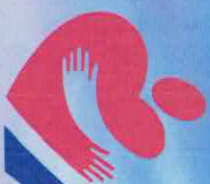


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ANNUAL REPORT



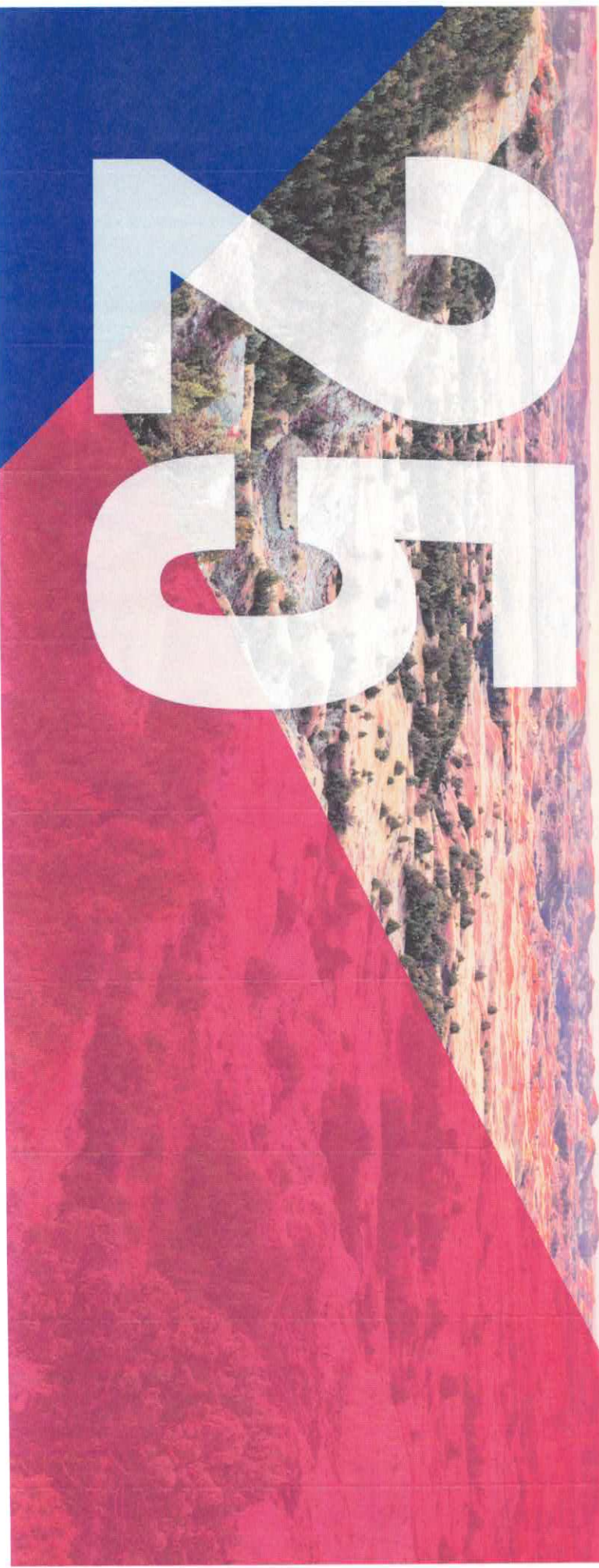
Helping People, Changing Lives

Community Action

PARTNERSHIP
of North Dakota

NORTH DAKOTA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

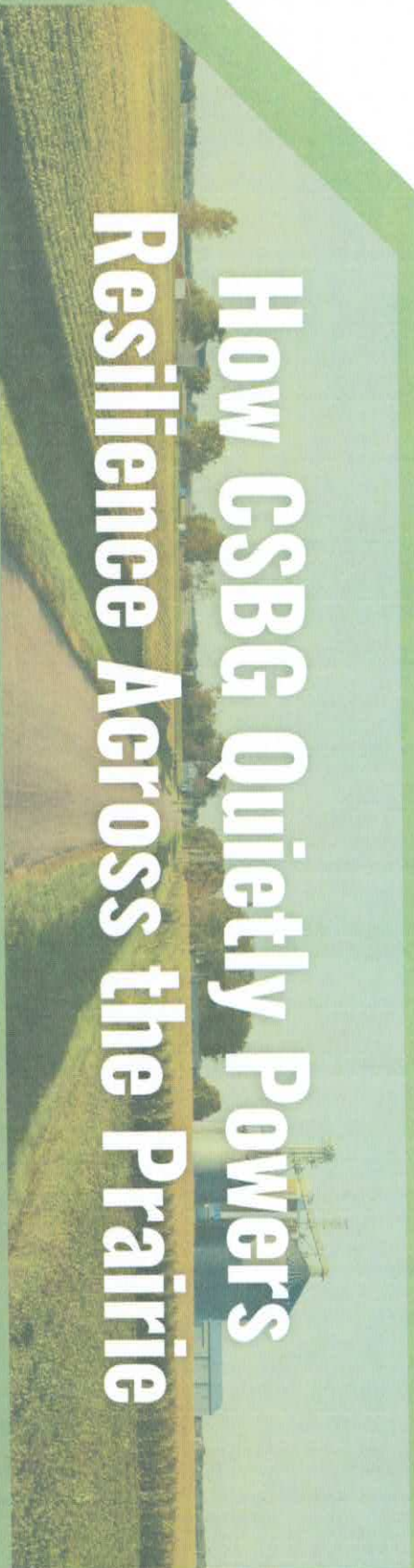
2011



COMMUNITY SERVICES

BLOCK GRANT

THE BACKBONE OF NORTH DAKOTA'S
SMALL TOWNS AND BIG HEARTS



How CSBG Quietly Powers Resilience Across the Prairie

In North Dakota, we take pride in showing up for each other. Whether it's digging someone out after a blizzard, hauling hay to a neighbor in need, or showing up to the church function with hotdish in hand—our communities are built on quiet strength and neighborly action.

But behind the scenes of all that local grit and generosity is something else: **the Community Services Block Grant, or CSBG.**

You won't hear folks brag about it. That's not how North Dakotans operate. But CSBG is there—helping families find stable housing, connecting elders with healthcare, training young people for local employment opportunities, and ensuring support reaches every community, no matter how remote.



2025 reflects meaningful community impact, not only demonstrated in data, but in the individuals and families we were able to serve throughout North Dakota.

Monica Rediscovered Confidence & Purpose Through CNA Training.

Monica is a resilient single parent supporting a multigenerational household of seven, including herself and her disabled aunt. Despite years of caretaking and financial strain, she remained determined to create a more stable future for her family. When she connected with Community Action's Career Coach Program, she shared her dream of becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), a pathway that would allow her to provide for her children while continuing to care for her aunt. With the support of a training scholarship and ongoing coaching, Monica enrolled in the self-paced CNA program at NDSCS. She excelled in her coursework and passed both portions of her licensing exam on the first attempt. Soon after, she secured stable employment with a local company providing care and assistance to aging adults, work that matches both her skill and her heart.

