



2023



# BI-CAP ANNUAL REPORT

Bi-County  
Community  
Action Programs

10/1/22 - 9/30/23

# HERE TO HELP

Our programs prepare children and families for kindergarten and beyond; help families meet their home energy needs; make housing more affordable; save energy; and help youth learn a trade and life skills.

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY

<b>3,440</b> <b>households</b>	<b>8,153</b> <b>individuals</b>	<b>315</b> <b>veterans</b>
<b>1,486</b> <b>persons with a</b> <b>disability</b>	<b>3,070</b> <b>children (17 &amp;</b> <b>younger)</b>	<b>1,886</b> <b>senior citizens</b> <b>(60+)</b>

**BI-CAP Strengthens Community  
Support: Collaborating with Over  
170 Partners in Beltrami and Cass  
Counties!**



# OUR VISION

Thriving, prosperous,  
healthy and inclusive  
Beltrami and Cass Counties.

# OUR MISSION

Helping People in Beltrami and Cass  
Counties experiencing barriers on their  
paths to economic stability.

# OUR VALUES



## Collaborative

We work to strengthen  
partnership and  
community ins

## Compassion

We have sympathetic  
concern for the suffering  
and misfortune of others.

## Innovative

We develop and support  
new ways of doing better.  
We are resourceful in  
helping clients, staff and  
partners achieve their  
highest potential.

## DEI

We believe in  
safeguarding human  
dignity for all people  
through full access to the  
opportunities in our  
communities.

# OUR DIRECTOR

## Welcome to the 2023 Annual Report



As you read about the services provided by our dedicated staff in Beltrami and Cass counties, you'll learn about our successes in improving the quality of life of the people we serve.

The combination and efforts of our professional staff and 15 seat tripartite board of directors ensures the advancement of our mission, vision, and values. With a passion to serve those in need through staff's front line client services and the board of directors donated time and decision-making processes, BI-CAP delivers a compassionate and whole family approach to meeting the needs of our clients.

A special thank you to our staff and board of directors for their unwavering dedication and to our community partners in providing support to the children, families and individuals who need a hand up.

Miigwetch,

*Barb*



# OUR BOARD

*Thanks for  
your service!*

Afton Schaeffer  
Anne Lindseth  
Colleen Moravek  
Heather Labat  
Joe Gould  
Lindsey Olding  
Margaret Dow  
Marty Cook  
Nicole Ramsey  
Ricky Croaker  
Sandy Miller  
Sarah Smith  
Scott Bruns  
Suellyn Glidden



## A Note from the Board Chair

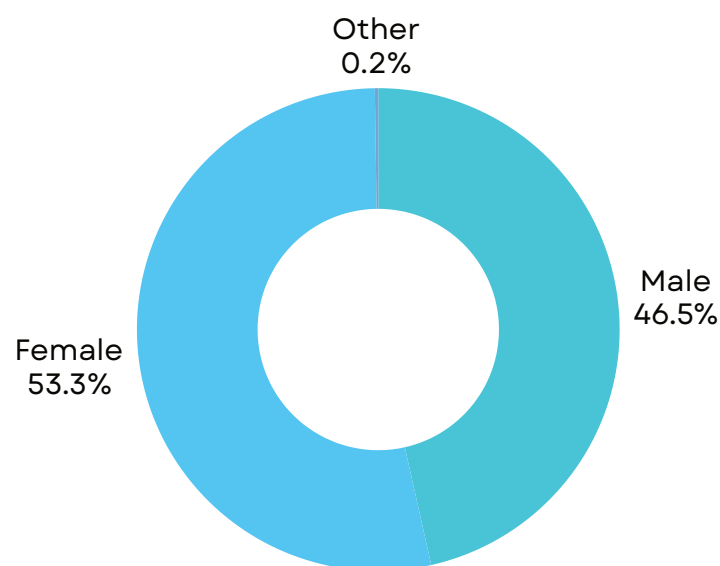
**“Helping People. Changing Lives. Building Community.”** As a fairly new board member and recently elected chair of the board, I have asked myself how BI-CAP is doing in this, its purpose statement. This year’s annual report documents and attests to the success of each BI-CAP program. Dating back to its establishment in 1966, BI-CAP has a long history of service in Beltrami and Cass counties. Through time, we have developed a proven stability in our programs. I am thankful to past board members who have contributed to this stability. In particular, thanks to outgoing chairperson, Colleen Moravek, for her faithful leadership and service. I am also grateful for all of the staff people in BI-CAP who collectively and individually help people. I have observed their professionalism in the honor and respect that they show all persons, in their orientation to service, and in their engagement with meeting community needs. Together with many other partnerships, BI-CAP has and will continue to strive toward thriving, prosperous, healthy and inclusive communities in Beltrami and Cass counties.

