



2025

Annual Report



HELPING PEOPLE. CHANGING LIVES.



WELCOME TO CAASTLC

At CAASTLC, we offer more than 22 services with the intention of supporting and stabilizing families, while helping them to attain a brighter future. Helping people and changing lives is at the heart of everything we do. We invite you to explore the value of our work as highlighted in this 2025 Annual Report. We believe we are creating powerful change. We hope you will see the merit in our effort will partner with us in strengthening the St. Louis County community as a vital source of hope and support for families facing poverty.

MISSION

The mission of Community Action Agency of Saint Louis County is to stabilize and enrich vulnerable households by instilling hope and creating pathways to empowerment. We are committed to helping the families and communities of St. Louis County transition from poverty to self-sufficiency for present and future generations.

VISION

Healthy families thriving in their community free from poverty and social exclusion.

A wide range of opportunities and accessibility to education, healthcare, careers, and safe, affordable, energy efficient housing.

Inclusive communities that sustain economic opportunities and business growth.

Communities where everyone is treated with dignity and respect and the barriers of structural and systematic inequities have been removed.

The Huggy Heart is the official national symbol of the Community Action Partnership, representing compassion, commitment, and the support Community Action Agencies provide to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency.

SERVICE FROM CARING HEARTS

“We are building systems of support that promote long-term resilience.”

Dear Friends and Partners of CAASTLC,

As we reflect on fiscal year 2025, we do so with deep gratitude and steady resolve. This year called for disciplined leadership and responsible stewardship as families across our region navigated economic pressure and uncertainty. Through it all, Community Action Agency of St. Louis County, Inc. (CAASTLC) remained focused on our mission by expanding access to stability, opportunity and dignity for our neighbors.

Our team worked intentionally to preserve core services while also responding to emerging community needs identified through our Community Needs Assessment and direct engagement across St. Louis County. Through homelessness prevention funding in partnership with St. Louis County, we strengthened housing stability for families at risk of displacement, ensuring that temporary hardship did not become a long-term crisis. When access to nutrition resources became uncertain, our staff acted swiftly to provide meals and prevent gaps in food access during critical moments.

This year also reinforced what our community has consistently shared: long-term stability requires more than emergency support. Families need coordinated systems of care that address housing, health, economic security, and emotional well-being. In response, CAASTLC began strategically strengthening our role as a connector and convener—building partnerships, expanding access to trusted providers, and supporting families holistically through measured, collaborative solutions.

Partnership remains central to our impact. By working alongside local leaders, service providers, and regional stakeholders, we expanded our collective capacity to deliver meaningful and measurable outcomes. Together, we are building systems of support that promote long-term resilience and strengthen the well-being of our entire community.

As we look toward 2026, our commitment remains steadfast. We will continue strengthening programs, deepening partnerships, and stewarding resources with transparency and integrity. While challenges remain, so does our resolve to ensure that every individual and family in our community can thrive.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire CAASTLC team, thank you for your continued trust, support, and partnership.

Respectfully,



Linda Huntspon
Chief Executive Officer



Rose Eichelberger
Board Chair



Linda Huntspon
Chief Executive Officer



Rose Eichelberger
Board Chair

“People who are truly strong lift others up. People who are truly powerful bring others together.”

— Former First Lady
Michelle Obama

ABOUT CAASTLC

In his State of the Union address on January 8, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared an unconditional “War on Poverty” in America. That same year, the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 established the Federal Office of Economic Opportunity and created Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to empower individuals and families experiencing poverty.

Today, CAASTLC is one of more than 1,000 Community Action Agencies nationwide. Across the country, CAAs represent a trusted network of organizations committed to strengthening communities, supporting families, and expanding pathways to opportunity.

CAASTLC was originally incorporated in 1968 as the Human Development Corporation of Metropolitan St. Louis (HDC). In 2003, the agency became Community Action Agency of St. Louis County, Inc. as part of a national rebranding initiative designed to increase community recognition and strengthen local identity.

Each year, CAASTLC provides services to more than 40,000 individuals throughout St. Louis County. We offer more than 22 programs designed to stabilize families, reduce barriers, and help individuals transition from crisis to long-term self-sufficiency.



“There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve by ourselves.”

