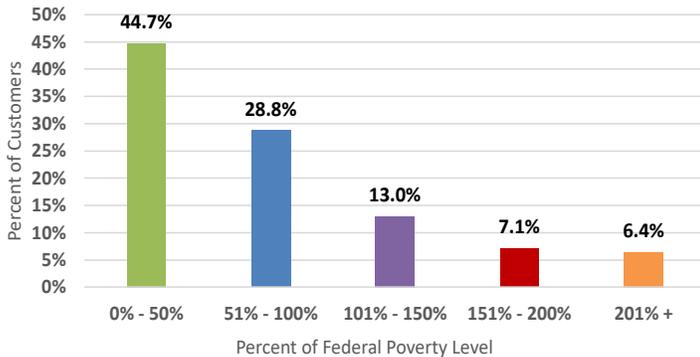
Gender



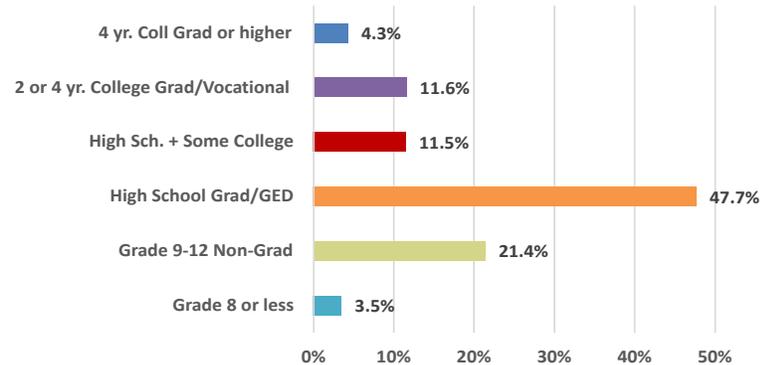
Ethnicity



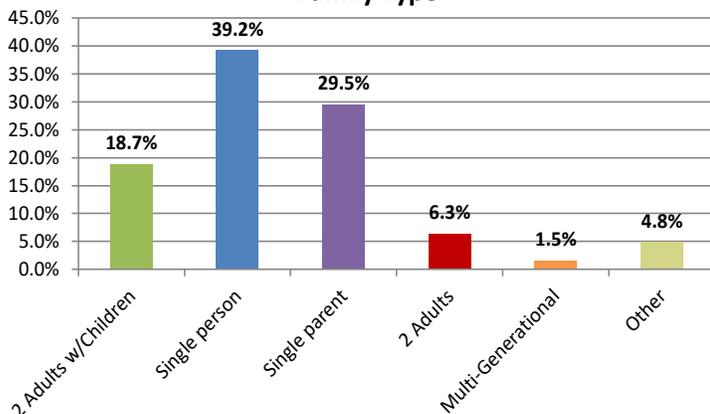
Customer Levels of Poverty



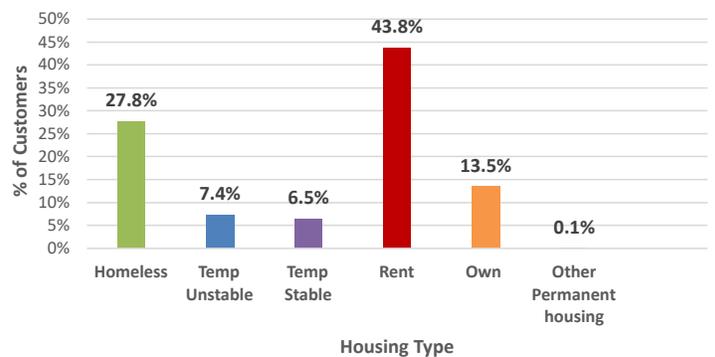
Educational Attainment, Age 25+



Family Type



Housing Type



Poverty in Chautauqua County

Total County Population:	126,329
County Poverty Rate:	17.0%
NYS Poverty Rate:	13.7%
County Families with Children Under Age 18 in Poverty:	19.7%
NYS Families with Children Under Age 18 in Poverty:	14.9%
County Median Household Income:	\$56,507
NYS Median Household Income:	\$84,578
County Median Family Income:	\$76,149
NYS Median Family Income:	\$105,060