-Sue Glidden

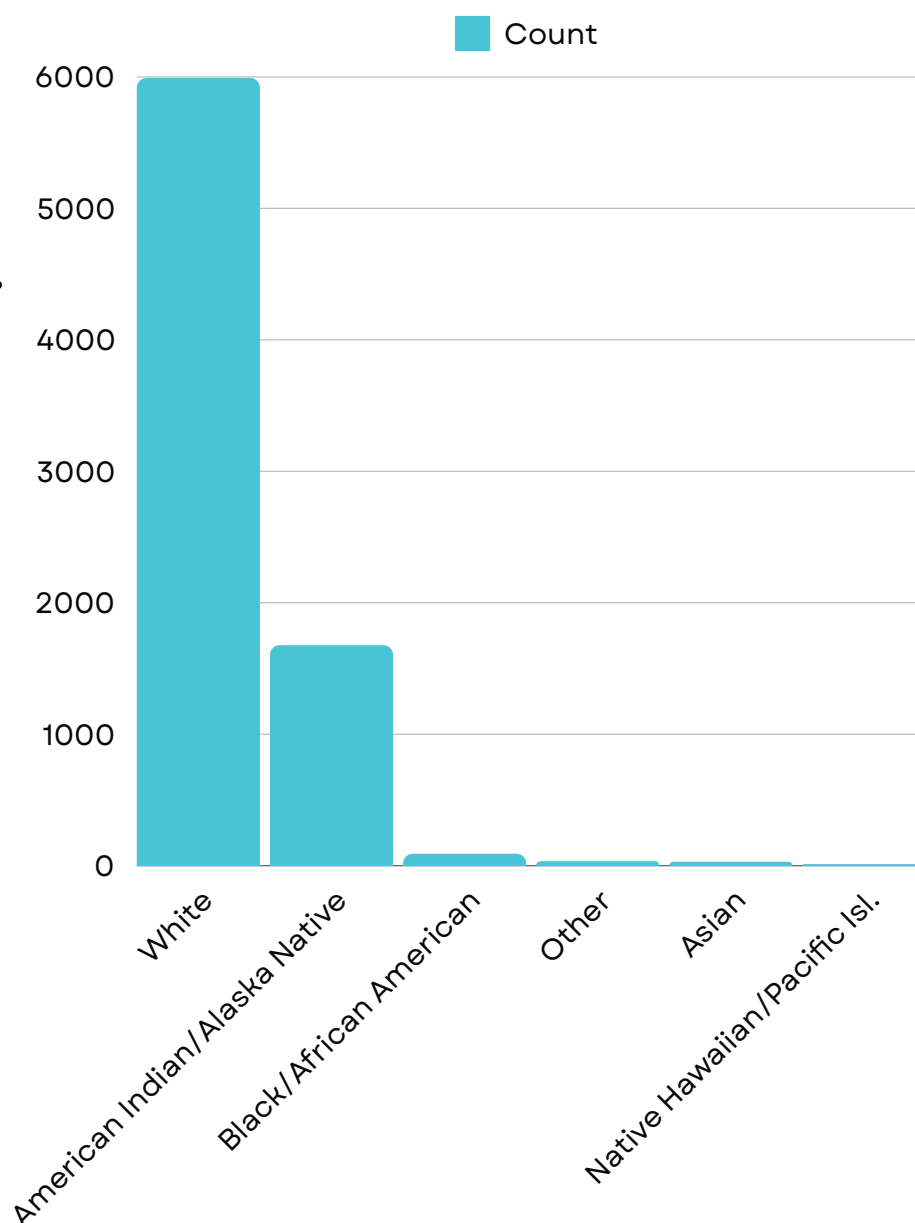
# PEOPLE WE SERVE

In our two-county coverage area we serve a wide variety of people who are struggling economically. Below are some of the demographics of the people we serve.