— Lyndon B. Johnson

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP AND COUNCILS

Board of Directors

Rose Eichelberger
Board Chair

Antonio Maldonado
Vice Chair

Paul Springer
Secretary

Clayton Evans
Treasurer

Board Members

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Renada Chandler
Angela Ellerson
Denny Holter
Nicole Jenkins
Ella Jones
Kevin Marquitz
Cynthia McCarthy
Sheila D. Pearson
Paige Simmons
Reginald D. Smith



Community Relations / Resource Development Committee

Clayton Evans
Chair

Bonita Cornute
Georgie Donahue
Denny Holter
Linda Huntspon
Nicole Jenkins
Mark Kurtz
Cynthia McCarthy
Sharon Pace
Sherri A. Robins
Minnetta Watkins

Community Advisory Council

Marcus Adams
Chair

Delsie Boyd
Rose Cason
Bonita Cornute
Michael Crayton
Alvin Doss
Linda Eikerenkoetter
Debra Harper-LeBlanc
Sharonica Hardin-Bartley
Gloria McQueen
Sharon Pace
Monica Peterson

BUILDING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY THROUGH OUR PEOPLE

At CAASTLC, we believe that investing in employees is one of the most effective ways to strengthen the agency’s ability to serve. When our workforce is stable, well-trained, and mission-driven, our community benefits through stronger service delivery, improved outcomes, and greater long-term impact.

Nonprofit human service organizations often experience turnover rates between 20–30%. In FY2025, CAASTLC maintained a **90% employee retention rate**, reflecting a committed workforce, a strong organizational culture, and reduced service disruption for clients.

This year, CAASTLC made strategic investments in workforce development, emergency preparedness, compliance training, leadership growth, and professional advancement.

90%
**employee
retention
rate**

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Professional Growth & Internal Promotion

CAASTLC strengthened its commitment to developing leadership from within. Two employees were promoted into roles with expanded responsibility, reflecting both individual achievement and intentional succession planning. These promotions spanned finance and direct service areas.

Training & Professional Development

Employees completed extensive training aligned with service delivery, safety, compliance, and leadership development, including:

Client Safety & Well-Being

Trauma-informed care, de-escalation, domestic violence awareness, suicide prevention, substance use education, restorative justice

Program Quality & Compliance

Ethics training, food safety certification, housing compliance, lead hazard assessments, ROMA implementation, credential renewals

Leadership & Organizational Effectiveness

Supervision, performance management, communication, fundraising fundamentals, nonprofit leadership workshops

Education, Youth, & Community Engagement

Alternative education supports, behavioral health topics, garden-based learning, STEM instruction, reentry convenings

“Our employees are our greatest asset.”

— Sue Moss, Human Resources Director

STRATEGIC SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Linda Huntspon
Chief Executive Officer

Minnetta Watkins
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Michael Clark
IT Director

Susan E. Moss
Human Resources Director

Sherri A. Robins
Public Relations Director

Richard Reinbott
Contract Compliance Director

Cedric Jackson
Associate Director-Quality & Compliance

Mark Kurtz
Chief Financial Officer

Danielle Tarrant
Accounting Manager

Keith Robinson
Director of Weatherization & Support Services

James Ingram
Director, Reentry

Georgie Donahue
Program Administration Director

Mario Malone
Associate Director-CSBG

Karen Wilson
Energy Supervisor (LIHEAP)

John Williams
Farm Manager (Seeds of Hope Farm)

Maria Acosta-Garcia

Christopher Beasley

Nicole Briones

Robin Bryson

Tarshie Burgess

Tishona Dixon

NaTasha Dobbins

Breanne Fowler

Reina Fuentes

Ramirez

Ambrosia Harrison

Dale Hickman

Erykah Hicks

Clarence Holemon

Remona Johnson

Ethan Jones

Kimberly Kemp

Latavia Mangan

Janice Gage

Marissa Muhammad

Sean Muhammad

Gala Pearson

Arrvell Pendelton

Myka Perry

Candis Sawyer

Tony Simpson

Anthony Steed

Suzie Stockstrom

Randy Tempel

Donna Townley

Krista Tweedy

Training Snapshot

CAASTLC employees completed more than **30 trainings and certifications**, with **15 employees participating in informal certification programs** delivered by federal agencies, universities, credentialing boards, nonprofit partners, and national organizations.

