



Community Action in Fond du Lac,  
Green Lake, and Winnebago Counties

# 2025 Annual Impact Report



## Board of Directors

Connie Anderson  
**President**

Jay Myrechuck  
**Vice President**

Paulette Feld  
**Secretary**

Shawn Ross  
**Treasurer**

### Fond du Lac County

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Tami Christian  
Edie Crews  
Mary Fleischman  
Raina Lyman  
Jay Myrechuck  
Shawn Ross  
Gary Will  
Michael Will

### Green Lake County

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Shaddai Carmona  
Joe Gonyo  
Bob Johnson  
Nita Krenz  
Danielle Viau

### Winnebago County

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Paulette Feld  
Amber Lyn Gilbertson  
Brian Hamill  
Tonya Hitz  
Jeff Lutz  
Deb Neet  
Karen Powers  
Seth Therrian

Thank you to  
all of our board  
members!

# Message from our Executive Director & Board President

Dear Community Members,

As we reflect on 2025, we are grateful for the partnerships, dedication, and shared commitment that made this a year of impact for ADVOCAP. Together, we strengthened core programs, launched new initiatives, and deepened collaboration across our region, all rooted in our mission of Community Action and supporting neighbors in building stability and opportunity.

Throughout the year, thousands of individuals and families across Fond du Lac, Green Lake, and Winnebago counties connected with ADVOCAP for support. From **housing stability** and **food security** to **education, employment, childcare, transportation, volunteerism, and basic needs**, our programs created pathways toward self-sufficiency and long-term stability. Each connection reflects a core belief: lasting change begins with opportunity and dignity.

In 2025, we continued to innovate and respond to community needs. The **Opportunity Center** in Fond du Lac completed its first full year, helping more than 500 individuals with personalized supports and resource navigation. We also expanded onsite services by welcoming local **mental health providers**, reducing barriers to care and improving access.

Supporting families and childhood development remained central to our work. We celebrated 60 years of the **Foster Grandparent Program** and were honored when **ADVOCAP Head Start** was named Best Preschool in the 2025 Community Choice Awards Best of Fond du Lac. We also broke ground on the **Childcare Incubator** in Oshkosh, a collaborative effort to expand childcare access and support working families.

Guided by local needs and voices, we released our **2025 Community Needs Assessment** report, strengthening planning, partnerships, and advocacy. We also continued engaging local, state, and federal leaders to elevate community priorities and increase understanding of the challenges families face.

As we look ahead to our **60th year of local Community Action in 2026**, we remain grounded in our foundations and committed to the work ahead. Thank you to our staff, volunteers, partners, and community members. It is an honor to work alongside you.

*Tanya Marcoe*

Executive Director

*Connie Anderson*

President, Board of Directors



## Executive Team & Program Directors

Tanya Marcoe  
**Executive Director**

Tony Beregszazi  
**Deputy Director**

Joe Lougher  
**Finance**

Kelly Mauer  
**Human Resources**

Kathy Doyle  
**Business & Workforce Development**

Becky Heldt  
**Homeless Prevention**

Justin McArthur  
**Property Services**

April Mullins-Datko  
**Head Start**

Dawn Paterson  
**Food & Nutrition**

Lisa Severson  
**Volunteer Services**

Jason VanderVelden  
**Weatherization**

# About ADVOCAP

## Roots in Community Action

Community Action emerged in the 1960s as part of a **national effort to expand economic opportunity and strengthen communities**. This approach established locally governed organizations known as Community Action Agencies (CAAs), which develop programs and partnerships that respond to local needs and support long-term stability.

Today, over 1,000 CAAs operate in 99 percent of counties across the United States. **Founded in 1966, ADVOCAP is the designated Community Action Agency supporting Fond du Lac, Green Lake, and Winnebago Counties in Wisconsin**, connecting our neighbors with resources that create opportunities and increase self-sufficiency.

1,000+  
Community  
Action  
Agencies



## Community-Guided Leadership

A defining feature of Community Action Agencies is their tripartite board of directors, which bring together **public officials, private sector leaders, and community members** — including those who reflect the populations the agency works with. This structure ensures that **individuals with lived experience help shape local priorities** with public and private leaders, reinforcing the idea that strong communities are built through shared responsibility and participation.

