



Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc.

**KEEPING THE PROMISE
THROUGH COMMITMENT**

2014 Annual Report

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014

Our Vision

To create opportunities for all citizens to realize their potential
to become self-sufficient.

SMTCCAC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Board members pictured- seated left to right - Jennifer Sibley, Joyce Freeland (Treasurer), Susan Mattingly and Mary Dryden; standing - Ernest Downs (Chairman), Elzora Trimmer, Anita Bratcher-Butler (Secretary), Josephus L. Harris, Jr. , and Richard Lord (1st Vice Chair).

The agency is governed by a volunteer board of directors, with equal representation from Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties' consumers, representatives from the private sector and representatives of local elected officials

Board Members

Calvert County

Josephus L. Harris, Jr.
Naomi Watkins
Dr. Susan Mattingly

Charles County

Michele Green-Harrison
Elzora Trimmer
Martia Hayward

St. Mary's County

Dr. Nancy Zearfoss
Mary E. Dryden
Jennifer Sibley

Officers

Ernest Downs - Chairman
Charles County

Richard L. Lord - 1st Vice Chair
St. Mary's County

Delois M. Barnes - 2nd Vice Chair
Charles County

Joyce Freeland - Treasurer
Calvert County

Anita Bratcher-Butler - Secretary
Charles County

Our Mission

To provide services to eligible citizens that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty, promote upward mobility and enrich the quality of life.

Agency Background

Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc. (SMTCCAC) was incorporated as a 501(c)3 in August 1965. Three Calvert County citizens took action out of concern over the level of poverty in their county.

Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's residents, have composed the board in equal numbers since county commissioners from the three counties designated SMTCCAC as the official recipient of Economic Opportunity Act funds in 1965. Those funds were received after the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland submitted a grant application on SMTCCAC's behalf.

SMTCCAC's first five employees were hired and began a 49 year history of service with the operation of Community Organization and Youth Corps in 1966. Head Start and three other programs began in 1967 to further address needs.

The agency has offered services since that time. The menu of services has been modified over time as the needs in communities changed, new approaches were appropriate and other service providers became active in filling gaps in services. We now partner with them.

MESSAGE FROM SMTCCAC, Inc.'s LEADERSHIP



Ernest Downs, Board Chair

A handwritten signature of Ernest Downs in blue ink.



Swynice M. Hawkins, President

A handwritten signature of Swynice M. Hawkins in blue ink.

We are determined to Change Lives and Build Communities

We would like to thank our friends, partners and supporters on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc. for joining us in embracing the Community Action Promise.

You **Helped People to Help Themselves!** The success achieved in the lives of the agency's consumers would not have been possible without partnerships at all levels - federal, state, local and private levels.

SMTCCAC, Inc. endured another year of major budget cuts, although challenged, we continued to provide services, when and where they were needed.

As we prepare to enter our 50th year of service our board and staff remain steadfast to address our Guiding Principles. The work of empowering people to meet their basic human needs and work toward a brighter day must continue!

Thanks again to our current partners and collaborators. We welcome others interested in working with us help bring about progress in the lives of the working poor and other vulnerable members of the Southern Maryland Community.



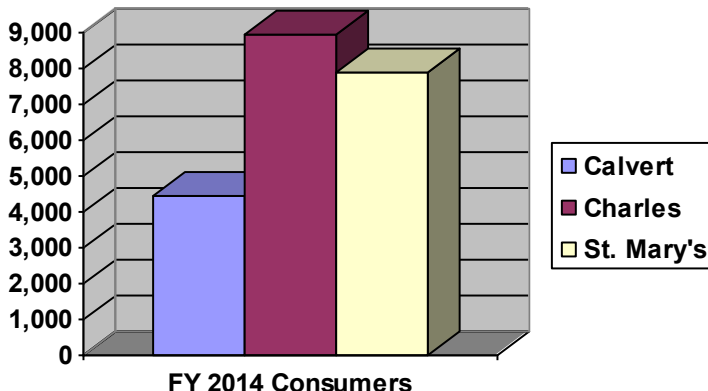
SMTCCAC SERVED 21,249 UNDUPLICATED CONSUMERS

Number of Consumers and Percentage by County

4,462 - Calvert - 21%

8,925 - Charles - 42%

7,862 - St. Mary's - 37%

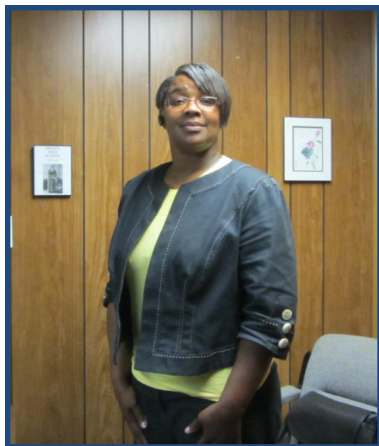


OUR COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes Southern Maryland a better place to live.