These investments strengthened service quality, reduced turnover, improved compliance readiness, expanded leadership capacity, and enhanced CAASTLC's ability to respond to emerging community needs.

MEETING NEEDS. BUILDING FUTURES.

CAASTLC supports low-income individuals and families by responding to urgent needs while building strategies for long-term stability. Through direct services, case management, workforce development, and community outreach, we help households navigate crisis, maintain housing, strengthen income potential, and improve overall well-being.

Our approach is equitable and client-centered, reducing barriers, expanding access to resources, and supporting healthier, more resilient communities across St. Louis County.



CORE SERVICE AREAS

Family & Economic Security

- Family Case Management
- Employment Development
- Life Skills Classes
- Drug & Alcohol Education Classes
- Anger Management Education Classes
- Reentry Support for Returning Citizens
- Entrepreneurship Classes
- SkillUP
- Counseling

Youth Services

- Youth Case Management
- HiSET (GED)
- REALL Simulations
(Reality Enrichment and Life Lessons)
- Seeds of Hope Farm STEM Curriculum

Community Outreach

- Poverty Simulations
- Job Fairs & Hiring Events

- Step Up to Leadership Workshops

Health and Nutrition

- CAASTLC's Seeds of Hope Farm
- Home-Grown Produce
- Drive-Through Contactless Food Pantry
- Cooking Classes

Housing and Energy

- Weatherization Assistance Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Housing Assistance (Down Payment/Rent/Mortgage Assistance, Disaster Relief)
- Water Bill Assistance
- Homeless Prevention
- Rental Assistance

Fundraising and Special Events

- 10th Annual Doors of Opportunity Gala
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Fall Festival on the Farm
- Iron Chef Cooking Competitions

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Photo courtesy of Dennis Schroeder, NREL

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP)

Strengthening Homes. Reducing Energy Burden. Improving Safety.

During program year 2025, CAASTLC's Weatherization Program made meaningful investments in the safety, comfort and stability of homes throughout the service area. By combining multiple funding sources, the program expanded beyond standard weatherization services and addressed real-world conditions faced by families living in aging and under-resourced housing.

Through support from the U.S. Department of Energy, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, LIHEAP Weatherization, and utility partners, CAASTLC completed energy efficiency improvements in **262 homes**.

A critical part of this success was readiness funding, which removed common barriers that often prevent households from qualifying for weatherization. By addressing health, safety, and minor structural issues first, the program ensured that families living in the most challenging housing conditions could still access long-term improvements.

For participants, the results were immediate and meaningful. One customer, Johnny Eagleston, shared:

“With the new furnace, the new air conditioner, and the new water heater, the attic insulation was a big help. Recently, when the temperature outside was 40 degrees, the furnace only kicked on once.”

CAASTLC fully utilized all awarded funds from Utility partners Ameren Missouri and Spire Energy, which played an essential role in expanding impact. Through these grants, **upgrade supports** were made in more than **130 homes**.

Through the Weatherization Program, CAASTLC, backed by strong partnerships and a highly skilled team generated an estimated **\$3 million in total economic impact** for participating households by reducing energy burden, improving home efficiency, and strengthening long-term housing stability across St. Louis County.

WEATHERIZATION IMPACT SUMMARY

\$3,000,000

Estimated economic impact on households

262

homes served through combined federal, state, and LIHEAP resources

130

homes supported through Ameren and Spire grants



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

REENTRY, EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

From Reentry to Opportunity: Jobs, Skills, and New Beginnings

CAASTLC's Reentry Program delivered comprehensive services focused on employment, life stability, and personal development. The program offered employment development workshops; anger management education; substance use education classes, and entrepreneurship training. CAASTLC also continued implementing the SkillUP Program, which provides free training

and educational resources for SNAP recipients.

The Reentry team strengthened its professional capacity through ongoing development, including participation in the annual Missouri Reentry Conference, an event that convenes experts and practitioners to share strategies that support justice-involved individuals.



"Adeola" earned her master's degree in mechanical engineering from Washington University's McKelvey School of Engineering, yet struggled to secure interviews as a Nigerian immigrant. Discouraged but determined, she reached out to CAASTLC's Employment Development program.

After connecting with Employment Specialist Sean Muhammad, everything changed.