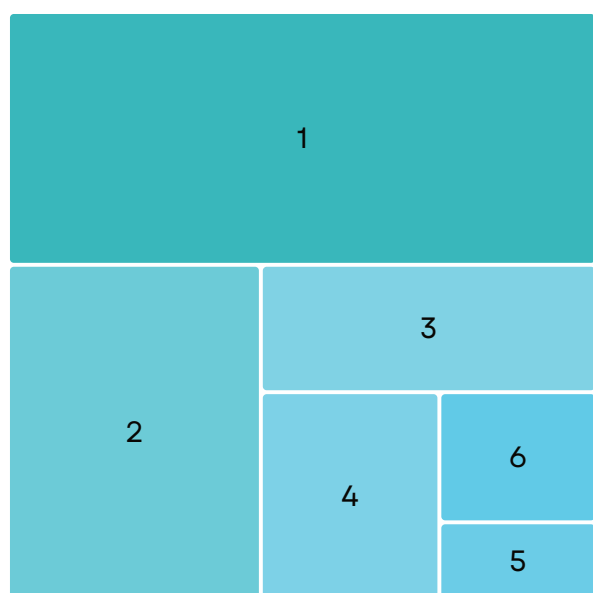
## Gender



## Race



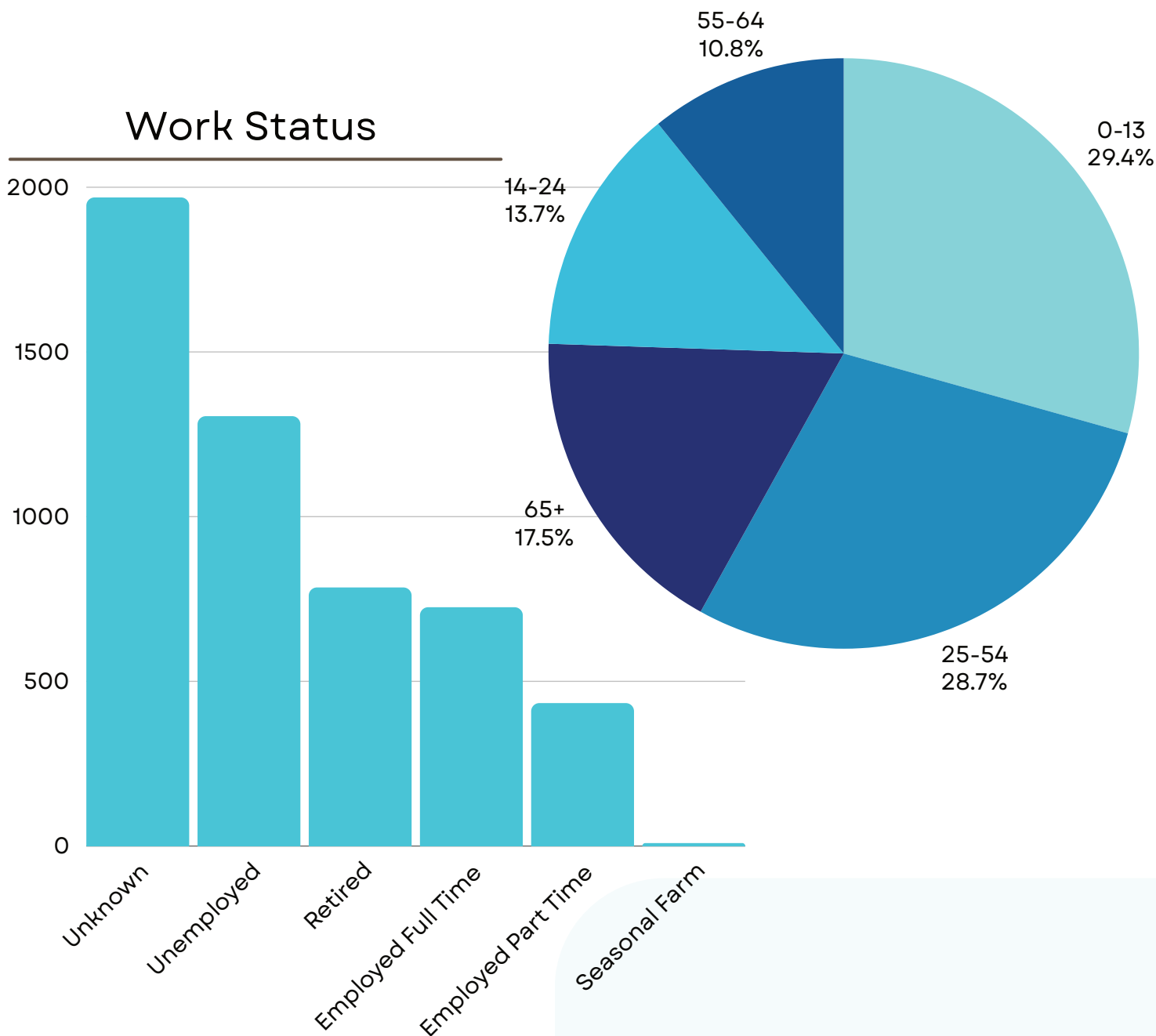
## Household Size



# PEOPLE WE SERVE

We follow the spirit of Community Action by helping the people we serve, embodying the spirit of hope, and improving our communities.

## Age



# OUR PROGRAMS



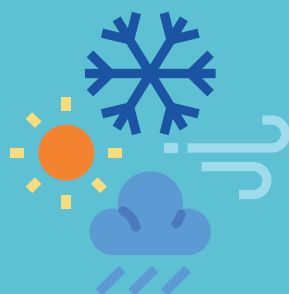
**Head Start:  
Prenatal to Five**



**Energy  
Assistance**



**Supportive  
Housing**



**Weatherization**



**YouthBuild**

# HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Head Start is a school readiness program which helps families provide the best opportunities for their children in preparation for Kindergarten.

With a two-generation approach, programs work with families to make connections in the communities they live in, support needs, and set goals.



**“I absolutely love this program! My daughter is always beyond excited every morning to go hang out with her teachers and friends.”**

