



# *Helping People Help Themselves*

Annual Report 2012



**Main Office**  
**Fond du Lac Office**  
19 West First St.  
P.O. Box 1108  
Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1108  
920-922-7760  
800-631-7760

**Oshkosh Office**  
2929 Harrison St.  
Oshkosh, WI 54901  
920-426-0150

**Neenah Office**  
181 E. North Water St.  
Suite 210  
Neenah, WI 54956  
920-725-2791

**Berlin Office**  
237 Broadway, Suite C  
Berlin, WI 54923  
920-361-9880

**Prairie View Head Start**  
W911 State Highway 44  
Markesan, WI 53946  
920-398-3907  
800-631-6617



*Thousands of individuals and families are impacted each year through ADVOCAP programs.*

*"I earned my GED and was able to get a higher paying job so I can provide for my family."*

*"I'm more involved in my children's lives and a much better dad."*

*"We never dreamed we would ever become homeowners."*

*"My children are healthier and happier and they learn something new every day."*

*"I have a great sense of worth giving back to my community."*

On the cover: Head Start children enjoying outdoor activities.  
Above: RSVP volunteer sorts vegetables at Broken Bread, Fond du Lac.

## ***Our Mission:***

***To create opportunities for people and communities to reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency.***

### **Dear Friends,**

Our 2012 Annual Report to the Community summarizes the opportunities that ADVOCAP provided for individuals and families in our three county area. The Father & Family Stability Project and the People Achieving Self-Sufficiency Program (PASS) are two programs new to ADVOCAP.

The Father & Family Stability Project will provide up to 75 fathers with opportunities to obtain employment and life skills so they can contribute to the financial and emotional stability of their children and families. The PASS Program, a collaboration between ADVOCAP and Winnebago County, provides opportunities for people with multiple barriers to set self-sufficiency goals and connects them to the resources to meet those goals.

ADVOCAP also collaborates with our local communities in many partnerships. We are working with housing developers in both Fond du Lac and Berlin to create more affordable housing. We are also involved in a self-sufficiency coalition in Oshkosh, housing coalitions in all of our counties, partnerships with economic development organizations as well as many other efforts to improve our communities.

ADVOCAP is a locally-controlled, private non-profit community action agency that seeks solutions to poverty at the local level. Our corporate decisions are made by a board of directors with representatives from local government, local community leaders, and low income people who live in our communities.

We are grateful to our donors, public funders, volunteers, and collaborative partners for supporting our efforts. With their help, we will continue to work toward reducing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency.

Sincerely, on behalf of the ADVOCAP Board of Directors and Staff,



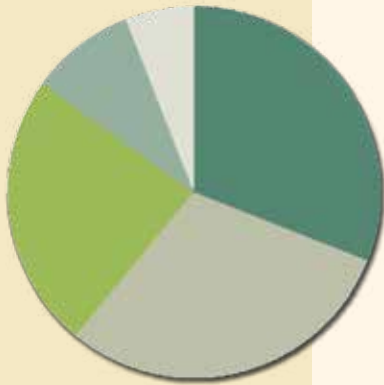
Michael Bonertz  
Executive Director



Connie Anderson  
President, Board of Directors

# FACES OF ADVOCAP

## Age Groups Served



31%	0 - 17
6%	18 - 23
24%	24 - 44
9%	45 - 54
30%	55 +

## Federal Poverty Guidelines for Annual Gross Income\*

Family Size	100% of poverty	150% of poverty	200% of poverty
1 person	\$11,170	\$16,755	\$22,340
2 people	\$15,130	\$22,695	\$30,260
3 people	\$19,090	\$28,635	\$38,180
4 people	\$23,050	\$34,575	\$46,100
<b>Income Level Served</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>15%</b>



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### FOND DU LAC COUNTY

William Albrecht  
 Mary Bingen  
 Donna Blend  
 Jim Chatterton  
 Tom Dornbrook  
 Gus Garcia  
 Robert Giese  
 Sr. Caryl Hartjes  
 Mel Heller  
 Joe Koch  
 Natalie Lambert  
 Paul Levandowski  
 Alejandra Lopez  
 Anne Paradies  
 Shirley Ries  
 John Schneider  
 Jessica Sheperd  
 Don Skog  
 Kyle Smith  
 Richard Wetzel  
 Gary Will

### WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Darlene Bilstad  
 Jef Hall  
 Al Jacobson  
 Christine Kniep  
 June Kriegel  
 Larry Lautenschlager  
 Norman Leatherwood  
 Susan Locke  
 Ann Marshall  
 Mark Mayer  
 Carol Miller  
 Mike Norton  
 Doug Pearson  
 Marissa Reynolds  
 Latrayvia Spivey  
 Chuck Tews  
 Tom Widener

