

~Contact Information~

Administration

2255 Del Oro Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965
Phone: (530) 538-7559
Toll Free from Chico: (530) 891-2807
Fax: (530) 533-7470

Esplanade House

181 East Shasta Avenue
Chico, CA 95973
Phone: (530) 891-2977
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Food & Nutrition

2640 South 5th Avenue, Suite 7
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Phone: (530) 538-7534 ext. 215
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Fax: (530) 538-7214

Housing & Community Development Dept.

2640 South 5th Avenue
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**COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF
BUTTE COUNTY, INC.**

Helping People. Changing Lives.

~~Services~~

*Home Energy Improvements
Senior Meal Program
Utility Payment Assistance
Esplanade House/Homeless Family Housing
Food Distribution*

Our Vision

We envision communities whose members feel secure and are self-sufficient

Our Mission

*CAA serves as a catalyst to reduce poverty and its symptoms through:
Providing quality services • Empowering individuals
Developing resources • Collaborating with others
Advocating on behalf of the economically and socially disadvantaged
Improving the conditions in which people live, learn and work*

About the CAA

The Community Action Agency of Butte County, Inc. (“Agency”) is an anti-poverty agency that seeks to improve conditions of low-income households. Using a variety of strategies, the Agency is a catalyst for change with individuals and communities. The Agency employs a variety of approaches including community economic development, human service delivery, planning/advocacy, micro enterprise and housing to improve conditions and create economic opportunities.

Background

The Agency has operated a wide variety of programs and services since 1967, when it was incorporated as a private, non-profit, charitable corporation under the laws of the State of California. The Agency is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of local leaders in the private, public, and low-income sectors.

Present

Agency programs operate through several departments: Housing and Community Development; Food and Nutrition; and the Esplanade House. Each department operates various projects and programs that enable low-income families and elderly to improve their lives. A community assessment is conducted periodically to ensure that use of resources addresses priority issues.

Butte County is rich in natural beauty, recreation, education and small industry, but is economically depressed. The County’s per capita income is ranked 54 of 58 counties. Butte County has been in transition from rural to urban status. One if five residents are elderly and 19.8% of the population is low-income. Unemployment is typically higher than the State average.

Housing & Community Development Department

The Housing & Community Development Department of the Agency administers the following programs:

Home Energy Improvements

The Agency has home energy saving programs that are federal and utility company funded, and provides services to eligible low-income clients in Butte County and limited services in surrounding counties.

Typical work includes installing insulation, reducing air infiltration, performing tune-ups and repairs or replacement to heating and cooling systems, replacing appliances to improve efficiency and safety, and replacing incandescent lighting with compact fluorescent bulbs. Other services include door weather-stripping, new windows and doors, low-flow showerheads, ceiling fans and many other energy saving measures. Weatherization technicians use energy audits to determine which energy measures are most appropriate and cost effective for each home. Weatherization reduces energy costs for low-income families by improving the efficiency of their homes.

The Agency has provided weatherization services since 1979 and provided these vital services to more then 30,000 homes. Weatherization returns \$1.80 in energy related benefits for every dollar invested in the program.

Utility Payment Assistance Program

This program provides utility payment assistance to income-eligible residents in Butte County. This includes electric, natural gas, wood, propane, and fuel oil.

Affordable Housing Program

The Agency develops and constructs affordable single family homes for low to moderate-income families. The Agency actively competes in bidding of work projects, and collaborates with various programs of other public agencies.

The Esplanade House

The Esplanade House is a transitional housing program designed to provide shelter and support services for homeless families. The facility houses up to 60 families who reside in individual units with full kitchens, full baths, and large living areas.

The program offers comprehensive case management, skill building and employment readiness classes and workshops, group and individual counseling and services for children. The program provides clients with the necessary tools to become self-sufficient so the risk of future homelessness is greatly reduced.

The program includes:

- Comprehensive case management
- Substance abuse case management and education
- Group and individual counseling for both adults and children
- Parent education classes
- Employment and computer skills training
- GED assessment & classes for completion of a GED
- Budgeting and financial planning
- Health and nutritional education
- Voter education
- Landlord/tenant issues
- Comprehensive children's services including an on-site early childhood education and enrichment center.

