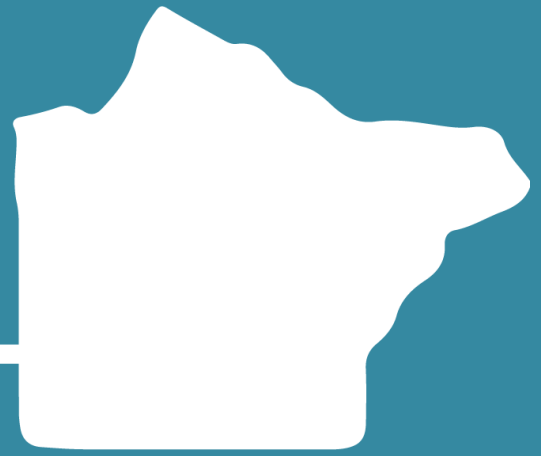


# WCCA

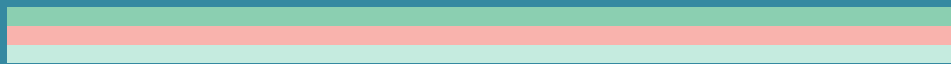
WRIGHT COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION



## 2017

## ANNUAL REPORT

*Working in partnership with the community to empower residents to improve their physical, social and economic well-being.*



# WRIGHT COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION

## *Board of Directors*

*Dan Dawson*

CHAIRPERSON

*Stacie Zachman*

VICE CHAIRPERSON

*Stacy Anderson*

SECRETARY

*Brian Matzke*

TREASURER

*Bruce Anderson*

SPECIAL PROJECTS

*W. Paul Arnold*

PLANNING

*Charles Borrell*

SPECIAL PROJECTS

*Mark Daleiden*

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

*Dwayne Diers*

PLANNING

*Tiffany Farrier*

PLANNING

*Terri Harris*

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

*Luke McClain*

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

*Pamela Lindberg*

HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL

*Patrick Seglar*

PLANNING

*Marlene Stumpf-Johnson*

PLANNING & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

*130 hours*

Board Members collectively  
spent guiding our team

*2*

New Board Members  
in 2017

## *Dear Friends and supporters of WCCA,*

*As always, this Annual Report provides a valuable opportunity for reflection, examination, and celebration. 2017 saw some truly incredible progress in all of our programs, due in no small part to the commitment of our program managers, staff, and invaluable volunteers. We kicked off the year by implementing Raising a Reader in the last of our Head Start classrooms, ensuring that all of our Head Start students received access to this life-altering literacy program. We didn't stop there - through a grant from Wright County Area United Way, WCCA recently began to expand Raising a Reader to county public schools. Our food security programs also achieved a banner year. Last year, I shared that our WCCA Food Shelf served 71% more households in 2016 than it had in 2015. This year, I am delighted to announce that the WCCA Food Shelf saw a service increase of 101% over even last year's success. This is largely due to the generosity of our community partners and the success of our innovative food programs. As of last September, now includes a senior-focused Mobile Food Shelf and a Backpack Program in Howard Lake, Waverly, Winsted Public Schools.*

*The WCCA staff continues to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to innovation, collaboration, and compassionate service. Their dedication not only led to the program success you'll see throughout this report, but also allowed us to successfully transition two new Program Directors, for both Housing and Head Start, vastly increase our local donor base, and expand our ability to build programs and track data through a new staff position in our Planning department. While improving our organization internally, we also found ways to reach out into the community and recognize new needs and resources. We developed and implemented a new Community Assessment that will allow us to better track and target the needs of our community. This strengthened a number of vital partnerships with local schools, organizations, businesses, and the county government. All of this growth created capacity for this year's largest accomplishment. I am thrilled to announce that, through the generosity of the Central Minnesota Council on Aging and their Title III grant, WCCA has officially launched its Aging Alliance program, which works to support the growing number of Wright County seniors through invaluable services such as Assisted Transportation and Homemaker Services.*



