

Community Action in Virginia

Virginia's **thirty-one Community Action Agencies** are a robust state and local network, reaching children and families throughout the Commonwealth with comprehensive services that create opportunities for self-sufficiency and economic mobility. Our services are informed with the leadership level input of the Virginians we serve, local governments, community leaders and our state and local government partners.

Annually, we reach:



This includes:



Over 20,200 people received quality free income **Tax Preparation** services, providing over **\$22 million** in federal and state refunds (including **\$11 million** in Earned Income and Child Tax Credits)

The \$11.25 million annual Community Action state TANF investment leverages over \$12 million in federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. This partnership strengthens the Commonwealth's human services network that responds to the needs of our communities by delivering critical support to Virginians. The Governor and General Assembly's investment in Community Action is vital to Virginia's ability to leverage every \$1 of state directed investment to \$14 from other federal, state, local and private sources.

A Whole Family Approach to Empowering Change

Breaking Down Silos to Meet Virginians Experiencing Poverty Where They Are

Virginia's Community Action Agencies (CAAs) use a **Whole Family Approach** — supporting parents, children, and caregivers together to create opportunities towards economic mobility. By connecting families to services, we strengthen communities by addressing the causes of poverty and create lasting opportunities for success.

Each agency tailors its initiatives to meet local needs — either delivering services directly or linking families to trusted partners through strong statewide and local collaborations.

Whole Family in Action Through Various Partnership and Opportunities

Across Virginia, Community Action Agencies work side-by-side with families — empowering parents, nurturing children, and strengthening communities. Each agency has different initiatives but below are a sample of efforts found at many community action agencies.

- **Workforce Development & Employer Connections** – Supporting job seekers with training, career placement, and wraparound services.
- **VDSS/LDSS Employment Partnerships** – Coordinating referrals and resources that promote family stability and job readiness.
- **Head Start** – Delivering transformational early childhood education that empowers children to learn and families to thrive.
- **Weatherization Assistance & Energy Assistance** – In partnership with the **Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development** and **VDSS** helping families reduce energy costs and improve home safety.
- **Volunteer Tax Assistance (Virginia CASH Campaign)** – In collaboration with **VDSS**, offering free tax prep, focusing on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), financial education, and credit-building supports.
- **Digital Skills Training** – Expanding access to technology and digital literacy for education and employment.
- **Diaper Distribution Pilot** – Providing critical supplies and linking families to broader supports that improve economic mobility.
- **Housing Construction & Rehabilitation** – In partnership with **DHCD**, **Virginia Housing**, foundations, and private investors to expand affordable housing.
- **Eviction Prevention**– Helping families maintain safe, stable housing through preventative supports
- **Domestic Violence Services** – Providing safety, stability, and pathways to independence for survivors.
- **Youth Services (Project Discovery)** – Preparing students for college and career success through mentorship and opportunity.
- **Community Development – (SERCAP)** Investing in water systems, small business support, and neighborhood revitalization.
- **Reentry Services (VA CARES)** – Assisting returning citizens in securing employment, housing, and community re-integration.