For more information about the Esplanade House's transitional housing program, please call: (530) 891-2977.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Agency actively seeks people with special talents and skills to assist in completing critical tasks and functions. In addition, we seek individuals with a vision toward enabling families to become self-sufficient and responsible.

Volunteers play a very significant role in the success of Agency programs and services. The Agency depends on volunteers to implement all of their projects. There are opportunities for people who enjoy working with senior citizens, children, and homeless families. Volunteers provide case management, transportation, tutoring, gardening assistance, office operation support, information and referral, legal and health services (both preventative and diagnostic), and home/auto repair and maintenance.

Financial Support

The Agency became a tax-exempt, non-profit charitable organization in 1967. Fifty percent of the Agency's annual budget comes from public grants; ten percent comes from participant fees for services and 40% comes from private sources.

The Agency relies on local community support to provide services that are not completely supported by grant funds. The Agency seeks partnerships, sponsorships and other opportunities for local firms and individuals to express their support for our efforts.

Our mission is to help eliminate poverty by assisting low-income residents to break the dependency cycle and become self-sufficient.

Our methods include instilling values of self-reliance and personal responsibility. We provide support for individuals and families as they make efforts to improve their conditions. We welcome your help as we strive to improve the future of our community.

Your tax-deductible donation may be designated to support any of the following: programs which assist the elderly, homeless families, or where it is needed most. You may forward your donations to: The Community Action Agency of Butte County, Inc.

The Agency also offers opportunities to people interested in planned giving (trust, etc.) that will allow you to influence families and communities in need in the future, while providing tax benefits.

Food & Nutrition

Senior Meals

Senior Meals offers a nutritious, well-balanced, noon-time meal Monday through Friday, plus a chance to meet and spend time with others. The program can provide transportation to the dining center when requested. Home delivered meals are available to those who are ill or disabled.

All persons 60 years of age and older and their spouses may participate. There are no income guidelines that must be met to participate. Individuals under 60 years of age are welcome, however, a \$5.00 per meal fee is required.

There is no mandatory fee to participate in the senior meal program. We do suggest a \$2.50 donation for each meal to help defray expenses. Many who participate are unable to make any donations; some contribute much more. Transportation is available in most areas of the county with a suggested donation of one dollar per round trip.

Meals are served Monday through Friday (except for Agency holidays) at dining centers located throughout Butte County. Special programs and entertainment are often scheduled before meals. Call for reservations and serving times.

- Chico: Dorothy Johnson Center 343-9605
- Oroville: Feather River Senior Center 534-5859
- Paradise: Paradise Ridge Senior Center 877-5016
- Gridley: Malanee Monterro Gridley Rec. Center 846-3264

A main dish, vegetable or salad, fruit or dessert, and beverages are served. Each month the menu plan is reviewed by a certified nutritionist to assure the Agency is serving nutritious and well-balanced noon-time meals. For more information on home delivered meals, please call: 538-7534, extension 215 or toll free at 891-2807.

Food Bank

The Agency administers a Regional Food Bank in a five county area, including Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Plumas and Sierra Counties. Surplus foods are distributed to qualified individuals and families once a month in various locations through the counties. This program is funded in part by the United States Department of Agriculture. Individuals and families who are within 150% of the poverty guidelines are eligible to participate in the program. Participants self-certify eligibility on the day the surplus food is distributed by showing proof of income and address.

The Agency operates a regional Food Bank as a part of America's Second Harvest the Nation's Food Bank network. Surplus food is donated by large providers and distributed throughout the country via a network of affiliated food banks. The Agency serves our area including Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Plumas, and Sierra Counties.

The Agency operates its Food Bank from its Oroville warehouse through a network of volunteers committed to easing hunger and increasing food security of low-income households. New initiatives including Farm to Family are intended to bring fresh produce to households to improve nutrition and health as well as combat obesity.

To obtain more information about the surplus food distribution and Food Bank program, please call: 538-7158.

