



**LKLP**  
Community  
Action

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents .....	Mission Statement	2
.....	Leadership	3
.....	Our	4
.....	Milestone	5
.....	Financial	6
.....		8
By The Numbers .....		10
Community Action Month .....		12
Community Services Block Grant .....		14
Community Collaboration for Children .....		16
Parent Self-Help Education .....		17
Head Start .....		18
Domestic Violence Program .....		20
Victims of Crime Assistance .....		21
Transportation .....		22
Weatherization.....		23
Workforce .....		24
Compassionate Hearts Adult Day Healthcare .....		26

# MISSION STATEMENT



## LKLP MISSION STATEMENT

To empower individuals and families, improve quality of life in our communities, and combat poverty by providing necessary knowledge, skills, and resources.



## 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.

# LEADERSHIP MESSAGE



**TAWNY R. ACKER**  
Executive Director

I am honored, humbled, and thankful to share my first annual report as Executive Director of LKLP. Stepping into this role has been both a privilege and an opportunity to build upon the strong foundation laid by my predecessors, our dedicated Board of Directors, staff, and funders.

Assuming my duties in July of 2024, this past year has been one of both challenge and opportunity. Through the dedication and passion of our staff members, we continue our mission to fight poverty, and improve the quality of life for our communities. With outreach offices in Leslie, Knott, Letcher, and Perry counties, LKLP is more determined than ever to expand our impact and deepen our connections with those we serve. We will continue to evolve our programs, embrace innovation, and collaborate with a wide array of community partners to uplift individuals and families through comprehensive, life-changing services.

The impact of our work is measured in the lives we touch and the communities we strengthen. Throughout the 2023-24 fiscal year, our agency remained dedicated to our workforce development initiatives to connect job seekers with new and better employment opportunities, enhanced job skills, and created career pathways for young adults. We empowered parents with the tools to build safe and nurturing homes and rallied the community to help create a Regional Network of support for these services through our Community Collaboration for Children program. We provided high-quality early education to hundreds of preschoolers through our acclaimed Head Start centers and provided safe care for babies so parents could remain a part of the workforce.

Beyond education and employment, LKLP addressed critical community needs. We provided home repairs and financial relief for those struggling with energy costs, distributed food and essential commodities, and ensured access to public and non-emergency medical transportation. Our services supported victims of crime, and provided safe, temporary housing for survivors of domestic violence. We continue to work with community partners to identify and fill gaps for needed services to address barriers and strengthen individuals and families and expand economic development.

Thank you for your continued trust, support, and commitment. I am proud of the work accomplished by our passionate and committed staff and community partners as we work together to build stronger, more resilient communities. Together, we are creating positive change, and I am proud to be a part of this journey. I look forward to another year of service, progress, and shared success.

## OUR TEAM

### Administrative Staff

**TAWNY R. ACKER**

Executive Director

**CENA WHITAKER**  
Chief Financial Officer

**ERIC SIMS**  
Chief of Staff

**BRAD HOSKINS**  
Chief Information Technology Officer

**CINDY GROSS**  
Human Resources Director

**ABBY LITTLE**  
Director of Compliance

**DARRELL GRIGSBY**  
Property Management Director

**MATT HANSEN**  
Marketing & Communications Coordinator

### Program Directors

**SANDY BOWLING**  
Adult Day Health / Nurse Administrator

**ALBERT SMITH**  
Community Services Block Grant

**ALINE ROSE**  
Domestic Violence

**JUSTIN COLLETT**  
Head Start / Early Head Start

**ANNIE THOMPSON**  
Housing & Weatherization

**PAMELA BREWER**  
Parent Self-Help Education / Community Collaboration for Children

**ORIA SMITH**  
Transportation

**TERRAH COMBS**  
Victims of Crime Assistance

**ALLISON BROWN**  
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Leslie County

**CHERYL LEWIS** - Elected Official \*Chair

**WILLIAM LEWIS** - Elected Official

**JAMES CAUDILL** - Target Group

**CAROL JOSEPH** - Target Group

**MARILYN OSBORNE** - Private Sector

**CONNIE SIZEMORE** - Private Sector

### Knott County

**JEFF DOBSON** - Elected Official

**ZACH SANDLIN** - Elected Official

**CORBETT MULLINS** - Target Group

**BECKY PIGMAN** - Target Group

**OLA PIGMAN** - Private Sector

**JEAN REYNOLDS** - Private Sector \*Treasurer

### Letcher County

**TERRY ADAMS** - Elected Official

**WILLIAM "CHEDDY" SMITH** - Elected Official

**TODD DEPRIEST** - Target Group

**MICHAEL WATTS** - Target Group \*Secretary

**BENNY BENTLEY** - Private Sector

**EDDIE BENTLEY** - Private Sector

### Perry County

**SCOTT ALEXANDER** - Elected Official \*Vice Chair

**JIMMY SPENCER** - Elected Official

**STEVE EVERSOLE** - Target Group

**WALTER NIXON** - Target Group

**BARBARA BARKER** - Private Sector

**DEREK CAMPBELL** - Private Sector

# MILESTONES



**RICKY BAKER**  
Retired Executive Director

## BAKER RETIRES FROM LKLP

In February 2024, LKLP said goodbye to long-time Executive Director Ricky L. Baker. After nearly 35 years of service to LKLP, Baker retired from his role to pursue the next chapter of his career. LKLP extends its heartfelt thanks to all that Baker has contributed to this agency.

