

# Annual Report 2012

Green Hills Community Action Agency

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#### what our clients say

"If not for the help provided from GHCAA, my family would not have lights even now."





#### what our clients say

"Thank you so much for helping myself and son out, we had no where else to turn for help. You are such a wonderful blessing."

# a brief word...

"Some people give time, some money, some their skills and connections, some literally give their life's blood. But everyone has something to give." Barbara Bush

These words from the former "First Lady" ring true for so many, but as a Community Action Agency that is what we are all about! We not only have an opportunity to assist the less-fortunate, but we have a responsibility to make life better for so many. Sequestration and budget cuts are words spoken daily in nearly every form of media today, and they serve as a reminder of just how volatile our country is right now. Federal budgets, or the lack thereof, are being mismanaged by those we elected to represent us, and the ability to make commonsense decisions to better this great nation is nearly impossible. In the end, the biggest loser is the most vulnerable population-the poverty stricken!

Forty-nine (49) years ago President Johnson created a sense of urgency, and felt that no person living in the United States deserved to live in the kind of conditions experienced by so many. The face of poverty has changed over the years, but the fact remains that people in general want to do better and desire equal opportunities to succeed in life. With the many programs that Community Action Agencies administer, a holistic approach can (and should) be taken to equip individuals with the tools they need to improve their situation. While we battle with the funding that allows us to assist others, we will continue to serve the Green Hills region to the best of our ability and create future success stories one family at a time.

Aaron Franklin, Chief Executive Officer

Jam Franchen

Delbert (Leon) Hicks, Chairman of the Board



GHCAA does many things in the community each year, including weatherization, life skills classes, home construction, community involvement, and education and employment skill building.

# board of directors

Grace Carder
Cheri Wayne
Mike Sims
Leon Hicks
Todd Roddenburg
David Seiberling
Gerald Owings
Peter Williams
Gerald McBrayer
Russ Hamilton
D.J. Hopkins
Joe Brinser
Kim Washburn

Edna Foster
Lawrence Allen
Phillip Sensenich
Irene Jackson
Shane Cox
Betty Bagley
Marvin Meeker
Tracy Wheeler
Zach Martin
Rick Smith
John Watts
Dianne Hendee

#### Officers of the Board

Chair: Leon Hicks
Vice chair: Cheri Wayne
2nd Chair: Betty Bagley
Secretary: D.J. Hopkins
Treasurer: Gerald Owings



#### did you know?

The Board of Directors for GHCAA follows the tripartite structure per statute, with 1/3 of our members being elected officials, 1/3 low-income or low-income representatives, and 1/3 special interest, such as business owners, civic group members, and etc.

#### a 47 year history

In the early years GHCAA consisted of two separate entities. On March 8, 1965, Livingston County Human Resources Development formed Corporation serve Livingston County "or vicinity". Then in March 1967 the name was changed to Human Resources Development Corporation of Linn, Livingston, Daviess, Caldwell Counties. On June 4, 1965 The Green Hills Area Human Resources Development Corporation was formed to serve the residents of Grundy, Mercer, Putnam and Sullivan counties. Later in 1967, Harrison County was added to the organization to make it a five (5) county service area. Both organizations were formed in response to then President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty", which was declared during his first State of the Union Address in 1964.

The two Community Action Agencies merged in April 1969 and the name was changed to Green Hills Human Resources Corporation. For nearly 22 years the organization operated under this name, but in March 1992 there was a need to have "community action agency" in the name, so the name was then changed to its current title.



