



2024-2025

IMPACT REPORT ...





WELCOME

from OUCAN Board Chair Dr. Jacklyn Chisholm

As we look to the future of OUCAN, I'm encouraged by the strength and spirit that continues to define our network. Across Ohio, our agencies are meeting new challenges with the same compassion and determination that have guided us for nearly forty years.

Our communities are changing, and so are the ways we rise to meet their needs. From expanding access to opportunity to breaking down barriers that hold families back, we are proving that lasting change happens when we work together. OUCAN's power has always come from connection – agencies learning from one another, leaders sharing ideas, and neighbors supporting neighbors.

I believe this collaboration is our greatest strength. Every day, I see dedicated people who lead with empathy and purpose - people who understand that the work of Community Action isn't just about services but about creating hope and building trust.

As Board Chair, I'm honored to witness that spirit in action. Together, we are shaping a future that reflects the resilience, innovation, and heart of Ohio's urban communities.

As we prepare for the next chapter, let's continue to build on this momentum - supporting one another, amplifying what works, and staying grounded in the belief that every Ohioan deserves dignity, stability, and opportunity. Our best work is ahead, and I'm proud to walk this path with all of you.

Dr. Jacklyn Chisholm
Board Chair, OUCAN





INTRODUCTION

from OUCAN CEO Yvonne Cherell, MPA

This year marks a remarkable milestone for OUCAN: 40 years of unwavering commitment to breaking the cycle of poverty in Ohio's urban communities. As we celebrate this anniversary, I am deeply grateful for the vision and dedication that have shaped our network and fueled our mission. From our earliest days, OUCAN has stood as a beacon of hope and opportunity, transforming lives through compassion, collaboration, and innovation.

Reflecting on our journey, it is clear that our achievements are the result of collective action and shared purpose. Together, we have helped thousands of families overcome barriers, access vital resources, and build brighter futures. Each story of progress—each life changed—is a testament to the power of community action and the tireless efforts of our agencies, staff, and partners. We have proven that lasting change is possible when we lift each other up and work toward a common goal.

Our vision extends beyond service delivery. OUCAN is dedicated to positioning our network as an innovative thought leader in community action—driving new solutions, shaping policy, and inspiring others to join us in building a more equitable Ohio. We will amplify the voices of those we serve, champion best practices, and foster an environment where ideas can flourish and translate into real progress.

On this 40th anniversary, I reaffirm our commitment to the communities we serve. The future of OUCAN is bright, and I am honored to lead this extraordinary network as we write the next chapter—one defined by partnership, possibility, and hope.

Yvonne Cherell, MPA
CEO, OUCAN



OUCAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dr. Jacklyn Chisholm,
President/CEO, Step Forward



- **VICE-CHAIR**
Sheila Triplett, President/CEO
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- **Dr. Shauna Matelski**, President/
CEO, Lorain County Community
Action Agency



- **Rodney Reasonover**, President/
CEO, Stark County Community
Action Agency



- **Cynthia Savage**, President/CEO
Pathway, Inc.

OUCAN Team:

Yvonne Cherell,
CEO

Sarah Matthews,
Fiscal Manager

Mandy Minick,
Communications Manager

MISSION STATEMENT, VISION, & PILLARS

The Ohio Urban Community Action Network (OUCAN) was chartered in 1985, born from the need to amplify the voices of individuals and families who historically lacked representation in critical decision-making spaces. Our founders recognized that the urban Community Action Agencies across Ohio served communities grappling with entrenched, generational, and systemic challenges related to poverty. OUCAN is the place for Ohio's urban community action agencies to learn, connect, advocate, and collectively break the cycle of poverty in our communities.



Mission:

Our mission is to empower Ohio's urban Community Action Agencies through education, networking, and advocating for policies that alleviate poverty and promote self-sufficiency.



Vision:

To be a leading resource and driving force in breaking the cycle of poverty in urban Ohio, ensuring residents are treated with dignity, and have the resources to prosper in their everyday lives.