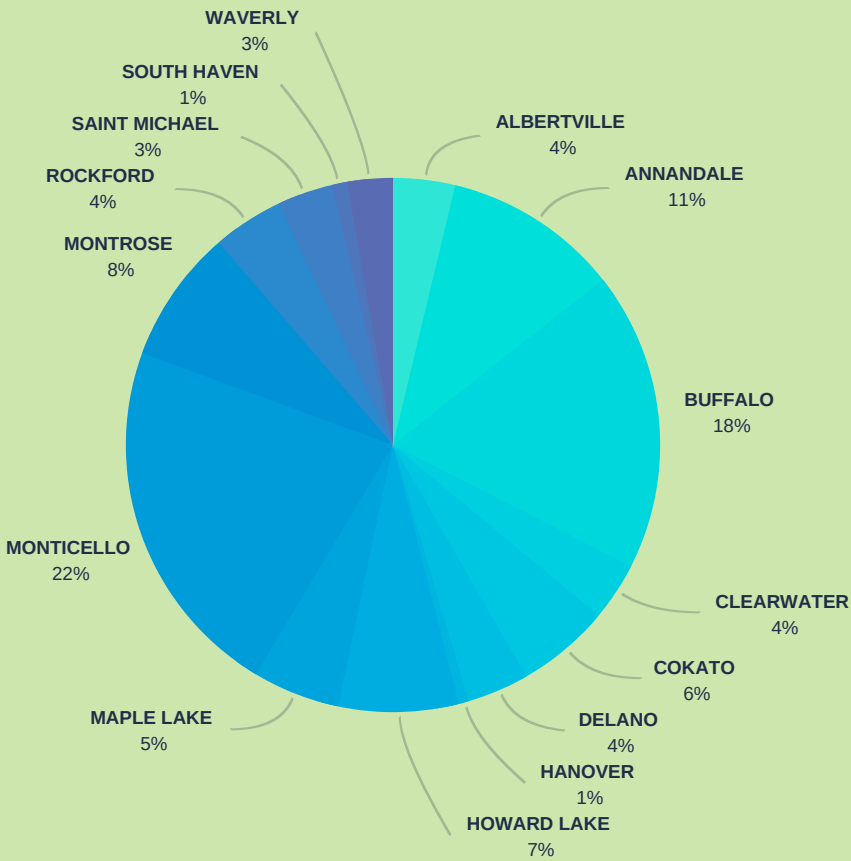
*I am grateful for our success, for our staff, and exceptionally thankful for you, the community we serve. We could not meet these truly urgent needs without your support. You are the net that catches those in need. You partner with us, provide insight, stir innovation, and create opportunity. You build your community and make sure that every member has the chance to succeed. Thank you for your support. Thank you for your service. Thank you for making Wright County such a wonderful place in which to live, work, and serve.*

*Until next year,*

*Jay Weatherford*  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

# Who We Serve

## Client's Cities



## Education

- 54.4% - 2 or 4 years college graduate
- 19.1% - High School Diploma or GED
- 16.0% - No High School Degree
- 10.2% - Some Post Secondary

## Age

- 10.6% - 0-5 years old
- 27.1% - 6-17 years old
- 41.9% - 18-54 years old
- 20.2% - 55 years old or more

## Household Type

- 40.1% - Single Person
- 30.0% - Single Parent
- 20.3% - Two Adults with no children
- 8.9% - Two Parent Household

## Client Ethnicity & Race

87.5% of WCCA clients identify as white. The pie chart details the remaining 12.5%.

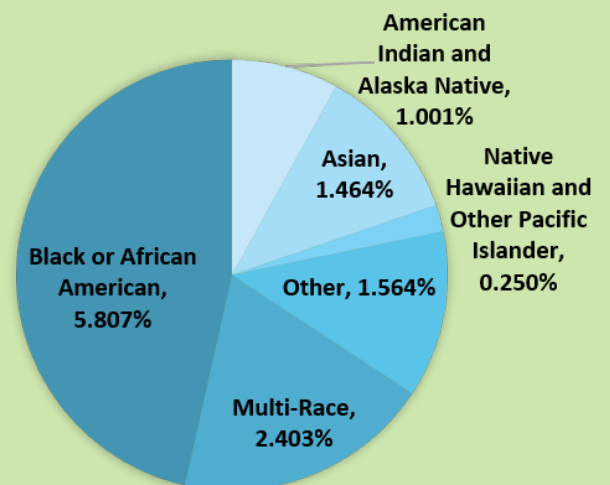
Furthermore, ethnicity is referred to cultural factors, including nationality, regional culture, ancestry, and language.