We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

HELPING PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES



"God blessed me to be able to do what I can for myself. If you need help, you have to go ask for it."

Ms. Tonya Mackall was born and raised in Calvert County. This working mother of five, has daughter in college in Rhode Island and a son with a profound disability who attend the Maryland School for the Blind. She came to SMTCCAC, Inc. seeking the services of the Office of Home Energy Programs, her electric service had been terminated.

She was both happy and relieved to have the worry of paying her monthly home energy bills made lighter after learning that she was eligible to receive a grant to assist her during the year.

SMTCCAC'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Currently all people are not equal in their access to opportunities to create success
- Every family should have the opportunity to financially support themselves
- Children and families must be afforded quality services and opportunities that foster growth and development
- Basic human needs must be addressed prior to implementing change; they include food, clothing, utilities, and health care
- Education, Health, & Economic opportunity systems must function to offer success to all
- Housing opportunities must be made available at affordable levels for all persons
- Affordable education, skill training and retraining must be available to all citizens
- Multi- and trans-disciplinarian approaches to service delivery are comprehensive and cost effective models to meeting needs
- Affordable support systems: transportation, child and adult care, and services to the disabled are needed to encourage economic independence.
- In an environment that affords opportunities for self-fulfillment, all people are expected to employ personal commitment and determination to achieve success in their life
- Successful programs must involve consumers in planning, development and assessment

INVOLVING COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS



The Office of Home Energy Programs held an Energy Assistance Fair in partnership with SMECO, a utility company, in SMECO's Hughesville location. SMECO staff volunteered to provide access to bills, printing and photocopy services needed to complete energy assistance applications.

The event allowed the public to apply and complete their application in one day, or leave knowing what was needed to complete their application. They also received a compact fluorescent bulb and information on energy conservation.

OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

SMTCCAC strives to achieve the National Goals of Community Action Agencies, those goals are:

1. Low-income people become more self-sufficient.
2. The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.
3. Low-income people own a stake in their community.
4. Partnerships among service providers to low-income people are achieved.
5. The Agency increases its capacity to achieve results.
6. Low-income people, especially populations that are most vulnerable, achieve their potential by promoting family and other supportive environments.

SMTCCAC'S 2014 ACTIVITIES

Affordable Rental Housing
Career Training School for Class B Commercial Driver's License
Head Start Program
The Energy Assistance Program
The Tri-County Fuel Fund
Friendly Health Services
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
Housing Counseling Services
Southern Maryland Rural Area Transportation (SMART)
Senior Companion Program
Tri-County AmeriCorps Service Project
The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
Weatherization Program

SMTCCAC'S FUNDERS

Bank of America
Board of Directors
C & F Mortgage
E*TRADE Bank
Charles County Government
St. Mary's County Government
Corporation for National and Community Service
Governor's Office on Service & Volunteerism
The Housing Assistance Council (HAC)
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Maryland Energy Administration
MD Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD)
Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR)
PNC Bank
Private Individuals
SunTrust Bank
Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland
Rotary Club of St. Mary's County - Lexington Park
Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO)
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
United Ways of Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's County
Wal-Mart Corporation

AFFORDABLE RENTALS

SMTCCAC, Inc., through its partnerships, provides affordable rentals to residents in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's County residents. A listing of the rental housing portfolio with current rents are shown.