## COMMUNITY ACTION LEGACY AWARDS

This year, LKLP Community Action was pleased to honor two employees that have each served 50 or more years at LKLP. Collectively, these two ladies have dedicated more than a century of their professional careers to serving the people of Eastern Kentucky. Congratulations and thank you to Annie and Shirley!



**SHIRLEY CONLEY**  
57 Years of Service



**ANNIE THOMPSON**  
50 Years of Service



## COMMUNITY ACTION HALL OF FAME

In March of 2024, Jesse Amburgey was inducted into the Inaugural Community Action Hall of Fame. Jesse was a true champion for the low-income and our communities, always going above and beyond to make a positive impact. His dedication, passion, and selflessness inspires us all, and his legacy is enduring. Jesse served as the second executive director of LKLP and was instrumental in forming the Community Action Kentucky state association, and served as its first executive director.

Congratulations to Jesse's family (daughter LeAngela and grand-daughters Jessica and Sydney) who were in attendance in Washington DC to accept the award!



## 60 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ACTION

In May of 2024, Community Action celebrated 60 years nationally. LKLP joined Community Action Kentucky and all Community Action Agencies from across Kentucky for an amazing day of food and games as we celebrated 60 years of fighting poverty!



# FINANCIALS

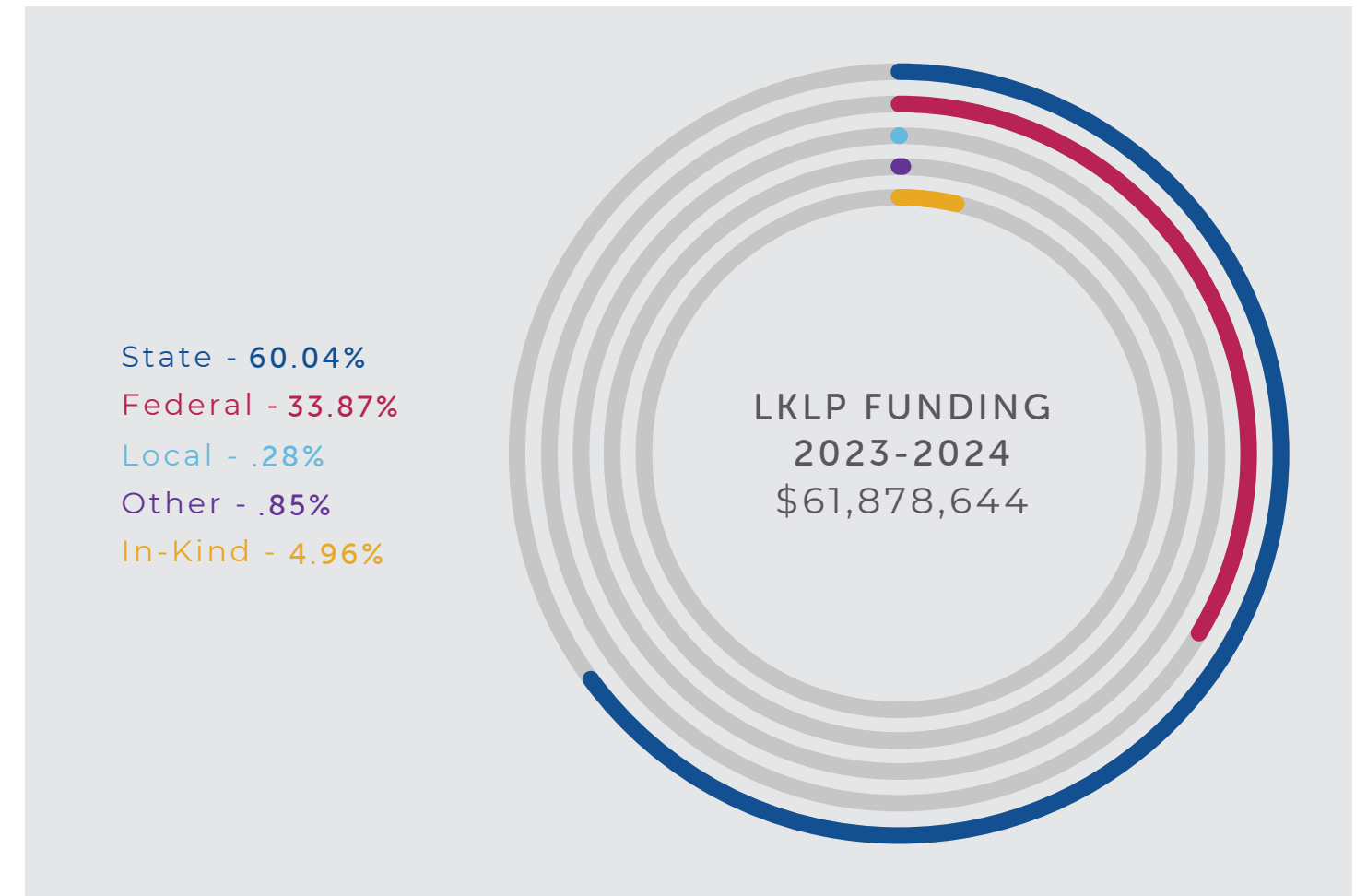
Program	Funding Source	State	Federal	Local	Other	In-Kind
Community Services Block Grant	Cabinet for Families & Children		\$599,604			\$249,899
Compassionate Hearts - Adult Day Healthcare	Medicaid / CACFP	\$97,669	\$6,862		\$15,750	
Community Collaboration Children	Cabinet for Families & Children		\$220,657			\$51,64
Disaster Assistance	FEMA		\$25,021			
Head Start	Health & Human Services / KERA	\$132,632	\$8,453,831			\$1,989,595
Housing	DSM / KHC / Misc. Grants	\$79,698	\$77,009		\$187,644	
Income Tax	Berea College		\$6,930			
LIHEAP	Community Action of Kentucky		\$3,169,611			
Parent Self-Help Education	Kentucky Division of Child Abuse	\$32,130				
Domestic Violence	Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence	\$657,267	\$260,436		\$3,352	\$26,239
Disaster Case Management	FEMA		\$479,336			
Transportation (HSTD/ Public)	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	\$37,424,267	\$1,098,523	\$64,058		
Victims of Crime Assistance	Kentucky Justice Cabinet		\$176,496			
Weatherization	Kentucky Housing Corporation		\$1,426,894			
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act	Eastern Kentucky C.E.P.		\$4,849,322		\$16,271	
<b>Total By Funding Source</b>		<b>\$38,423,662</b>	<b>\$20,850,533</b>	<b>\$64,058</b>	<b>\$223,016</b>	<b>\$2,317,375</b>