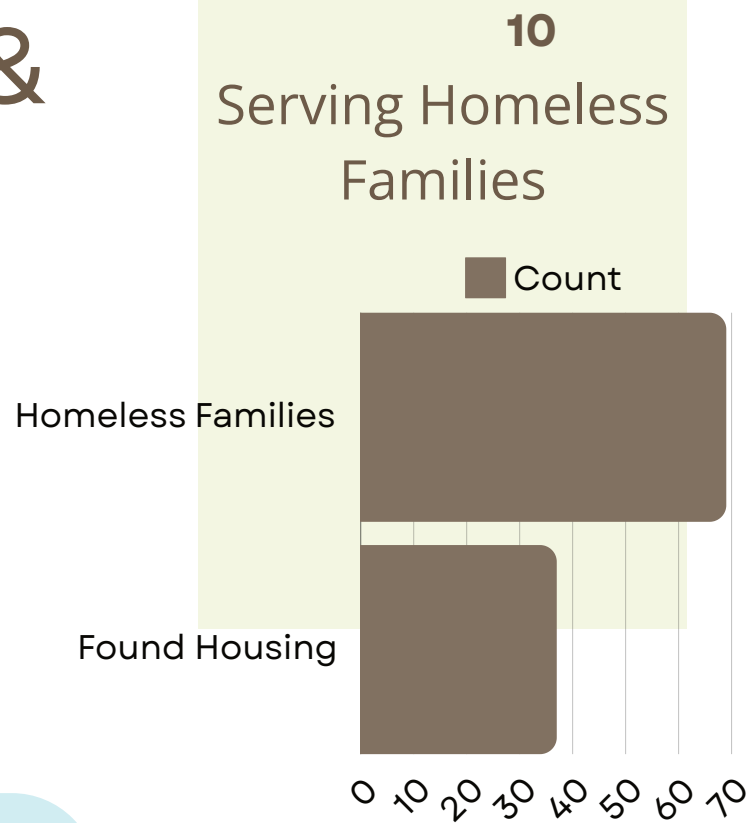


**296 CHILDREN SERVED**

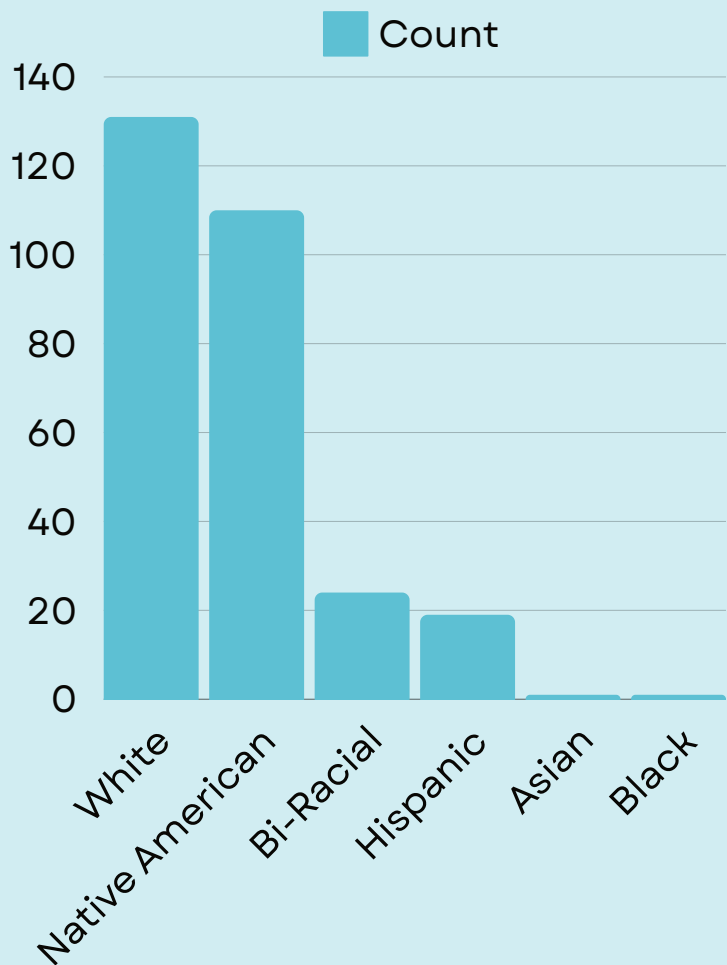
**266 FAMILIES SERVED**

# HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Early Head Start promotes healthy prenatal outcomes, enhances the development of infants and toddlers, and promotes healthy family functioning. Services are designed to meet the unique needs of each community.



## Enrollment by Ethnicity & Race



“They have helped my family more than they know. My son loves this school, it's safe and they have helped my son with behaviors.”

# ENERGY ASSISTANCE

## Beat the Chill, Help Your Budget: Apply for Energy Assistance

The Minnesota Energy Assistance Program provides financial assistance to households to help pay a portion of their home energy bills.

**Grants are based on household size, income, fuel type, and energy usage.** Primary Heat grants are sent directly to the household's energy vendors to assist households' ability to maintain affordable and continuous energy.

**Crisis assistance and Furnace Repair or Replacement is also available to approved households in need of additional help.**

EAP eligible households with a delinquent water bill or disconnection from water service may be eligible to receive water crisis assistance if funding is available.



**3,361 HOUSEHOLDS APPROVED**

**1,537 HEATING CRISIS SERVED**

**134 ENERGY RELATED REPAIR/  
REPLACEMENT SERVICES  
COMPLETED**

“Thank you for all you do for so many people – Keeping them safe and warm. You are much appreciated.”

# SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



- ☒ 121 households **obtained** safe and affordable housing
- ☒ 187 households **received** help paying a rental deposit
- ☒ 117 households **maintained** safe and affordable housing
- ☒ 43 households **avoided** eviction
- ☒ 21 households **were placed in** transitional housing
- ☒ 12 Households **averted** mortgage foreclosure

BI-CAP's Supportive Housing Program consists of **over 14 programs utilizing a variety of funding sources** including Department of Housing and Urban Development, MN Housing, and MN Department of Human Services. Supportive Housing services range from one-time assistance to on-going case management and rental subsidies.



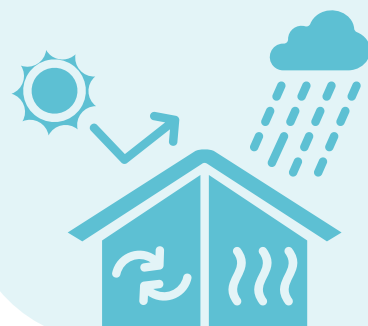
## Find Stability, Build a Future:




### Get Help with BI-CAP's Housing & Support Services

BI-CAP's programs typically serve those that are already homeless and are in the greatest need of housing support services. BI-CAP utilizes the "housing first" strategy of rapidly rehousing participants to mitigate crisis situations and then provides support services to assist participants as they work on housing stability and self-sufficiency goals.

# WEATHERIZATION

BI-CAP's Weatherization department works with clients to improve a home's energy efficiency and health and safety while decreasing the energy consumption. Priority is given to elderly, disabled, households with high energy consumption and single head of households with children.



-  **\$761,000** was spent at 107 client's homes focusing on insulation, air leaks, ventilation and health and safety related items.
-  **\$981,000** was spent on upgrading clients heating systems.
  - 124 families received a high-efficiency furnace
  - 27 families had their systems repaired
-  **\$72,000** spent on general repairs to mechanical systems and home structures.

Weatherization identifies areas of the home that are losing the largest amount of heat. Air sealing gaps and cracks in the attic floor can reduce a home's heat loss by 40%.



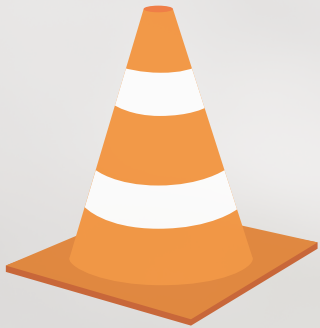
# YOUTHBUILD

14

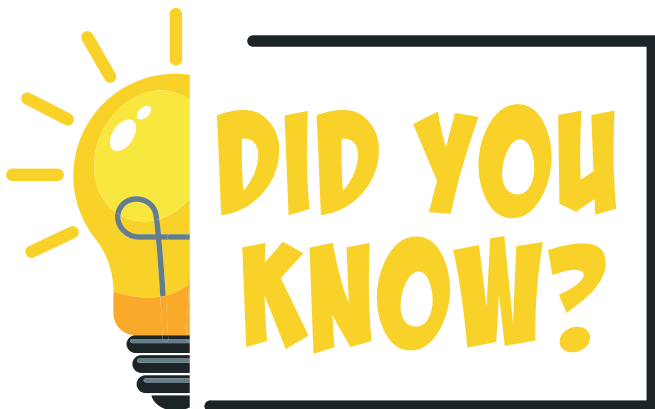
Since 1989, BI-CAP YouthBuild has constructed and rehabilitated over 26 single-family homes, two Head Start facilities, helped maintain 11 transitional housing properties, and assisted in the construction of a 22 unit subdivision in the community of Blackduck.



Participants began constructing exterior and interior walls on their new project on 120 Gould Avenue in Bemidji. Once completed, this will be a 3 bedroom/2 bathroom home on a heated slab, with an attached garage.