"He was kind, patient, and encouraging. He gave me hope and shared job leads," she said.

Through that support, Adeola secured a position as a Civil Engineer with a major St. Louis employer — a powerful example of how CAASTLC helps build inclusive pathways to economic opportunity.

Mr. Jarren Garrett, a justice-involved participant in the October 2025 cohort of CAASTLC's Employment Development Workshop, reached out to express his gratitude to facilitator and Employment Specialist Sean Muhammad. Through personalized resume refinement, interview coaching, and targeted job leads, Mr. Garrett secured career-track employment in the healthcare industry with a starting salary of \$50,000 per year, within just two weeks of completing the workshop.

His success reflects CAASTLC's ongoing commitment to creating pathways to empowerment and meaningful employment.

NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS



• Achieved a **1.12% recidivism rate** in FY25, compared to Missouri's **43.9%** and the federal rate of **77%**.



• **80%** of clients received job interviews with career-oriented employers and **45%** of those interviewed became gainfully employed.



• **75%** of SkillUP participants received paid career training in IT, CDL licensure, cosmetology, barbercollege, vocational programs, and degree completion support.



• Established partnerships supporting entrepreneurship pathways, including **15 referrals and graduates** through Harris-Stowe State University's Center or Innovation and Entrepreneurship for customers desiring entrepreneurial pursuits versus traditional employment.



• Substance Use Education classes achieved a **74% completion rate**, with **0 reported relapse or recidivism incidents**. (Research indicates that 65% of the US prison population is estimated to have substance use disorder.)



• Anger Management classes served **160 participants**, with a **52% completion rate**, supporting long-term stability and contributing to reduced reoffending risk.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COORDINATION

Supporting Whole-Family Stability

Mental health is no longer a peripheral concern; it is central to economic security, family stability, and community well-being. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, CAASTLC's Community Needs Assessment confirmed what many families were already experiencing: mental and emotional health needs are growing across St. Louis County.


CAASTLC responded with clarity and intention. Rather than duplicating clinical services within an already strained system, the agency focused on strengthening one of the most critical components of behavioral health care: access. For families in crisis, navigating where to go, who to trust, and how to remain connected to care is often as important as the care itself.

Mental health challenges frequently intersect

with housing insecurity, financial hardship, family conflict, and court involvement. CAASTLC's integrated service model allowed behavioral health coordination to be embedded across programs, ensuring that support was not delivered in isolation.

CAASTLC's counseling and coordination services emphasized thoughtful assessment, responsive intervention, mediation, crisis response, family mentoring, and advocacy. These services helped households address their immediate needs while strengthening their long-term resilience.

Through partnerships within the family stability ecosystem, including courts and community stakeholders--CAASTLC also contributed to coordinated responses that promoted safety, accountability, and family reunification.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN FY25

- Provided case management and connected **42 individuals** to viable emergency behavioral health and support services.**
- Prevented evictions for clients receiving mental health services.**
- Completed holiday referrals through the United Way of Greater St. Louis' 100 Neediest Cases initiative.**

**MENTAL HEALTH IS NOT SEPARATE FROM OUR WORK.
IT IS ESSENTIAL TO LONG-TERM FAMILY STABILITY.**

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (CSBG)

Delivering Hope, Resources, and Stability Across St. Louis County

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program continued its mission to stabilize and strengthen households by creating pathways toward empowerment and long-term self-sufficiency.

Through emergency assistance, case management, education supports, workforce services, and community engagement, CSBG-funded programs helped mitigate the effects of poverty while increasing household stability.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH IMPACT SUMMARY

41,731 individuals received support aimed at stabilizing households

38,290 individuals received emergency financial assistance to restore utilities and prevent disconnections and evictions or foreclosures

\$5,297,379.64 in vendor payments supported housing stability and household safety

Workforce development and education support also remained a key focus. This year, **16,052 individuals** accessed services designed to reduce barriers to employment and support educational attainment, including transportation support, training referrals, work supplies, and testing fees.

Holistic family support remained central to CSBG outcomes. **2,856 individuals**, including infants, youth, parents, and caregivers, received case management and family development services to support setting goals and resilience building. Additionally, **2,629 individuals** received emergency items, monthly food pantry service, air conditioning units, and other family and behavioral health supports.

