

# *Annual Report* **2022**

*Empowering People...Changing Lives*



**First State**  
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY



## *Empowering People...Changing Lives*

Dear Friends, Colleagues and Donors,

Through your support, we served 11,632 individuals, over a 12% increase from 2021. As the economy has slowed, demand for services and calls for help have soared. From housing and food insecurity to workforce training and educational support, First State Community Action Agency has answered the call and needs of the individuals, families and communities we serve.

We stand firm in our commitment to provide a helping hand to those who need it the most. We helped families to get the resources that they needed to keep a roof over their head, food on the table, heat and electricity in their homes and assistance with employment. We worked especially hard on outreach to children to provide safe and nurturing educational environments so students did not fall behind, have afterschool programs, and obtain life skills training.

All this is made possible through our donors, program sponsors, volunteers and staff. A heartfelt thanks for their generous support of time, energy and resources. Without this collaboration, we would not have the impact and results we have achieved. A special thank you for financial assistance from Discover Bank, M&T Bank, WSFS, Delmarva Power, United Way, DRJC, I.G. Burton, Harry K Foundation, and the Beau Biden Foundation for your generosity and trust, and thank you to the 400+ partner organizations who assist us in our efforts throughout the state.

We work with collective strength and determination to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty by helping families achieve self-sufficiency, by addressing systemic racism in institutions, and by advancing equity with those we serve.

Sincerely,



*Anne M. Farley*  
Dr. Anne M. Farley, Board President



*Bernice Edwards*  
Bernice Edwards, Executive Director

# Annual Report 2022

## Client Based Services

- Emergency Services
- Food Pantry
- Case Management
- Grant Diversion
- Promoting Safe and Stable Families
- Second Chance Reentry Program
- State Rental Assistance Program
- Delaware Father Program



## Community Development & Housing

- Community Development
- La Casita Outreach
- Housing
- Heater Replacement and Repair
- Summer Cooling Assistance

## Employment, Training & Special Services

- Adult Culinary Arts
- Senior Companion Program
- Senior Community Service Employment
- After School Program
- Summer Enrichment Camp
- Summer Youth Employment
- Year Round Youth Employment
- Workforce Development
- Now We're Cooking
- Freedom Schools



1,580

Employment Services



1,229

Health & Well Being Services



449

Health Safety Improvements



127

Purchased a Home



198

Independent Living



4,812

Housing Services



824

Food & Nutrition



420

Energy Efficiency



1,225

Education Services



522

Income Tax Preparations



46

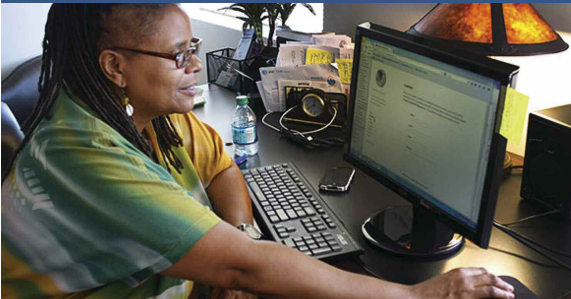
Civic Engagement Services

## Client Based Services

*Providing Assistance to low-income individuals, families and communities to move from a state of crisis to sustainability and self-sufficiency.*

### Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry provides a three day supply of food staples to those in need.



### Comprehensive Case Management

Our Family Resource Coordinators assist clients with goal setting, developing an action plan with measurable milestones and ways to cope with barriers.

### Emergency Services

Our Emergency Services Program provides emergency assistance with rent, utilities, evictions, medical & prescription needs and also provides emergency shelter for victims of fire or domestic violence.



### Delaware Father Program

Through job training, adult education, employment and financial literacy, we help non-custodial parents, especially fathers, to provide for and to strengthen relationships with their children.