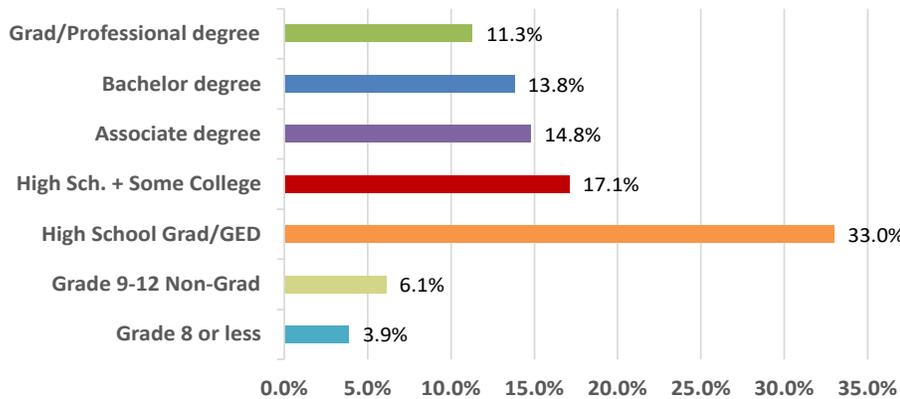
Persons in Family/ Household	Poverty Guideline
1	\$15,650
2	\$21,150
3	\$26,650
4	\$32,150
5	\$37,650
6	\$43,150
7	\$48,650
8	\$54,150

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,500 for each additional person.

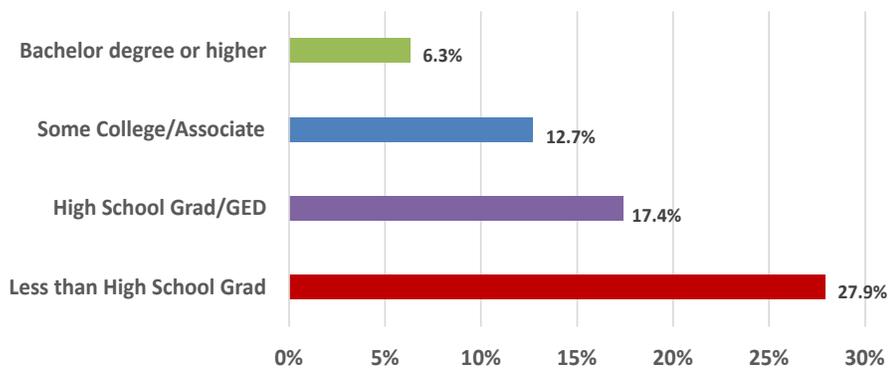
2025 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 contiguous United States, HHS

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2023 5-year Estimates

Educational Attainment, Chautauqua Co., Age 25+



Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment
Chautauqua County, Age 25+



Education & Poverty

LOCATIONS



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



Laughlin Community Action Center
402 Chandler Street
Jamestown, NY 14701



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



Connections North
10825 Bennett Road
Dunkirk, NY 14048



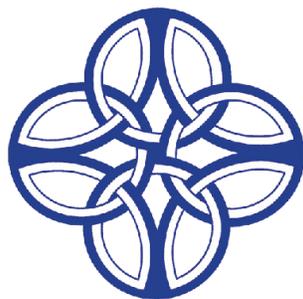
Early Childhood Community Center Holy Trinity
1020 Central Avenue
Dunkirk, NY 14048



Hope Haven Women's Shelter
303 Lafayette Street
Jamestown, NY 14701



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



Dunkirk (716) 366-8176
Jamestown (716) 661-9430

Administrative Building (716) 366-3333
Youth Safe House (716) 661-9446



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-  www.facebook.com/chautauquaopportunities
-  www.twitter.com/chautopp
-  www.instagram.com/chautopp