The impact of this success extended beyond employment. Monica became eligible for health coverage for the first time, received additional support through the Food Commodity Program for her aunt, and even became a Shriver Fellow, using her lived experience to advocate for future families navigating Community Action services. She now plans to continue her education and pursue a nursing degree.

Most importantly, Monica regained something she felt she had lost: her confidence.

Her words capture the heart of her journey:

Writing a success story for myself as a mother of five is hard for me... I feel like a failure all around at times. But I can speak on how the SENDCAA CNA Program gave me my confidence back. For so long, I have been my aunt's and family's caretaker, and everything is always on my back.

When I lost my job a few years ago, I found the CNA Program. It helped me get out of the house, learn with peers, and feel less alone. The CNA Program changed my life because I was able to get my license, and when my aunt had a fall at home, I could request she be put at my facility so I could still care for her myself. If I would not have had my license, who knows what type of care she would have received in a random place without family.

SENDCAA opened the door for me to attend Shriver meetings, too. It helps me feel like I am trying to make a difference and not just sitting in my home work bubble. Even though I don't always feel successful, the CNA Program at least gave me a little of my groove back.

IMPORTANT PROGRAMS WE WORK WITH

North Dakota Domestic and Sexual Violence Coalition

Through this partnership, we're able to help survivors of domestic violence in Western North Dakota avoid homelessness and build up their self-sufficiency by utilizing resources of local churches and shelters.



Homeowners Assistance Fund

CAPND has begun collaborating with the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services to offer the Homeowners Assistance Fund. With their help, we're able to help low income homeowners with accessibility modifications and emergency repairs. These projects focus on mobility, safety, and long-term stability.

