



CAP

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS
— BOULDER COUNTY —

2021

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS ANNUAL REPORT



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS
COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES
HEAD START
HEALTHY YOUTH ALLIANCE
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
WORKFORCE BOULDER COUNTY

Generating a Lifetime of Opportunities

Community Action Programs: Educate > Empower > Succeed

“There are no problems we cannot solve together and very few that we can solve by ourselves.” – President Lyndon B. Johnson

As a part of LBJ’s War on Poverty, Boulder County Community Action Programs (CAP) has been working since 1965 to empower people struggling with poverty and those underrepresented in the community to become self-sufficient and have their voices heard.

CAP, working collaboratively with community partners, works with small groups of clients to foster long-lasting changes in their lives. We work an “inch wide and a mile deep” to move people closer to their goals of self-sufficiency, self-determination, and success.

Populations Served

CAP manages several programs including the Personal Investment Enterprise (PIE), the People Engaged in Raising Leaders (PERL), and the Cultural Brokers Resiliency Program (CBRP). In 2021, CAP served **171** clients through its programming:

96 Personal Investment Enterprise (PIE)

33 People Engaged in Raising Leaders (PERL)

33 PERL Youth Leadership Academy (YLA)

9 Boulder County Boards participated in PERL’s Creating Connection’s DEI Training.



CAP staff team building.

Personal Investment Enterprise

Community Action Program's Personal Investment Enterprise (PIE) program is designed to help working, low-income families and individuals save money exclusively for first-time home ownership, post-secondary education, and small business development. As part of this program, participants can enroll in financial education classes and save through a matched savings account at a rate of four to one. PIE is a local savings program that focuses on monthly saving goals that helps residents purchase a home, pursue post-secondary education, or develop a new business.



From my entry into PIE (June 2019) to today, my credit score has gone up over 100 points from the 650s to 790. The skills and strategies I learned in PIE definitely helped me follow through on reducing my debts and raising my score.



-- H.S., PIE participant

Program Participants

To date, PIE has served 397 participants from 2002 to 2021. The program switched to a hybrid model of interaction throughout this past year to align with COVID-19 guidelines and participant preference.

15 participants started financial education classes

96 total number of participants served in the PIE program

15 participants completed their financial education classes

62 of the total number of participants served were low-income at below the 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

13 participants completed a financial coaching session

28 participants achieved their goal of investing in purchasing their first home, starting a new business, or obtaining education

34 of the total number of participants served were low-income at below the 80% of the Boulder County Median Income

PIE 2021 Outcomes

98% of participants reported that their confidence in managing finances and ability to plan for a financial future has improved one year after completing the program

73% of participants reported achieving new savings goals

Overall PIE Program Successes

88% of PIE graduates have completed or are still completing their degree

86% of small business owners are still operating their business

73% of participants continue saving on a regular basis after completing the program

95% of homeowners still own the home they purchased one year after completing the PIE program

People Engaged in Raising Leaders

Through People Engaged in Raising Leaders (PERL), CAP manages other initiatives designed to support and acknowledge the contributions of people of color and those living in poverty. Creating Connections is a workshop tailored for executive directors and board members of non-profit organizations or agencies on how to diversify Boulder County boards to include traditionally underrepresented populations and offer a seat at the table. For those who wish to take leadership positions on boards and commissions, CAP promotes several workshops to ensure participation and offer the skills and knowledge in trainings.

Boards & Commissions Training

Boards & Commissions Trainings is a four-week workshop designed for people of color with low-incomes across Boulder County to learn about and become members of a governing board. PERL helps increase the number of individuals from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds who join non-profit boards and government commissions. The program empowers people to participate and become more involved civically in the community.

PERL 2021 Highlights

- PERL was featured in the National Association of Counties, The Longmont Leader, and KGNU
- Belinda Hearn, PERL Program Coordinator, was featured as a panelist at CU Denver, School of Public Affairs at the series on social equity.

33 individuals completed PERL Administrative Boards & Commissions training

9 Boulder County boards participated in PERL's Creating Connections' DEI training

Youth Leadership Academy (YLA)

In 2021, CAP's People Engaged in Raising Leaders (PERL) and Workforce Boulder County (WfBC) launched a new initiative for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) young adults called the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA). The program recruited youth ages 16-24 who identify as BIPOC, and had an interest in learning about educational, employment, mentorship, and leadership opportunities in Boulder County.

The first class of cohort had 33 participants. Some were working towards completing their high school diploma or GED, while some were working on state or local certifications to pursue higher paying employment opportunities. Participants attended classes on budgeting, finance, and resume building through WfBC, and attended a leadership series developed and facilitated by Belinda Hearn, PERL Coordinator.