### Promoting Safe & Stable Families

This program uses a unique family centered intervention process designed to:

- Reduce family crisis & stress
- Increases knowledge of services & resources
- Improve family relationships
- Helps parents to learn a different way of planning

### Second Chance Reentry

This statewide program provides Case Management services to incarcerated individuals 6-12 months prior to their release to increase ability to secure employment, housing & transportation & advancement in education.



# Community Development & Housing

*Building strong communities and leadership and providing home ownership opportunities, budget and financial education.*

## Community Development Program

The Community Development Program works with targeted communities throughout the State to promote collaboration among residents to help them identify problems and acquire resources to help strengthen their neighborhoods and combat problems such as injustice, crime and drug abuse. This program also operates the free EITC Tax Preparation program from January-April each year.



## Housing & Financial Literacy

Stable secure housing is vital to the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities. Our Housing Program offers HUD approved housing counseling to first-time home buyers and also provides foreclosure prevention services to help existing homeowners stay in their homes.

## HELP Program

The HELP Program provides air conditioner installations to qualified recipients April through September, and also offers heater repair or replacement from October through March. The program also provides energy



education and energy saving EcoKits to help reduce energy costs.



## La Casita Outreach

The La Casita Outreach services

the Spanish-speaking population in the area with life skills assistance, interpretation services, and other supports. Hispanic students are enriched with hands-on learning, after school homework assistance, activities and social development.

## Employment, Training & Special Services

*Providing programs that target youth, unemployed adults and seniors, to help reduce the impact of poverty on low-income individuals at every stage of their lives.*



### After School Programs

Our after school programs provide a safe, engaging environment that inspires learning and life enrichment, and promotes academic success, personal growth, healthy social development and life-long learning.

### Summer Enrichment Camp

Summer Enrichment Camp is an extension of our after school programs that provides recreation, educational activities, trips, creative arts and nutrition to school aged children in Sussex County, Delaware.



### Freedom Schools

The Freedom School Program provides summer and after school enrichment through a research-based, multicultural program model supporting K-12 scholars and their families through five essential components:

- High quality academic and character building enrichment
- Parent & family involvement
- Civic engagement & social action
- Intergenerational servant leadership development
- Nutrition, physical and mental health.

Our goal is to empower children and young adults to excel and believe in their ability to make a difference in themselves, their families, schools and communities.



## *Employment, Training & Special Services, con't.*

*Providing programs that target youth, unemployed adults and seniors, to help reduce the impact of poverty on low-income individuals at every stage of their lives.*

### Adult Culinary Arts Training

The accredited program trains the unemployed, under-employed, dislocated workers, those with disabilities and those seeking a career change in the high demand food service industry. Includes preparation for Serv-Safe Certification and ABC Certification.



### Summer & Year Round Youth Employment

Offers summer and year-round employment opportunities, job training and professional development to teens ages 16-18. Youth also receive soft-skills training on interviews, resumes, business etiquette, life skills training, money management and financial literacy, leadership development, asset building, college and career planning.

### "Now We're Cooking" Culinary Training

The "Now We're Cooking" vocational foodservice program is a partnership with local school districts to offer culinary arts training to students in grades 9-12, including those with disabilities.

### Workforce Development Training

Workforce Development partners with local educational entities to identify eligible candidates for employment training opportunities like CDL, and CNA training and Flagger training.

### Senior Community Service Employment

SCSEP targets unemployed adults 55 and over providing job training and subsidized employment with local social service agencies. The goal is for the trainee to gain the experience needed to obtain unsubsidized employment in the business sector.