To prevent homelessness, CAASTLC distributed **\$108,521.76** in vendor payments for **73 individuals**, ensuring stable housing and preventing displacement.

Through independent living support, CAASTLC served seniors, individuals with disabilities, and medically fragile clients. This year, **16,066 services were delivered to 8,001 individuals, helping them maintain safety and independence.**

Youth and Community Engagement

CAASTLC delivered three REALL (Reality Enrichment Alternative Life Lessons) simulations at Jennings Middle School. These simulations engaged **163 youth participants**, supported by **20 volunteers** who contributed **144 volunteer hours**. These interactive experiences helped youth understand real-world financial decision making and the impact of poverty.



CAASTLC also hosted three Step Up to Leadership cohorts, graduating **25 participants**. The program strengthens leadership, decision-making, and communication skills while empowering individuals to pursue personal and professional growth, and to join boards, commissions, and other committees.

SEEDS OF HOPE FARM

A COMMUNITY GREEN SPACE: GROWING MORE THAN FOOD – GROWING FUTURES



Situated on 1.8 acres in Spanish Lake, CAASTLC’s Seeds of Hope Farm serves as a cornerstone of community health, education and engagement. More than a green space, the farm is a strategic investment in food access, wellness, and neighborhood vitality. Seeds of Hope expands opportunities for residents to volunteer, build raised beds, participate in workshops, engage in hands-on education, and access fresh produce at no cost.

Seeds of Hope provides organically grown produce to families through CAASTLC’s food pantry and the farm’s “You-Pick” program. The You-Pick program allowed 170 eligible customers to select produce items that best met their needs and provided them with a custom-packed share of farm fresh vegetables on a bi-weekly basis.

Over the growing season, **170 custom food bags** were distributed to participating households. Many participants also volunteered in the fields and assisted with produce distribution.

In FY25, the farm harvested and distributed **2,563 pounds of produce**, including bok choy, radishes, lettuce, onions, peas, blackberries, potatoes, broccoli, collard greens, carrots, cabbage, garlic, tomatoes, okra, cucumbers, zucchini, and peppers.

Seeds of Hope Farm continued its collaboration with **Lincoln University Cooperative Extension** nutrition specialists, hosting cooking classes that helped families learn how to incorporate fresh seasonal vegetables into their diets. **Residents of Gateway Housing First** were beneficiaries of these community meals, supporting both nutrition and social connection.

“Farm fresh produce makes all the difference in the world. I can’t buy products like this at the store.”

— A “You-Pick” customer



In 2025, Seeds of Hope harvested and distributed **2,563 pounds of produce.**



Providing STEM classes to youth is essential for fostering critical thinking, innovation and problem-solving skills necessary for a rapidly evolving, technology-driven world. It prepares students for high-demand, high-salary careers (growing 11% by 2033), boosts digital literacy, and builds resilience through hands-on, real-world application.



“This is the best field trip I’ve ever been on.”

— King Tompkins, Normandy Middle School

Having youth and families in the farm’s outdoor classroom engaging in STEM education is providing intergenerational learning and preparing students for long-term success in math and science. It is so exciting to see the children grasping the concepts and focusing their energy on strengthening their communication, collaboration, and leadership skills as they work together, share ideas, and take ownership of their learning.

In FY25, Seeds of Hope Farm hosted school groups and youth organizations from Hazelwood, Riverview Gardens, and Ritenour School Districts, Lutheran North High School, Grace Chapel Lutheran School, Boys & Girls Club of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis County’s Center for Youth on the Rise, and BJC’s Teen Outreach Program.

In total, students received **617 hands-on STEM learning experiences.**

ACCREDITED ARBORETUM DESIGNATION

This year, Seeds of Hope Farm was registered as an Arboretum, a living museum dedicated to the cultivation, study, and display of trees and shrubs. Seeds of Hope joins a distinguished list that includes the Missouri Botanical Garden, Washington University and Forest Park.

The farm's inventory includes more than **50 species of trees and shrubs**, with plans underway to develop an online video library and self-guided walking tour to expand educational accessibility.



Seeds of Hope Farm is also proud to announce a new partnership with Achievements Unlimited to provide gardening experiences for young adults with autism and other disabilities.