## Creating Community Opportunities

ADVOCAP's programs focus on **strengthening housing stability, meeting basic needs, creating workforce opportunities, fostering childhood development, and supporting older adults**. Community Needs Assessments help inform program development and identify priorities across our tri-county service area. Through this work, and in collaboration with local organizations, ADVOCAP helps create opportunities for communities by connecting individuals and families with the resources and support needed to increase long-term self-sufficiency.

## Office Locations

### Fond du Lac (Main)

19 W 1st Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
920-922-7760

### Oshkosh

2929 Harrison Street  
Oshkosh, WI 54901  
920-426-0150

### Neenah

181 E North Water Street  
Suite 210  
Neenah, WI 54956  
920-725-2791

### Berlin

237 Broadway  
Berlin, WI 54923  
920-361-9880

### Prairie View

W911 State Highway 44  
Markesan, WI 53946  
920-398-3907



### Website

[advocap.org](http://advocap.org)

### Facebook

[@advocapwi](https://www.facebook.com/advocapwi)

### LinkedIn

[@advocap](https://www.linkedin.com/company/advocap)

### Instagram

[@advocapinc](https://www.instagram.com/advocapinc)

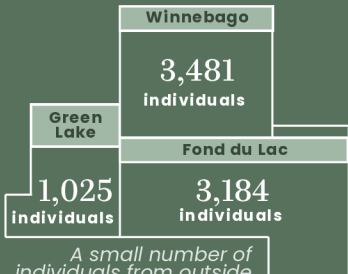
## Our mission & vision

**ADVOCAP's mission is to create opportunities for people and communities to reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency.**

**Our vision is that all low-income and disadvantaged people in our service area will have the opportunities, assets, and tools necessary to obtain the necessities of a healthy and dignified life.**

# 2025 Programs & Impact

**7,795**  
**individuals**  
**supported**  
**in 2025**



*A small number of individuals from outside these counties accessed our services in 2025.*

## Strengthening Housing Stability

Stable housing is foundational to economic security and strong communities. ADVOCAP supports housing stability through programs including **Affordable Housing, Weatherization Assistance Program, Home Energy+ Services, Homeless Assistance Programs**, and administration for the **Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)** in Green Lake County. These efforts help individuals and families access safe, affordable housing while improving home safety, comfort, and energy efficiency. By helping households manage housing costs and maintain stable living conditions, families can focus more on other essentials that support long-term self-sufficiency.

**271 families** received support to maintain stable housing

**430 homes** improved through Home Energy+ Services and Weatherization Assistance

**82 families** accessed safe, affordable housing in rental units managed by ADVOCAP

## Addressing Homelessness

ADVOCAP's **Homeless Assistance Programs** support individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of losing housing through individualized assistance and case management. Staff work with households to address immediate crises, navigate complex systems, and connect them with local resources and partners. Assistance may include help with security deposits, past-due rent or utilities, transportation, and other basic needs. ADVOCAP's **Opportunity Center** in Fond du Lac provides a daytime drop-in space where individuals can receive support navigating resources and accessing services to help increase long-term stability.

**1,326 individuals** from **755 families** were helped to meet essential needs in times of crisis

**724 individuals** from **271 families** received support to maintain stable housing

**515 individuals** supported at the Opportunity Center

Center participants accessed support including:

- Basic needs
- Housing
- Benefits
- Employment
- Transportation

## Increasing Food Security

Reliable access to nutritious food supports physical health, mental well-being, and overall stability. ADVOCAP addresses food insecurity through programs including **Senior Nutrition** in Winnebago County (including **Home-Delivered Meals** and **Congregate Meals**), **Community Gardens, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Head Start** meals and snacks, and assistance applying for FoodShare through the **Opportunity Center**. Together, these efforts help ensure children, families, and older adults have consistent access to healthy food while improving overall health, supporting independence, and reducing financial strain.

