



Community Action Team
Serving Columbia, Clatsop, and Tillamook Counties

Annual Report 2024

**CONNECTING
PEOPLE WITH THE
RESOURCES THEY
NEED TO CARE FOR
THEMSELVES AND
THEIR FAMILIES**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

03

Introduction
Board of Directors



05

Housing Needs
Senior Programs
Utility Assistance
Veterans Services



09

Child and Family
Development
-Head Start
-Healthy Families
-OPK



11

Community
Investment



12

Asset Management



13

Budget



Introduction

CAT's mission is to connect people with the resources they need to care for themselves and their families. Our work strengthens individuals and communities through programs that combat homelessness, promote affordable housing, enhance early childhood development, support disaster recovery, and provide utility assistance. Grounded in our values of empowerment, compassion, collaboration, and equity, we work to ensure access to opportunities and resources.

CAT is guided by a community-based Board of Directors, ensuring decisions reflect our community's best interests. Funding comes primarily from state and federal programs, supplemented by foundation grants. We value diverse funding sources and community involvement to sustain our mission and expand our impact.

Since 1966, we have grown from operating federally funded Head Start programs to building a broad network of services. In response to Oregon's call for Community Action Partnership, we established advisory boards in Tillamook and Clatsop counties, which evolved into Community Action Resource Enterprises (CARE) in Tillamook and Clatsop Community Action (CCA) in Astoria.

With decades of service and a commitment to our vision, CAT is dedicated to making a lasting difference—providing safe housing, educational opportunities, and the support people need to reach their potential. As needs change, we adapt, creating positive change and building thriving, resilient, inclusive communities for all.



Board of Directors

Board Chair

Erin Skaar

Date of Incorporation:

June 21, 1966

Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Richards

Board Members - At Large

Kathy Appel
Kellie Jo Smith
Keith Locke
Rita Bernhard
Viviana Matthews
Jeff Blackford
Ginny Carlson
Kristen Dean
Irene Garcia Padilla
Meg Glover-Cloutier





Housing Needs

Guided by our goal to ensure access to safe, stable, and equitable housing, we work to prevent homelessness and rehouse individuals and families across a three-county service area.

Our housing stability and prevention efforts helped **2,513** individuals avoid eviction, including: **18** parenting youth, and **84** veterans, allowing families and individuals to remain rooted in their communities.

Additionally, we supported **622** individuals experiencing homelessness to secure permanent housing, including: **23** parenting youth, and **18** veterans.

These outcomes reflect our commitment to prioritizing populations facing the greatest barriers to housing stability and advancing housing solutions that strengthen individual, families, and communities throughout the region.

Senior Programs

Total number of Senior (age 65+) citizens served: **2,791**

127 Individuals who maintain an independent living situation.

98 Maintain for 180+ days

84 Individuals with disabilities who maintain an independent living situation.

56 Maintain for 180+ days.

Number of Volunteers (Home
Delivered Meals drivers and
Center volunteers): 173

Number of Volunteer Hours:
8,307.50



Utility Assistance Program

CAT's Utility Assistance Program provides critical support to households facing energy insecurity, helping families cover essential utility costs through LIHEAP, OEAP, OLGA & GAP, and other funding streams.



Total households served: 2,084

**CAT: 934
CCA: 765
CARE: 386**

Total participants served: 3,866

**CAT: 1,792
CCA: 1,409
CARE: 665**



Households with restored services: 34

**CAT: 28
CCA: 2
CARE: 4**



Households with prevented disconnects: 441

**CAT: 147
CCA: 229
CARE: 65**

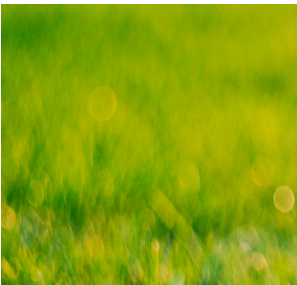
In the middle of a freezing February, a household of 7 faced the threat of having their electricity shut off. The husband had recently lost his job and was not eligible for unemployment benefits, putting the family at risk of losing heat during dangerously cold weather. Fortunately, assistance was provided to stop the disconnection, allowing the family to stay warm and safe in their home. Additionally, the worker who helped them referred the family to the Department of Human Services (DHS) to apply for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). This support program can provide financial aid to families facing temporary hardships until they regain stable employment. Thanks to these programs, the family was able to avoid an emergency and focus on rebuilding their income and security during a difficult time.

Veterans Services

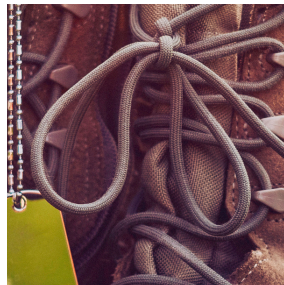
Engaging the community through both outreach and educational efforts helps to **spread the word** and connect service members with the Veterans Service Officer. Throughout the year, the VSO hosted community breakfasts, virtual learning sessions, and staffed informational tables at local events. All of these efforts combined have helped **connect hundreds of community members** to resources and provide updated **knowledge on benefits**.

A grant of benefits bring substantial money into the community.

\$1,016,799.27 in retro benefits.
\$291,110.61 in monthly benefits.