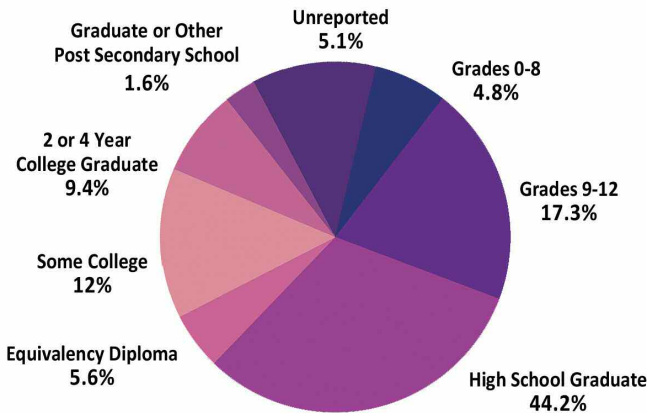
### Senior Companions

Senior Companion program pairs senior volunteers with other seniors who are in need of peer support and relief for primary caregivers. Includes grocery shopping, light meals, transportation and light house-keeping. The most important thing a Senior Companion provides is friendship.

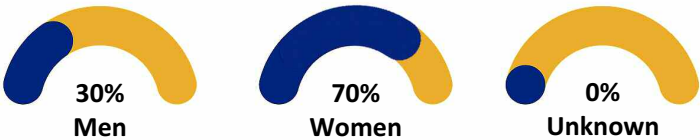
# First State Community Action Agency Served 11,632 Individuals

For Year July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

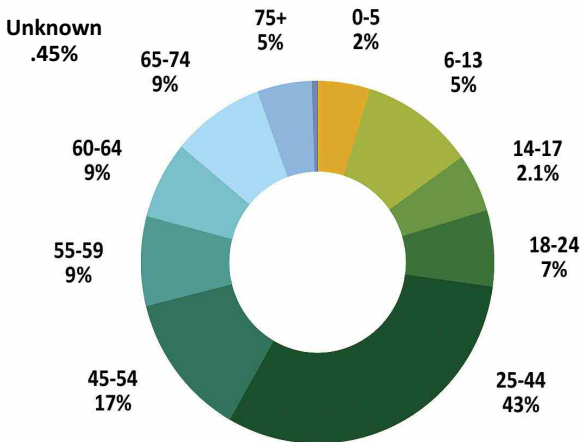
## Education



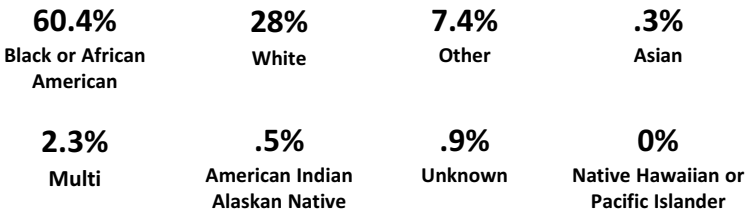
## Gender



## Age



## Ethnicity/ Race





# First State Community Action Agency Financial Report

For Year July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

## Expenses

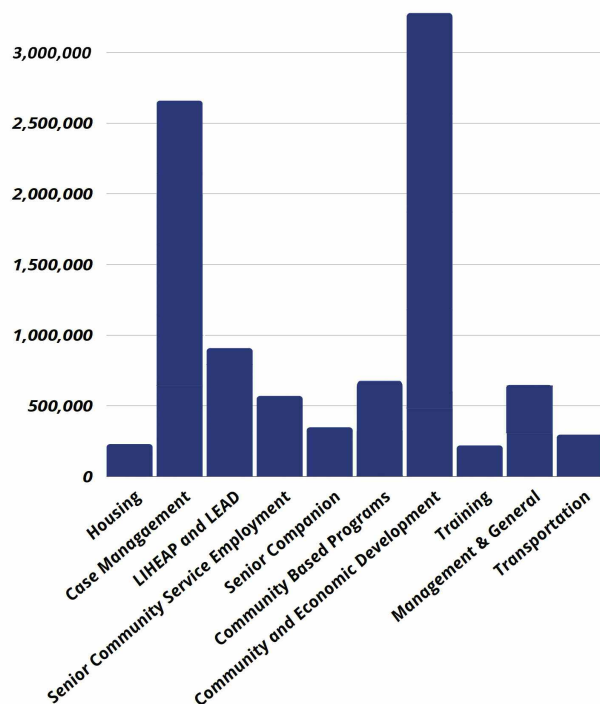
### Program Services

Housing	275,927
Case Management	2,629,177
LIHEAP & LEAD	879,796
Senior Community Service Employment	526,523
Senior Companion	308,875
Community Based Programs	685,740
Community & Economic Development	3,338,782
Employment & Training	192,792
<b>Program Services Total</b>	<b>8,837,612</b>