THE COURTYARDS AT FISHING CREEK I (Kellams II)

3945 & 3955 Gordon Stinnett Ave, Chesapeake Beach, MD

30 Garden Apartment Units

1 bedroom (6) & 2 bedrooms (24)

Rents - \$490 to \$875, plus utilities

THE COURTYARDS AT FISHING CREEK II (Kellams III)

3925 & 3935 Gordon Stinnett Ave, Chesapeake Beach, MD

30 Garden Apartment Units

1 bedroom (6) & 2 bedrooms (24)

Rents - \$580 to \$820, plus utilities

FISHING CREEK TOWNHOMES (Kellams IV)

3861 & 3921 Gordon Stinnett Ave, Chesapeake Beach, MD

16 Townhouse Units

2 bedroom (8) & 3 bedrooms (8)

Rents - \$580 to \$940, plus utilities

PRINCE FREDERICK VILLAS

Stamper Court, Prince Frederick, MD

25 Townhouse Apartments

1 bedroom (6), 2 bedrooms (13) & 3 bedrooms (6)

Rents - \$680 to \$1,182 - rental assistance on all units
(tenants pay 30% of their income)

YARDLEY HILLS I

Yardley Drive, Prince Frederick, MD

28 Multi-family units

2 bedrooms (14), 3 bedrooms (12) & 4 bedrooms (2)

Rents - Average \$700 - \$900

YARDLEY HILLS II

76 Multi-family units

2 bedrooms (38) & 3 bedrooms (38)

Rents - Average \$850 - \$950

DIGGS CIRCLE

Nanjemoy Drive, La Plata, MD

20 Townhouse Apartments

2 bedrooms (7 units) & 3 bedrooms (13)

Rents - \$756 to \$950, plus utilities

HUNTING CREEK

46925 Crocus Street, Lexington Park, MD 20653

70 Townhouse Apartments

1 bedroom (6), 2 bedrooms (36 units) & 3 bedrooms (28)

Rents - \$458 to \$1,040, plus utilities

Income limits apply



Townhomes at Yardley Hills



Several Diggs Circle units received Weatherization services this year. Other eligible units are scheduled for work in 2015.

FRIENDLY HEALTH SERVICES

Friendly Health Services is certified as a medical adult day care and Senior Center Plus by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. It provides services Monday through Friday in Huntington, Calvert County, Maryland.

The qualified staff worked hard to help those under their care during the day to maintain their highest level of functioning. The staff's registered nurse ensured participants maintained their prescribed dietary and medical regimens. The adult day care program helped participants maintain their highest possible level of health and functional abilities through social interaction, activities and nutrition.

Maintaining the projected enrollment continued to be a challenge. The majority of participants are Medicaid recipients. The eligibility and approval process for adult day care has become especially cumbersome for those who depend on Medicaid funding to pay for a day of care in the program.

Meeting the transportation needs of participants became easier with the arrival of a new small bus with passenger and wheelchair seating. The bus was purchased with the help of a 5310 FTA capital assistance grant.

- 3,553 Days of Care
- 14 Elderly and 22 Disabled Persons
- 182 Round Trips for Doctor Appointments
 - 86 Round Trips for Pharmacy



FRIENDS ARE MADE AT FRIENDLY

Debbie is a 55 year old woman who has a number of ailments — bipolar disorder, hypothyroidism, short term memory loss and Huntington's Chorea. She had been extremely active until her illness slowed her down and she began dealing with depression and behavioral issues. She started attending Friendly Health Services.

She started attending Friendly Health Services in 2012, two days a week. Her caretaker needed respite. Staff was briefed on how best to communicate with Debbie. The main thing was to take a low-key approach with her and remain attentive.

Debbie's socialization at Friendly Health Services has gone well. Attendance in the program has had a beneficial effect on her. She is less anxious around small groups of people and has been able to reduce the amount of medication she takes.

Debbie enjoys many activities the program offers. She does well with trivia, plays cards with staff and other participants. She gets involved with arts and crafts and shows her competitiveness during bean bag toss.

Attending Friendly Health Services has given Debbie something to look forward to because she says all she did before was stay at home, look at television and clean her house.

Debbie now looks forward to time spent with the staff and the friends she has made at the center. She feels comfortable enough to speak her mind, joke and play with the other participants. She feels at home there with them.

COMMERCIAL DRIVERS LICENCE TRAINING

The Commercial Driver's License Training program completed its 12th year of operation as an approved Maryland Higher Education Career Training School. The program operates year-round and accepts students on an on-going basis.

- 15 graduated with a Class B Commercial Driver's License
- 15 have found employment or were able to advance in their current job using their new certification

Graduates left the program qualified to drive box trucks, dump trucks, mixer trucks, passenger buses and school buses.