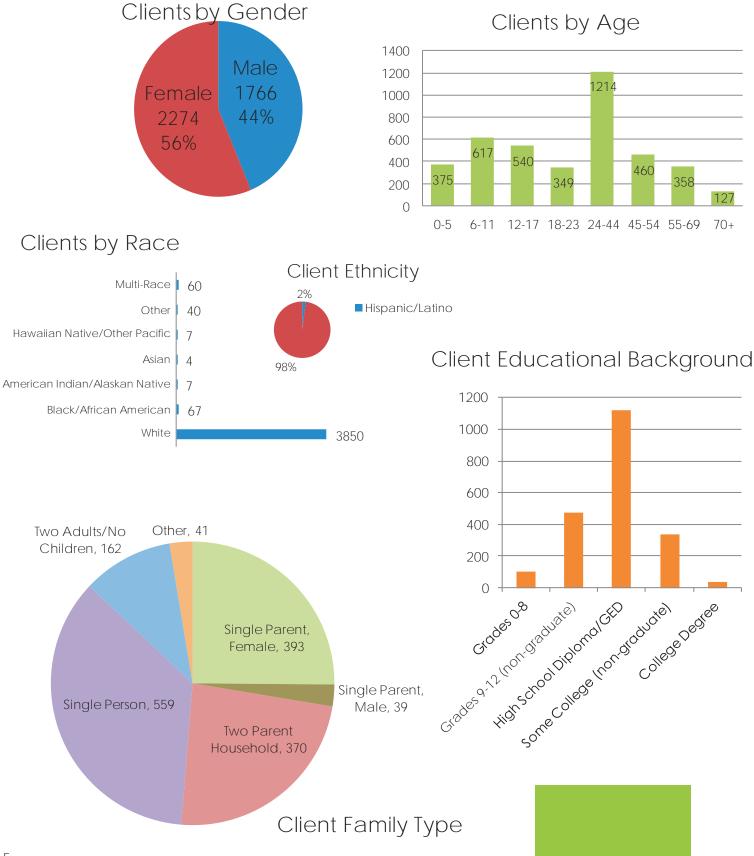
# FY12 highlights

Green Hills Community Action Agency offers many services and programs designed to help families and individuals rise above the barriers and situations which contribute to poverty. Here are just a few of the things we helped our customers to accomplish in 2012:

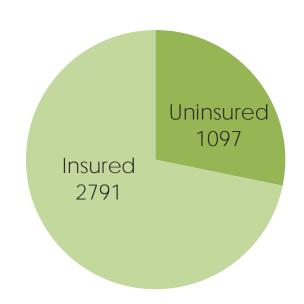
- 85 unemployed individuals obtained, & kept, a job
- 60 participants improved their job/employability skills
- 1,058 families were helped with safe, affordable housing
- 7,071 households were helped with utilities, such as electric or gas, through the energy assistance program
- 176 houses were improved through weatherization or rehabilitation
- 310 low-income people became involved in community groups supported by Community Action
- 161 community and business partners were worked with to improve lives in the Green Hills area
- 2,997 senior citizens were helped via one or more programs allowing them to retain their independent living situation
- 3,960 disabled persons were helped via one or more programs allowing them to retain their independent living situations
- 1,037 referrals for assistance were made to internal programs and/or other social service agencies
- 96 youths increased academic, athletic, or social skills
- 429 youths avoided risk-taking behavior
- 1,338 people received their annual health exams through Women's Health Services
- 1,482 people received reproductive health services through Women's Health Services
- 178 people received HIV testing through WHS

# demographics

Total unduplicated number of people about whom, one or more characteristics were obtained: 4040 Total unduplicated number of families about whom one or more characteristics were obtained: 1645







#### Client Sources of Income

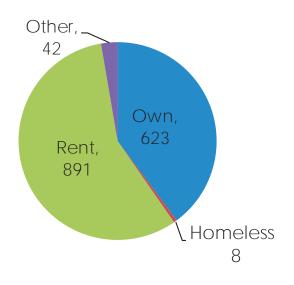
Over 28% of our clients do not have insurance.