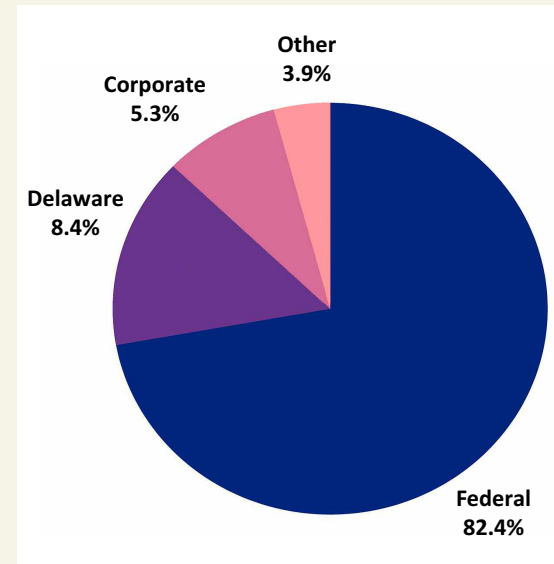
### Supporting Services

Management & General	606,594
Transportation	266,568
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>873,162</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES 9,710,774**



## Revenues & Support



### Revenues & Support

Federal	8,045,265
Delaware	821,386
Corporate	513,871
Other	231,308
Local	88,843
In-Kind	56,036

**TOTAL REVENUES 9,756,709**

## Net Assets Year 2022

Beginning of Year	1,219,560
End of Year	1,265,495

# Acknowledgements

## Non-Profit Organizations

Abbott's Mill  
Academy Thrift Store  
Adult Protective Services  
Adults With Physical Disabilities  
Alzheimer's Association (DVC)  
American Civil Liberties Union  
American Lung Association  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Boys and Girls Club (D)  
Boys and Girls Club (WS)  
Bridgeville Senior Center  
Capitol Park Civic Association  
Casa San Francisco  
Catholic Charities  
Cheer Community Center (G)  
Cheer Community Center (M)  
Cheer Community Center (R)  
Children & Families Firsts (D)  
Christiana Storehouse (Millsboro)  
Community Legal Aid Society  
Connections Community Support Programs  
Cool Spring Civic Association  
Coverdale Civic Association  
DANA  
Delaware Center for Horticulture  
Delaware Ecumenical Council  
Delaware Community Foundation  
Delmarva Teen Challenge  
Diamond State Community Land Trust  
Dover International Faith Mission  
Dover Public Library  
Easter Seals DE & Maryland's Eastern Shore  
Ellendale Civic Association  
Familias Unidas Delaware La Casita  
Fellowship Health Resources  
First State Community Loan Fund  
Food Bank of Delaware  
Frontier Club  
Garfield Park Civic Association  
Georgetown Boys and Girls Club  
Georgetown Public Library  
Georgetown Senior Center  
God's Way to Recovery  
Goodwill of Delaware  
Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce  
Greenwood Cheer Center  
Greentop Civic Association  
Habitat for Humanity  
Historic Georgetown Association  
House of Ruth  
La Esperanza  
LACC  
Laurel Senior Center  
Lion's Club of Milton  
Milford Housing Development Corporation  
Milford Public Library  
Milford Senior Center  
Millsboro Housing for Progress  
Ministry of Caring  
Modern Maturity  
Mt. Joy Civic Association  
Nanticoke Senior Center Inc.  
NCALL Research  
Nehemiah Gateway  
Neighborhood House  
Newark Senior Center  
New Hope Recreation and Development Center

