



**C O M M
U N I T Y
T E A M
W O R K**

Annual Report 2013



Message from the Executive Director and Board President

A New Look, New Website & New Tools; A Renewed Commitment to People and Community

In this annual report you will see Community Teamwork's *new look*, and on our *new website* you will find some *new tools*. While this is what you will see, there is much more behind this change. Over the year, Community Teamwork Board and Staff have reviewed, updated and recommitted to our core mission, vision and values. **Our revised mission highlights our commitment to strengthen communities and reduce poverty and better reflects the essential collaborations and partnerships we have developed across the community and state to better serve our constituents' diverse needs and provide a more holistic approach to services.**

This year, Head Start, Federal Housing Programs, and Fuel Assistance among other programs have been impacted by sequestration reductions. At the same time, the numbers of people who are homeless, unemployed, and struggling continue to rise. Clearly, these are new times that call for new responses. Community Teamwork's Board and Staff are working hard to meet the challenges in an environment where sequestration cuts have occurred (and will likely continue) and where many people still struggle to find jobs. Job seekers, if they are fortunate, are finding minimum wage, part time positions that result in inadequate income to support the basic needs of food and shelter. Our work in this area is changing. In 2015, Community Teamwork will mark our 50th anniversary and, as we approach this landmark, we continue to offer programs to help people in need. But we also

know we need to offer everyone who comes to CTI an opportunity for access to a job with a plan that includes education, training, and job readiness skills. And we need to stay with people as they move from entry level to self-sufficiency wages.

The essential support services Community Teamwork provides, such as affordable, safe housing, high quality early education and care services, good nutrition, financial education and planning, and assistance with linkages to transportation, help people to stay in their jobs, have enough income to survive and to move toward economic independence. These services, linked with a strong plan developed by families for themselves, will offer hope and a path to a strong successful future.

Our new website also offers increased communications and tools which ensure that people have simple, secure, and seamless access to the information they need about Community Teamwork and other services that will help them achieve their goals. It is designed for people to communicate with us directly and immediately about their needs. The website also allows us to better communicate our significant community impact and outcomes. We will measure and report on progress toward our vision of a **community of opportunity where fewer people live in poverty**. This is our renewed commitment to our clients, funders, and community.

Karen N. Frederick
Executive Director

Germaine Vigeant-Trudel
Board President

Germaine Vigeant-Trudel (left)
and Karen N. Frederick (right)

Community Teamwork

is a catalyst for social change.

Our Solutions

 HOUSING & UTILITIES

 FAMILY & CHILDREN

 COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEERING

 FINANCES & BUSINESS

 FOOD & NUTRITION



HOUSING & Utilities

TODAY, 
2,500 FAMILIES
IN 41 CITIES & TOWNS LIVE
IN SAFE, AFFORDABLE
HOUSING 

Weatherization Saves Family \$1,000s in Energy Use



Roger Bedard with a member of our Weatherization team

Roger Bedard and his wife lived a frugal life but when she died in May 2013, the loss of her income became critical. Following a very cold winter, Roger contacted our Weatherization Program. He had just missed the application deadline for fuel assistance, but staff helped him access valuable energy-saving interventions through our Weatherization, Appliance Management, and Heating System Repair programs. The Weatherization team implemented \$4,700 in weatherization upgrades, \$150 in boiler repairs and \$900 in appliance management including a new Energy Star refrigerator and compact fluorescent light bulbs. ***“I was very happy with what the Community Teamwork Energy Conservation staff did. They explained the work in detail and kept everything clean. Best of all, I can expect significant energy savings.”***

How We Help

Community Teamwork provided affordable housing opportunities and utility supports to build healthy families and communities. Our Housing Consumer Education Center provides counseling and eviction prevention services and works with our Resource Center to holistically move people to self-sufficiency. This year, we are expanding 200 of our affordable housing units to include another 36 units in Westford, MA. We are helping 2,500 families keep rents affordable with housing subsidies. We are sheltering 63 homeless families and 19 families victimized by domestic violence. We are counseling and educating over 6,000 households across the Merrimack Valley and the North Shore to help them remain housed and avoid homelessness. And we are working with First Time Homebuyers and households needing Home Modification loans for disabled and frail family members.

This year, we also worked with over 11,000 families and individuals in 19 cities and towns across the Merrimack Valley to help them stay safe and warm with fuel assistance through the federal LIHEAP. Over 79% of these households had either an elderly, disabled or young child under 5 living in them. And nearly 660 households reaped important cost savings through our Weatherization and Conservation home energy audits and services; 264 homes received weatherization; and over 1,334 (including Fuel Assistance families) received heating system and refrigeration repair or replacement.