Homeless Support Services

With combined efforts and grant funds from the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency, CAPND is able to recognise and address the urgent needs of homelessness and provide crucial support services. This initiative focuses on delivering vital assistance to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, those at risk of homelessness, and other priority populations. Supports, which include, but aren't limited to: rental assistance, financial assistance, housing stability case management, housing search and placement, and budget counseling.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

The goal of Supportive Services For Veteran Families is to promote housing stability among low-income, veteran families who reside in or are transitioning to permanent housing. SSVF helps veteran families meet primary needs of housing, while addressing barriers to housing stability. Our Community Action Agencies are able to provide families with outreach, case management, and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits. Veteran families may qualify for assistance with time-limited payments to third parties for rent, utilities, time limited hotel/motel stays, transportation, moving expenses, and licensed child care. SSVF is funded by the Veterans Administration and works through private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives.



WXFORCE IN ACTION: BUILDING THE WEATHERIZATION WORKFORCE

In 2025, CAPND launched WxForce, a statewide weatherization workforce outreach campaign designed to strengthen the long-term workforce pipeline for North Dakota's Weatherization Assistance Program. Developed in partnership with the North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (LIHEAP), the North Dakota Department of Commerce, and Absolute Studios, WxForce reflects a shared commitment to innovation, collaboration, and sustainability. Through an aggressive, multi-platform outreach strategy, including digital billboards, social media, and radio advertising, WxForce has reached individuals statewide while simultaneously increasing public awareness of the Weatherization Assistance Program and the essential role it plays in North Dakota communities. The campaign elevates weatherization as a skilled trade and a mission-driven career, connecting jobseekers directly to opportunities within the Community Action Network. WxForce has also enabled CAPND to develop durable recruitment tools that will remain in use for the lifetime of the program, including a virtual reality tour of weatherization and a four-part "Day in the Life" video series featuring real staff and real work. These tools provide an authentic, immersive look at weatherization careers and will continue to support recruitment, training, and outreach well beyond the initial campaign launch. Early results demonstrate the campaign's statewide reach and impact.



TO DATE, WXFORCE HAS GENERATED:
258 JOB APPLICATIONS
176 EMAIL INQUIRIES
AND 27 PHONE INQUIRIES
RESULTING IN 19 NEW HIRES ACROSS MULTIPLE REGIONS

These outcomes highlight both the immediate effectiveness of the campaign and its long-term value in strengthening the weatherization workforce pipeline while expanding awareness of the program itself.



**WEATHERIZATION
SUPPORTING SAFE AGING
IN PLACE IN EDMORE**



Elaine, an elderly resident of Edmore, contacted Community Action after experiencing ongoing furnace problems and dangerously cold conditions in her home. Living alone in an older house built in 1953, she was struggling to stay warm and was increasingly concerned about her safety during the winter months.

Through the Weatherization program, Community Action conducted a full assessment and identified critical needs. Weatherization services were provided, along with the installation of a new furnace and water heater, significantly improving the comfort, efficiency, and safety of Elaine's home.

As a result of these upgrades, Elaine is now able to remain safely in her home with reliable heat and improved energy efficiency. The work completed not only addressed immediate health and safety concerns but also helped ensure long-term housing stability.

Elaine shared that without this program, she does not believe she would have survived safely in her home. For her, Weatherization was not just about energy efficiency—it was about staying warm, safe, and independent. The connection built through this work mattered as much as the repairs themselves, reinforcing the role of Community Action as both a service provider and a trusted presence in the community.



MEET THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

These aren't just stories. They are proof that when we invest in people, we create ripple effects that strengthen entire communities.

Housing Stability During Time of Grief in Minot

Dylan, a single parent living in Minot, is the surviving spouse of a veteran who recently passed away. While navigating profound grief and new caregiving responsibilities, Dylan fell behind on mortgage payments and faced the risk of losing the family's home.

Through SSVF, Dylan received housing stabilization support and care coordination. His case manager leveraged non-SSVF resources to address mortgage arrears and secured additional grant funding that covered multiple months of payments, preventing foreclosure.

With housing stabilized, Dylan was able to focus on rebuilding. He secured new employment and is preparing to resume full mortgage payments. Case management support extended to connecting him with a Veterans Service Organization to begin the application process for VA spousal benefits, applying for a Veterans Hardship Grant, and enrolling both Dylan and his child in grief counseling through the Transition Assistance Program (TAPS).

Additional support including: holiday food baskets and seasonal assistance, helped bring stability and normalcy during a difficult period. Through compassionate case management and timely intervention, Dylan remained housed and began healing while building a stable future for his family.

A Veteran not Forgotten in Dickinson

Harold, an elderly Veteran living in Dickinson, reached out to Community Action after leaving an abusive living situation. With no safe place to go, he was sleeping in his truck and had lost access to both his medications and his finances. His situation placed him at serious risk, not only of homelessness, but of medical crisis and isolation.