As a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) approved vendor the school partners with the Department of Labor and Licensing and Regulations, the Department of Rehabilitative Services, Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board. The school also partnered with employers and other funding sources such as the United Way of Charles County and Charles County Government.

BRITTANY TAKES GOALS & TAKES THEM SERIOUSLY

Sometimes the people who come through our doors have a long-term relationship with our agency and its programs as they progress in their lives. Brittany is a success story for both CDL and Head Start!

Brittany Rawls enrolled her son, Keith, in the Head Start program at Eva Turner in 2011-2012 program year. She was shy and reserved. The second year that Keith was enrolled at the center Brittany became the secretary for the Center Parent Committee for the 2012-2013 program year. She enjoyed the position and the responsibilities that came with it.

As a parent, Brittany created goals to work on herself and her family. She submitted an application to work with the Head Start program and was hired as a substitute. Soon she became a fulltime substitute bus/nutrition aide at Health Partners center. While attending SMTCCAC's new hire orientation she learned about other programs the agency provided to the community.

Brittany set a goal of obtaining her Commercial Driver's License (CDL) for herself so that she could earn additional income. She enrolled in SMTCCAC's CDL training program attending classes evenings while she continued to work during the day. She completed the program and her first goal - earning her Class B CDL the summer of 2014, while working in the summer program.

Brittany enrolled her daughter in the Head Start program the following year and resumed her role of secretary for the Center Parent Committee and as a substitute when needed.

With her new license, Brittany found employment with VanGo in September 2014, achieving another of her goals!

Ever looking forward, she has set yet another goal - earning a college degree. The once shy and reserved parent is now a confident secretary and employed bus driver. She is a model for her children on how to set and achieve any goal you set for yourself.

HEAD START PROGRAM

One Parent Families	
Employed	53
Unemployed	40

Purpose and Mission

SMTCCAC Head Start's mission is to promote school readiness by assisting eligible families to improve social, emotional and cognitive development of the individual child through the support of educational, health, nutritional and community services.

The Head Start program promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provisions of educational, health, nutritional, social, and other services to enrolled children and families.

The following report is based on statistics from the 2013-2014 program year. SMTCCAC was funded to serve 120 children in Charles County.

132 Children were Served During the Year
123 Families were served

Child Demographics

Ethnicity

12 were of Hispanic/Latino origin, 120 were not.

Race

Black or African American	102
White	10
Bi-racial or Multi-racial	11
Other race	9

Family Demographics

24% or 30 were two parent families
 76% or 93 were single-parent families

Families Highest Level of Education

Bachelors degree or higher	10
Associates degree or higher	42
High School or GED	64
Less than high school	7

Employment

Two Parent Families	
Both employed	6
One unemployed	15
Both unemployed	9

Head Start Components

EDUCATION

The program's goal is to ensure that children leave Head Start with increased abilities and experiences that have prepared them to be successful students on all levels and ready for kindergarten. Teaching Strategies Gold was used to provide a developmentally appropriate early childhood education program. An individualized learning program was developed for each child.



MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES/SPECIAL NEEDS

Regardless of the disability or special need of any child, all children learn better when grouped in a classroom with their typically developing peers. At least 10% of Head Start's funded enrollment was set aside for children with diagnosed disabilities. These children participated in the full range of classroom activities and had their individual needs met.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Children were screened within 45 days to identify and address vision and hearing problems early so that they do not interfere with a child's learning and development. Staff assisted families to provide comprehensive health care for their child.

Children were taught basic health practices, such as hand washing and tooth brushing.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation was provided for two of the centers. Transportation is in accordance with state and federal requirements. A bus monitor was on each route to ensure safety and extend the learning of the children.

HEALTHY MEALS

The program ensured that the children received a healthy breakfast, lunch, and/or snack. The meals were served family style to encourage the development of social and language skills. A wide variety of foods with emphasis on fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and limited sugar, salt and fats. Menus were reviewed by a registered dietitian.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Involving parents in the Head Start Program is an important aspect of providing an excellent program.

CLASSROOM OUTCOMES

120 children were in part-day classes - 3.5 hours a day, 4 days a week

The average monthly enrollment was 109

45 children transitioned to kindergarten.