Total Agency Budget \$61,878,644

LKLP is funded by federal, state, local and other resources, which must be accounted for in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and expended in accordance with set stipulations under each award. All funds and expenses are maintained through Grants Management Accounting Software, allowing funds & expenditures to be segregated from each other.

The Finance Department includes all aspects of accounting, including that of purchasing, payment of all invoices, receipt of funds, budgeting and financial reporting. The department is responsible for obtaining an annual audit based on government auditing standards from an independent auditing firm. The audit not only reports on the finances, but on compliance with rules and regulations, and the effectiveness of internal controls.

Throughout Fiscal Year 2024, LKLP's Finance Department prepared and submitted budgets for funding, administered grants, maintained records and processed transactions accounting for more than \$61 million.



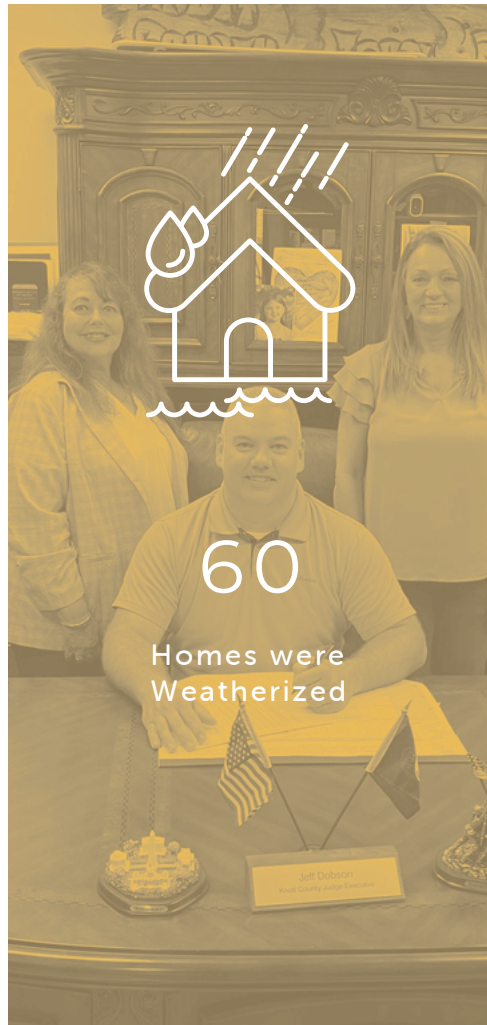
# BY THE NUMBERS



**52**  
Families were Provided Services Through Community Collaboration for Children



**705**  
Children Benefited from Parent Self-Help Education Programming



**60**  
Homes were Weatherized



**81,175**  
Total Trips were Provided by LKLP Transportation



**400**  
Households were Aided with Disaster Relief Assistance



**10,997**  
Households Received Utility Assistance Through LIHEAP



**\$8,413**  
in Goodwill Vouchers were Distributed to People in Need



**588**  
Children Received Early and Preschool Education through Head Start



**661**  
661 Individual Counseling Sessions were Conducted through VOCA



**1,244**  
Individuals Received Workforce Services and Assistance



**1,356**  
Community Members Completed LKLP's Community Needs Assessment



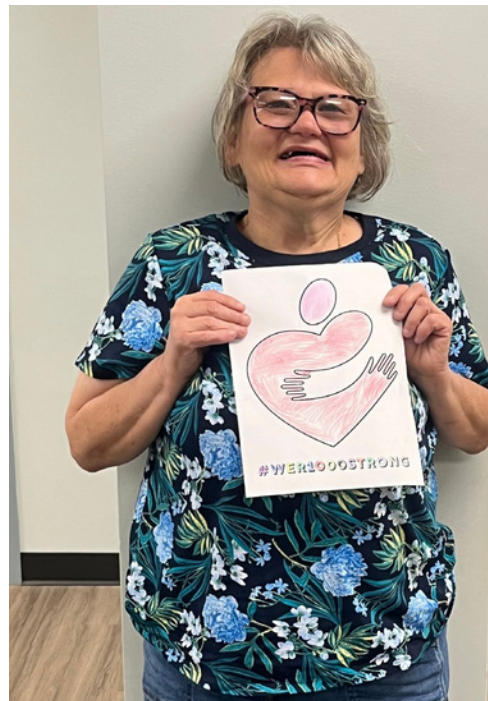
**16**  
Compassionate Hearts Participants Gained Emotional, Social and Physical Support

# COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH

## A NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Each May is dedicated to celebrating all that Community Action stands for across our nation. It's a time for reflection, awareness and acknowledgement. Throughout Community Action Month, our team members, clients, students and community partners take the opportunity to elevate the Community Action promise, which is symbolized by the huggy heart.

State, city and county leaders all proclaimed May to be Community Action Month. We also launched our brand new website in May, helping to raise even more awareness to the programs and services LKLP offers throughout our communities. Here are some moments captured during this year's Community Action Month.



**Proclamation**  
**Andy Beshear**  
**Governor**  
of the  
**Commonwealth of Kentucky**



*To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

WHEREAS, Community Action has made essential contributions across this nation for 60 years, inspiring a spirit of hope, creating opportunities for millions of people to be a part of the American Dream, and improving communities; and

WHEREAS, Community Action remains committed to a nation that creates opportunities for all people to thrive; builds strong, resilient communities; and ensures a more equitable society; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's 23 Community Action Agencies are a robust state and local force connecting individuals to life-changing services and creating pathways to prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Community Action strategies and innovative solutions evolve as the needs of individuals, families, and communities in cities, suburbs, and rural areas change; and

WHEREAS, Community Action insists on community participation and involvement, ensuring that all sectors of the community have a voice and will be heard; and

WHEREAS, Community Action is recognizing 60 years of innovation, impact, and providing proven results for Kentuckians;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim May 2024, as

**COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH**

in Kentucky, in recognition of 60 years of dedication and results achieved by Kentucky's Community Action Network.




DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort in the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Four and in the 232<sup>nd</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

  
ANDY BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

  
Michael G. Adams  
Secretary of State

**VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE!**

[www.LKLP.org](http://www.LKLP.org)



# COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

## FULFILLING COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program is the cornerstone of LKLP's mission, providing diverse services that address the unique needs of individuals and families in our region. From supplying seniors with monthly food and commodity boxes to organizing youth camps and more, CSBG helps ensure the basic needs of our communities are being met.

## Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP provided vital heating and cooling assistance to 10,997 households this year, ensuring families stayed safe and comfortable in their homes. A total of \$2,784,578 in LIHEAP funds were utilized, helping low-income residents manage energy costs and avoid service disruptions during the winter months.



**10,052** Individuals Benefitted from CSBG Programs

**4,800** Senior Commodity Boxes Provided

**400** Households Assisted with Disaster Relief

**\$2.78** Million in LIHEAP Funds Spent

**790** Households Approved for Utility Assistance through the Heart & Thaw Programs

**\$8.4K** in Goodwill Vouchers Provided to Families in Need

## Youth Camps

This year's youth camps took place at the Appalachian Center for the Arts to see a production of Sponge Bob Square Pants and the East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium for a day of educational fun. Each year, CSBG takes a group of children whose families meet income eligibility requirements to activities that provide life-enriching experiences. These outings are always a highlight of our year.



	LIHEAP Crisis 2024		LIHEAP Fall Subsidy 2023		LIHEAP Spring Cooling 2024		LIHEAP Summer Cooling Subsidy 2023	
	Households	Benefits (Adjusted)	Households	Benefits (Adjusted)	Households	Benefits (Adjusted)	Households	Benefits (Adjusted)
Knott County	498	\$227,185.99	664	\$110,903	451	\$70,911	517	\$107,768
Leslie County	759	\$427,841.69	792	\$143,924	505	\$81,440	588	\$125,985
Letcher County	815	\$308,956.51	979	\$166,527	685	\$108,198	665	\$137,435
Perry County	872	\$386,717.82	962	\$156,570	618	\$95,811	627	\$128,404
Totals	2,944	\$1,350,702.01	3,397	\$577,924	2,259	\$356,360	2,397	\$499,592

# COMMUNITY COLLABORATION FOR CHILDREN (CCC)

# PARENT SELF-HELP EDUCATION

## BUILDING STRONGER FAMILIES

This year, the Community Collaboration for Children (CCC) program made a lasting impact on families throughout our region, providing essential support to 52 families and directly benefiting 105 children. Of those served, 36 families successfully completed the CCC In-Home Program, a comprehensive initiative focused on creating safe, nurturing, and self-sufficient environments.

The CCC staff continued to implement the Nurturing Parenting Curriculum, tailoring case plans to meet individual family needs. This approach not only strengthens parenting skills but also empowers families to access vital community resources. Pre- and post-assessments, including the Nurturing Parent Quiz and North Carolina Family Assessment Scale (NCFAS), revealed that 100% of families improved their parenting skills and overall family functioning.