### GREEN LAKE COUNTY

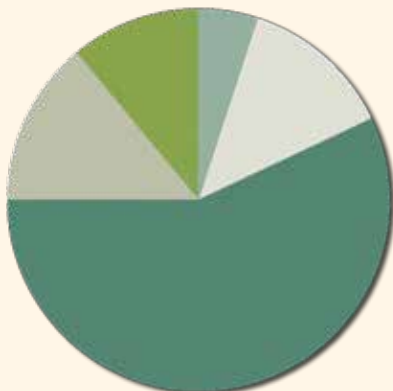
Connie Anderson  
 Joe Gonyo  
 William Wuske



**6,978** children, youth and adults served

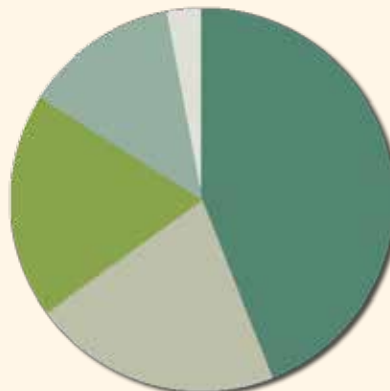
**44%** were male and **56%** were female

## Education Levels Served



5%	Eighth grade or less
13%	Non high school graduate
57%	High school graduate/GED
14%	Some post secondary education
11%	Two or four year college graduate

## Family Types Served



44%	One person household
21%	Single parent household
19%	Two parent household
13%	Two adults with no children
3%	Other

\*According to the 2010 US Census, 31,642 individuals live at or below 100% of poverty in ADVOCAP's three county area.



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Having safe, decent and affordable housing provides stability to households. It allows individuals to find and keep employment, and meet the health, safety and educational needs for individuals. ADVOCAP is proud to provide multiple housing programs to the people in its service territory.

**Rental Properties** owned by ADVOCAP are available to low income persons and families. Units are rented to persons coming out of homeless shelters, persons with disabilities, large families, and single persons.

**Home Ownership** provides opportunities for people to learn about home ownership and how to acquire a home of their own, and it may provide down payment assistance to qualified buyers.

**Home Rehabilitation** is an opportunity for persons to maintain their homes in a safe and decent condition. ADVOCAP works with eligible homeowners by performing an inspection and scope of work, and providing financial assistance to qualified persons.

**AHEAD** provides budget counseling and financial assistance to eligible households who are at risk of foreclosure.

**Homeless Services** works with homeless persons in developing a personalized self-sufficiency plan addressing their needs and barriers, and connecting them to community resources.

**Fresh Start** is a program for young adults to work on employability skills while they build a house. Through intensive individualized goal setting, education opportunities, employability and life skills training, successful participants may earn a post secondary education scholarship and increase the probability of their self-sufficiency.

**PASS** (People Achieving Self-Sufficiency) provides personalized case management to identify the needs of persons experiencing multiple barriers to self-sufficiency. Assistance is provided to connect people to appropriate mainstream resources in Winnebago County.



Fresh Start team at ribbon cutting ceremony, 181 Rose Avenue, Fond du Lac

### Affordable Housing Impact

- 4** families purchased a home
- 14** homeowners rehabilitated their home
- 20** youth in Fresh Start gained life skills and built an affordable house that was sold to a low income family
- 215** homeless households received intensive case management to assist them to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency, secure permanent housing and employment

## WEATHERIZATION

For low income individuals, increasing energy costs may mean living in a home that is cold or unsafe. Home weatherization conserves energy, decreases utility costs and improves housing for low income individuals and families.

**Heating system repair or replacement** helps qualifying individuals experience a safe warm home with a reduction in utility costs.

**Insulation and air sealing** prevents heat from escaping, which results in increased energy efficiency and substantial utilities cost savings.



Making improvements to client's attic

### Weatherization Impact

- 224** low income, elderly and disabled households had homes weatherized
- 103** low income homeowners without heat received repair or replacement of their heating system

*"Thank you so much for the great work you did on our home. Everything was so much more than we expected. The staff was the best—extremely quiet, polite and knowledgeable."*

*"Our house stays much warmer and the furnace rarely kicks on. ADVOCAP helped us save money on utilities and made us feel safe."*

*Cheryl and family*



# ADVOCAP programs reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency.

## EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Access to employment is critical for an individual's and family's economic self-sufficiency. The local economy is also strengthened when individuals transition from receiving public assistance to becoming tax-paying citizens.