Community Action staff immediately mobilized to ensure Harold's safety. Through close coordination with HUD-VASH, the Dickinson VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic, and VA social workers in Bismarck, staff stabilized his immediate housing through emergency placement and worked to address his urgent medical and financial needs. SSVF legal aid was engaged, and staff helped re-establish contact with Harold's adult children to rebuild his support network.

This case required an extraordinary level of coordination. Staff maintained constant communication with medical providers, family members, motel staff, Meals on Wheels, and multiple service partners to ensure Harold remained safe, nourished, and connected to care. The intensity of coordination went far beyond routine case management; it was essential to preserving Harold's health and well-being.

Through these combined efforts, Harold was ultimately accepted into the North Dakota Veterans Home in Lisbon, where he now has stable housing, medical oversight, and long-term support in place. What could have ended in tragedy instead became a transition to safety, dignity, and care.

This case was not about processing paperwork or closing a file. It was about ensuring an elderly Veteran did not disappear and that he received the care and respect he earned through his service.



BEYOND INDIVIDUALS: SYSTEMS THAT STABILIZE COMMUNITIES

CSBG gives each of North Dakota's Community Action Agencies the flexibility to respond to the challenges in their backyard. It recognizes that what works in Williston might not work in Wahpeton - and that's the point. This funding allows local people to solve local problems with local knowledge.



The Result?

LIFE - CHANGING

Communities become **more stable**.

Families **gain dignity**.

Individuals **find opportunity**.

Here's the part most folks don't see:

without CSBG, the entire system begins to unravel.



No Head Start or Early Head Start
Building the Next Generation



No Statewide Homeless
Supportive Services



No Budget Counseling or
Financial Literacy Training



No Emergency Home
Repair Program



No Supportive Services
for Veteran Families



No Sportsmen Against Hunger
Meals for Families in Crisis



No Weatherization to
Keep Homes Warm
Through the Brutal Winters

TOTAL SERVED BY COMMUNITY ACTION IN 2025

14,989
Total

REGION 1
402 Individuals
245 Families
36 Veterans
110 Children
95 Seniors

REGION 2
1,943 Individuals
867 Families
110 Veterans
710 Children
234 Seniors

REGION 3
1,411 Individuals
596 Families
40 Veterans
584 Children
144 Seniors

REGION 4
755 Individuals
367 Families
52 Veterans
250 Children
150 Seniors

REGION 7
1,579 Individuals
704 Families
70 Veterans
586 Children
189 Seniors

REGION 6
2,336 Individuals
1,005 Families
75 Veterans
835 Children
216 Seniors

REGION 5
4,513 Individuals
2,070 Families
243 Veterans
1,816 Children
755 Seniors

REGION 8
2,050 Individuals
995 Families
64 Veterans
847 Children
269 Seniors

TOTAL SERVED THROUGH HOMELESS PROGRAMS IN 2025

680
Total

REGION 1
60
Households

REGION 2
105
Households

REGION 3
48
Households

REGION 4
71
Households

REGION 7
89
Households

REGION 6
44
Households

REGION 5
209
Households

REGION 8
54
Households

MEET THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

These aren't just stories. They are proof that when we invest in people, we create ripple effects that strengthen entire communities.

Making a Home Safe, Healthy, and Stable in Mandan

Marilyn, a grandmother in Mandan, lives in her site-built home with her daughter and grandchildren. Over time, the home had developed serious safety and health risks, including a leaking roof, broken windows, failing heating and cooling systems, a rusty water heater, and poor insulation. These conditions made the home uncomfortable and hazardous, especially for a household with children and for Marilyn, who has health conditions that are worsened by heat.

Marilyn did not realize she qualified for assistance until she connected with Community Action's Weatherization, Furnace, and Readiness programs. Once enrolled, staff conducted a full assessment and coordinated a comprehensive set of repairs.

The home received a new furnace, water heater, and air conditioning system, roof repairs, three new windows, a new back door, and added attic insulation and ventilation. These upgrades eliminated safety hazards, stopped ongoing water damage, and significantly improved the home's energy efficiency and indoor air quality.

Before the work was done, the leaky roof and broken windows threatened the long-term livability of the home. Today, Marilyn's house is safer, more comfortable, and far more reliable for her family. With stable heating and cooling and a weather-tight structure, her health is more manageable and her grandchildren have a safer place to live.



MEET THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

These aren't just stories. They are proof that when we invest in people, we create ripple effects that strengthen entire communities.