Referrals to the program increased this year, particularly from Centralized Intake, reflecting a heightened awareness of CCC's vital role. Partnerships expanded as well, including a new parent engagement meeting program in Leslie County elementary schools, targeting families with children experiencing frequent school tardiness and absenteeism.

Highlights from the year included the CCC conference at Jenny Wiley State Park Lodge, where participants explored trauma-informed care and enjoyed an inspiring performance by LKLP Head Start students. Additionally, CCC staff actively participated in community events, such as Perry County's FRYSC Easter celebration and the Annual Child Abuse Awareness kickoff, distributing resources and promoting family engagement.

The program's success is underscored by testimonials like that of a former client, now pursuing a nursing degree and working part-time. Reflecting on her experience, she shared, "I don't know what I would have done without the CCC program helping me get on the right track." As CCC looks to the future, its commitment to supporting families and fostering resilience remains unwavering, ensuring brighter tomorrows for children across our region.



**52** Families Supported Through CCC

**105** Children Benefited from CCC Services

**36** Families Completed the CCC In-Home Program

**100%** Families Improved Their Parenting Skills

## EMPOWERING PARENTS THROUGH SKILL BUILDING

The Parent Self-Help Education program made a meaningful difference this year, serving 295 families and positively impacting the lives of 705 children. Through its nurturing and skill-focused approach, the program provides parents with the tools to break cycles of adversity and build stronger, healthier family dynamics. At the heart of the program is the Nurturing Parenting curriculum, a transformative 12-week course led by skilled facilitators. Weekly sessions cover essential topics, including understanding child development, developing empathy, effective discipline strategies, and building nurturing routines. Classes are offered both in-person and virtually to accommodate families facing barriers such as transportation or childcare challenges.

This year, the program's impact was vividly illustrated in the journey of a single mother of four. When she joined the program, she was grappling with the loss of her home, job, marriage, and custody of her children. After completing the Nurturing Parenting course, she regained custody, secured stable housing, and began planning to complete her degree—remarkable steps toward rebuilding her life.

Parent Self-Help Education works closely with community partners, including the Department of Child Based Services (DCBS) and the Community Collaboration for Children Network, which provides referrals and collaborative opportunities. These partnerships amplify the program's reach and resources, ensuring families receive comprehensive support.

In addition to parenting classes, families are connected to other LKLP services such as Head Start, LIHEAP, and WIOA, fostering a holistic approach to family well-being. The program's emphasis on personal growth and nurturing relationships empowers parents to not only improve their own lives but also create lasting positive change for their children.

As Parent Self-Help Education continues its mission, it remains a vital resource for families striving to overcome challenges and build brighter futures.

**29** Families Served

**5** Children Impacted

## Enrollment and Family Services

This year, the LKLP Head Start and Early Head Start programs provided vital early education services to 588 children across 295 families, with Early Head Start enrolling 182 children and Preschool Head Start enrolling 406. These programs ensure a strong educational foundation, focusing on whole-child development and family engagement.



## Parent and Family Engagement

Parent engagement remains a cornerstone of the program, exemplified by events like "March Dadness," "May Flowers for Moms," and grandparent-focused activities, each designed to celebrate and involve caregivers. These initiatives strengthen bonds between families and the program, creating a supportive community that nurtures both children and their guardians.

## Student Achievements and Highlights

A major accomplishment this year was maintaining full enrollment for Early Head Start, a testament to the program's reach and community impact. Assessment data revealed significant growth among students, with 77% meeting or exceeding widely held expectations—a 14% increase from fall to spring. Highlights by domain include social-emotional development (75%), cognitive skills (78%), and mathematics (79%), underscoring a comprehensive focus on academic and personal development.



## Health and Special Services

The program continued its commitment to health, conducting hearing, vision, physical, and dental screenings for all children. Additionally, 91 preschoolers and 34 Early Head Start children had individualized education plans, and mental health services were provided to 37 children.

## Special Events and Activities

Head Start students participated in numerous enriching activities, including Read Across America, study topic celebrations, field trips to the Challenger Learning Center, pumpkin patches, and more. Families were actively engaged through events such as Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas celebrations, and transition activities like kindergarten registration. Perry County even hosted a fall festival, providing games and prizes for children and families.



## Awards and Recognition

The program celebrated numerous awards, including the prestigious Edward Zigler Innovation Award and Teacher of the Year recognition for Brittany Patrick. Parents also excelled, with 16 enrolling in college, six participating in job training, and two earning their GEDs.

## Partnerships and Goals

Head Start strengthened partnerships with organizations like Save the Children, First Steps, and area school districts, and launched a marketing plan to increase awareness of its services. The program's continued dedication to children, families, and community is evident in every milestone achieved this year.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

## YOU ARE NOT ALONE

The LKLP Domestic Violence Program continues to provide essential support to individuals and families affected by interpersonal violence. This year, the program served 303 individuals, including 188 women and 105 children, demonstrating its crucial role in the community.

## Domestic Violence Shelter and Crisis Services

A cornerstone of the program is the LKLP Domestic Violence Shelter, which provided refuge to 61 residents this year: 45 adult women, 1 adult man, and 15 children. This secure, confidential shelter offers a temporary haven for individuals escaping domestic violence. Residents receive basic daily living essentials, including food, clothing, and hygiene items, while planning their next steps.