SCHOOL READINESS PLAN and GOALS

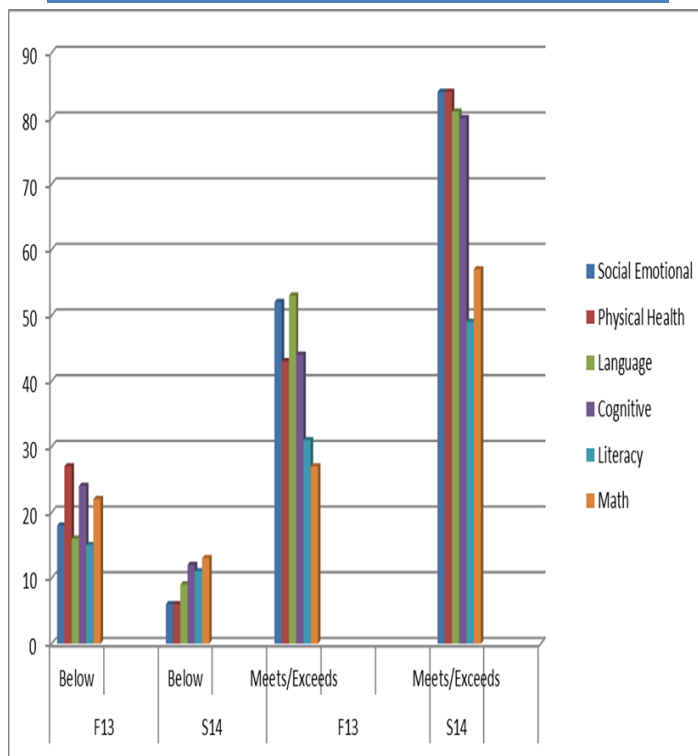
Our School Readiness Plan and goals were developed using prior program year data, aggregated to align program efforts with Maryland Department of Education-MMSR, the National Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework and Teaching Strategies Gold for Early Childhood Development. Critical Areas were addressed with the collaborative efforts of teachers, parents, and community resources. The program focused on the following domains within the Head Start Learning Framework.

- **Social-Emotional Development**
- **Language and Literacy**
- **Physical Development and Health**
- **Approached to Learning**
- **Cognitive and General Knowledge**
- **Family Engagement**

CHILD OUTCOMES

Children in the Head Start program were assessed using the Teaching Strategies Gold Indicators of development and learning for their age level and beyond - assessments were conducted Fall, Winter and Spring. The outcomes were used to plan classroom activities to maximize the development of each individual child in the School Readiness Goal areas of Social/Emotional, Physical Health, Language, Cognitive, Literacy and Math.

School Readiness Goals—Fall to Spring Progress



Great progress in the domain and element areas by the end of 2013-2014 Program Year. Curriculum tools, resources, and guidelines were used to produce and present engaging lesson plans to ensure strengthening of literacy and math skills, which were identified as the weakest domain areas.

Three year olds made up 40% of Head Start children. They performed slightly better in the science, social studies and creative art domains than four year olds.

Focus areas in the 2014-2015 Program Year will specifically concentrate on implementing Literacy and Math Domain Areas.



Damarys Fletcher, Health Coordinator conducts intake with a parent interested in enrolling two of her children.