OUCAN's Pillars of Advocacy:



Workforce Development:

OUCAN supports initiatives and policies aimed at minimizing wage disparities and fostering economic stability and professional growth.



Safe Housing:

OUCAN supports initiatives and policies that prioritize safe, affordable, and lead-free housing while reducing the gap in homeownership for underserved buyers.



Affordable Childcare:

OUCAN supports initiatives and policies that promote accessible childcare and early childhood education, with a focus on ensuring both quality and equitable funding.

OUCAN CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY!

For 40 years, the Ohio Urban Community Action Network (OUCAN) has been a voice for Ohio's urban communities. OUCAN traces its beginnings to 1979, when Community Action Agencies in Akron, Youngstown, and several neighboring cities recognized the need for collaborative efforts to address urban issues. OUCAN, initially known as the Ohio Urban Resources System, was incorporated in 1985 to advocate for Ohio's low-income households in urban communities. Today, Ohio has more large urban centers than any other state, and OUCAN is the nation's oldest urban CAA network.

OUCAN has grown to represent 56% of the state's low-income population. Our network of 10 Community Action Agencies works to reduce poverty, eliminate food insecurity, expand access to housing, and help families earn a livable wage. We serve as a leading resource in enhancing the social and economic stability of families and their communities. Our efforts are further reinforced through community partnerships, collaboration, and advocacy.

It's only through the efforts of committed volunteers, partners, and supporters who share our vision for an equitable future that we have been able to establish a 40-year legacy of impact. And it's only through continued collaboration and cooperation that we will continue to effect change on behalf of Ohio's low-income population well into the future. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to this work. Because Together, We Can!



OUR IMPACT

by the Numbers

OUCAN member agencies are longtime trusted institutions in the communities they serve. As local community-based organizations and designated anti-poverty agencies, Ohio's urban Community Action

Agencies collectively received Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) federal funding of nearly \$19 million dollars and \$1.8 million in additional funding and fiscal awards in 2024.

The 10 OUCAN member agencies made a significant impact on more than 100,000 low-income Ohioans in 2024. Whether through workforce development, childcare, energy and utility assistance, senior programming (including a new Senior Center in Youngstown), or emergency needs during the economic downturn, OUCAN agencies are facilitating the hand up that creates real change in our communities and human investments in Ohioans.

Ohioans Served



5,065

Head Start/Early Head Start (EHS)



4,048

Senior Services



1,411

Weatherization Services



73,667

Winter/Summer Crisis/
Home Energy
Assistance Program
(HEAP)



814

Workforce/Career
Programs/Tech Training



16,344

Housing Services



2,582

Program (LIHWAP)/
Home Relief Grant

103,931

Total number of Ohioans who received assistance from OUCAN member agencies in 2024.

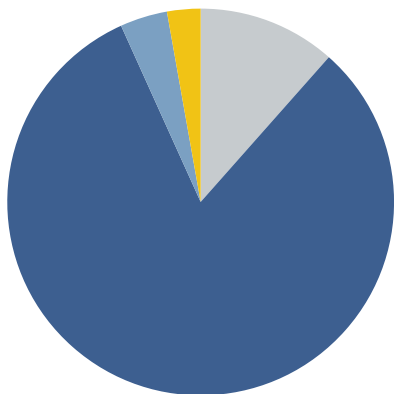
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Summary of OUCAN Financial Information

Assets & Liabilities

As of 12/31/2024

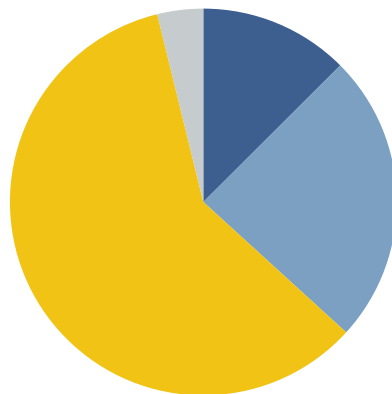
Total Assets	\$280,063
Total Liabilities*	\$91,341
Total Net Assets	\$188,723



Revenue

For the year ended 12/31/2024

Membership Dues*	\$14,130
Grant	\$100,100
Registrations	\$4,848
Contributions	\$3,424
Total Revenue	\$122,501



Expenses

For the year ended 12/31/2024

Training and Meeting Costs	\$20,409
Professional Fees	\$39,532
Payroll	\$96,814
Management and General Costs	\$6,251
Gain on Investment	(\$4,766)
Total Revenue	\$158,240

*2024 balances reflect change in accounting methods to record membership income in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.