Staff also managed 130 crisis calls through the 24-hour crisis line, addressing immediate concerns and connecting individuals with ongoing case management. Case managers work closely with clients to develop individualized support plans, focusing on safety planning, housing, employment, and other critical needs.

## Advocacy and Legal Support

The program's advocacy services are vital for navigating complex social, medical, and legal systems. Advocates assist clients in filing Emergency Protective Orders (EPOs), providing guidance, emotional support, and court accompaniment. This year, advocates also coordinated with law enforcement to ensure the enforcement of protective orders and the safe retrieval of personal belongings from shared residences.



The program expanded its outreach through partnerships and awareness initiatives. The "Silent Witness" campaign, funded by Project Unite and ASAP, will feature life-sized silhouettes displaying domestic violence statistics, aiming to increase community awareness. Additionally, shelter staff addressed outpatient groups to discuss the intersection of domestic violence and substance dependency, furthering their impact in the community.

## Partnerships and Fundraising

The program benefited from the Kentucky "Shop & Share" fundraiser, raising \$500 in cash and in-kind donations at the Hazard Food City location. Support from local churches, including Summit Church and New Hope Church, enabled survivors to maintain or establish independent housing, highlighting the strength of community partnerships.

## Innovative Collaborations

The Perry County Situation Table remains a model of multi-agency collaboration, bringing together law enforcement, healthcare, and social services to address acutely elevated risks of harm. This proactive approach enhances safety and diverts individuals from crisis situations.

Through these efforts, the LKLP Domestic Violence Program continues to empower survivors, advocate for justice, and foster a community of support.

# VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



## FOSTERING RESILIENCE

The LKLP Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) Program continues to provide crucial support for individuals impacted by a variety of crimes, serving 195 individuals this fiscal year. By addressing immediate and long-term needs, the program remains a lifeline for victims seeking stability and healing.

## Focused Support and Services

Housing and transportation emerged as the most pressing needs within the community, with VOCA staff working tirelessly to connect victims with appropriate resources. Participation in the Perry County and newly established Knott County Situation Tables enhanced the program's ability to provide timely, collaborative interventions for individuals facing elevated risks of harm.

## Advocacy and Training

VOCA emphasized trauma-informed care through extensive professional training efforts. The program delivered four Trauma-Informed Practices for Court-Related Professionals sessions, offering CLE credits for attorneys and CEUs for social workers, psychologists, and counselors. Additionally, VOCA partnered with the Domestic Violence Program to present a Trauma-Informed Care session at the CAK Conference 2024, fostering greater understanding and empathy for crime victims across disciplines.

## Community Engagement and Recognition

VOCA staff actively participated in community events, such as the Child Abuse Awareness Kick-Off hosted by the Kentucky River Children's Advocacy Center (Care Cottage) in April. The program also spearheaded "Picking Up the Pieces," a summit funded through Perry County ASAP, aimed at empowering families grappling with substance misuse. WYMT featured the event, amplifying its impact.

In October 2023, Executive Director [Name] received the prestigious Anne Gilbert Award at the Care Cottage's "Barrels of Care" event, honoring her unwavering commitment to supporting children affected by abuse and neglect.



### Categories of Victimization

- Adult Physical Assault: 17
  - Adult Sexual Assault: 37
  - Adults Sexually Abused / Assaulted as Children: 5
  - Child Physical Abuse or Neglect: 50
  - Child Sexual Abuse/ Assault: 36
  - Domestic and or Family Violence: 179
  - Elder Abuse: 5
  - Human Trafficking: 2
  - Survivors of Homicide Victims: 4
  - Stalking Harassment: 80
- \*Many victims have experienced more than one type of victimization.

### Making a Difference

- Individual counseling sessions conducted: 661
- Number of times people received information about the criminal justice system: 534
- Number of times people received information about victims' rights: 602
- Hotline / crisis calls answered: 58
- Number of times people received comprehensive case management services: 860
- People received civil legal assistance to obtain protection orders: 8

## ON THE MOVE

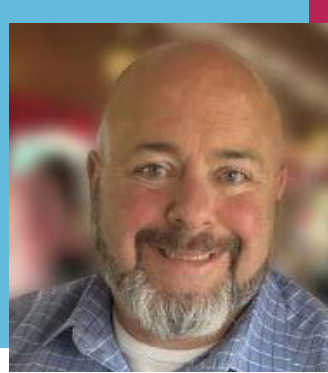
The LKLP Transportation Program continues to be a vital resource for the region, ensuring residents have reliable access to essential services, employment, and community resources. With a fleet of 49 vehicles in service and 49 dedicated drivers, the program provided 81,175 trips and covered an impressive 1,179,147 miles this fiscal year.

### Service Highlights:

- **Public Transportation Trips:** 18,345 trips helped clients travel around town for work, errands, and personal needs.
- **Non-Emergency Medical Transportation:** 62,553 trips ensured individuals could attend medical appointments.
- **Department of Corrections:** 277 trips supported clients transitioning from detention centers to halfway houses or rehabilitation centers.