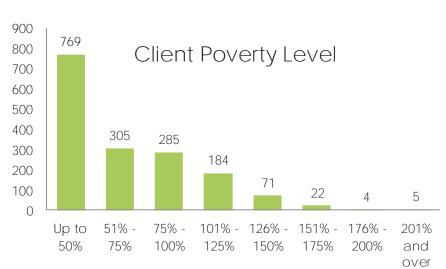


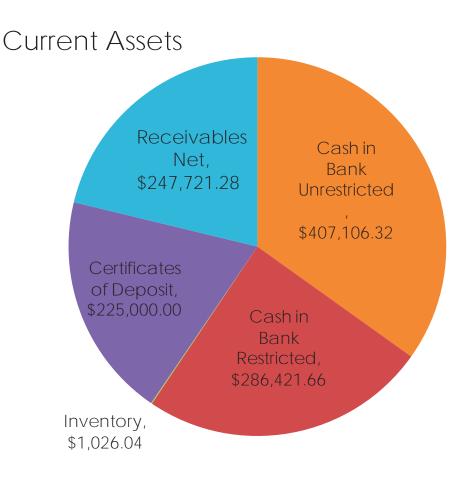
Disabled, 593 Not Disabled, 3440

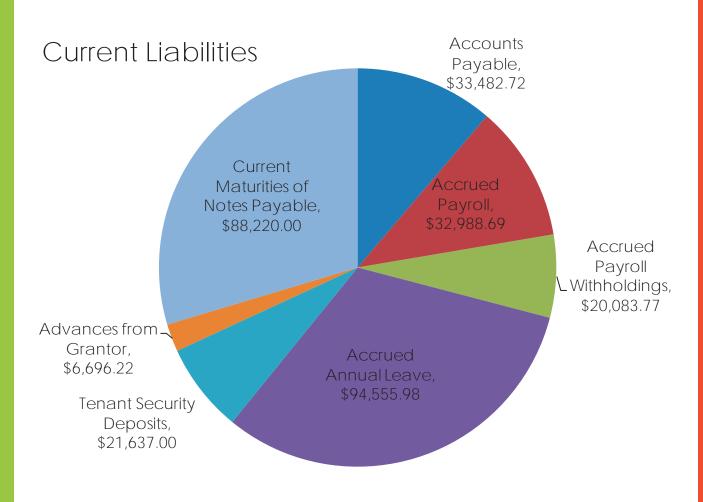
Across all GHCAA programs, nearly 4,000 disabled persons were given assistance during FY12

#### Client Housing Situation









# fiscal report

Assets	
Current Assets:	
Cash	
Cash in Bank - Unrestricted	\$ 407,106.32
Cash in Bank - Restricted	286,421.66
Total Cash	693,437.98
Certificates of Deposit	225,000.00
Receivables, Net	247,721.28
Inventory	1,026.04
Prepaid Expense	16,872.90
Total Current Assets	1,184,058.20
Non Current Assets:	
Capital Assets, Net	4,900,865.64
Total Assets	6,084,923.84
Liabilities & Net Assets	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	33,482.72
Accrued Payroll	32,988.69
Accrued Payroll Withholdings	20,083.77
Accrued Annual Leave	94,555.98
Tenant Security Deposits	21,637.00
Advances from Grantor	6,696.22
Current Maturities of Notes Payable	88,220.00
Total Current Liabilities	297,664.38
Long-Term Liabilities	
Notes Payable	7,463,437.40
Less: Current Maturities of notes Payable	(88,220.00)
Total Long-Term Liabilities	7,375,217.40
Total Liabilities	7,672,881.78
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	1,247,297.60
Temporarily Restricted	(2,835,255.54)
Total Net Assets	(1,587,957.94)
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	6,084,923.84

## what our clients say

"I surely
appreciate your
help. It really
helps when you
live on a fixed
income. Again,
thanks for your
help."



The housing choice voucher program exists to assist low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled in affording decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market.

Housing assistance is provided on behalf of the family or individual, allowing participants to find their own housing - including single-family homes, townhouses or apartments. Homes are inspected and reviewed regularly to ensure they continue to meet program guidelines.

# housing choice voucher program

The Public Housing Agency determines eligibility based on gross annual income and family size. The maximum housing assistance amount is generally the lesser of the payment standard minus 30% of the family's monthly adjusted income or the gross rent for the unit minus 30% of monthly adjusted income.

The Housing Choice Voucher Program, sometimes called HUD or Section 8, helped over 1,000 people in our area to find housing in 2012 alone.