ADVOCACY

Another Big Year for Advocacy

Introduction from OUCAN Advocacy Chair Robert “Bo” Chilton

While programs alone can’t solve poverty, OUCAN focuses on policy reform and advocacy. We believe poverty is a policy choice and by prioritizing affordable housing, workforce development tailored to local employers, and universal childcare, we can reduce the number of low-income households living in poverty.

We support direct assisted initiatives such as guaranteed income, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and creating solutions in our local communities to protect low-income families and ensure they receive meaningful support and opportunities.

We are the voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. Keeping our fingers on the pulse of state and federal legislation positions us to monitor policies connected to Ohio’s urban communities and work with key elected officials for better outcomes for children, families, and residents.

Robert “Bo” Chilton

Advocacy Committee Chair

Ohio Biennial Budget

During Ohio’s recent biennial budget process, OUCAN and its members actively engaged in state and federal advocacy efforts to ensure fair and equitable policies to support Ohio’s children and families living in poverty.

We partnered with Economic Mobility Alliance to host the first Economic Mobility Advocacy Day. Fifty attendees representing more than 25 agencies gathered at the Statehouse to meet with their state representatives and senators educating them about the impact the “Benefits Cliffs” has on working families. For families like Johonna Hughes, a mother of four small boys, economic programs such as Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Medicaid help bridge the gap when resources are low.

Johonna provided testimony during the Economic Mobility Advocacy Day after sharing about her recent employment barriers. She sought assistance from IMPACT Community Action Agency, the largest urban community action agency in Central Ohio. Even after finding a new job that she enjoyed, once she reported her income to her local Job & Family Services office, her benefits decreased, forcing her back into the situation of Ohio’s 1.9 million working households (or 39 percent of Ohio households), who fall under the Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) threshold. In plain terms, this means that even with a job, it’s difficult to afford the basic cost of living in many Ohio counties (including Franklin County where Johonna lives) causing families to struggle to make ends meet.

National Community Action Foundation Fly-In on Capitol Hill

OUCAN members also traveled to Washington, D.C. and joined members from the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) and the Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD) for the National Community Action Foundation (NCAF) Fly-In Capitol Visits. The current federal funding for Community Action (CA) nationally is \$770 million, and CAs use those funds to advance economic independence and strengthen local communities through key services and programs such as Head Start/Early Head Start, the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), and Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Ohio's poverty rate was 13.2% in 2023 and the state's child poverty rate was 17.5%, according to the latest

report from OACAA (Ohio Capital Journal, 2025). Many of those affected suffer under public policies that create more food deserts, a lack of access to employment, and limited economic opportunities both in the state's rural and urban areas.

OUCAN members joined other CA leaders to meet with Ohio's Congressional delegation and encouraged their support of federal funding distribution to continue to serve Ohioans in need. "By continuing to support CSBG through State and Community Action Agencies, we ensure that hard-working American families have access to the opportunities they need to thrive, while also promoting local economic growth and reducing government dependency," stated NCAF President/CEO David Bradley.



Members of OUCAN, COAD, and OACCA met with lawmakers and Congressional staffers during the NCAF Fly-In Event. At left, members met with Ohio Congressman Bernie Moreno. At right, members met with Ohio Senator Jon Husted's staff.

May: Community Action Month

More than ever before, this year's Community Action Month presented new opportunities to tell the CA story, share the successes that embody the CA spirit of hope, and advocate for policies that change people's lives for the better and improve our local communities.