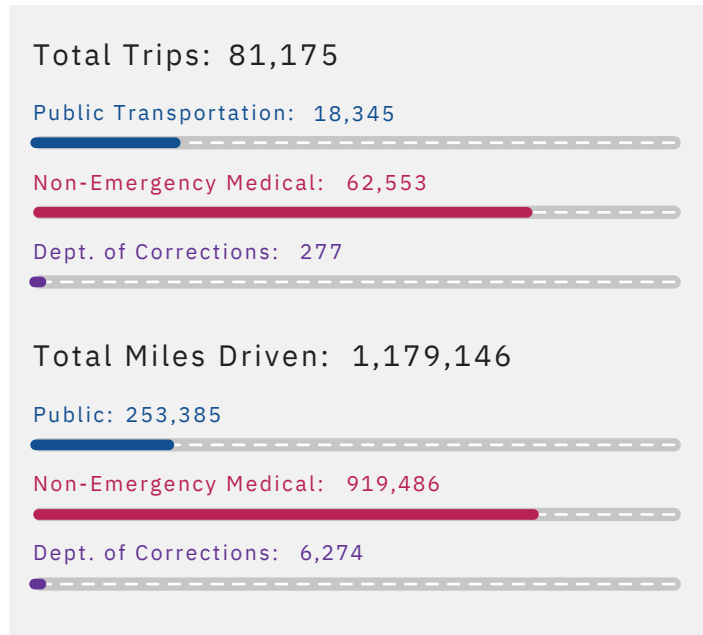
The program surpassed pre-COVID trip numbers, demonstrating its growing role in meeting community needs. Partnerships with organizations like Kentucky River Community Care, Kentucky River Area Development District, Appalachian Regional Hospital, and local businesses further enhance accessibility for work and healthcare-related transportation.

Looking ahead, LKLP Transportation is implementing new scheduling software to streamline operations and improve service efficiency for clients and the agency. With a continued focus on collaboration and innovation, the program remains dedicated to connecting individuals to vital opportunities and services.



## Smith Named Director of Transportation Delivery Services

Oria Michael Smith was named Director of Transportation Delivery Services in February. Oria has been with LKLP since July of 2020. As Director, Smith now manages the transportation program, which provides transports within the LKLP four-county region, as well as subcontracting with transportation providers in 28 additional Kentucky counties. Oria is a retired veteran of law-enforcement with 21 years of experience as a deputy sheriff and as an officer with the Kentucky State Police Division of Vehicle Enforcement.



## WEATHERIZATION WORKS

The LKLP Weatherization Program continues to play a vital role in improving the safety, comfort, and energy efficiency of homes across our region. This year, the program successfully weatherized 60 homes, helping families reduce energy costs and improve overall living conditions.

Weatherization services focus on making homes more energy-efficient through improvements such as insulation upgrades, air sealing, weather-stripping, and HVAC system repairs or replacements. These upgrades not only help lower utility bills but also create healthier indoor environments by addressing issues like poor ventilation and moisture buildup.

LKLP's Weatherization Program prioritizes households with elderly residents, individuals with disabilities, and families with young children, ensuring that those most in need receive assistance. The program works closely with local contractors and energy efficiency experts to implement the best solutions for each home.

By enhancing home energy efficiency, LKLP helps families reduce their financial burden while contributing to environmental sustainability. The program remains committed to expanding its impact, continuing to serve the community with high-quality weatherization services that make a lasting difference.



# WORKFORCE

## GROWING OUR WORKFORCE

The LKLP Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) program continues to make a significant impact in preparing, supporting, and advancing the workforce in Eastern Kentucky. This year, WIOA served 1,244 individuals, providing a wide range of services for adults, dislocated workers, and youth to enhance their career prospects and skillsets.

### Youth Workforce Development: Prosper Appalachia

Through the Prosper Appalachia initiative, LKLP supported 97 young adults aged 16 to 24 with paid internships and work experience opportunities. These placements allowed participants to explore career paths in fields such as education, business, pharmacy, and dentistry. Additionally, LKLP partnered with Partners for Rural Impact in Leslie and Letcher counties to offer a privately funded internship co-op, serving 49 students. Further investments in education included tuition and supportive services for 15 youth pursuing post-secondary education.

### Sector Representation and Disaster Relief Employment

WIOA worked with employers across various industries, including healthcare, manufacturing, skilled trades, energy, and IT. The program maintained a strong partnership with Appalachian Regional Hospital (ARH), connecting job seekers to paid internships, work experience, and training opportunities. Through the EKY Flood National Emergency Grant, WIOA provided temporary employment for 15 participants at the ARH Recovery Distribution Center.



## OUR IMPACT

**638** Individuals were Provided Training & Specialized Skills Training

**401** Individuals were Provided Supportive Services

**226** Clients Obtained Employment with WIOA Assistance

**24** Workshops Held in Support of Job Searches, Career Assessments, etc.

**8** Job Fairs Held

**92** Clients were Helped with Resume Writing

**606** Clients Received Career Advising

**85** Employers Worked with WIOA to Place Job Seekers

**97** Youth Placed in Summer Internships

### Business Services and Industry Partnerships

LKLP's WIOA Business Services team worked closely with regional employers to address workforce needs, including recruitment, training, and upskilling. A key achievement this year was collaborating with Alpha Energy Solutions, Hazard Community and Technical College, and Local Union 248 to establish a registered apprenticeship program. This program combined classroom instruction, technical training, and wage reimbursement, marking WIOA's first partnership with Alpha Energy Solutions.