COMMUNITY & Volunteering

EACH MONTH 100's OF VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTE



10,000+ VOLUNTEER HOURS TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY STRONG



FOOD & Nutrition

EVERY \$1 SPENT ON



NUTRITION EDUCATION & SUPPORT RESULTS IN A SAVINGS OF

OVER \$3.00

IN HEALTH CARE COSTS

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture & U.S. Office of Budget & Management

How We Help

We build our community and its residents through preventing and overturning poverty and engaging volunteers to improve our lives. Investments in poverty prevention and amelioration strengthen all of us. Studies show that investing in early education yields nine times the investment, that ensuring homes are weatherized saves seven times the cost, and that providing pregnant women and young children with adequate nutrition has a lifelong impact on the next generation's capacity to contribute to their community and to the local economy. Investments like these lower health care and energy costs, reduce crime and special education spending, and create prosperous residents who pay taxes, spend with local merchants, and who have resources to educate themselves and their children, providing the skilled workforce that thriving communities need.

We also build our community by investing nearly 145,000 hours of community service provided by volunteers young and old. This year, our Senior Companions helped the frail, elderly and disabled remain independent. Our Foster Grandparents provided teaching and friendship to children across Greater Lowell. Other Retired Senior Volunteers helped local non-profits optimize their capacity to deliver services. And our Spindle City Corps youth and YouthBuild interns helped beautify our parks, clean city lots, and work on community projects.

Carleen Gavin - Caring & Energetic Volunteer Touches Many Lives

Carleen Gavin is one of over 400 Community Teamwork volunteers who enrich our community. A former Community Teamwork employee and current Board member, Carleen is a Foster Grandparent and RSVP volunteer. Among her many projects, she volunteers at the Pawtucketville Memorial School and, with Community Teamwork's Spindle City Corps, teams up to work on art and education projects for the young children.



Community Teamwork volunteer Carleen Gavin

WIC Works with Family & Pediatrician to Improve Young Child's Health

Annette Irizarry receives nutrition education and WIC checks to purchase healthy foods for her and her two young children. At the urging of WIC staff, her youngest son was evaluated at Boston Children's Hospital and determined to have autism. This developmental assessment was shared with the child's pediatrician at Lowell Community Health Center and WIC staff who worked collaboratively to create a developmental growth plan that included nutrition to help him overcome sensitivities to food tastes and textures related to his autism. Today, Annette's son is showing improvements in his growth and development, including his ability to better tolerate and enjoy a variety of foods that benefit his health.



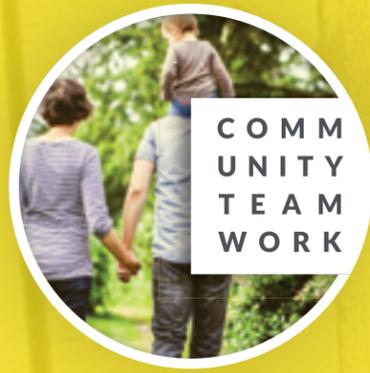
A great example of nutritional growth

How We Help

Community Teamwork's Women Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program links mothers and their children to health and social service agencies, while offering direct food and nutrition services. This year, 6,345 mothers received in-depth nutrition counseling and 10,286 mothers and children received access to healthy foods.

WIC staff also counsel and train mothers on the importance of breastfeeding, nourishment for infants, optimal diets during pregnancy, making good food choices, and buying food and planning nutritious meals on a limited budget. WIC also extends WIC checks to be used at our Lowell Farmers' Market.

Community Teamwork's New Entry Sustainable Farming Project provides fresh, healthy, local produce for people of all income levels through its World PEAS Food Hub, distributing food to over 500 Boston and Merrimack Valley area families in 2013.



FAMILY & Children

EACH DAY MORE THAN

1,200 CHILDREN & YOUTH
GAIN THE SKILLS THEY NEED
TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL



FINANCES & Business

EACH YEAR WE INFUSE OVER

\$47 MILLION
INTO THE LOCAL
ECONOMY

How We Help

We strengthen children and families through thoughtful, targeted education, care, training and support programs. With children, our goal is to ensure each child and youth reaches his or her full potential. This year, 657 children received preschool services and 209 pre-natal women, infants and toddlers received Early Head Start services at our Center-based facilities. All the children saw major growth in all education domains with notable improvement in mathematics, a key indicator of school readiness.

Our home-based Family Child Care System in Lowell and Wakefield helped over 300 families and 406 children. Our School Age program offered 350 middle school-aged children before and after school mentoring and enrichment activities. Our YouthBuild program helped young people cultivate work, community service and leadership skills and our Spindle City Corps program offered high school youth an opportunity to earn a stipend and deliver much-needed community service.

Head Start Parent Becomes Head Start Teacher

Head Start parent Janna Robinson learned through her Family Service Worker about our Teacher Trainee Program, completed the 8 month program and then took the Early Childhood Education course that allowed her to become Preschool Teacher qualified through the Department of Early Education and Care. Janna is now employed by Community Teamwork as a part time certified preschool teacher. *"I'm so thankful for the teacher trainee program because it helped me get where I am today—I love it!"*



Janna Robinson and her students

From Financial Literacy to Asset Building – the Rogers Family Buys a Home

For five years, the Rogers family has been unsuccessful in purchasing a home, having lost over \$7,000 in a deal that "went bad" and depleted their savings. *"The IDA program helped us reach our goal to buy a home through good financial education and down payment assistance," says Torrina Rogers. "The IDA program also helped us with budgeting. Thank you to all who made this possible, it has truly been a blessing."*