Through our relationships with many dedicated **community partners**, the Farm has maximized its ability to alleviate the burden of poverty and to educate, improve access to high-quality nutrition, and share the benefits of gardening.

Our partnering schools, educators, community organizations and youth groups have helped us to share our enthusiasm for the natural world with emerging as well as experienced minds. Various agencies working with at-risk populations have helped us to empower individuals to feed themselves well. We are grateful for the

collaboration and support of so many friends, including but not limited to:

Achievements Unlimited
Barrington Elementary
Bethlehem Lutheran
Biver Farms
BJC Teen Outreach Program
Boys and Girls Club
Center for Youth on the Rise
God's Small World
Hazelwood School District
Helping Hands Pantry

Known & Grown
Lutheran North High School
University of Missouri Extension
Oak Street Health
Ritenour School District
Riverview Gardens School District
Spanish Lake Community Association
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Youth in Need

“Today at the Farm was a wonderful learning experience for my husband and me. It was most inspiring, and we are looking forward to gleaning more from every opportunity given to us. John was great! Thanks so much!”

— A. Jones, Herbicide Free Weed Management Demo Attendee

“I love digging. It’s satisfying.”

— Jonathan, Normandy Middle School

*“This is my second year being connected to the Seeds of Hope Farm, and I can truly say it’s been a gift to my spirit and my community. From the volunteer opportunities to the **You Pick Produce Program** and the **cooking classes** they offer, every experience has been meaningful and uplifting.*

What makes Seeds of Hope so special is how deeply rooted it is in the community. They even come to my children’s school and work with 3rd to 5th graders to help plan and care for the school garden. That kind of hands-on learning shows our kids that the environment is something to enjoy, nurture, and be proud of.

I want to give a heartfelt thank you to Farmer John and Farmer Randy for creating such a welcoming, empowering space. Seeds of Hope is truly a blessing.”

— Kenyatta Harris-Miller, Volunteer

SEEDS OF HOPE FARM IMPACT SUMMARY



650
volunteer hours donated to support planting, harvesting and beautification



PARTNERSHIPS & VOLUNTEERISM

PARTNERSHIP IMPACT

CAASTLC's success in FY25 was strengthened by a broad network of partnerships that expanded access to services and increased our reach across St. Louis County.

Through collaborations with the St. Louis County Library system, including Weber Road, Florissant Valley, and Ferguson branches, CAASTLC provided on-site outreach, application assistance, financial education, and connection to essential resources.

Additional partnerships with Feed My People, Special School District of St. Louis County, Ritenour School District, and Jennings Middle School supported youth development, family stability, educational engagement, and specialized referrals.

CAASTLC also maintained strong working relationships with utility partners, including Spire, Ameren Missouri, Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD), and Missouri American Water, ensuring timely support to prevent disconnections and restore essential services.

These partnerships strengthened household stability, increased service accessibility, and enhanced the overall impact of CAASTLC's work.



VOLUNTEERISM

Volunteerism is essential to CAASTLC's mission, helping expand our capacity and deepen community engagement.

In FY25, approximately **292 volunteers**, including board members and committee participants, contributed more than **2,000 hours** of service by supporting main office operations, the food pantry, REALL simulations, community outreach events, Seeds of Hope Farm, and the Doors of Opportunity Gala.



COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMARY

CAASTLC'S MISSION IS DRIVEN BY MEASURABLE OUTCOMES THAT REFLECT REAL HOUSEHOLD STABILIZATION AND LONG-TERM OPPORTUNITY.

HOUSEHOLD STABILIZATION	EMERGENCY & SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	INDEPENDENT LIVING SUPPORTS	YOUTH ENGAGEMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41,731 individuals received assistance aimed at stabilizing their households. • 38,290 individuals received emergency assistance payments to restore utilities and prevent disconnections, evictions, foreclosures, and housing crises. • \$5,297,380 in vendor payments supported housing stability and basic needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16,052 individuals received support services to reduce employment and education barriers. • 2,856 individuals (infants, youth and parents) received case management support to help achieve family goals. • 2,629 individuals received emergency services, including food, air conditioning units, counseling, and other referrals. • \$108,522 was paid to vendors to prevent 73 individuals from homelessness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16,066 services were delivered to 8,001 vulnerable individuals, including seniors, to help them maintain independent living situations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 163 youth participants served through REALL simulations. • 25 graduates completed Step Up to Leadership program.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

