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    Connie Anderson
Executive Director    President, Board of Directors

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.”

“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.
**Age Groups Served**

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

**Federal Poverty Guidelines for Annual Gross Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Income Level of poverty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One person</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- $11,170
- $15,130
- $19,090
- $23,050

**Income Level Served**

- 45% 100% of poverty
- 27% 150% of poverty
- 15% 200% of poverty

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

- 44% were male
- 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

---

**FONDS 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

---

*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.

**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.

**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
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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

**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

“*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 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
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

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

Liabilities & Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Advances</td>
<td>$ 678,027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>503,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Payroll and Other Expenses</td>
<td>323,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line of Credit</td>
<td>446,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortgages Payable</td>
<td>2,112,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>147,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$ 4,210,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>$ 6,198,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>857,446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>7,056,441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td>$ 11,267,385</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenues & Resources

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

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.
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.