Community Action in Missouri:
Helping People and Changing Lives through Energy Assistance and Weatherization

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Missouri Community Action Network
Presentation Overview

1. Overview of Community Action – A National Movement
2. The Missouri Community Action Network (CAN)
3. Living Near the Line – An Average Missouri Family
4. How LIHEAP and LIWAP Make a Difference
5. Final Comments + Q & A
What is Community Action?

Helping People, Changing Lives
What is Community Action?

- Employment & Workforce Development
- Education & Cognitive Development
- Economic Security
- Energy Efficiency
- Infrastructure & Asset Building
- Housing
- Health & Nutrition
- Civic Engagement
- Community Involvement
What is Community Action?

1,000 Community Action Agencies nationwide, serving 99% of all counties

19 CAAs in Missouri

Community Needs Assessments conducted by each agency every three years

1/3 of board members comprised of low-income reps

Federal

CSBG

State

Local
Who is Missouri CAN?

We are the statewide association of Community Action Agencies, Allies and Supporters united to end poverty.

Our Vision:
A state where all people and communities thrive.

Our Mission:
To advocate for low-income Missourians and strengthen the Community Action Network.
Missouri Community Action Network

Helping People + Changing Lives in all 114 Missouri counties plus the City of St. Louis

Statewide Reach
Missouri Community Action Network—Missouri CAN—is the statewide association of Community Action Agencies, Allies and Supporters united to help people and change lives.

Local Impact
Missouri’s 19 nonprofit Community Action Agencies provide localized, direct services to low-income Missourians.

Need Help?
Use this map to find your local Community Action Agency’s contact information on the reverse side of this page.

Missouri Community Action Network
(573) 634-2969
2014 William Street
Jefferson City, MO 65109
www.MissouriCAN.org

Missouri CAN is a statewide association and not a direct service provider. Please contact your local agency for help.
Five Key Elements of Poverty

1. Economic & Family Security
2. Education
3. Food & Nutrition
4. Healthcare
5. Housing & Energy
How Do We Help People + Change Lives?

SNAP
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

LIHEAP
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

OA
Office of Population Affairs

Missouri CAN
Community Action Network
1. 41% of families served in Missouri were classified as being in severe poverty, or below 50% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

2. Community Action Agencies provided services to 264,902 Missourians in FFY17. That’s approximately 4% of all Missourians.

3. For every $1 of CSBG funding, the Missouri Network leveraged $13.57 from federal, state, local, and private sources, including volunteer hours.
Meet An Average Missouri Family
The Family

Rob and Stacy both work.

Carson is in 4th grade at the local public school.

Amy is 3 and enrolled in pre-school.
Rob works full time for 40 hours a week.
Stacy works part time for 30 hours a week.

Both adults only earn minimum wage:

$8.60 per hour
Gross Annual Income

That’s

$31,304

gross income per year.
Federal Poverty Line

Which is more than

$25,750

—the federal poverty line for a family of four.

Based on average costs, let’s see how our working family does.

$31,304
Can You Make It Work?

• Could our family of four survive on minimum wage?

• How much money do they bring home?

• What are common expenses our family must consider?
Per month, Average Fair Market Rent for a 2 bedroom unit in Missouri is $832.

Annual housing cost for our family is $9,984
Per month, the low-cost food plan for a family of four in Missouri is around $853.90.

Annual food costs add up to $10,246.80
Amy’s preschool averages around $15 a day, enabling both Stacy and Rob to work.

Annual child care cost totals

$3,900

$7,173.20
Healthcare

Rob has employer-sponsored family healthcare. The monthly premiums are $476 per month.

Annual total of $5,712

$1,461.20
Utilities

Energy costs for families earning under $30,000 per year average 26%. Our family’s energy burden per year is 22%.

Annual energy costs are

$6,886.88

-$5,425.68
The Bottom Line

Having accounted for housing, food, energy, childcare and healthcare, our Missouri family, who is above the poverty line, must pay

$5,425.68

more than they earn each year.

This does not include...

- transportation to work
- school supplies
- clothing
- hygiene
- retirement
- emergencies
Living Near the Line

It’s not just our family.

Missouri has

793,001

individuals who live below the poverty line.

And countless other families live in similar situations as Stacy and Rob.
## Poverty Defined

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official Poverty Rate</th>
<th>Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developed in the early 1960s when President Lyndon Johnson declared war on poverty</td>
<td>Developed in 2010 by the Census Bureau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uses three times the cost of a minimum diet to establish poverty rate</td>
<td>Estimates cost of food, clothing, shelter, and utilities; then adds 20% for other expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Same in all regions</td>
<td>Adjusted for cost of living in different regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not account for assistance provided by government programs</td>
<td>Takes into consideration the influence of government support</td>
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</tbody>
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Poverty Rate by County – Ameren Counties
Poverty Rate by County – GMO Counties
Poverty Rate by County – KCP&L Counties
LIHEAP

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP)

Of the 165,403 unique households who received assistance, the vast majority (79%) accessed the program for short-term situations, having received benefits in only one or two of the past five years. Only 4% of households received Emergency Crisis Intervention Program funds every year, and of those households, 75% are considered vulnerable, with disabled, elderly, or children under the age of 5 in the household.

Source: Missouri Community Action Network 5 Year LiHEAP Data, 2013-2017
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP)

The majority of households participating in LiHEAP for five of the last five years had elderly, disabled, or young children.

75.02%  Elderly, Disabled, or Young Children
24.98%  Other Households

Source: Missouri Community Action Network 5 Year LiHEAP Data, 2013-2017
In FY2018, Community Action weatherized a total of 1,414 homes across Missouri at an average cost of $9,788.82 per home. The LIHEAP transfer to weatherization provided $7 million to the Weatherization Assistance Program and funded the weatherization of 715 homes.
715 homes were weatherized through the LIHEAP transfer to weatherization. That’s 50.6% of the total homes weatherized in Missouri.
LIWAP – Weatherization

For every $1.00 spent on the Weatherization program, $2.78 is returned to the local economy. That’s a

278% ROI
Missouri CAN
Community Action Network

Vision
A state where all people and communities thrive.

www.MissouriCAN.org