#### what our clients say

"I think that you folks do an excellent job with the funds and everything that you have to work with. Thank you!"

# housing development

Home Construction: The goal of the Housing Development Program is to develop safe, affordable and quality rental homes and apartment units in the Green Hills region. Our construction crew has developed low income rental homes & apartment complexes with local, state and federal partnerships & local vendors with grants from Missouri Housing Development Commission since 1992. GHCAA currently has received over \$8.5 million in grant funds for properties located across our nine counties.

Home Repair: The goal of the Home Repair Opportunities Program, funded by Missouri Housing Development Commission, is to serve as an aid to help preserve older homes in our area. The program also assists families to remain in their homes for a greater number of years. The Home Repair Program focuses on lead risk reduction, emergency repairs, weatherization, and accessibility.

#### what our clients say

"I never could have gotten the roof fixed; it would have been a tremendous amount of money. I'm so thankful for all the hard work. My average Ameren utility bill has dropped from \$173 per month to just \$33 per month!"



HD/HR Staff: From left to right -Mike Eckert, Mary Garcia, Russell Reeter, Clint Batson

#### Rental Home Management:

The goal of the Rental
Home Management
Program is to provide safe,
affordable and quality
rental houses and
apartment units to low
income families in the
Green Hills region. GHCAA
currently manages 116
housing units in the region,
including single family
homes and apartment

complexes. Staff teaches tenants proper care and maintenance of their homes to help them reach their future housing goals.

#### what our clients say

"All the workers at GHCAA are very kind and compassionate!"



# community services

The Community Services program is made up of Emergency Stabilization Programs, Family Development Projects, and Community Programs funded by the State of Missouri Community Services Block Grant Unit.

The purpose of the Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) is to provide assistance to Community Action Agencies for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals in both rural and urban areas to become fully self-sufficient.

Emergency Stabilization Programs: are designed to help families and individuals through an immediate crisis. The programs are normally a one-time service that gives clients the boost to get back on their feet.

Family Development Programs: Family Development Programs are used to educate and empower low-income families, giving them the tools to overcome poverty.

<u>Fire Your Clothes Dryer</u>: Fire Your Clothes Dryer is an innovative program offering low income households the option of having a money saving outdoor clothesline or indoor drying rack installed to help them lower their monthly utility bills.

The staff of Community
Services: from left to right Cassy Wanstreet, Debbie
Cribb, Aaron McAtee,
Cathie Chalfant

#### did you know?

CSBG funds are currently used by over 1000 Community Action Agencies operating in the United States today.

CSBG money has been used to fund all sorts of programs community gardens, education and life skills classes, and emergency assistance for families in crisis.

So what does CSBG fund at GHCAA? We use this funding for our Community Gardens, Life Skills Classes, Emergency Assistance, and more! Adult Education & Literacy: AEL helps Missouri adults get the basic skills they need to be productive workers, family members, and citizens. The major areas of support are Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, and English Language Acquisition. These programs emphasize basic skills such as reading, writing, math, English language competency, and problem-solving.

Second Chance: The 2nd Chance Mentoring Grant facilitates services & mentoring for offenders reentering our area after leaving the Chillicothe Correctional Center, Western Missouri Correctional Center & Crossroads Regional Correctional Center. The program has been very successful, and has reduced recidivism rates for our area.

Community Garden: The Community Garden program urges people to eat local and eat healthy by growing their own gardens filled with fresh, nutritious food. Garden seeds were distributed to over 250 families as part of this program in 2012. An on-site community garden located in Grundy County is also in its 4th year of offering a communal gardening space that is utilized by an average of 25 families per year.

<u>Energy Assistance</u>: Thousands of families contact GHCAA each winter and summer season for help paying their utility bills. They were helped during times of crisis to avoid disconnection of utilities used for heating or cooling.