Oxford House  
Pathways to Success  
Pelican Cover CHEER Center  
Peoples' Place  
Pinetown Civic Association  
Polly Branch Civic Association  
Rehoboth Art League  
Rehoboth Summer Children's Theatre  
Robin Hood Thrift Shop  
Sacred Heart Village  
Salvation Army  
Salvation Army Senior Center  
Seaford Public Library  
Seasons Hospice  
Second Chance Ministry  
Simons Garden Civic Center  
Sojourner's Place  
Southern New Castle Community Center  
Southeast Rural Communities Assistance Program  
St. Anthony Senior Center  
St. Vincent de Paul  
Star Hill Civic Association  
Sussex County Crisis Housing Services  
Sussex County Senior Services  
Sussex County Vet Center  
Sussex Family YMCA  
Sussex County Health Coalition  
Sussex Housing Group  
The Treatment House  
The Way Home  
United Way of Delaware  
Unique Minds Changing Lives Inc.  
Walker's Mill Civic Association  
West End Neighborhood House  
West Rehoboth Land Trust  
Maryland Community Action Partnership

## Faith Based Organizations

AME Church Philadelphia  
Apostolic Church of God  
Avenue Methodist Church  
Church of the Nazarene  
Delmarva Clergy United in Social Action  
John's Baptist Church  
Milford Ministerial  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
Philadelphia Pentecostal Holiness Church  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Union Methodist Church

## Local Government Agencies

Blades Police Department  
Ellendale Town Council  
Kent Levy Court  
Milford Police Department  
Milford State Service Center  
Sussex County Government

## State Government Agencies

Delaware Department of Health & Social Services  
Delaware Department of Labor  
Division of Medicaid and Medicare  
Division Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities  
Division Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Edward W Pyle State Service Center  
James T Vaughn Correctional Institution  
New Castle Government  
Stockley Center  
Sussex County Correctional Institution  
Sussex Family Court

# Acknowledgements

T. Adams State Service Center  
Wilmington Housing Authority

## Federal Government Agencies

Early Head Start  
Department of Agriculture & Rural Development  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
National Community Action Partnership  
National Assn for State Community Service Program  
Telamon Corporation (ECC)  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

## School Districts

Cape Henlopen School District  
Caesar Rodney School District  
Delmarva Christian Academy and School  
Laurel School District  
Indian River School District  
Lighthouse Christian School  
Milford School District  
Sussex Tech School District  
Woodbridge School District

## Universities

Delaware State University  
Delaware Technical & Community College  
University of Delaware Cooperative Extension  
Wilmington University

## Financial Institutions

Allied Bank  
Bank of America  
Citizens Bank  
Comenity Bank  
Discover Bank  
J.P. Morgan Chase  
M & T Bank

## Businesses & Corporations

Atlantic Shores Nursing Home  
Amerispec Home Inspection Services  
Baywoods Clubhouse Restaurant  
Big Fish Grill  
Blue Water Grill (Millsboro)  
Bonz Restaurant (Harrington)  
Bounty Harvest  
Burger King Restaurant  
Clarifi  
DiFebo's Restaurant  
DogFish Head Restaurant  
Essential Chef LLC  
F&G Barber Shop  
Foster Rental  
Grotto Pizza  
Hardee's Restaurants  
Harrington Raceway & Casino  
Harvest House Dover  
Home Depot  
I.G. Burton & Company  
Market Street Village  
Matt's Fish Camp Restaurants  
Mountaire Compass Group  
Mountaire Farms of Delaware  
Owens Manor Apartments Kent  
Panera Bread  
Passwater's Restaurant  
Peninsula Golf and Country Club  
Perdue Farms  
Phillip Harris Foodservice Consultant

Playtex Energizer  
Reliable Home Inspection Services  
Riverside Adult Daycare  
Royal Farms  
Serenity Properties  
State Farm  
Superna Enterprise  
Sussex County Association of Realtors  
Sussex Walmart  
The Buttery  
Victoria's Restaurant  
Virginia Crest Apartments