The Rogers family

How We Help

Small businesses are the engine of job growth and, for generations of immigrants to our community, have been the route to the middle class. This year, our Merrimack Valley Small Business Center (MVSBC) trained over 400 clients in Starting a New Business, Growing Your Business, Developing a Business Plan, Getting a Business Loan, Growing Your Lowell Storefront Business, Online Internet Marketing and affordable Bookkeeping Services. Our New Entry Farm Program offered 60 workshops reaching over 1,100 clients with comprehensive training for beginning farmers to start and grow their farm businesses in crop production and livestock. New Entry also helped farmers connect to available farm land, markets, consumers (through our World PEAS Food Hub), farm jobs and other key resources. And our Family Child Care network supported over 65 female-owned and operated child care businesses.

Our Financial Literacy Academy offered hundreds of families Financial Counseling and Workshops, teaching them how to set up a budget, lower their debt, increase credit scores and purchase an asset. In 2013, over 100 community members attended our Financial Literacy Academy, 75 received One-on-One Financial Counseling, 300 attended a Family Finance Solutions workshop, 62 youth completed our annual High School Summer Financial Institute, 50 women took part in our Fourth Annual Financiallyhers Seminar, and five people purchased an asset through our Individual Development Account (IDA) program.



Revenues, Expenses and Numbers Served

Dollars Spent

Cities & Towns Served	Child & Family Services	Energy & Community Resources	Housing & Homeless Services	Totals for all Divisions
Lowell	15,651,326	5,233,161	23,468,504	44,352,991
Billerica	409,252	814,047	893,078	2,116,377
Chelmsford	1,828,316	569,833	852,483	3,250,632
Dracut	1,058,826	30,341	1,210,452	3,199,619
Dunstable	0	116,292	7,381	123,673
Tewksbury	685,743	593,092	845,102	2,123,937
Tyngsboro	84,113	232,585	243,567	560,265
Westford	89,989	290,731	195,591	576,311
Other Towns	1,004,134	2,849,166	18,167,855	22,021,155
GRAND TOTALS	20,811,699	11,629,248	45,884,013	78,324,960

Numbers Served

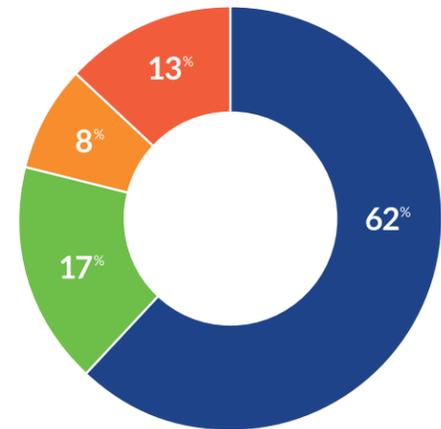
Cities & Towns Served	Child & Family Services	Energy & Community Resources	Housing & Homeless Services	Totals for all Divisions
Lowell	4,461	7,015	19,078	30,554
Billerica	211	715	726	1,652
Chelmsford	2,067	674	693	3,434
Dracut	235	1,238	984	2,457
Dunstable	0	34	6	40
Tewksbury	535	585	687	1,807
Tyngsboro	7	275	198	480
Westford	68	255	159	482
Other Towns	129	3,163	14,769	18,061
GRAND TOTALS	7,713	13,954	37,300	58,967*

*Total numbers served contain some duplicate clients.

These numbers are unaudited and subject to change. You may request a copy of our audited financial statements and IRS Form 990 by contacting our Chief Financial Officer Penny Judd at 978-459-0551 or pjudd@comteam.org.

Revenue by Source

Fiscal Year 2013



● Federal (through State)

● Federal (direct)

● State (direct)

● Other

A total of 0% revenue funds was generated by the City of Lowell and American Recovery & Reinvestment Act.

Expenses by Major Programs

Fiscal Year 2013

● Housing

● Scattered Sites

● Shelters

● Community Resources

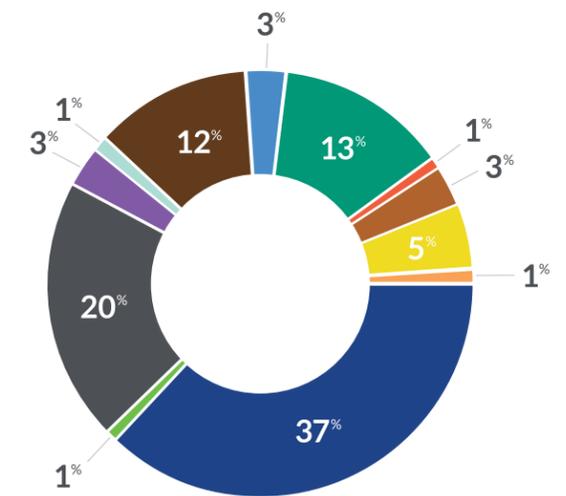
● Youthbuild

● Workforce Training

● Energy

● Preschool/Head Start

● Infant Toddler



● Youth Programs

● Family Child Care

● WIC

Community Teamwork

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