WHERE OUR FUNDING COMES FROM & HOW IT IS USED

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

FOR YEARS ENDING 9/30/2023 AND 9/30/2024

	9/30/23 Actual	9/30/24 Actual
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Grants	\$12,028,563	\$15,034,419
Donations	692,884	468,109
Investment Income	6,109	7,672
Other	<u>11,270</u>	<u>45,553</u>
Total Public Support and Revenue	<u>12,738,826</u>	<u>15,555,753</u>
EXPENSES		
Program Services:		
Weatherization	3,033,434	3,460,236
Energy Assistance	6,588,178	7,434,641
Community Services	1,946,880	2,622,218
Housing/Rental Assistance	185,215	876,473
Other Programs	<u>352,983</u>	280,155
Total Program Services	<u>12,106,690</u>	<u>14,673,723</u>
Supporting Services:		
Management and General	790,691	840,852
Fund-raising	15,090	20,232
Total Supporting Services	<u>805,761</u>	<u>861,084</u>
Total Expenses	<u>12,912,451</u>	<u>15,534,807</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>-173,625</u>	<u>20,946</u>
Fund Balance	<u>\$3,023,126</u>	<u>\$3,044,072</u>

FUND DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS

Strengthening the Foundation. Expanding the Reach.

At CAASTLC, fundraising is not simply about dollars raised, it is about stability created, systems strengthened, and lives positioned for long-term success. Every investment we secure is strategically aligned to ensure families move from crisis to confidence and from uncertainty to opportunity.

Through the St. Louis County Office of Community Development **HOME Investment Partnerships Program**, we have been able to deepen our impact across critical areas of housing stability, organizational strength, and service continuity:

- **Supportive Services - \$418,600**

Supporting homelessness prevention for individuals and families at risk of becoming unhoused. This investment aligns with the Emergency Solutions Grant and strengthens the housing stability continuum.

- **Nonprofit Capacity Building - \$217,220**

Enhancing infrastructure and service delivery through accessibility improvements, the creation of an additional classroom and office space, and the onboarding of a case manager with a mental health background to strengthen referral coordination and holistic support.

- **Nonprofit Operating Expenses - \$205,806**

Addressing staffing needs and offsetting reductions in United Way funding to ensure operational stability and uninterrupted services for the families who depend on us.

These strategic investments allow us to remain responsive, resilient, and results-driven, ensuring that our mission continues to move forward with strength and integrity.

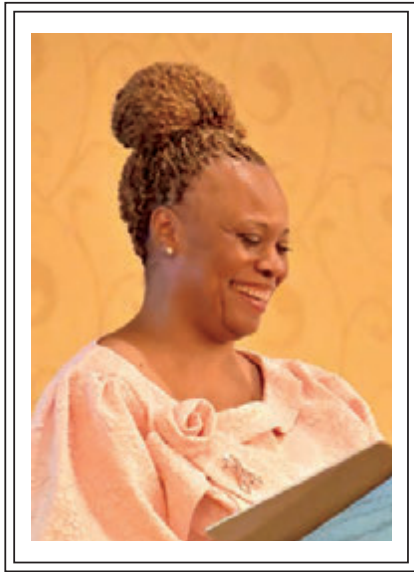
And while grants and public funding provide essential infrastructure, community partnership fuels opportunity in powerful ways, including the Doors of Opportunity Gala.

This project is funded at 90% at \$4,647,15 with federal funds received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provided by the Missouri Department of Social Services, and 10% at \$516,35 by other non-federal sources. This project was prepared with the support of funds through the Missouri Department of Social Services and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. However, any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Missouri Department of Social Services or the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

10th Annual Doors of Opportunity Gala

Thursday, October 16, 2025

WHAT A NIGHT. WHAT A MILESTONE. WHAT A TESTIMONY.



Our Gala was more than a fundraiser; it celebrated 60 years of impact as one of 1,000 Community Action Agencies nationwide and 10 incredible years of partners and friends standing with us.