OUCAN agencies celebrated Community Action Month in May through a variety of community-based events. From the seniors at Mahoning Youngstown Community Action Partnership (MYCAP) who formed Seniors Out for Action – or SOFA – to advocate for senior services, to the city-wide Women's Resource Fair at Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency, OUCAN members underscored the importance of collective action and partnership to effect change in our communities.

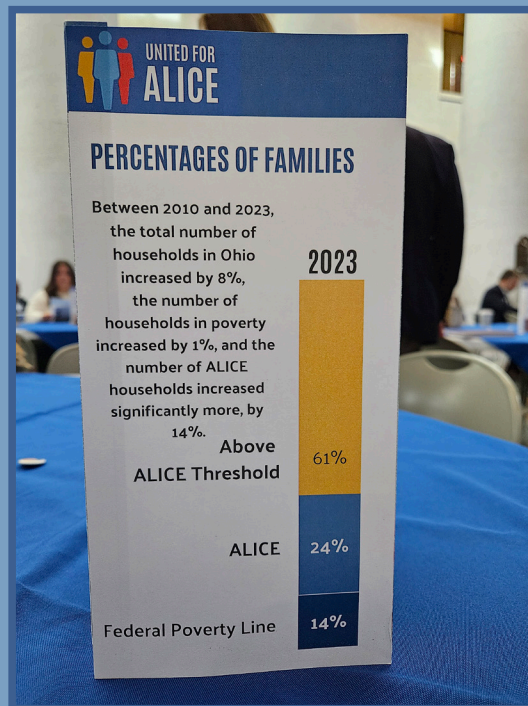
Miami Valley Community Action Partnership (MVCAP) celebrated with an incredible client success story: After months of being unhoused, a Greene County mom and her two kids (ages 9 and 17) found safety and stability through MVCAP's shelter and support services. With the help of caring community partners, she cleared a past housing debt, built a budget, found a job, and worked with MVCAP's team to secure a Housing Choice Voucher.

Today, she and her children are in a home of their own- with rental assistance, energy support through the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), and a fresh start.

It's stories like these that embody the hope and dedication of community action and inspire MVCAP and fellow urban community action agencies in everything they do. This is the power of community action!



Lorain County Community Action Agency Director of Community Services Tosha Craighead and OUCAN CEO Yvonne Cherrell at Economic Mobility Advocacy Day.



Increasing awareness at the Ohio Statehouse about Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



We believe people in low-income communities prefer a hand up to a handout. CAs partner with public and private organizations to connect individuals with training, education, and career support. This year, OUCAN continued to bring awareness to the need for workforce development, and to position members for success.

Self-Sufficiency Simulator

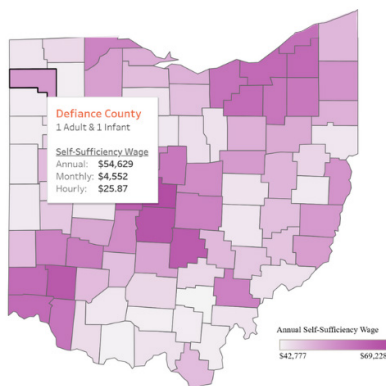
OUCAN CEO Yvonne Cherell joined fellow panelists, Senior Manager of Data and Learning at Interact for Health Colleen Desmond and Vice President of Mission Services at Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries Gladys Ahovi, for the launch of the Women's Fund of Greater Cincinnati Foundation's Self-Sufficiency Simulator. This new interactive tool shows the real cost of living in Ohio cities and towns.

Like OACCA's Self-Sufficiency Calculator, advocates and elected officials can use this new tool to determine the income needed to meet basic needs in each area of the state without public benefits, and considering family composition. The simulator is more precise than the Federal Poverty Level calculation, which does not take into consideration where a person lives, the age of household members, or expenses other than food. "The self-sufficiency data compounded with the simulator tool strengthens

our advocacy efforts and allows us to match data with real human needs," said Cherell. "It illustrates the realities of poverty and emphasizes the need for awareness of how policies can hinder individuals who are working to become self-sufficient."