Weatherization Staff: From left to right - Michael Garcia, Bob Baker, & Joel Farris



CSBG/LIHEAP Staff From left to right -Kim Brashear, Alicia Roy, & Barbara Parker

## weatherization

<u>Weatherization</u>: The Green Hills Weatherization program is going strong, offering home improvement to families in northern Missouri and helping them to save on their utilities while improving the condition of their home! During FY12, this program helped 228 households by providing repairs and weatherization.

# women's health services



Thousands of people living in a 10-county area in rural northern Missouri rely on the Women's Health Services program provided by Green Hills Community Action Agency for their health-care needs.

Green Hills Community Action Agency Women's Health Services clinics are open to all people living within the service area, regardless of their financial situation, age, race, or gender. Fees are charged on a sliding scale based on the patient's income, with both private insurance and Medicaid being accepted, as well as donations from patients and the public. All services are strictly confidential.

Our program schedules over 150 clinics a year where women receive their annual breast and reproductive system examinations, family-planning information and other related health & wellness services. The health clinics also provide some services to men, most often related to STD screening and general reproductive health. While the staff of Women's Health Service focuses mainly on reproductive health, they do refer patients to other medical and mental health providers when needed. Clinic staff includes a nurse practitioner and

educators specifically trained in family planning services.



## what our clients say

"The nurse listens to your concerns. If there's any doubt or question the friendly staff explains or refers me to my doctor. I get what I need each and every time I come in."

The staff of WHS: from left to right - Jenny Dean-Batson, Vicky West, Linda Baugher, and Peggy Matthews

Online @ www.greenhillswomenshealth.org

# employment & training

Missouri Works Assistance (MWA) Program: Green Hills MWA Program is designed to help those families receiving Temporary Assistance gain job skills and/or education in order to obtain employment. The MWA program serves, on average, 200 single parent households and 40 two-parent households. MWA participants can take part in a variety of activities including, but not limited to, job search, volun-

vocational education, and work study.

WIA Youth Program: Green Hills Youth Program is focused on helping students with barriers gain the necessary skills for continuing education and/or work experience. The program is broken down by in-school and out-of-school youth, ranging in age from 14 - 21. Green Hills serves, on average, about 30 youths per year. Each participant goes through an evaluation to determine what his/her needs are and how we can help them obtain their goals, such as education or work experience. The Youth Program also

teering, subsidized employment, vocational rehabilitation,

conducts Career Classes at numerous schools which teach students the "do's and don'ts" in obtaining employment. These dents continue in our program until services are no longer needed or they reach the maximum age requirement.

Not only do we provide services to youth year round, we participate in the State Parks Youth Corp Program (SPYC). This program runs from June 1st through September 30th. SPYC helps young adults find employ-

ment within the state parks. It is a great opportunity to help those students not enrolled in our program gain work experience during the summer months.

#### did you know?

According to the U.S. Department of Labor in July 2012, unemployment in the Green Hills area varies from 5.4% in Mercer County to 9.3% in Linn County.

Overall, the report area experienced an average 7.3% unemployment rate in July 2012 compared to a statewide rate of 7.6%.

Unemployment declined across the board in our service area from 2011 to 2012.



The staff of E&T: from left to right -Sherry Hoerrmann, Karla Garner, Melanie Robinson, Amanda Swan, Tashyana Dowell, and Amanda Pottorff

#### a promising future

While the names of the agency and its programs have changed over the past 46 years, the purpose of the agency has not. The purpose was and is to work through partnerships to make selfsufficiency a reality for individuals and families, by empowering them to achieve the knowledge, skills and motivations needed to build strong families and strong communities.

Throughout the 46-year history of Green Hills Community Action Agency, education has been at the root of many of its programs. GHCAA services train and educate area residents in skills needed to get jobs and to obtain higherpaying jobs and more stable employment; in skills to improve their living conditions through energy conservation, car maintenance, healthy habits and more; and by building self-confidence and self-esteem.

# success story

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program helps many people in the Green Hills region. People like Ann\*, a young mother in her late 20's, managing a small son with some challenging learning disabilities. Ann learned about the Housing Choice Voucher Program from a friend while working and attending college to complete her nursing degree. After submitting her application, Ann qualified for housing assistance on the modest manufactured home she had secured.