## Health Services Organizations

Addus Home Health Care  
Amedisys Home Health Care  
Anka Health Services  
Aston Home Health  
Atlantic Shores Nursing Home  
Bayhealth Home Health Care  
Beebe Medical Center  
Christiana Care Visiting Nurses Association  
Generation of Home Health Care  
Genesis Healthcare - Milford Center  
Georgetown Aide  
Harbor Health Care  
Heritage Nursing Home  
Home Instead Home Health Care  
La Red Health Center  
MetLife  
Nanticoke Memorial Hospital  
Nemours Health Prevention Services  
Peninsula Home Health Care  
Seaford State Service Center  
Sussex Success  
Unison Health Care  
United Health Services  
Vocational Rehabilitation

## Statewide Associations or Collaborations

Adult Protective Services  
Adult with Physical Disabilities  
Anna Shipley State Service Center  
Baylor Correctional Institution  
Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning  
Dart First State  
DHSS Medicaid & Medical Assistance  
DHSS Aging & Adults with Disabilities  
DHSS State Service Centers  
DHSS Substance Abuse & Mental Health  
Delaware Division Vocational Rehabilitation  
DNREC  
DCYF  
Delaware Department of Transportation  
Delaware Division of Human Relations  
Delaware Federation for Housing  
Delaware Helpline  
Delaware Prevention Coalition  
Delaware State Housing Authority  
Delaware State Office of Volunteerism  
Delaware State Police  
Delaware Veterans Home  
Delaware Division of Motor Vehicle  
Delaware Division of Public Health Howard R Young  
Correctional Institution  
Milford State Service Center  
Moores Correctional Institution  
Prevention of Behavioral Health Services  
Southern Health



# FirstState

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY  
*People Helping People Build Community*

## Our Mission

To work towards the elimination of poverty  
and lessen the effects of poverty on people of low-income.

## Our Vision

To eliminate the paradox of poverty by replacing despair with opportunity,  
enabling each individual to reach his/her full potential,  
and enjoy the highest standard of life.

## Our Community Action Promise

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope,  
improves communities, and makes America a better place to live.

We care about the entire community.

We are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

## Our Programs

Community Development & Housing • Workforce Development • Emergency Services • Food Pantry  
After School Program • Summer Enrichment & Youth Employment • Freedom Schools  
Promoting Safe & Stable Families • Case Management • State Rental Assistance • Grant Diversion  
Delaware Father • Second Chance Reentry • Adult Culinary Arts • Now We're Cooking  
La Casita Outreach • Senior Community Service Employment • Senior Companions

## Board of Directors 2022-2023

Anne Farley, Ph.D., *Board President*  
James "JJ" Johnson, *1st Vice President*  
Eugene Dvornick, Jr., *2nd Vice President*  
Carrie Casey, *Secretary/Treasurer*  
Dr. Darren Blackston

Mike Cannon  
Ronald Handy, Sr.  
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Troy Hazzard  
Susan Watson Holloway

Sarah Kiefer  
Charlotte King  
Carolyn McNeice  
Tasha Miller  
Linda Price

Joanne Reilly  
Geraldine Thomas  
Reyna Gil Ventura  
Evelyn Wilson  
John "Jack" Young

## Executive Director

Bernice Edwards

### NEW CASTLE COUNTY

Rose Hill Community Center  
19 Lambson Lane, Suite 105A  
New Castle, DE 19720  
302-498-0454

### SUSSEX COUNTY

Stanford L. Bratton Bldg.  
P.O. Box 877 • 308 N. Railroad Ave.  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
302-856-7761 • 800-372-2240

### KENT COUNTY

500 West Lockerman Street  
Suite 340  
Dover, DE 19904  
302-674-1355

[www.FirstStateCAA.org](http://www.FirstStateCAA.org)