Self-Sufficiency Simulators are helpful tools to support programs and policies that reduce racial disparities in wages and occupational clustering. All 10 of our member agencies provide workforce development services through innovative, certified career programs. In 2023, OUCAN agencies served 5,555 Ohioans and successfully matched 1,701 skilled workers to higher paying career pathways. Yet, we know that at least 17 participants, or 1% of the people we served, turned down job opportunities or promotions due to the fear of losing their crucial benefits. The Self-Sufficiency Simulator can help drive home this reality for policy makers and leaders.

Self Sufficiency Report for Heather 's household living in Franklin County. The residents in this household include 1 adult(s) and 2 child(ren).



The Women's Fund of Greater Cincinnati Foundation's Self-Sufficiency Simulator.

EXPENSES	
Housing Costs	\$1,468.38
Child Care Costs	\$1,708.91
Food Costs	\$863.12
Transportation Costs	\$393.74
Health Care Costs	\$780.07
Miscellaneous Costs	\$634.63

OACCA's Self-Sufficiency Calculator.

OUCAN's Women's Leadership Symposium

The OUCAN Women's Leadership Symposium recently took center stage at The Five Party & Event Center in Columbus on May 1, heralding a transformative day dedicated to the celebration and empowerment of women in leadership roles and entrepreneurs. This fifth annual women's symposium was highly anticipated by professionals across various industries and was designed to foster a dynamic environment where women could share, learn, and grow collectively.

The symposium featured an impressive lineup of speakers, panel discussions, and an interactive demonstration by Tracey N. Mason, assistant vice president of outreach & operations at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, on the Occupational Mobility Explorer.

In September 2024, the Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland and Philadelphia released an update to the Occupational Mobility Explorer (OME), a tool that allows users to explore potential paths from lower-paying to higher-paying jobs, strengthening the economic performance of the region served by the Cleveland Fed and the nation. With 64 percent of the workforce without higher education degrees, the tool helps to address the top 15-25 requested skills by wage quartile.

With a focus on innovation, resilience, and networking, the event provided attendees with invaluable insights and practical advice to navigate their professional journeys successfully.

Attendees also learned about 2024 Project Noir by Enlightened Solutions – an effort to provide a research-based framework for public, private, governmental, and nonprofit organizations to improve the lived experiences of Black Women.



In 2020, Northeast Ohio ranked dead last as a livable region for Black Women. Enlightened Solutions, co-founded by Chinenye Nkemere and Bethany Studentic, focuses on three key areas: Workplaces, Healthcare, and Education. The 2024 Project Noir report includes information about how individuals and anchor institutions can develop concrete methods for implementing solutions.

Finally, attendees at this year's symposium enjoyed exhibit booths, a networking lunch, panel discussions, and complimentary professional headshots by Purple Star Photography. As women enter leadership positions, a high-quality professional headshot is an important asset to have. A professional headshot helps establish trust with prospective employers, supports your personal brand, and can be a first step toward networking in our digital age. OUCAN was proud to offer this complimentary service to symposium attendees, and we are grateful to Purple Star Photography for doing such wonderful work.

OUCAN CEO Yvonne Cherell, delivered a stirring closing that encapsulated the essence of the symposium's mission. She emphasized the critical need for inclusive leadership and the power of collective action. As Cherell eloquently stated, "Empowerment begins with recognizing the unique strengths and perspectives that women bring to the table. By fostering an environment of support and collaboration, we can drive meaningful change and create a future where women lead with confidence and vision."



Purple Star Photography offered free professional headshots to attendees at this year's Women's Leadership Symposium.

ONE MORE SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

We are beyond grateful for your efforts and generosity in supporting this year's Women's Leadership Symposium.