**Project Opportunity** assists low income adults and dislocated workers to obtain training and jobs through area job centers.

**Youth Employment Programs** assist low income youth to obtain education and/or set and obtain employment goals.

**Refugee Programs** offer comprehensive social services, preemployment, job training assistance, and translation help through a consortium of agencies.

**GED and HSED Preparation** provides pretests and one on one instruction for individuals working to obtain a high school diploma.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Poverty is greatly reduced when organizations that serve low income populations have the resources to deliver needed services. It is also reduced when low income seniors are given the opportunity to supplement their income through service to vulnerable children.

**Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** taps the experience, skills, and talents of older citizens to meet community needs through volunteerism. Volunteers help non-profits and social service agencies fulfill their missions by performing tasks critical to the delivery of services. Organizations are able to improve the quality of services, free up paid staff time, expand the types of services available to clients, increase the number of clients served and increase public support for programs.

**Father & Family Stability Project** offers opportunities for fathers to obtain preemployment skills training, paid work experience, occupational skills training, on the job training, and job placement assistance while strengthening family relationships.

**Job Placement Services** for disabled and homeless works with area employers and develops the support systems necessary for participants to obtain and maintain employment.

**Skills Enhancement** helps participants who are working part-time develop new skills or enhance current skills in order to increase their wages and secure paid benefits.



Gabino and Viz (center) with ADVOCAP staff

*"When I enrolled in the Fatherhood program, I set a goal to complete my GED. ADVOCAP matched me up with Viz from the RSVP program because she was a former GED instructor. We met twice a week and I earned my GED in four months. Viz was a great help to me and was so dedicated to seeing me succeed. I am so proud of what we accomplished together."*

Gabino

**Foster Grandparent Program** enriches the lives of exceptional needs children in schools, daycares and after school programs by helping them learn to read, providing one on one tutoring, and serving as a role model, mentor and friend. In addition, low income seniors receive a stipend that supplements their fixed income and helps provide for their basic needs.



Father and son at Fatherhood event

## Employment & Training Impact

- 700** unemployed people enrolled in employment training programs
- 242** individuals obtained unsubsidized employment
- 72** individuals obtained employment with benefits
- 99** individuals received assistance with fees and materials for post secondary education
- 53** individuals who participated in adult basic education increased their academic skills by at least two grade levels
- 32** adults received their GED/HSED certification or high school diploma
- 247** refugees received comprehensive services

## Volunteer Services Impact

- 500** RSVP volunteers provided 62,576 hours of assistance to 86 non-profit organizations
- 95%** of the non-profit organizations report that RSVP volunteers assisted them to sustain essential services in the face of decreasing resources
- 61** income eligible Foster Grandparent volunteers received a small stipend to provide 35,269 hours of assistance to 19 local schools, daycares and after school programs
- 94%** of the elementary school children who received services from a Foster Grandparent volunteer showed improvement in basic education

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Low income entrepreneurs do not have the financial resources to realize their dream of starting a small business. Given the opportunity, individuals create businesses that utilize their talents and benefit the local economy through taxes and job creation.

**Business Development** provides entrepreneurs with tools to insure that their small business is successful. They receive counseling and support in the following areas: business and financial plan development, marketing plan development and implementation, employee recruitment assistance, managerial evaluation, and small business micro loans.



Transportation to get to work, school, and services is an intricate part of becoming self-sufficient. Securing affordable, reliable transportation can be a challenge to low income individuals and families, especially those who live in rural areas.

**Work-n-Wheels Program** is designed to help employed eligible families and individuals obtain or repair a dependable vehicle for work-related needs where public transportation is not a viable option. The program also provides assistance to regain a driver's license or car registration for individuals who have had their driver privileges suspended or revoked due to eligible unpaid fines or fees.

*"I am a single mother of three working 32 to 40 hours per week. I was in dire need of reliable safe transportation to get myself to work, my children to school and daycare, and to attend classes at Fox Valley Technical College. My old Saturn needed a lot of repairs and was becoming unreliable. Through ADVOCAP's Work-n-Wheels*



Ang 'n Eddies Pizza, Fond du Lac, made possible through Business Development financing.

### Business Development Impact

- 147** individuals received business development assistance
- 40** new businesses started
- 51** new jobs created
- 32** people received car loans
- 15** people received repair assistance

*program, I was able to purchase a 2005 Dodge Caravan that was big enough for my family and that I could count on everyday. This program is a great way for someone that is working hard to take care of their family but who needs a little extra help. I want to thank ADVOCAP and everyone that helped make this opportunity possible."*

*Amber*

## HEAD START

Children whose parents are involved in their education are more likely to perform well in school and break the cycle of poverty. In turn, parents who receive support for their individual and parenting goals are able to strengthen the family as a whole and work towards self-sufficiency.