191
New
Claims
Filed



1,694
Forms
Completed



“



A veteran's surviving spouse came in, concerned about a substantial overpayment from the VA that they may have to repay. The surviving spouse certainly did not have the means to pay back the debt.

Our VSO worked with the spouse to make a case to have the debt waived due to an error on the part of the VA.

While working with the spouse, the VSO discovered that the veteran had died from service connected causes and the spouse was entitled to monthly payments from the VA because of this.

The spouse received a retroactive payment from the VA and described it as “life changing”.

Child and Family Development

Head Start/OPK

The program provides comprehensive early childhood education, health, and nutrition services, tailored to meet the diverse needs of young children. The programs focus on creating nurturing and stimulating environments and are dedicated to preparing children for future academic success and fostering their cognitive, social, and emotional development. Additionally, the programs emphasize strong parent involvement, building a community that actively supports each child’s growth and learning journey.

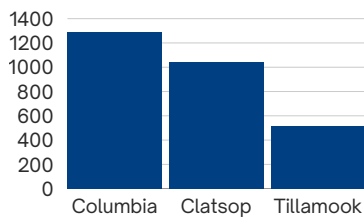


Families Served	548
Home Visits	2,870
Developmental Screen Completion Rate	100%
Immunization	98%
Number of Meals Served	Breakfast - 23,180 Lunch - 25,663 PM Snack - 13,519

Child and Family Development

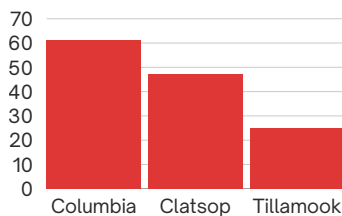
Healthy Families

Completed Home Visits



2,850

Total Families Served



133

91-98%

-Parents report a reduction of stress.

-Parents report a reduction of depression and anxiety.

-Parents report an increase in connection to the community and referrals to community partners.

-Children have increased school readiness from participating in the Healthy Families program.



Community Investment

CAT aims to preserve healthy, and safe living situations for the community by addressing various housing needs, from essential repairs and accessibility upgrades to environmental improvements and energy efficiency enhancements.

Weatherization	Enhancing energy efficiency in the home	21
Healthy Homes	Repairs and remediation measures that contribute to a healthier and safer living space	41
Lend a Hand	Minor repairs and necessary accessibility upgrades	21
SHOORP	Staff assists homeowners and volunteers to rehab their homes.	6
DEQ	Failing septic system repair/replacement	19

A cancer survivor living on a fixed income faced a crisis when a broken pipe left their home with extensive subfloor damage and no water.

Unable to afford the cost to repair, they contacted CAT. The team assessed the situation, connected with a local contractor and together were able to replace the broken pipes, fix the damaged floors, and completed foundational work ensuring a comprehensive and lasting repair.



Asset Management

Through development, ownerships, and partnerships, Community Action Team brings **188 units** of affordable housing to the service area.

Those 188 units look like:

3 Single-Family homes

185 Multi-Family Homes

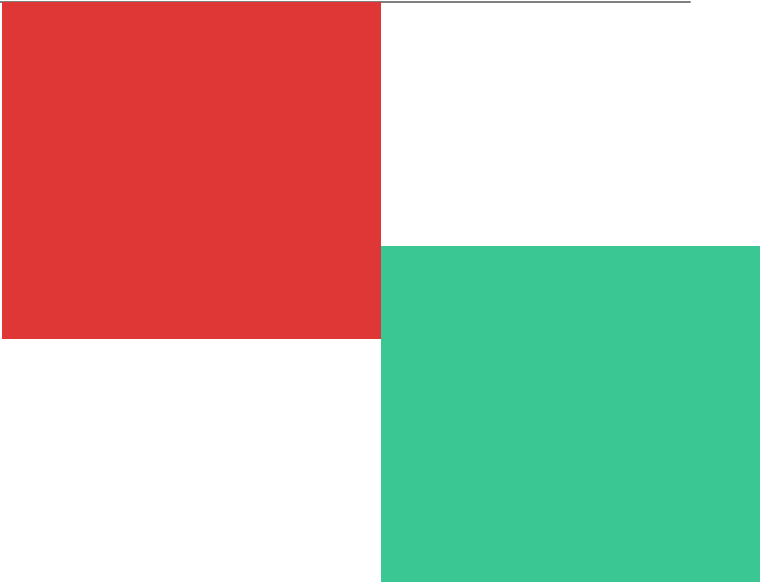
- 5 - single room (occupancy designated for homeless men).

- 18 - studio units

- 67 - one-bedroom units

- 59 - two-bedroom units

- 39 - three-bedroom units



Budget:

Income:	
Grants:	\$15,618,960
Private Contributions:	\$188,210
Program Fees:	\$777,145
Total:	\$16,584,315
Expenses:	
Program Costs:	\$15,518,725
Administration:	\$1,065,590
Total:	\$16,584,315



Thank You

This work isn't possible without our dedicated staff and community members pulling together to wrap services around our clients and provide them the best support possible.



503-397-3511



125 N 17th St, St Helens, OR 97051



www.cat-team.org