One year of Section 8 assistance allowed Ann to complete her RN degree and secure a job in the nursing field. During a home visit, she said that without the help of Section 8 her education would have been placed on indefinite hold so that she could work additional hours to provide for herself and her special needs son. She was very excited that due to her new employment she would no longer need housing assistance.

Ann will never forget the help she received, and she hopes that through her tax dollars, others will be able to receive and better themselves through housing assistance.

\*names have been changed to protect client privacy



At left: Garden Manager Kim Brashear delivers produce to the Grundy County Senior Center.

# partners

Green Hills Community Action Agency has forged many partnerships within our communities. We work with churches and civic groups, children and senior citizens, businesses, schools, government entities, and more. All working together toward a common goal - to improve the quality of life for residents in the nine county Green Hills region.

Housing Development was able to build a brand new house in Brookfield with the help of the Brookfield Area Career Center and Brookfield DREAM. Area youths helped GHCAA crews with general construction while learning skills that will give them a future advantage in the job market.

Partnerships forged with the First Christian Church of Trenton, the North 65 Senior Center, and the Grundy County Food Pantry have resulted in hundreds of pounds of food donations to area residents, as well as a beautiful space for clients to grow personal gardens in.

Partnerships with local schools have allowed for the growth of students through one-on-one learning with our Youth Employment and Training teams, classes on job interviews, goal setting, and resume writing, as well as living a healthier life with the Put A Little Green CSBG program.

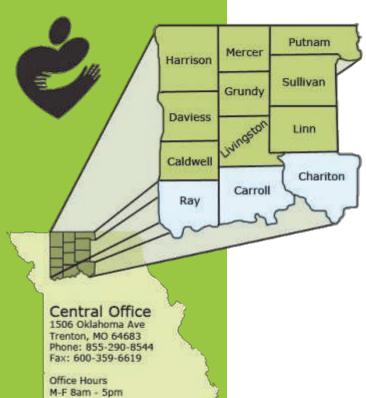
Our partnerships are growing every day!







Green Hills Community Action Agency covers nine core counties in rural northern Missouri, and three additional counties receive limited services:



9 Core Counties

Caldwell
Daviess
Grundy
Harrison
Linn
Livingston
Mercer
Putnam
Sullivan

3 Limited Counties Carroll Chariton Ray

# success story

Nancy, a resident of Brookfield, was the recipient of home improvements as part of the Green Hills Community Action Agency Home Repair program, which is funded by the Missouri Housing Development Commission. Work to the home, located on Main Street, was recently completed and Nancy couldn't be more pleased with the transformation.

The home was a part of the Agency's Weatherization program in 2011, and this year it qualified for the Home Repair program. Work completed included extensive repairs to a broken beam in the roof that threatened to cause serious damage to the home, new siding, replacement and repair to windows, and an updated porch railing. "I never could have gotten the roof fixed; it would have been a tremendous amount of money. I'm so thankful for all the hard work." Nancy said during a recent interview at her home.

Since weatherizing her home and participating in the GHCAA sponsored Fire Your Clothes Dryer program, Nancy's average Ameren utility bill has dropped from \$173 per month to just \$33 per month. She is looking forward to seeing how much the additional repairs done to her home

will save her this winter.



Nancy stands outside her newly repaired home in Brookfield Missouri.

# get social

#### contact us

Green Hills Community Action Agency 1506 Oklahoma Ave Trenton MO 64683

> 855-290-8544 - Tolll Free Phone 660-359-3907 - Local Calling 660-359-6619 - Fax

www.ghcaa.org www.greenhillswomenshealth.org www.putalittlegreeninyourlife.com

> Helping People Changing Lives







## GHCAA

Serving the Green Hills Counties of Caldwell, Daviess, Grundy, Harrison, Linn, Livingston, Mercer, Putnam, and Sullivan; with limited services in Carroll, Chariton, and Ray.

#### **OUR 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, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Green Hills Community Action works to build vibrant communities.

**OUR MOTTO** 

Strong Families
Strong Communities