**School Readiness** is achieved through comprehensive child development services. Children ages 3 to 5 develop the skills and confidence they need to be successful in school through an emphasis on social, physical, emotional, and cognitive growth.

**Family Wellness** ensures that all child health concerns are identified and children and families are linked to an ongoing source of continuous, accessible care to meet their basic health needs.

**Parent and Family Engagement** supports family well-being, builds strong relationships between parents and their children and encourages ongoing learning and development.

**Community Partnerships** are formed to provide high level services to children and families, to foster the development of family centered services, and to advocate for a community that shares responsibility for the healthy development of children and families.

**For KEEPs** (Kids Environmental Experience Program) is an environmental education program that provides opportunities for children to experience nature outside the classroom.



### Head Start Impact

- 466** children and their families received comprehensive development services
- 225** parents participated in educational opportunities including ESL and GED preparation
- 70** fathers attended activities with their children



# ADVOCAP programs reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency.

## FOOD & NUTRITION

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. For those living in poverty, food security is often compromised.

Hunger occurs when individuals reduce the number of meals they eat because they can't afford food. When income is at or below the poverty level, individuals and families may need to juggle what little money they have to meet basic needs such as rent, medicine, and utilities.

**Senior Nutrition Program** eliminates isolation and preserves the dignity, health and independence of the elderly by providing a daily nutritious meal. Meals are delivered to homes and are also served at congregate meal sites throughout Winnebago County. In addition, weekend meals are provided to homebound individuals.

**Community Gardens** provide opportunities for individuals and families in Winnebago County to grow their own food and decrease overall household expenses.

**Food Pantries** receive commodity food through the Emergency Food Assistance Program administered by ADVOCAP. Food is distributed to qualifying families and ensures that children and adults do not go hungry.



### Food & Nutrition Impact

- 1,244** elderly and disabled adults were served nutritious meals
- 50,326** meals were served at congregate meal sites
- 55,905** home delivered meals served
- 439** homebound persons received daily safety checks
- 97** households raised fresh produce through community gardens
- 1.9** million lbs. of donated and federal commodity food distributed through area food pantries and feeding programs

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Assets

Cash & Equivalents	\$ 505,081
Accounts Receivable	5,703
Receivable from Funding Agencies	1,457,489
Material and Work in Progress Inventories	767,787
Prepaid Expenses	72,660
Investment in Subsidiaries	11,376
Land, Building and Equipment (net)	3,599,588
Micro loans to Small Business	363,754
Homeowner Loans (net)	4,316,224
Auto Loans	167,723
Total Loans Receivables	4,847,701
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 11,267,385</b>

### Liabilities & Net Assets

#### Liabilities

Program Advances	\$ 678,027
Accounts Payable	503,122
Accrued Payroll and Other Expenses	323,427
Line of Credit	446,394
Mortgages Payable	2,112,644
Deferred Revenue	147,330
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 4,210,944</b>

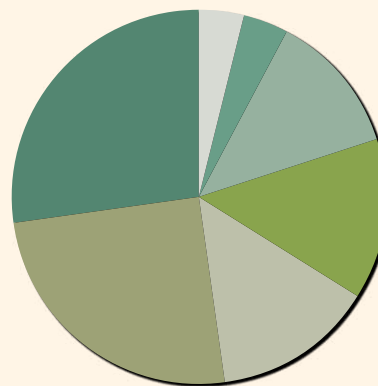
#### Net Assets

Temporarily Restricted	\$ 6,198,995
Unrestricted	857,446
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>7,056,441</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 11,267,385</b>

### Revenues & Resources

Government Awards	\$ 9,933,061
Program	276,544
Other Services	335,244
Corporate Funds	59,340
Investment Return	23,276
Contributions	155,966
Commodities	219,516
In Kind Donations	55,267
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 11,058,214</b>

### 2012 Funding



- 4% Business Development Services\*
- 4% Volunteer Services
- 12% Food & Nutrition
- 14% Employment & Training
- 14% Affordable Housing & Fresh Start\*
- 25% Head Start Program
- 27% Weatherization

\*Does not include loan activity.

This report was assembled by ADVOCAP, Inc. Our annual agency wide audit was conducted by the DePere, Wis. office of independent CPA firm Hawkins, Ash, Baptie & Co., LLP and is available for inspection at ADVOCAP offices. There were no questioned costs on any of the contracts or grants for services administered by ADVOCAP in 2012.