**169,726 meals and snacks** provided through Senior Nutrition and Head Start Programs

Our Senior Nutrition Program provided:

<b>87,375</b>	<b>17,695</b>	<b>6,104</b>
<b>meals</b>	<b>meals</b>	<b>meals</b>
delivered to participants' homes	served at congregate meal sites	prepared for carry out

**1,231 seniors and children** accessed nutritious meals and snacks as part of ADVOCAP programs

## Creating Workforce Opportunities

A strong workforce is essential to healthy communities. ADVOCAP supports local employment through programs including **Business Development, Work N Wheels, Funds for Fines, GED/HSED, Skills Enhancement**, and supports available at the **Opportunity Center**. These programs help individuals overcome barriers such as education attainment, transportation challenges, and financial obstacles. Other ADVOCAP programs, including **Homeless Assistance Programs** and **Head Start**, also support workforce participation by reducing barriers and helping families maintain stable housing and reliable childcare while working or pursuing an education.

**59 small businesses** started, maintained, or expanded with support through loans

**193 jobs** reached by active Work N Wheels loan recipients

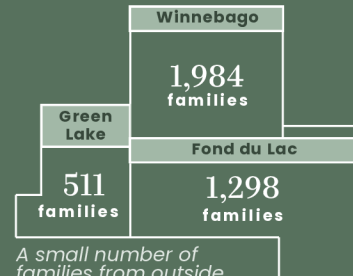
**208 individuals** accessed adult education and job skills training

**14 new businesses** created across our tri-county service area

**150 entrepreneurs** received technical assistance to support their business

# 3,860

## families supported in 2025



*A small number of families from outside these counties accessed our services in 2025.*

## Fostering Childhood Development

ADVOCAP's **Head Start** preschool program in Fond du Lac and Green Lake Counties supports young children and their families through quality early childhood education, promoting school readiness, social-emotional development, and family engagement. Comprehensive services such as health screenings, nutrition support, and connections to community resources help children thrive while supporting the family as a whole. Head Start also allows many parents to remain in the workforce or pursue education. Through the **Foster Grandparent Program**, volunteers provide mentorship and academic support that strengthens children's confidence, learning, and long-term success.

**370 children** were provided quality education through the Head Start preschool program

**331 families** given access to comprehensive support services and engagement activities through Head Start

**175 children** received academic support and mentoring from Foster Grandparent volunteers

## Supporting Older Adults

ADVOCAP's volunteer services help older adults remain connected, independent, and engaged in their communities while offering meaningful ways to give back. Through **RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program)**, volunteers support local nonprofits and community organizations. The **Transportation Program** in Winnebago County and **Senior Friends Program** in Green Lake and Winnebago Counties support older adults and individuals with disabilities by providing rides to essential appointments as well as friendly visits that reduce social isolation. The **Foster Grandparent Program** connects volunteers with children to provide mentorship and academic support. In addition to our volunteer programs, the **Senior Nutrition Program** supports health and independence by ensuring older adults have reliable access to nutritious meals.

**372 volunteers** donated their time to our community as part of our senior volunteer programs

**88,068 hours** donated by volunteers

**50 organizations** supported through RSVP volunteer program

**3,662 rides** provided by transportation program volunteers

## About the Rosalie Tryon Barber Self-Sufficiency Award

This annual award honors ADVOCAP's first Executive Director, Rosalie Tryon Barber, who was appointed in 1965. Her leadership laid the foundation for ADVOCAP's mission to help individuals overcome poverty.

The award recognizes those who, with ADVOCAP's support, have achieved economic stability and now give back by helping others do the same.

Each year, we are proud to honor a recipient whose journey embodies resilience, determination, and a commitment to lifting others up.

Congratulations and thank you to all of this year's award recipients!

## 2025 Rosalie Tryon Barber Self-Sufficiency Award Recipient



**Jason & Stephanie Gruber**

## 2025 Community Service Award Recipients



**Brooke Industries**  
Fond du Lac County



**Bridging Brighter Smiles**  
Green Lake County



**Neuhaus Automotive**  
Winnebago County

## 2025 Volunteer Service Award Recipients



**Nick Teifke**  
Fond du Lac County



**Linda Bertz**  
Green Lake County



*Photo: Winneconne News*

**Joan Fleischer**  
Winnebago County

## About the Community & Volunteer Service Awards

The **Community Service Award** recognizes groups and organizations committed to Community Action by creating opportunities and removing barriers to self-sufficiency. Their efforts reflect ADVOCAP's mission and demonstrate the powerful impact of addressing economic and social challenges.