WBECORV
WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE COUNCIL
OHIO RIVER VALLEY

 **First Merchants**



*Purple
Star*
PHOTOGRAPHY

2025
WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP
SYMPOSIUM



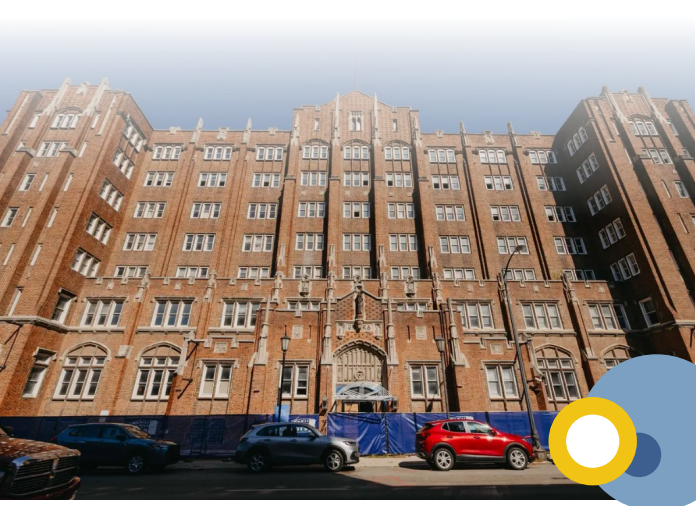
SAFE HOUSING



OUCAN has long championed safe housing initiatives that work to ensure Ohioans have options for affordable housing that is safe from toxins, environmental hazards, structural deficiencies, and crime. This year, we are highlighting success stories from our member agencies that exemplify the important progress we are making on the safe housing front.

IMPACT & the Former Columbus YMCA

IMPACT Community Action (IMPACT), together with Woda Cooper Companies and Merchants Capital, announced that it secured \$35.1 million in tax credit equity financing for the historic adaptive reuse of Lofts at 40 Long, an affordable multifamily housing development to be located in the former downtown Columbus YMCA building. The project will convert the historic YMCA building into 121 modern apartments, including one studio, 72 one-bedroom units, 38 two-bedroom units, and 10 three-bedroom units. The units will be restricted to families earning between 30% to 80% area median income (AMI). Construction on Lofts at 40 Long began in August 2025 and is expected to be completed in late 2027.



*The former Columbus YMCA will be renovated to include affordable multifamily housing with the help of IMPACT Community Action.
Photo attribution: Doral Chenoweth, The Columbus Dispatch.*

Step Forward's Ronieta Lee Helps Clients Navigate The Shelter System With Dignity

Step Forward Head Start Parent Ronieta Lee was featured in an article by Signal Cleveland for her work in connecting local families to resources and helping them secure stable housing. Ronieta's story is unique because she once faced homelessness herself, which allows her to come alongside her clients with deep insight into their situations. As noted in the article, Ronieta said, "Having a lived experience being homeless allows me to empathize on a different level. It's not, 'I understand what you're going through.' It is that, 'I inner-stand what you're going through.'" Signal Cleveland added, "The family case manager for LMM, a nonprofit social service organization, helps her clients navigate the shelter system with dignity. She assists them in finding permanent housing while offering moral support and empathy in hopes of positioning these families for lasting success."



*Ronieta Lee, a caseworker at LMM, works with families trying to find a way out of shelters and into stable homes.
Photo attribution: Rachel Dissell, Signal Cleveland.*

MYCAP is Featured in a PBS Series about Displacement After an Explosion in Downtown Youngstown

OUCAN member agency MYCAP was featured in a four-part series on PBS Western Reserve called, “We Are the Aftermath,” for its role in assisting residents of International Towers after the May 28th explosion at the Realty Building in Downtown Youngstown. On that day, a massive explosion, suspected to have been caused by a natural gas leak, collapsed the first floor of the 13-story Realty Building, which was located next door to International Towers. Due to its proximity to the explosion, residents of International Towers were temporarily displaced until their

building could be deemed habitable. The Towers is a 16-story, income-based apartment building that provides affordable housing to 173 residents with disabilities and people 62 and older. PBS Western Reserve chronicled the aftermath of the explosion, including the plight of the Towers residents who found themselves without shelter. MYCAP stepped in and paid for emergency housing for 55 International Towers residents until they could safely return home in late August.