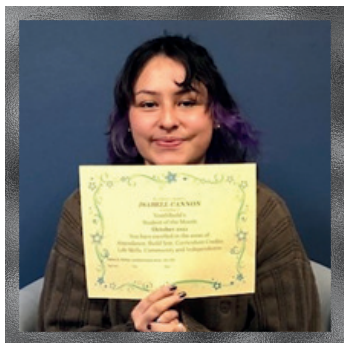
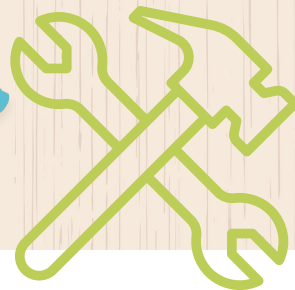
- Youth Served: 28
- Received Industry Recognized Credential: 24
- Obtained high school diploma/equivalency or continued school: 26
- Youth Families Receiving Public Assistance: 24
- Basic Skills Deficient: 28
- Youth Offender: 8



Industry-Recognized Credentials: Youthbuilders receive certification in NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research), OSHA 10/30, First Aid/CPR, Certified Nursing Assistant, and other certifications of choice.

# YOUTHBUILD *Success Stories*

15



## Isabell

Isabell enrolled in the program as a single mother full of determination. She graduated with her diploma, completed CPR 1st Aid, and was eager to move on to the next step. She enrolled into Leech Lake Tribal College for Psychology as a part-time student and was in a paid internship position through a local radio station.



## Josiah

Despite his young age and life barriers outside of the program, Josiah proved to be a reliable and dedicated worker. He completed NCCER, CPR 1st Aid, and OSHA 10 certifications and attained his driver's permit while in the program. Josiah also earned extended program time for his many weeks of perfect attendance and hard work in school and on the jobsite. He completed his credits for graduation early and is looking to move into a job in construction.

“I can honestly say, without the support and resources at YouthBuild, I would not be where I am today. I appreciate everything they have done for me and what they continue to do for others. I will always speak highly of YouthBuild.”

## ***DID YOU KNOW?***

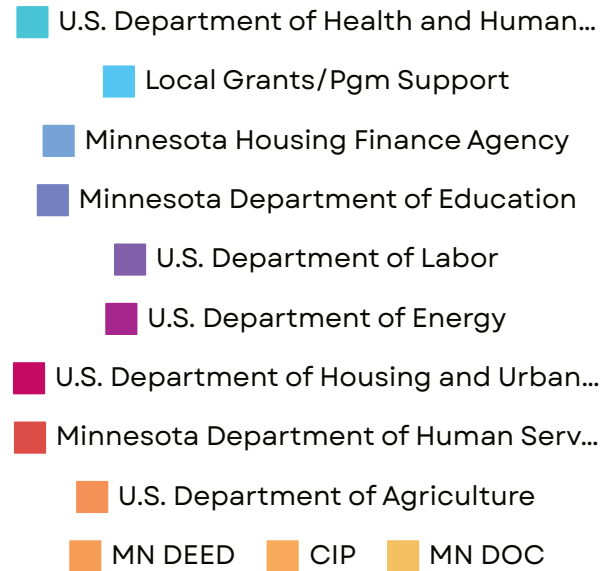
Participants receive school credit toward graduation for all activities through our educational partner, Cass Lake-Bena School District's Alternative Learning Center.

The school district provides a teacher to be available year-round, five days a week, to teach in our YB Training Center classroom.

Along with Cass County Adult Basic Education, the partnership allows participants the ability to work toward a high school Diploma, GED, or Adult Diploma.

# REVENUE

Source	Amount	Percent
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services	\$6,419,252	53.63%
Local Grants & Program Support	\$1,463,229	12.23%
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency	\$1,295,599	10.82%
Minnesota Dept. of Education	\$870,768	7.28%
U.S. Dept. of Labor	\$529,197	4.42%
U.S. Dept. of Energy	\$391,760	3.27%
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development	\$313,967	2.62%
Minnesota Dept. of Human Services	\$272,749	2.28%
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	\$156,847	1.31%
Minnesota Dept. of Employment & Economic Dev.	\$124,082	1.04%
Conservation Improvement Pgms	\$68,003	0.57%
Minnesota Dept. of Commerce	\$63,376	0.53%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,968,829</b>	