The **Volunteer Service Award** honors individuals whose dedication positively impacts those in our community who are striving for self-sufficiency. It celebrates the contributions of volunteers who generously give their time to support those in need.

# 2025 Financials

## Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2025

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,362,642
Accounts receivable	\$2,629,067
Inventories	\$533,946
Prepaid expenses	\$327,311
Property and equipment (net)	\$1,865,430
Loans receivable	\$5,021,261
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$11,739,657</b>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities	
Mortgages and loans payable	\$723,793
Accounts payable	\$644,435
Accrued payroll and other liabilities	\$288,216
Deferred revenue	\$950,164
Program advances	\$963,967
Housing loan liability	\$1,387,592
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$4,958,167</b>

## Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$1,530,513
With donor restrictions	\$5,250,977
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$6,781,490</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$11,739,657</b>

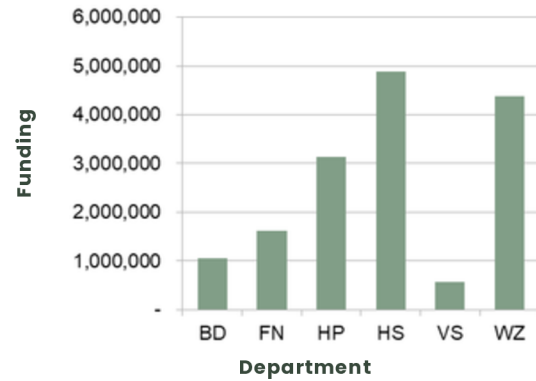
## Statement of Activities Year Ended December 31, 2025

Revenue	
Government awards	\$15,243,088
Program income	\$603,288
Corporate funds	\$5,070
Investment return	\$98,891
Contributions	\$274,853
Commodities	\$1,025,079
In-kind donations	\$920,942
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$18,171,211</b>

## Expenses

Program services	\$16,547,943
Management and general	\$1,352,513
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$17,900,456</b>
Change in Net Assets	\$270,755
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$6,510,735
<b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>	<b>\$6,781,490</b>

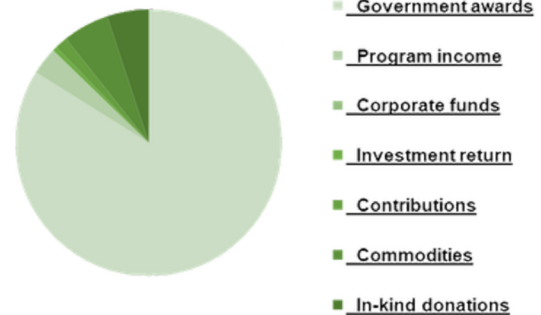
## 2025 Funding by Program



<b>BD:</b> Business & Workforce Development Programs*	<b>6.78%</b>
<b>FN:</b> Food and Nutrition Programs**	<b>10.33%</b>
<b>HP:</b> Homeless Prevention Programs	<b>20.04%</b>
<b>HS:</b> Head Start Program	<b>31.24%</b>
<b>VS:</b> Volunteer Service Programs	<b>3.62%</b>
<b>WZ:</b> Weatherization Programs	<b>27.99%</b>

\*Does not include loan activity | \*\*Does not include commodities activity

## 2025 Sources of Funding



Government awards	<b>83.89%</b>
Program income	<b>3.32%</b>
Corporate funds	<b>0.03%</b>
Investment return	<b>0.54%</b>
Contributions	<b>1.51%</b>
Commodities	<b>5.64%</b>
In-kind donations	<b>5.07%</b>

This report was assembled by ADVOCAP, Inc. on a Regulatory Basis. Our annual agency wide audit was conducted by Independent CPA firm Hawkins Ash CPAs and is available for inspection by contacting ADVOCAP's Finance Director in Fond du Lac.



19 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Fond du Lac, WI  
advocap.org



19 60 20  
66 ADVOCAP 26  
Years of Community Action