*The site of the Realty Tower explosion in Downtown Youngstown.
Photo attribution: Ed Runyan, staff photo, The Vindicator.*

AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE



For parents who need to work, affordable childcare is a necessity, not a luxury. Unfortunately, quality childcare can be cost-prohibitive for many Ohio families, and to make matters worse, market and regulatory forces are combining to make it harder for childcare centers to keep their doors open. That's why OUCAN consistently advocates for policies that will address this barrier to employment and economic sustainability for working families.

Rally for Working Families

On June 17th, OUCAN joined hundreds of advocates from across the state at the Ohio Statehouse for the Rally for Working Families. Together, we called on lawmakers to provide tax relief and make childcare more affordable for working families through a new Ohio Child Tax Credit. We also called for more investments in childcare in the state budget bill. The rally called attention to the needs of Ohio's working families with young children, and OUCAN was proud to stand alongside our partners at this important event.

Photo right: IMPACT Community Action CEO Bo Chilton and OUCAN CEO Yvonne Cherell at the Rally for Working Families.



OUCAN proudly stood with fellow advocates at the Rally for Working Families. Advocates used the opportunity to call on lawmakers to enact policies like affordable childcare and the Ohio Child Tax Credit that benefit Ohio's working families.

Photo attribution: Groundwork Ohio.

EDUCATION

OUCAN is committed to providing members with opportunities for high-quality training and education in our ongoing efforts to positively impact our communities with efficiency and effectiveness.

- **Board Governance Training** - Columbus-based Non-Profit Champion and Trainer Libby Villavicencio joined OUCAN for a Board Governance training. As a state designated Training & Technical Assistance network, OUCAN provides training for its members and staff that will directly support community action agencies as they assess compliance areas in Category 5 of the Community Services Block Grant Organizational Standards. More than 60 participants from 24 agencies logged into the virtual session to learn more about board recruitment processes, financial responsibilities, and (when necessary) exit strategies.
- **Results-Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) and Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Organizational Standards Statewide Training** – OUCAN once again held its annual two-day statewide training focusing on ROMA and CSBG organizational standards. This year's event was held on Sept. 25th and 26th at the Main Branch of the Columbus Library. Twenty-five attendees from 13 agencies heard from outstanding presenters Jennifer Atwell, Kerry Austin, Karen Berry, LaSandra James, and Josh Summer. Thanks to the support of our partners – OACAA, the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Advocates for Ohio's Future, NCAF, and the National Community Action Partnership – for making this event a success!



Participants in this year's ROMA Training received a certificate of completion at the end of the two-day event held at the Columbus Library Main Branch.

NETWORKING

It takes a community to serve our communities! Connecting the dots between agencies, collaborators, and partners is a crucial part of our work. That's why OUCAN creates opportunities for networking among our members and with other leaders and partners who share our priorities.

- **Raymond E. Mason, Jr. Leadership Symposium** - The Raymond E. Mason Jr., Leadership Symposium is an annual event at Franklin University designed to enhance leadership in business, nonprofit organizations, government, and educational institutions throughout central Ohio. The symposium acts as a catalyst for organizations and individuals to launch and sustain long-term commitments to developing skilled leadership. This year, OUCAN CEO Yvonne Cherell presented a session titled, "New Pathways in Familiar Places," that explored the evolving roles of women in leadership, business, mentoring, and beyond. The event was held on September 18th, at the Franklin University Leadership Center.
- **Strategic Planning** - OUCAN's Board welcomed Drew Alexander Consulting Founder Tauna Batiste to facilitate the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan and Goals. The two-day retreat also included statewide community partners from OACAA and COAD and an exchange of ideas and best practices among Ohio's community action culture.