“Everybody has to be heard. Youth voices are important as they continue to evolve as people. We know that social problems are generational.”

-- YLA participant

Cultural Brokers Resilience Program

The Cultural Brokers Resilience Program (CBRP) focuses on community engagement and professional development of cultural brokers in the county and neighboring areas. This program works in partnership with local governments and non-profits to advance racial equity and social justice by supporting the work of bilingual, bicultural staff and community members.

In 2021, CBRP was the recipient of a National Association of Counties (NACo) Award and the Boulder County Healthy Community Award.

11 non-profits and community groups used CBRP's Resource Catalog to support case management

644 attendees at CBRP meetings

15 cultural broker gatherings, open houses, and COVID information meetings hosted by CBRP

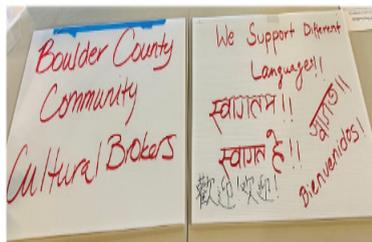
38,402 total CBRP webpage and social media views

I had the opportunity and fortune of being part of the first group to participate in the Cultural Brokers pilot training. These classes were an important tool for the rediscovery in the potential that people like me, who act as a bridge between individuals and organizations, are recognized as agents of value and positive change. Thanks to CBRP's program, collaborative teams have raised the title of Cultural Brokers.

*--Iris Prieto Medina,
Cultural Brokers training program participant*

Marshall Fire & Cultural Brokers

On December 30, 2021, two grass fires broke out in Boulder County causing devastating losses for residents that burned approximately 1,084 structures. The county mobilized a crisis call center and opened our Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) that offered in-person resources including FEMA assistance, the Red Cross trauma services, financial assistance, and mental health resources.



As the DAC welcomed community members impacted by the Marshall Fire, cultural brokers mobilized to offer services that were inclusive, culturally responsive, and attainable to our non-English speaking fire victims. Cultural brokers responded to assist fire victims whose native languages included Hindi, Chinese, Korean, Nepali, Hmong, and Spanish. Given the trauma from the Marshall Fire, cultural brokers followed a trauma-informed approach that was multi-faceted, effective, and immediate. Cultural broker intervention framed within a multicultural lens expanded how Boulder County responded to this disaster. The response and experience also opened the opportunity for cultural brokers to participate in the ongoing, long-term recovery of services.

Community Partners

Community Action Programs (CAP) understands and believes that collaboration is the best way to serve our community. All CAP programs work in partnership with nonprofit organizations, county and city departments, faith communities, educational institutions and others to accomplish goals. Our key external partners include:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sister Carmen Community Center | Front Range Community College |
| EFAA | City of Longmont |
| OUR Center | City of Boulder |
| Philanthropiece Foundation | Community Foundation Boulder County |
| Mile High United Way | Longmont Community Foundation |
| Social Venture Partners Boulder County | Latino Chamber of Commerce |
| Small Business Development Center | |

CAP and CADC Boards

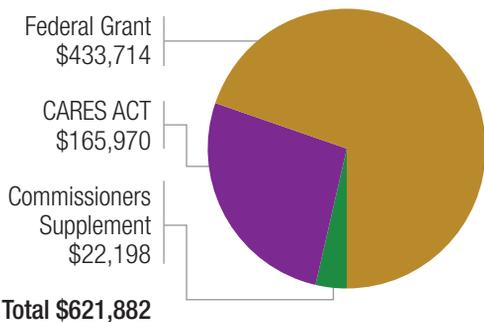
CAP is funded primarily by the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) through the Office of Community Services, which supports staff and some program costs. CSBG requires that CAP’s administrative board include members who are either low-income or can represent low-income communities. This board is appointed by the Boulder County Commissioners and provides input and oversight to CAP.

CAP Administrative Board Members

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Maryel Barron</i> | <i>Doug Hofmeister</i> |
| <i>William Benjamin</i> | <i>Asna Jefferies</i> |
| <i>Robin Brenneise</i> | <i>Sandra Reisman</i> |
| <i>Megan Delaney</i> | <i>Jay Schaeffer</i> |
| <i>Bhola Katuwal</i> | |

In 1984, the Community Action Development Corporation (CADC), a registered 501(C)(3), was formed to help fundraise and support CAP programs. CADC has its own governing board that oversees finances and provides input into CAP programming.

Revenues



Expenses