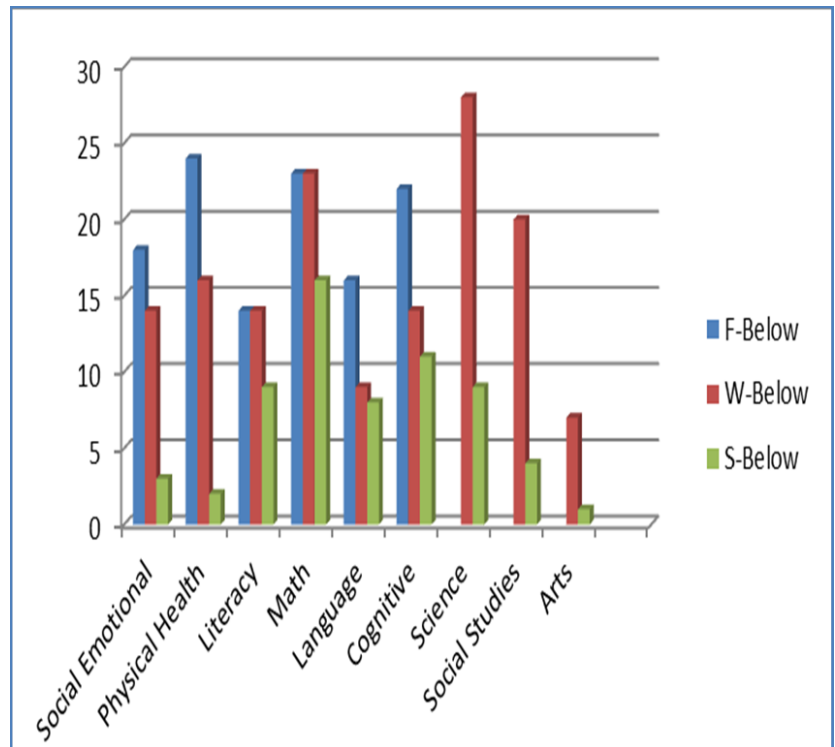


A Head Start child spends time on the computer workstation.

Steady improvement was made in all areas by all of the Head Start children who were below level during the year as demonstrated in the chart to the right.

Final Spring 2014 data shows that SMTCCAC, Inc. Head Start children progressed in all the essential domain areas. Based on the data review, revision for improvement and additional strategies will occur in the following areas:

- School Readiness Goals & RUBRIC 2014-2015 Program Year
- Literacy and Math skills will be main targets
- Teaching Strategies Gold Interrater Reliability Certification
- CLASS-Assessment Scoring System
- Teacher trainings and coaching (Teacher Quality Policy)
- Family Involvement



F = Fall W = Winter S = Spring

HEALTH OUTCOMES

	At Enrollment		End of Year	
	Number of Children	% of Enrollment	Number of Children	% of Enrollment
Have Health Insurance	131	99.2	131	99.2
Ongoing source for medical care	132	100	132	100
Ongoing source for dental care	127	96.2	131	99.2
Have up-to-date immunizations	125	94.7	117	88.8

PARENT INVOLVEMENT & FAMILY SERVICES

The key components of achieving parent involvement in the program are as follows:

- Creating a partnership with parents to empower them to set and achieve family goals - Relationships with parents are built beginning at enrollment. Families are linked to services necessary for them to move toward their goals. Parents are encouraged to apply for staff positions.
- Ensuring programs are open to parents at any time - Parents are provided opportunities to volunteer and be involved in the development of curriculum. Parents assist in organizing center parent committees.
- Supporting parents as primary teacher for their children - Parents are involved in determining the educational goals for their children and provided with opportunities to enhance their parenting skills. The program assists parents transition their children into school. Parents are helped to become active partners in assessing health care for their children.

Policy Council

Policy Council is an elected group of parents that assist with decision-making and governance of the Head Start in program . Parents were elected from each Head Start center to serve as representatives on Policy Council in September and October of 2013. Fifteen parents attended during the year. In addition, a community representative from the Judy Center and a board member participated throughout the year.

The work of the Policy Council included some of the following: review and approval of program policies and component work plans; input on hiring committees and approval of regular staff and substitutes; input, review, and approval of the new Head Start program design and budget; and participation in program self-assessment.



The parents of the SMTCCAC, Inc. Policy Council held a successful benefit dinner at the La Plata Fire Department on May 23, 2014. It was an evening of food, entertainment and a silent auction. The parents were pleased with the participation they received from community partners to benefit the children of Head Start.

FY 2012-2013 Budget

Categories	Budgeted	Spent	Non-Federal Match	Explanation
Personnel	380,839	89	11,407	Parent Volunteers
Fringe	130,457	756,297		
Travel	3,500	755		
Supplies	9,431	4,994		
Contractual	14,340	29,664	3,460	Community Vols.
Other	536,245	597,221	146,070	Classroom Space/ Other Expenses
Training & Technical Assistance	8,290	8,334		
Indirect	47,467	66,457		
	656,947	656,947	162,798	

Community volunteers include public school speech therapists, county librarians, volunteer firemen, the Charles County Health Department.

In-kind space includes Health Partners, the Charles County Public Library System and the Charles Health Department.

HOUSING COUNSELING PROGRAM

SMTCCAC is a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved housing counseling agency. Our housing counselors work with the general public. The program collaborates with numerous local entities and is part of the Maryland Housing Counseling Network.