With Blair Ledet of KTVI Fox 2 guiding the evening and “St. Louis’ Finest Volunteer Corps” serving with excellence, the room was filled with energy, joy, generosity, and purpose. Our community showed up ready to give, and **together, we raised \$61,662** to support emergency food assistance, transportation, shelter for survivors of domestic abuse, workforce training, and other essential services that change lives.

We honored trailblazers Merline Anderson and Cenia Bosman for laying CAASTLC’s foundation and passing the torch to CEO Ms. Linda Huntspon, who continues the vision with strength and strategy.

Leaders who exemplify excellence were awarded.

- Journey Award – Orvin T. Kimbrough
- Community Partners of the Year – Constance Taylor and Page Selby
- CAASTLC Employee of the Year – Maria Acosta-Garcia
- Volunteer of the Year – Linda Robinson

To our 2025 sponsors and supporters, thank you. You are partners in purpose and hope in action. Because of you, families receive more than assistance—they receive opportunity.

Together, we will keep opening doors.

Sincerely,

Linda Huntspon
CEO, CAASTLC, Inc.

Clayton Evans
Board Treasurer, CAASTLC, Inc. &
Doors of Opportunity Chairperson

TOGETHER, WE RAISED **\$61,662**



Clayton Evans, Honoree Orvin T. Kimbrough, Journey Award, and Linda Huntspon



Congressional Salute from Congressman Wesley Bell, represented by Dr. LaRhonda Wilson



Clayton Evans, Honorees Page Selby and Constance Taylor of Ameren, Community Partners of the Year, and Linda Huntspon

*10th Annual
Doors of
Opportunity
Honorees*



Clayton Evans, Honoree Maria Acosta Garcia, Employee of the Year, and Linda Huntspon



Clayton Evans, Honoree Linda Robinson, Volunteer of the Year, and Linda Huntspon



10th Annual Gala Highlights











10th Annual Gala Highlights





Thank you again for your support.

Stay tuned as we invite you to join us again for the 2026 Doors of Opportunity Gala on Thursday, October 15, 2026. Come celebrate. Come invest. Come be part of what happens when a community decides that everyone deserves a door to walk through.

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Sue Moss
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 St. Louis' Finest Volunteers
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TEAM CAASTLC

GOLDEN NUGGETS



Golden Nuggets are Case Management testimonials that highlight interagency collaboration and the ways our teams work together to deliver timely emergency service, ensuring support is consistent, coordinated, and responsive when clients are in a crisis.

Case Management Testimonial

“I worked with a visually impaired client who had been without gas service for two months because she could not navigate the billing process on her own. I assisted her in getting the gas bill paid and ensured her service could be restored.

I first met her at the Ferguson Library. Her mother drove her to our office twice to meet with me. While they were at CAASTLC, they inquired about our food pantry. Mario went out of his way to get groceries for them.

During this time, Latavia completed the process of getting her gas turned on without delay. This is how Team CAASTLC works to achieve positive outcomes for everyone.”

— Remona

Homeless Prevention Success Story

“Ms. Thelma came to CAASTLC homeless. She had been living with a friend and paying rent, but when the friend passed away, the daughter told Thelma she had 30 days to vacate the property. Due to quick and accessible resources and the quick response through inter and outer-agency collaboration.

We were able to get her into a homeless shelter. We later paid her security deposit and first month’s rent for a new residence. Through homeless prevention funding, we also purchased a mattress, box spring, and bed frame. We connected her to St. Vincent DePaul, who provided a voucher for clothing, dishes, and other essentials. We are keeping up with Ms. Thelma, and she is doing great.”

— Janice

Case Management Success Story

“When the client first came to CAASTLC, they were facing a difficult situation. Due to illness, they lost employment and struggled to keep up with bills. As an immigrant, they did not qualify for many assistance programs. With limited English proficiency, navigating resources was even harder.

The client was assisted in applying for energy assistance and was supported in securing finding employment. Through persistence, the client secured a job that provides financial stability and medical insurance.

Additionally, the client was assisted in registering for ESL (English as a Second Language) classes beginning in January 2026. The client expressed deep gratitude, stating that support with energy assistance, job placement, and language learning has truly changed their life.”

— Maria



CAASTLC

Save the Date

OCTOBER 15, 2026 | 5:30 PM

11

11th Annual

DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY GALA



2709 Woodson Rd. | Overland, MO 63114 | 314-863-0015 | www.caastlc.org