**94.22%**

Report a non-Hispanic ethnicity

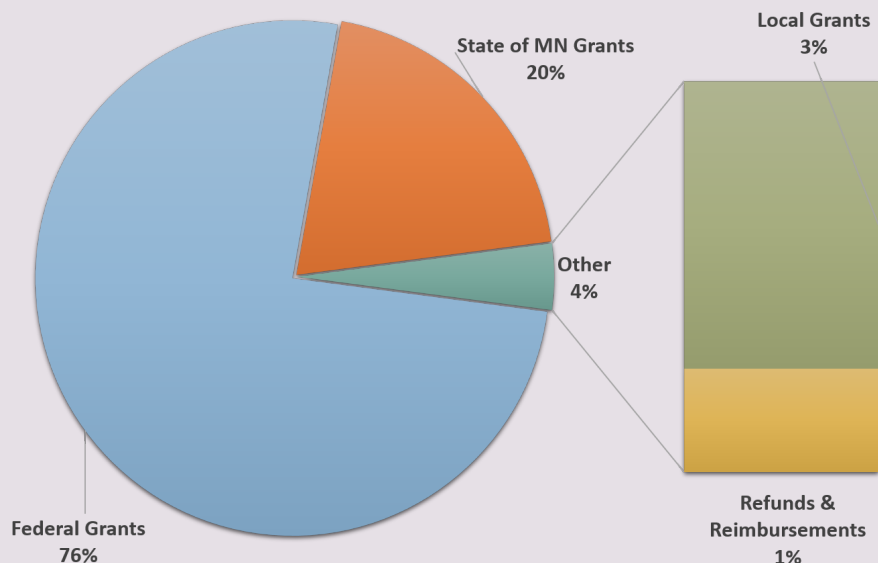
**5.78%**

Report Hispanic ethnicity

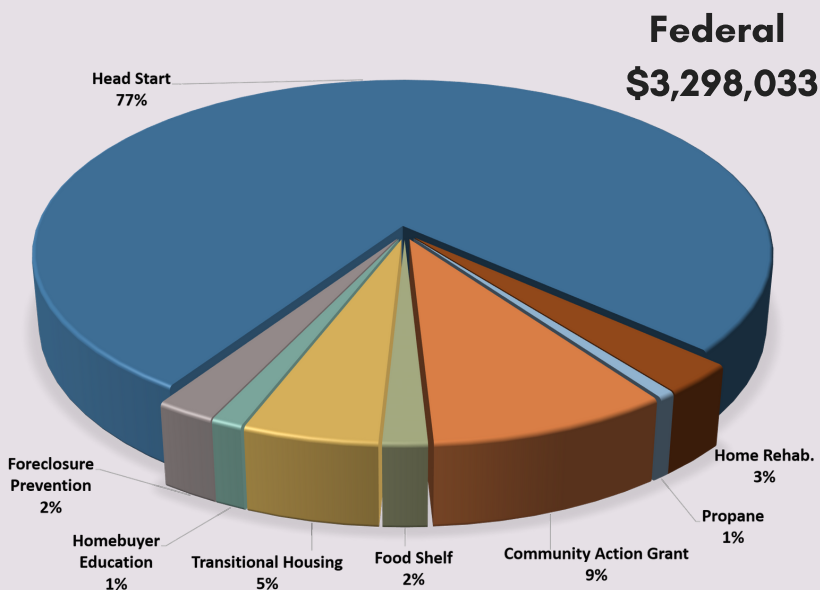


# Fiscal

## Revenue in 2017

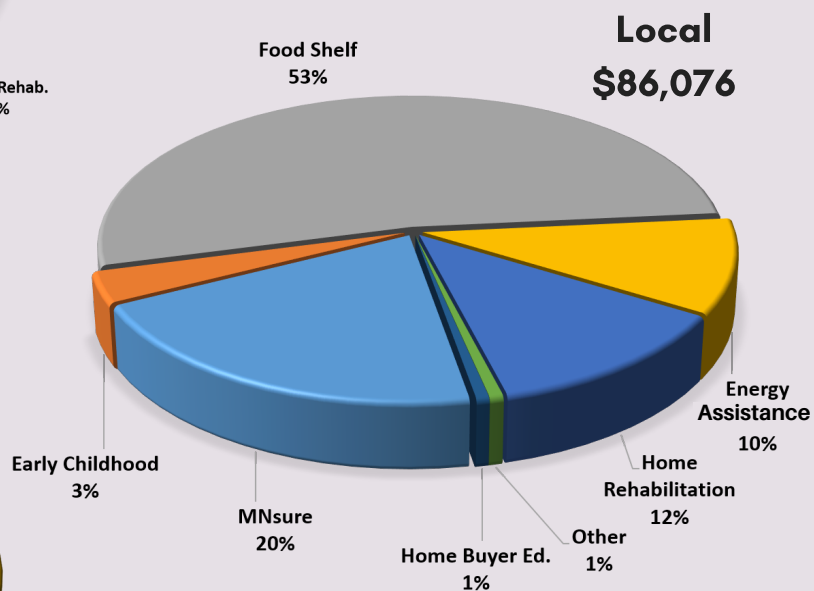
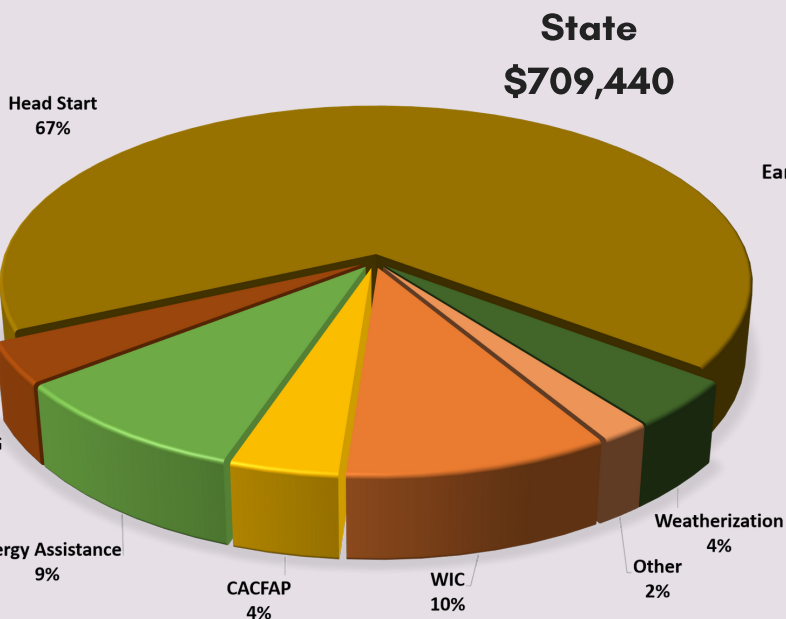


## Expenditure Breakdown



## Expenditures in 2017

Program Services: 88.94%  
Administrative: 11.06%



# What programs do we offer?

## Self-Sufficiency

### **MNSure**

Our MNSure navigator works as a neutral third-party to assist clients to navigate the MNSure website and application process. This service helps clients understand the insurance options available.

### **Tax Preparation (VITA)**

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance is a free tax preparation program provided by Internal Revenue Service-certified volunteers. Volunteers prepare individual returns for households grossing less than \$35,000 or multiple person returns for households grossing less than \$55,000.

### **Thrift Shop**

WCCA's thrift shop, adjacent to our food shelf in Waverly, serves thousands of people each year. Our shop is not restricted to income-eligible individuals nor to anyone living outside of Wright County - anyone can shop!

### **Aging Alliance**

Volunteers work side-by-side with Wright County's senior population's age 60 and older in order to foster independence and well-being.

## Nutrition

### **Food Shelf**

The WCCA food shelf is the only location in Wright County that serves all residents, regardless of what township or city they reside. Run on a client-choice model, we offer a variety of nutritious foods.

### **Emergency Food Box Network**

We partner with local businesses and organizations to distribute 30-pound emergency food boxes. This program shortens the distance between people in need of food and expands the reach of our food shelf resources.

### **Mobile Food Shelf**

By partnering with rental community properties, our volunteers prepare and deliver Food Shelf services right to our clients' doors.

### **Women, Infants & Children (WIC)**

A supplemental food, nutrition, and breastfeeding program that helps pregnant women, new mothers, babies and children up to the age of five.

# Education

## Early Head Start

The Early Head Start program offers learning, medical and parenting services to income-eligible pregnant women, infants and toddlers up to three years of age through an in-home environment.

## Head Start

The Head Start program offers learning, medical and parenting services to income-eligible children up to five years of age in a classroom environment. In addition, this program hosts opportunities during the school year to grow and learn with your child. This program serves western Hennepin and all of Wright County.

# Housing

## Homebuyer Training

Homebuyer Training is a popular eight-hour group workshop designed for participants interested in learning more about the path to home-ownership.

## Foreclosure Prevention Counseling

Foreclosure Prevention Counseling is a free program designed to assist homeowners facing or undergoing foreclosure.