The Housing Counseling Program offered a comprehensive array of services - pre-purchase homeownership counseling, budget counseling, credit counseling, mortgage default counseling, reverse mortgage counseling and rental delinquency counseling.

Nine homebuyer workshops were held with **106 people** in attendance. **15 participants** of those workshops and the counseling that followed **purchased homes**. The purchase of those homes put a total of **\$3,301,343** back into the local economy and provided the homeowners with a valuable asset.

101 households received **default and delinquency counseling** to inform them on options available to help them avoid losing their homes to foreclosure. The challenge was getting people in before things had progressed too far to make saving their home possible.

Outcomes for those clients were as follows:

- **17** received mortgage modifications
- **two** refinanced
- **13** attended mediations



Default and Delinquency Workshops were held on Saturdays to allow homeowners to learn their options for retaining their homes after falling behind on mortgage payments. Sessions were conducted by SMTCCAC's HUD certified counselors.

Eight households were able to participate the **Home Affordable Refinance Program (HARP)** or the **Making Homes Affordable Modification Program (HAMP)** to allow them to refinance to a lower interest rate or make 3-month trial payments at reduced rates, usually at 31% of their income to retain their homes.

A **United Way of Charles County critical needs grant** and **Bank of America grant** allowed **19 households**, **12** in Charles County and **seven** in St. Mary's County, to remain in their homes after receiving monetary rent or mortgage assistance. A total of **\$6,657** was disbursed to those households.

Housing counselors provided budget counseling **223 households**, **151** of those households were able to maintain a budget for 90-days.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

The program, also known as HOPWA was administered by Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc. under contract with the Prince George's County Housing Authority using Housing and Urban Development funding.

Eighteen Calvert County residents living with AIDS received assistance with their monthly rent in the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program administered by SMTCCAC, Inc. They were responsible for using 30% of their income for rent and utilities, anything over that was handled by the program. **\$133,609** was expended for **rental and utility assistance**.

TRI-COUNTY FUEL FUND

Households facing the possibility having their utility service disconnected or struggling to come up with enough money to have service reinstated, obtain oil, propane, kerosene and sometimes wood to keep their homes safe and habitable were able to utilize the services of the Tri-County Fuel Fund. Administered mid-January through April, the benefit dollars received by clients from the Fuel Fund are used to match a portion of the amount owed to the vendor or utility. A portion of the funds must come from the client. Oftentimes more funds are needed to resolve their problem. When that occurs the Fuel Fund intake worker makes referrals to other organizations and churches that may have funds to fill the gap to resolve their problem. The network of providers work closely to meet the need of households who may not be eligible for the Maryland Energy Assistance Program or perhaps have already received the allowed annual grant but still face hardship.

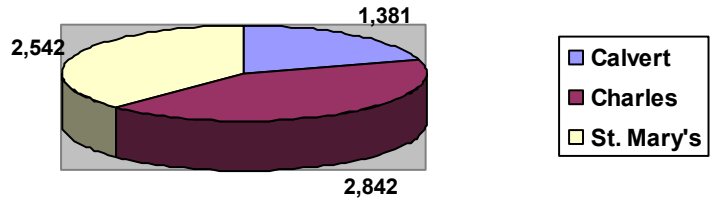
- **108 Households received funding**
- **\$37,340 in monetary assistance was provided**
- **21 Calvert County Households**
\$6,853 disbursed
- **58 Charles County Households**
\$20,722 disbursed
- **29 St. Mary's County Households**
\$9,765 disbursed

The Tri-County Fuel Fund was administered using funds that came to the agency from donations made by local residents, organizations and Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative's (SMECO) Members Helping Members initiative. Funds donated directly to Members Helping Members can only be used for SMECO customers. The Rotary Club of Lexington Park donated funds designated for St. Mary's County residents and funds from United Way of Charles County were designated for residents of that county.

OFFICE OF HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS

SMTCCAC serves the three Southern Maryland jurisdictions as the local administering agency for Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) Office of Home Heating Programs (OHEP).

7,331 households applied for energy assistance in the program year, **6,765** households received grants to assist them with their primary heating source and electric bills through the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP), Maryland's Low-Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP). MEAP benefits went directly back into the local economy when they were disbursed directly to energy and fuel providers on behalf of the applicants.



