



Empowering People, Enriching Communities

(417) 862-4314

www.oac.ac



Our History

In 1965, Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) was organized as a non-profit agency designed to work toward alleviating the causes and conditions of poverty. We serve Barry, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney, and Webster counties in Southwest Missouri.

We are proud to be one of 19 Community Action Agencies in the state of Missouri and more than 1,000 such agencies across the nation serving children, adults, seniors, individuals, and families.



Locations

Centers, offices and clinics are located throughout the 10-county service area in Southwest Missouri. The Central Office is located at 215 S. Barnes Avenue in Springfield, MO, 65802.

Make A Difference

Join the effort to alleviate poverty, strengthen stability, offer opportunities, and empower self-sufficiency for people of all ages. Community involvement and support are vital to the success of our programs.

To volunteer time, give us a call at (417) 873-3375. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit oac.ac/donate or send a gift to our Central Office, care of Resource Development. Thank you.

Our Mission

To create lasting solutions to poverty for families and communities within Southwest Missouri.

Our Vision

OACAC envisions people living an optimal, empowered life, free from poverty.

We Value

Diversity, Inclusion, Dignity, Collaboration, Equity, Confidentiality

Programs and Projects

CSBG Neighborhood/Community Centers: *Individualized services helping meet the needs of the community, (417) 873-3381*

- Individualized case management support focused on personal goals
- Community projects bring hands-on experiences, resources, and assistance to people of all ages
- Life skills workshops, in collaboration with community partners, on topics related to self-sufficiency

Family Planning: *Affordable, confidential preventive reproductive health care, (417) 864-3410*

- Gynecological examinations and related lab tests
- Breast and cervical cancer screenings
- Birth Control counseling and supplies
- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases
- HIV and Syphilis testing (at select locations)
- Pregnancy testing, counseling and referral

Head Start/Early Head Start: *Comprehensive early childhood and family development services to children from birth to five years old, pregnant women, and families, (417) 864-3430*

- Social-emotional and physical development
- Language, literacy, math, science, and health
- Creative arts
- Family engagement in the child's education
- Personal and family goal setting

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP): *Assistance for an energy related crisis, (417) 864-3460*
Energy Assistance (EA)

- A one-time payment per year for one fuel type
- The program operates October - September
- Eligibility is based on household size and income
- Applicants must first apply for EA

Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP)

- Utility assistance to alleviate energy-related crises
- The winter program operates October - May
- The summer program operates June - September

Weatherization Assistance Program: *Reduces the energy burden by providing cost-effective energy efficiency measures, (417) 865-7797*

- Gas heating systems and appliances tested for safety and efficiency
- Insulation of attic, floors and walls
- Weather stripping
- Repairs to doors and windows
- Air sealing

CSBG Projects

- Vocational Opportunities Inspiring Children in Elementary (VOICE) and Virtual VOICE
- Reality Enrichment And Life Lessons (REALL)
- People's Pantries
- Tower Gardens and Tower Farm
- New to You Thrift Store
- Poverty Simulation

Foster Grandparent Program: *Volunteers age 55+ providing support to youth ages Pre-K - 12th grade, (417) 864-3420*

- Volunteers assist with tutoring, development of fine motor skills, problem solving, communication, good study habits, and other classroom activities
- Volunteers serve as a positive role model

Housing Assistance Program: *Safe, decent, affordable housing, (417) 864-3444*

- Participants choose their home
- Homes must be rent reasonable and pass inspection for HUD Housing Quality Standards
- Participants pay approximately 30% of their adjusted monthly income to rent

Project SHARE

- A City Utilities (CU) program in partnership with OACAC (Springfield area)
- Helping seniors and families maintain utilities
- The program operates January - May

Low Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

- One-time payment for water and/or wastewater (sewer) bill
- The program operates November - September

Benefits include

- Reduced energy usage
- Increased energy efficiency of the home
- Long-term energy savings

As of 8/1/21, a home can be re-weatherized 15 years after the original weatherization date.