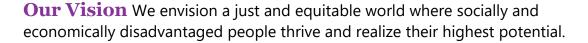


2023 State Policy Agenda

Who we are The Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA) is the state association for Connecticut's nine Community Action Agencies (CAAs), designated by the state & federal governments as anti-poverty agencies.





To achieve our vision, CAFCA and its members ask policymakers to:

Increase program eligibility levels and alignment

- ☑ To the extent possible, help more CT residents receive services that support high quality lives.
- Align program eligibility levels to streamline application processes for SNAP, LIHEAP, Housing assistance, Child care, etc. – making it easier to access programs and services.
- Avoid benefits cliffs by providing a limited "grace period" for people to remain on programs once they exceed income limits. This will help remove barriers to rising out of poverty.

Provide tax relief for low-income residents

- Permanently raise the State Earned Income Tax Credit to 41.5% of the federal credit.
- Permanently establish a state child tax credit of \$600/child (capped at 3 children).

Enhance support for nonprofits

- Support enhanced state funding for nonprofits, to address rising costs, the increased minimum wage, wage compression, and staff recruitment and retention.
- Streamline contracting & reporting requirements (including master contracts with addenda).

Increase rates for Meals on Wheels & Child Care

- Improve access to nutritious foods for older adults by continuing to increase third party rates for Meals on Wheels to combat rising costs of food and fuel.
- To cover the cost of high-quality early learning for our children, increase child care reimbursement rates, particularly in child care deserts.

Address the housing crisis

- Keep people housed by building on existing initiatives like eviction and foreclosure prevention, including funding mediation programs.
- Build more housing across the state that low- and moderate-income people of all ages can afford.

About Community Action Agencies (CAAs)

CAAs provide 200,000+ low-income CT residents with essential, comprehensive health and social services, such as:

- Home Heating Assistance, including LIHEAP enrollment
- Food, including SNAP enrollment and food pantries
- Early Child Care & Education, including Head Start
- Employment and Training
- Housing, including Case Management



CAAs are supported by federal funds and the Human Services Infrastructure-Community Action Program (HSI-CAP) line item in the Department of Social Services (DSS) budget. They currently also receive ARPA funds for a flexible Client Support Fund, which helps customers with a variety of needs.

Find Your Local CAA



- 1. Access Community Action Agency (Access) | 860.450.7400
- 2. Alliance for Community Empowerment (formerly ABCD, Inc.) | 203.366.8241
- 3. Community Action Agency of New Haven (CAANH) | 203.387.7700
- 4. Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut (CAAWC) | 203.744.4700
- 5. Community Renewal Team (CRT) | 860.560.5600
- 6. Human Resources Agency of New Britain (HRA) | 860.225.8601
- 7. New Opportunities, Inc. (NOI) | 203.575.9799
- 8. TEAM | 203.736.5420
- 9. Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) | 860.889.1365

For more information, contact CAFCA's Executive Director Deb Polun at 860.832.9438 or Deb@cafca.org.