Transforming a Mobile Home into a Safe, Energy-Efficient Place to Live

Angela, a single parent in Bismarck, lives in a 1974 mobile home that had fallen into severe disrepair. The home had multiple holes in the floor, missing windows, doors that would not close properly, a leaking roof, and a toilet that was literally sinking into the floor. Her furnace and water heater were old and failing, and the home leaked so much air that her heating and electric bills were overwhelming. Angela, who is battling cancer and living on a very limited income, was struggling to keep her home habitable for herself and her adult son.

When Angela reached out to Community Action, she initially hoped to get help repairing just the floors and windows. Instead, staff were able to assess the full scope of the safety, health, and energy issues in the home and bring together support through the Weatherization, Furnace, and Readiness programs to address everything at once.

Before the work was done, the home was unsafe and unhealthy. The hole in the kitchen floor was so large that pets could fall through, windows were missing, and the cold air pouring in made heating costs unaffordable. Today, Angela has a home that is dry, safe, and energy efficient. She no longer has to worry about falling through the floor, losing heat through broken windows, or unsafe heating equipment.

Because of this investment, Angela can now remain in her home with stability and dignity while focused on her health and her family instead of constant housing emergencies.

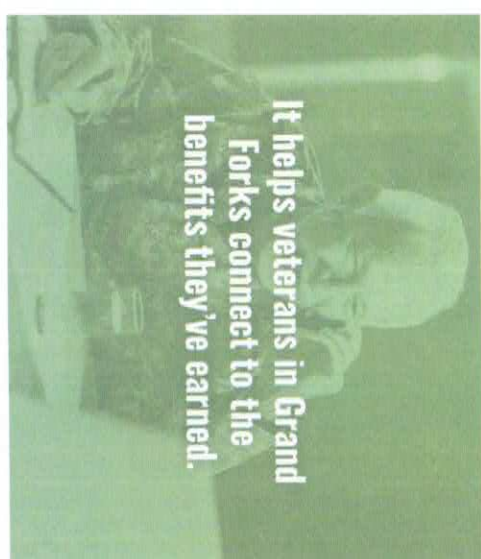
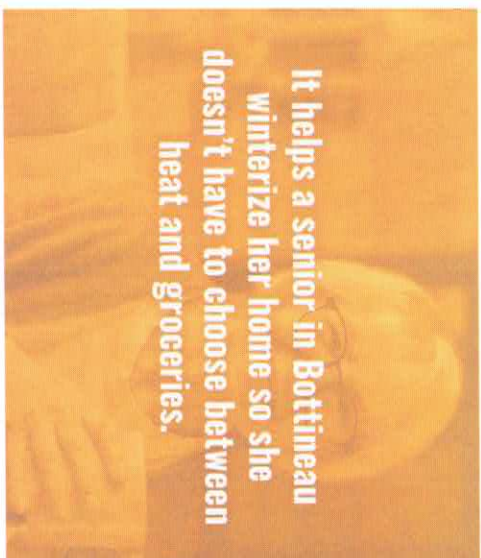
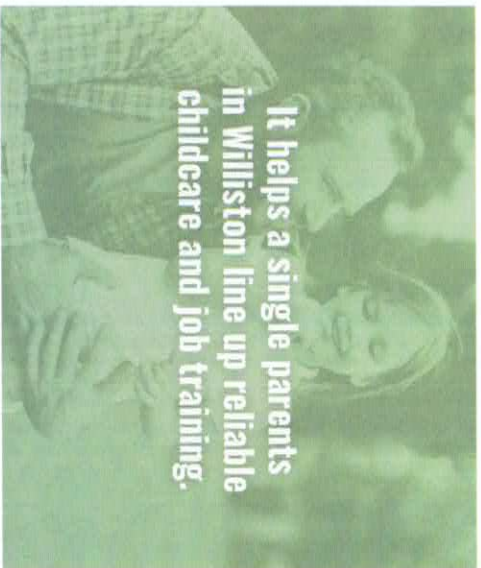
Angela's home received a rubber roof, new windows and doors, major floor repairs, attic, wall, and belly insulation, improved ventilation, a new toilet, and brand-new furnace and water heater. These repairs eliminated the dangerous floor openings, stopped water and air infiltration, and replaced failing combustion appliances with safe, reliable systems.



LOCALLY LED. COMMUNITY FOCUSED.

NORTH DAKOTA STRONG.

CSBG gives North Dakota's 6 Community Action Agencies the ability to **serve every community across the state at the local level**, rather than relying on a one-size-fits-all national solution.