Additional efforts included incumbent worker training programs with employers such as Dajcor Aluminum Inc., Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation, and Hazard Fire and Safety. These initiatives helped businesses enhance their workforce by upskilling current employees while preparing them for future challenges.

### Expanded Services and Training Opportunities

Resume workshops, labor market insights, and one-on-one career guidance remained popular offerings this year. Services such as skills assessments, mock interviews, tuition assistance, and supportive services were instrumental in helping participants prepare for and secure employment. Notably, WIOA assumed administration of the Teleworks USA remote work program, previously managed by EKCEP. This addition broadens the program's ability to connect participants with remote job opportunities in an increasingly digital workforce.

The WIOA program remains committed to fostering economic growth and resilience in Eastern Kentucky by investing in both individual career development and the region's broader workforce needs.

# COMPASSIONATE HEARTS ADULT DAY HEALTHCARE

## FOSTERING INDEPENDENCE AND CREATING CARING CONNECTIONS

Compassionate Hearts Adult Day Healthcare continued to be a beacon of care and companionship for seniors and adults with disabilities in our community. This fiscal year, the program served 16 participants, providing a safe and supportive environment where individuals thrive through meaningful activities, social interactions and personalized care.

The program's calendar was filled with memorable experiences that brought joy and connection to participants and their families. Highlights included a fun picnic in the park, where participants enjoyed fresh air, good food and laughter. The annual family Christmas party was another standout event, bringing loved ones together to celebrate the season with music, decorations and fellowship. Additionally, the program welcomed a steady stream of volunteers and visitors, whose presence enriched the daily lives of everyone at the center.



Jerry Sturgill has attended Compassionate Hearts since his car accident in 2006. He states that adult day has helped him physically, emotionally and spiritually. He came to Compassionate Hearts in a wheelchair and is now able to live independently due to the care he has received here.

He has built life-long friendships.



Through activities like crafts, games, and gentle exercise, participants remained engaged and active, while the skilled and compassionate staff ensured their health and safety. The program also provided respite for caregivers, allowing them peace of mind knowing their loved ones are in excellent hands.

Compassionate Hearts Adult Day Healthcare remains dedicated to fostering independence, building connections, and enhancing the quality of life for all who attend. We are proud to be a vital resource for families in our region and look forward to creating even more meaningful moments in the year ahead.



### Central Administrative Office

398 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-8853

### Outreach Offices

#### LESLIE COUNTY

121 Maple Street  
Hyden, KY 41749  
(606) 672-2155

#### KNOTT COUNTY

131 West Main St.  
Hindman, KY 41822  
(606) 785-3322

#### LETCHER COUNTY

726 Highway 2034  
Whitesburg, KY 41858  
(606) 633-4458

#### PERRY COUNTY

412 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 439-1362

### Program Offices

#### CSBG/HOUSING/ WEATHERIZATION

398 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-3161

#### TRANSPORTATION

398 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-8853

#### COMMUNITY COLLABORATION FOR CHILDREN / PARENT SELF- HELP EDUCATION

412 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-3161

#### WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT

412 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-3161

## LOCATIONS

### COMPASSIONATE HEARTS ADULT DAY HEALTHCARE

145 Citizens Lane, Suite 102  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 436-8700

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

P.O. Box 1867  
Hazard, KY 41702  
(606) 439-1552

### VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE

P.O. Box 1867  
Hazard, KY 41702  
(606) 439-3961

### HEAD START

412 Roy Campbell Drive  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 435-7962

### Perry County Head Start Locations

#### PERRY COUNTY HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START CENTER

145 Citizens Lane, Suite 103  
Hazard, KY 41701  
(606) 435-1888  
Leslie County Head Start Locations

### HAYES LEWIS HEAD START

10130 Cutshin Road  
Yeaddiss, KY 41777  
(606) 279-3843

### LESLIE EARLY HEAD START

22728 Highway 421, Apt. 34  
Hyden, KY 41749  
(606) 672-3990

### STINNETT HEAD START

12975 Highway 421  
Hoskinson, KY 40844  
(606) 374-7710

### W.B. MUNCY HEAD START

142 Pirate Drive  
Wooton, KY 41776  
(606) 279-3762

### MOUNTAIN VIEW HEAD START

170 Bears Trail  
Hyden, KY 41749  
(606) 672-1637

### Letcher County Head Start Locations

#### COWAN HEAD START

81 Sturgill Branch  
Whitesburg, KY 41858  
(606) 633-0718

#### JENKINS HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START

571 Dairy Hollow Road  
Jenkins, KY 41537  
(606) 832-4012

#### MAYKING HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START

15 Highway 3410  
Mayking, KY 41837  
(606) 633-5043

#### MOUNTAIN HERITAGE HEAD START

13315 Highway 588  
Blackey, KY 41804  
(606) 633-3376

### Knott County Head Start Locations

#### BEAVER HEAD START

8022 South Highway 7  
Topmost, KY 41862  
(606) 447-2111

#### CARR CREEK HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START

8596 Highway 160  
Litt Carr, KY 41834  
(606) 642-3690

#### PERKINS HEAD START / EARLY HEAD START

238 Highway 160  
Hindman, KY 41822  
(606) 785-4604