## Investors & Donors

Agnesian HealthCare, Inc.  
 Alliant Energy Foundation  
 American Bank  
 American Legion  
 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 210  
 American Legion Post 366  
 Anonymous  
 Badger Globe  
 Badger Mining Corporation  
 Berlin Area School District  
 Barbara and Keith Beuscher  
 Michael Bonertz  
 C.D. Smith Construction Inc.  
 Catholic War Veterans—Good Shepherd Post 1329  
 Charity Club, Inc.  
 Charity Committee  
 Church World Service  
 CitizensFirst Credit Union  
 City of Appleton  
 City of Fond du Lac  
 City of Neenah  
 City of Oshkosh  
 Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region  
 Condon Oil Co, Inc.  
 Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes  
 Discount Auto Repair  
 Farmers & Merchants Bank  
 Farmers State Bank  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 Fond du Lac Area Foundation  
 Fond du Lac County  
 Fond du Lac County Dept. of Community Programs  
 Fond du Lac County Child Support Agency  
 Fond du Lac County Dept. of Senior Services  
 Fond du Lac Evening Lions  
 Fond du Lac Morning Rotary Club  
 Fond du Lac Noon Kiwanis  
 Fond du Lac Rotary Club Charities  
 Fond du Lac School District  
 Fox Valley Savings Bank  
 Fox Valley Workforce Development Board, Inc.  
 Gannett Foundation  
 Grande Foundation  
 Green Lake Bank  
 Green Lake County  
 Green Lake Kiwanis Club

Green Lake Rotary Club  
 Housing Partnership of the Fox Cities  
 Jan and Todd Huggins  
 J. F. Ahern Co.  
 J. J. Keller Foundation, Inc.  
 Kiwanis Club Evening  
 Kiwanis Club of Fabulous Fond du Lac Foundation  
 Kiwanis Club of Green Lake  
 Knights of Columbus Council 664  
 Kwik Trip, Inc.  
 Magnum Power Products  
 Markesan State Bank  
 Mercury Marine  
 Beverly and Jack Meyers  
 Mid-States Aluminum Foundation  
 Noon Kiwanis Club  
 Open Circle Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
 Oshkosh Area Community Foundation  
 Oshkosh Chapter SPEBSQSA, Inc.  
 Oshkosh Housing Authority  
 Our Saviour's United Church of Christ  
 Post Crescent Stock the Shelves  
 Prairie Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
 Ralcorp Holdings/Bremner Food Group  
 Ripon Area School District  
 Ripon Kiwanis Club Foundation  
 Ripon Lioness  
 Ripon Rotary Club  
 Rosenow Elementary PTO  
 Sadoff Family Foundation  
 School District of North Fond du Lac  
 Myrtle and Hilbert Schumacher Family  
 Service League of Fond du Lac  
 Shopko Foundation  
 SIGMA  
 Sons of Zebedee Parish  
 Soroptimist International of Fond du Lac  
 St. Agnes Congregation  
 Stone Foundation, Inc.  
 Kathleen Travanty  
 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture  
 U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services  
 U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development  
 U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency  
 U.S. Small Business Administration  
 United Way Fox Cities  
 VFW Bohlman Grimes Post 1904  
 Walmart  
 Winnebago County  
 Winnebago County Housing Authority  
 Winnebago County Human Services  
 WISCAP  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Administration  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Children & Families  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Corrections  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation  
 Wisconsin Dept. of Workforce Development

### EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

**Executive Director**  
Michael Bonertz

**Deputy Director**  
Tony Beregszazi

**Finance Director**  
Tanya Marcoe

### *How We Provide Services*

ADVOCAP services are provided to qualified persons on the basis of expressed and assessed needs and within the limits of grant guidelines. We are committed to providing equal opportunity in all programs, services and activities to persons with limited English proficiency (LEP). Services include providing written translation and oral interpretations, free of cost, to LEP persons to ensure meaningful, accurate, and equal access to programs, benefits, and activities. We make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. No qualified persons shall be excluded from participation in our programs or be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination in any manner on the basis of age, race, creed, religion, color, sex, physical condition, handicap or disability, developmental disability, association with a person with a disability, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, political affiliation, marital, parental or familial status, pregnancy, arrest record, citizenship status, veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law. ADVOCAP is an equal opportunity employer functioning under an Affirmative Action Plan. We make a concerted effort to conduct business with small companies, women and minority-owned businesses, and companies compliant with civil rights law. (Ref. 29CFR Part 471, Appendix A to Subpart A). We have a grievance procedure. If you have concerns or a complaint, please contact ADVOCAP's Executive Director or Deputy Director.