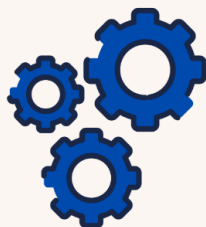
Advocacy Profile

OUCAN is the nation's oldest urban community action network that bridges together Ohio's Community Action Agencies to alleviate poverty and improve the lives of families in urban communities



Affordable Housing

We endorse initiatives and policies that prioritizes safe, affordable and lead free housing and reducing the gap in homeownership for underserved buyers.



Workforce/Career Development

We endorse initiatives and policies to reduce racial disparities in wages and occupational clustering, programs with pipeline to career fields and companies who invest in people including entrepreneurial and social enterprise ventures.



Early Childhood Education and Childcare

We endorse initiatives and policies designed to address access, quality and equitable funding for early childhood education and childcare.

Ohio Urban Community Action Network

Because Together, We Can.

info@ohioucan.com www.ohioucan.com



WHO WE ARE



Our Mission

The mission of the Ohio Urban Community Action Network (OUCAN) is to empower Ohio's urban Community Action Agencies through education, networking, and advocate for policies that alleviate poverty and promote self-sufficiency



Statewide Impact

OUCAN is comprised of ten urban CAAs ensuring residents are treated with dignity and have the resources to prosper in their everyday lives. Our approach is driven by three key values - compassion, community and advocacy.

Ohio Urban Community Action Network

OUCAN agencies represent 56 percent of the state's population and 62 percent of those households are living at or below the Federal Poverty Level. We seek to reduce the number of households living in poverty so that no family experiences food insecurity or housing challenges and all are able to earn a livable wage.

YEARS OF SERVICE

40

IN URBAN OHIO

OHIO URBAN

10

COMMUNITY
ACTION AGENCIES

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES

56

SERVED BY OUCAN
AGENCIES



597 High Street, Unit #538 info@ohioucan.com
Worthington, OH 43085 www.ohioucan.com



OUCAN WOULD LIKE TO THANK...

OUCAN would like to acknowledge with gratitude the following individuals and organizations who have supported our mission and made our work possible ...

OUCAN Board members:

- Jacklyn A. Chisholm, Ph.D.
Board Chair, President/CEO, Step Forward
- Sheila Triplett, Board Vice Chair,
President/CEO, Mahoning Youngstown
Community Action Partnership
- Van Nelson, Jr.
Board Treasurer, President/CEO,
Trumbull Community Action Partnership
- Janice Warner
Board Secretary, President/CEO,
Community Action Commission of Erie, Huron
and Richland Counties
- Robert "Bo" Chilton
President/CEO, IMPACT Community Action
- Erin Jeffries
President/CEO, Miami Valley Community
Action Partnership
- Mark B. Lawson
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- Shauna Matelski, Ed.D.
President/CEO, Lorain County Community
Action Agency
- Rodney Reasonover
President/CEO, Stark County Community
Action Agency
- Cynthia Savage
President/CEO, Pathway, Inc.

OUCAN Member Agencies:

- Community Action Agency Cincinnati
Hamilton County
- Community Action Commission of Erie,
Huron & Richland Counties, Inc.
- IMPACT Community Action
- Lorain County Community Action Agency
- Mahoning Youngstown Community
Action Partnership
- Miami Valley Community Action Partnership
- Pathway, Inc.
- Stark County Community Action Agency
- Step Forward
- Trumbull County Action Program

OUCAN Team:

- Yvonne Cherell, CEO
- Sarah Matthews, Fiscal Manager
- Mandy Minick, Communications Manager
- Matt Downey, Videographer
- Katie Redinger, Graphic Designer

OUCAN Affiliated Organizations:

- Advocates for Ohio's Future
- Economic Mobility Alliance Ohio
- National Community Action Foundation
- National Community Action Partnership
- Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
- Ohio Legislative Black Caucus Foundation



Thousands of Ohioans are struggling to feed, house, and support their families. OUCAN member agencies are on the front lines, offering the support people need to become self-sufficient. Every dollar donated supports advocacy and programming on behalf of Ohio's urban communities. Give today by scanning the QR code or visiting www.ohioucan.com.