And it helps every county, from Cass to Divide, meet the needs of the most vulnerable community members.

**Families
lose stability.**

Without CSBG, families facing crisis have fewer options to stay in their homes, heat them through winter, or recover after emergencies.

Partnerships unravel.

CSBG is the thread that ties together local, state, and federal partners to respond quickly and effectively. Without it, that safety net frays.

**What Happens
If CSBG
Is Cut In
North Dakota?**

**Seniors, veterans,
and children
go without.**

Nutrition support and essential services that protect vulnerable North Dakotans would shrink or disappear.

**Rural communities
are left behind.**

Without CSBG, many small towns lose the only trusted resource connecting them to housing and energy assistance.

A Quiet Force For Good

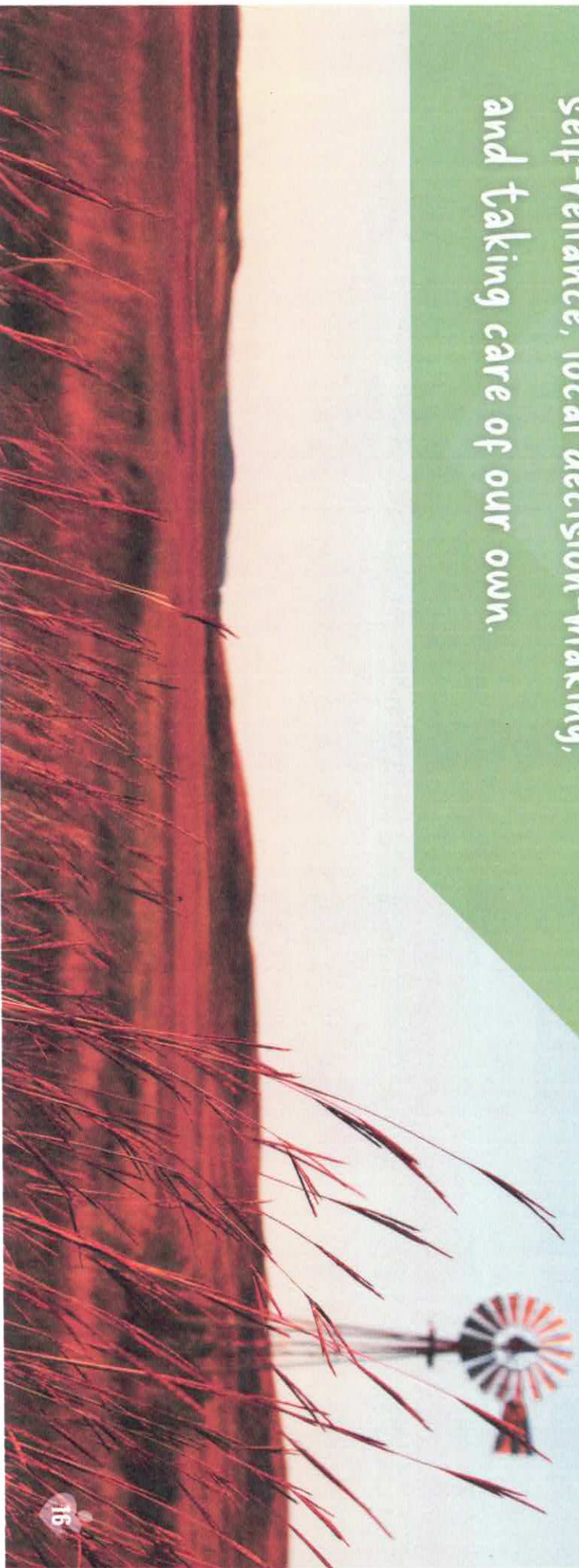
CSBG is the foundation that ties together our state's ability to rise to the moment—whether that's responding to a homelessness crisis, sheltering a family from domestic violence, or helping someone land a steady job close to home. It isn't flashy. It doesn't demand headlines. **But it delivers—every day, in every county.**

NORTH DAKOTA DOESN'T QUIT. **NEITHER SHOULD CSBG.**

We've seen what's possible when CSBG is funded and trusted: people finding their footing, families building stability, and communities weathering the storm together.

To lose CSBG would be more than a funding cut – it would be cutting off the lifeline to the very values North Dakotans live by:

*self-reliance, local decision-making,
and taking care of our own.*



SO LET'S NOT JUST SAVE A PROGRAM.

LET'S PROTECT A PROMISE.

A promise that no matter how far you live from the Capitol, how cold the winter gets, or how tough the road ahead may be – **North Dakota will always show up.**

And CSBG will be right there with us.