## Energy Assistance (EAP)

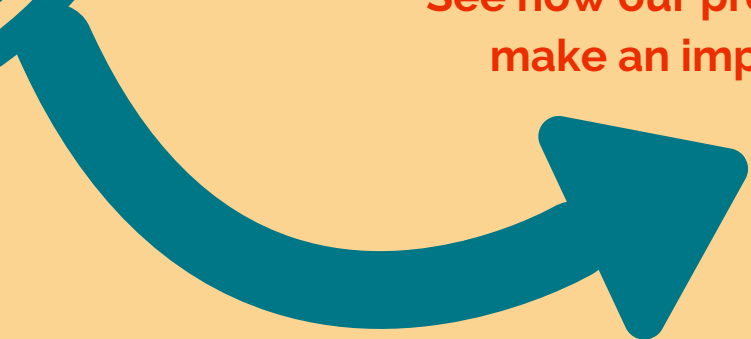
The Energy Assistance Program helps eligible households maintain affordable, continuous, and safe home energy. Our services include bill payment assistance, home energy crisis intervention, outreach, energy advocacy, information about utility consumer rights, and referrals.

## Weatherization

Our Weatherization program helps income-eligible residents of Wright County conserve energy, lower fuel costs and provide safer, more sustainable dwellings for their families.



**See how our programs  
make an impact!**





donated directly

**\$37,372**

in-kind donations  
of materials and space

**\$180,286**

volunteer hours

**21,548**



**over \$465,000**

the amount clients received in tax returns when they filed with our Tax Assistance Program

**\$901,946 in Savings**

for our energy clients - that's over \$450 for each household!

**449 Parents**

supporting, enhancing positive parenting skills, interactions, through the Head Start Program

**2,521 Women & Children**

received nutritional assistance through WIC

**2,660 community members**

participated in anti-poverty initiatives

**38 Low-Income Leaders**

facilitated change in their community through WCCA

***Donations in Action***





# It feels right to give

If you are able to make a donation,  
please do so by visiting our  
website at **[www.wccaweb.com](http://www.wccaweb.com)** or  
mail donation to

**Wright County Community Action**  
**PO Box 787, Maple Lake, MN**  
**55358.**

*In 2016, we reported the growth within our Food Security program and set the tone for a successful 2017.*

Since then, our program has outperformed our expectations. Historically, our traditional food shelf was the only project under Food Security. In 2017, we have successfully implemented three additional projects: The Emergency Food Box Network, The Mobile Food Shelf, and The Back Pack Food Program. These projects have allowed us to expand our Food Security program to our entire service area. The expansion has allowed us to fill gaps that affect low-income residents in various stages of life. Our Emergency Food Box Network provides food and informational resources to individuals with limited transportation or schedules. The Mobile Food Shelf addresses hunger for seniors at independent living facilities in the county. The Back Pack Program provides parcels to our Head Start students to provide nutritional options on the weekend.

Each of the 3 projects brings their own innovation and creativity. We strategically implemented the Emergency Food Box Network to benefit our clients but also the agency as a whole. We have recruited partners from all over the service area to be available after regular food shelf hours, be geographically closer to those in need. Each of the food boxes provides a 3-day supply of food for a family of 4 as well as local information for additional services. This program has also shaped new partnerships for our agency. We have been able to connect with public school partners, local support agencies, fire stations, EMS providers and a variety of faith communities.

**Each of these new partnerships brings new volunteers, agency recognition and local support.**



RESOLVING HUNGER NEEDS IN  
WRIGHT COUNTY .

in 2017 our food programs distributed

**70,712 pounds of food**

which is equal to **58,927 meals**

provided directly to local families in need



menu items to chose  
from for Mobile Food  
Shelf clients

*"The clients are thrilled that this program allows them to prepare their own meals and maintain independence."*

**" WCCA Food Shelf has had a huge impact on my life in the past year.**

I was in an abusive relationship and finally was able to get out of it when he almost took my life. I spent several days in the hospital and then was placed in a safe house. I lost my job, then he took all my personal items and money. He left me with nothing.

I was able to get some assistance with an apartment but had nothing to furnish it with or money to buy food or clothes. I was able to get WCCA's contact information from my county worker.

They directed me to their Food shelf and Thrift store where I was able to get food and was given a clothing voucher to get some clothes for free. There was no questioned asked that I felt like they were trying to pry. The staff that helped me was very caring and helpful.

**I am very thankful for the help I received from WCCA. "**



*We envision a Wright County where residents feel happy, healthy, secure, and connected.*



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Fax: (320) 963-5745

**Main Office Location**

Maple Lake

**Food Shelf & Thrift Shop**

Waverly

**WIC Clinic Locations**

Buffalo

Howard Lake

Monticello

**Head Start Locations**

Annandale

Buffalo

Delano

Howard Lake

Monticello

Montrose

Mound

Rogers