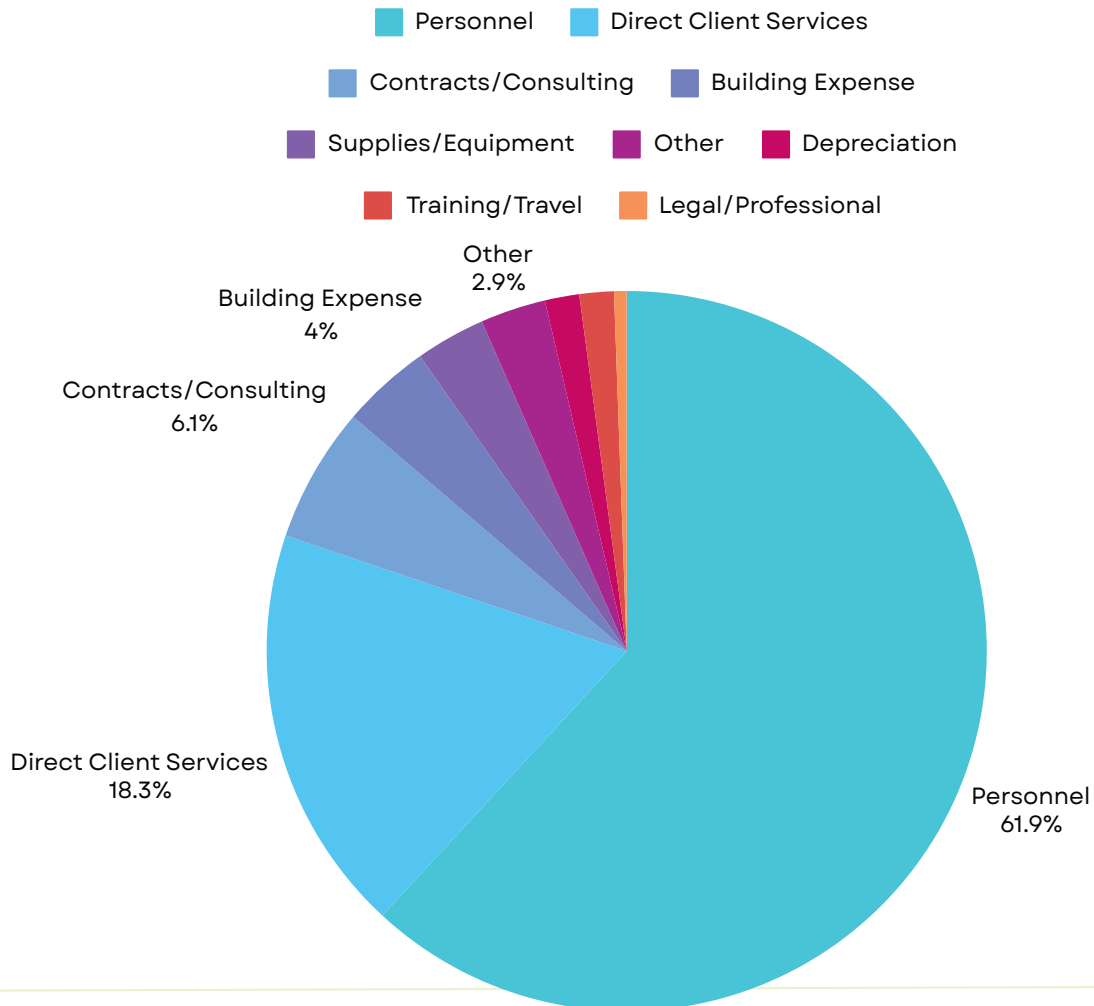


**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
 Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc. is audited each fiscal year by independent Certified Public Accountants.

The audit is conducted in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Principles (GAAP). The summarized data that appears on these pages are from the audit.

# EXPENSES

Category	Amount	Percent
Personnel	\$7,222,852	61.87%
Direct Client Services	\$2,139,358	18.33%
Contracts & Consulting	\$709,051	6.07%
Building Expense	\$466,889	4.00%
Supplies & Equipment	\$366,205	3.14%
Other	\$343,156	2.94%
Depreciation	\$180,554	1.55%
Training & Travel	\$180,085	1.54%
Legal & Professional	\$65,826	0.56%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,673,976</b>	



# CONNECT WITH US

**EMAIL**

frontdesk@bicap.org

**WEBSITE**

www.bicap.org

**PHONE**

(800) 332-7161

*Sign up for  
our newsletter!  
www.bicap.org*