A POWERFUL YEAR OF SUCCESS

Network Response to the Closure of RRVCA in Region 4

In 2025, CAPND and the Community Action Network navigated the difficult closure of Red River Valley Community Action (RRVCA) in Region 4. While the decision was not made lightly, CAPND's priority throughout the transition was clear and unwavering: ensure continuity of services and protect the clients and communities who rely on Community Action programs.

Through swift coordination and strong network leadership, Community Action Agencies in Regions 3, 5, and 6 stepped forward to provide direct service coverage in Region 4, ensuring that clients continued to receive critical assistance without interruption. In addition, Region 6 assumed administration of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) in Region 4, providing stability, compliance oversight, and continuity during a complex transition period. This response demonstrated the strength of North Dakota's Community Action Network and its ability to act collectively in times of challenge. While organizational structures changed, services did not stop.

Families, individuals, and veterans in Region 4 continued to be served, supported, and connected to resources. CAPND also extends sincere appreciation to the City of Grand Forks for its partnership, collaboration, and support throughout the transition.

The City's engagement and willingness to work alongside CAPND and the Community Action Network played an important role in maintaining service continuity for local residents. This experience underscored the resilience of the Community Action Network, the importance of strong statewide coordination, and the shared commitment to ensuring that North Dakotans continue to receive essential services—even in the face of significant organizational change.



A POWERFUL YEAR OF SUCCESS

CAPND Poverty Simulation at Spring Symposium


The Community Action Partnership was honored to host a poverty simulation experience for attendees of the 2025 Economic & Medicaid Eligibility Spring Symposium. The poverty simulation experience is designed to help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month-to-month. The object is to sensitize participants to the realities faced by low-income people.

In the simulation, participants assume the roles of different families facing poverty. Some families are newly unemployed, some are homeless, and others are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), either with or without additional earned income. At the end of the simulation participants and volunteers shared their feelings and experiences as well as discussed what they learned about the lives of people living in poverty.

Community Action Month

Community Action Month, recognized each May, honors how Community Action Agencies support individuals and families during times of need and help them regain stability. These programs are intentionally designed to be short-term, targeted, and outcomes-driven, ensuring families can move toward self-sufficiency and long-term stability. When participants no longer need services, Community Action has successfully fulfilled its role, allowing resources to be responsibly reallocated to serve other community members facing crisis.

Throughout Community Action Month, CAPND and its network highlight this effective approach, one that strengthens families, supports workforce participation, and maximizes the impact of public investment across North Dakota.

A woman in a black dress is standing and presenting to a group of people seated around a table in a meeting room. The room has a brick wall and a window with blinds. The text 'A POWERFUL YEAR OF SUCCESS' is overlaid on the top half of the image.

A POWERFUL YEAR OF SUCCESS

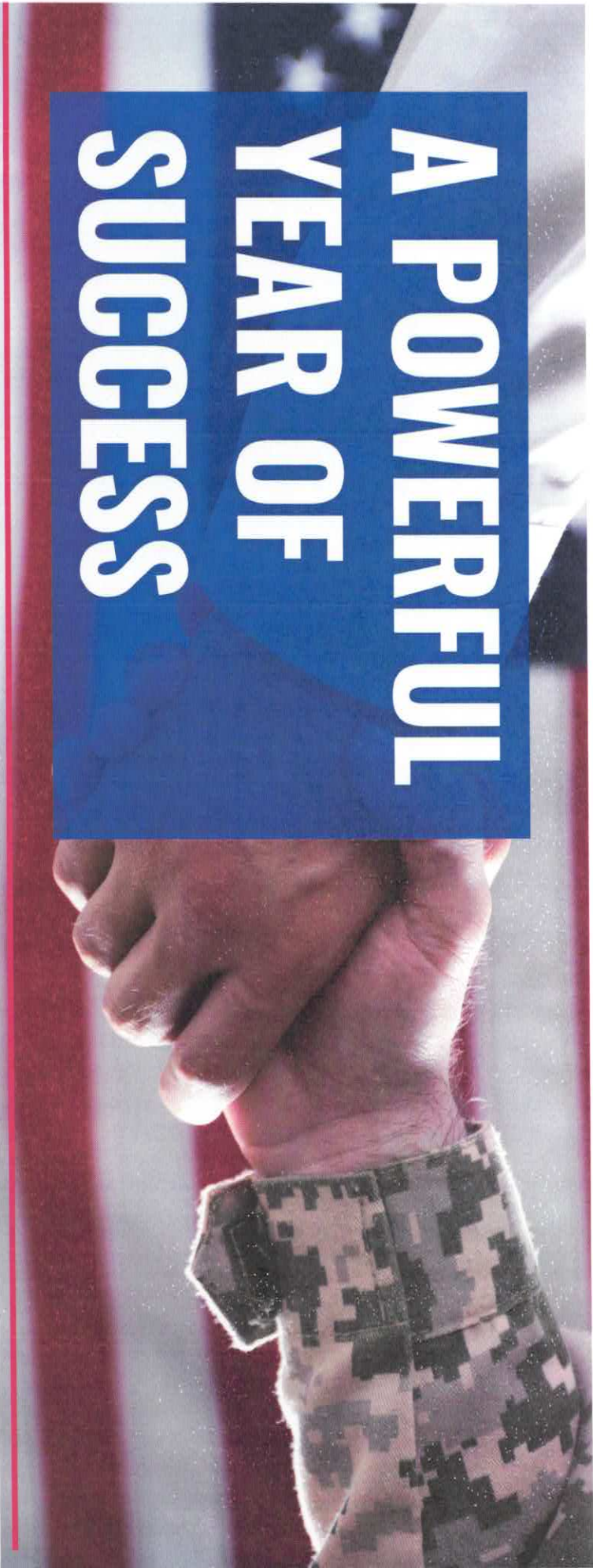
Strengthening Governance Through Statewide Board Training.

In 2025, CAPND expanded its statewide training efforts to ensure Community Action Board Members across North Dakota fully understand their roles and responsibilities in overseeing federally and state-funded programs. Recognizing that strong governance is essential to organizational stability and long-term impact, CAPND made Uniform Guidance and financial oversight training broadly available to Board Members statewide.

CAPND offers quarterly board training designed to support informed, engaged, and effective governance. These trainings intentionally focused on financial oversight, responding to the increasing complexity of funding streams, heightened compliance expectations, and the critical role boards play in fiscal accountability. To support this effort, CAPND partnered once again with WIPFL, LLP to deliver specialized training tailored specifically for Community Action Boards. These sessions helped board members build confidence in reviewing financial statements, understanding audit reports, identifying red flags, and

asking the right questions to support transparency and accountability. Training also emphasized the shared financial responsibilities between Boards and Executive Directors and reinforced best practices for communication, risk management, and decision-making.

By investing in consistent, high-quality board training, CAPND is strengthening governance across the network, promoting statewide consistency, and ensuring boards are well-equipped to provide meaningful oversight. These efforts help protect public resources, support agency leadership, and ultimately strengthen services delivered to low-income individuals and families across North Dakota.



A POWERFUL YEAR OF SUCCESS

Securing State Funding to Support North Dakota Veterans

Throughout 2025, CAPND played a key role in securing and launching a new State of North Dakota investment to support veterans experiencing housing instability. Working in close partnership with the Governor's Office, the North Dakota Legislature, the North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs, and local County Veteran Service Officers, CAPND was entrusted to administer and coordinate the implementation of State VA Financial Assistance funds across the Community Action Network.

This funding fills critical gaps that cannot be addressed through federal resources alone and was designed to complement, not replace, existing Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) programming. CAPND led statewide training, policy development, and oversight to ensure the funds are used responsibly, consistently, and in direct support of veteran housing stability and well-being. From the outset, there was a clear understanding that this was not just a funding opportunity, but a commitment.

The Legislature and Governor's Office specifically requested strong data, clear documentation, and measurable outcomes. Strong performance in this initial phase has positioned the program for future sustainability, with the potential for expanded state funding in subsequent years. This effort reflects CAPND's ability to steward public resources, respond to emerging needs, and deliver results through coordinated, statewide action in service to North Dakota veterans.

Thank you to the following for making this possible!

Lonnie Wanger, North Dakota Department of Veteran Affairs
Chris Deery, Cass County Veteran Services Officer
Rick Olek, Administrative Committee on Veteran Affairs
North Dakota State Legislators
CAPND Executive Directors
Marshall, SSVF Veteran
Karen and Max, CAPND SSVF Case Managers

THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS

Veterans Administration From Federal and State Levels
North Dakota Housing Finance Agency
North Dakota Domestic and Sexual Violence Coalition
North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
North Dakota Department of Commerce

**COMMUNITY ACTION
WAS ABLE TO SERVE:**



14,984
Individuals



688
Veterans



6,834
Families



5,271
Children
(Ages 0-17)



2,039
Seniors
(Ages 65+)