Households Certified for MEAP

MEAP Funds Expended by County

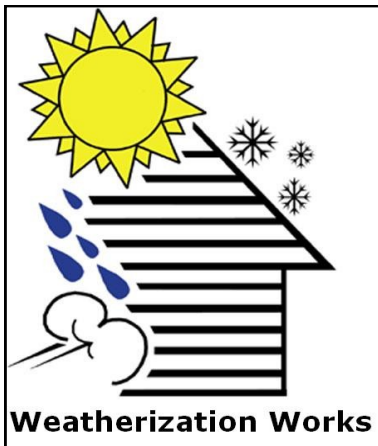
Calvert	Charles	St. Mary's
\$771,725	\$1,623,462	\$1,714,963

Households also benefited from the Electric Universal Service Bill Assistance and Arrearage Programs (EUSP). These grants made home energy bills more affordable and helped provide stability when it was most needed. Many first-time customers were able to learn about and enroll in the Universal Service Protection Plan and begin making even monthly payments for electric service.

EUSP Funds Expended by County

Calvert	Charles	St. Mary's
\$974,190	\$1,845,921	\$1,624,223

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM



This past year The **Weatherization Assistance Program** provided service to **97** clients.

- **16** in **Calvert** County
- **56** in **Charles** County
- **25** in **St. Mary's** County.

Of the 97 households that received home energy audits, 63 of those households received weatherization services such as installation of insulation, caulking, hot water heater wraps, low-flow shower heads and CFL bulbs to improve the energy efficiency in the home. Forty-nine (49) households received furnaces and air conditioning units re-

placed in homes. Funding was made available through the EmPower Maryland and the Mary-

land Energy Administration programs. Another 13 homes had their furnaces repaired using funds from the U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program.

The EmPower Maryland Energy Efficient Act was established in 2008. In 2012 the utility companies transitioned the low income energy efficient program to The Department of Housing and Community Development's Weatherization Assistance Program. Because of this funding, we were able to repair or replace air conditioning units, which previously had not been a part of the Weatherization Assistance Program.

THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Emergency Food Assistance Program, also known as TEFAP, is a U.S. Department of Agriculture program that is administered through the State. There were many changes in the way the program operated this year. After many years of being designated as an Emergency Feeding Organization (EFO) that designation was assumed by the Maryland Food Bank. SMTCCAC, Inc. continued in its role as a link in the safety net for families facing food insecurity forming new partnerships, such as the one formed with End Hunger of Calvert County. The program was able to continue receiving and distributing supplemental food to households that are not always sure where their next meal is coming from.

Ten food shipments were received - **514,751** pounds of food, valued at **\$320,390** was received and distributed in the community by volunteers. This food helped stock the shelves of **28 food pantries** and **2 soup kitchens**.

23,933 food packages were provided to households living at 150% of federal poverty guidelines thanks to the program.

- **8,273** went to **Calvert** households
- **10,550** went to **Charles** households
- **5,110** went to **St. Mary's** households

Approximately **500** volunteers contributed to the success of the program, without them the food would not get offloaded, warehoused, loaded again when pantries pick it up or distributed to families facing food insecurity.

TRI-COUNTY AMERICORPS SERVICE PROJECT



The Tri-County AmeriCorps Service Project (TCASP) entered its 15th year at the agency, operating with Corporation for National and Community Service, state and local funds.

- 20 AmeriCorps members served during the year at 8 different host-sites
- AmeriCorps members provided 11,599 hours of direct service

AmeriCorps members served in various positions to meet the needs of both their host-site and the communities they serve. Positions filled by the AmeriCorps project included Community Support Specialist Trainee at Freedom Landing, Assistant Program Coordinator at On Our Own of St. Mary's County, and Meal-on-Wheels Outreach Coordinator at St. Mary's Dept. of Aging and Human Services. Great Mills High School students also worked in the College Access Program to help their fellow students fulfill the requirements needed to submit successful college applications.

Members served in full-time, half-time, quarter-time and education award only positions to increase the capacity of their host-sites to provide services. Each of them gained valuable experience and knowledge while providing civic service. Members became eligible for an education award upon completion of their service, for use by themselves or a family member.

SMTCCAC's programs also benefited from their service. Two members provided customer service to clients in the Office of Home Energy Programs, two others served in the Weatherization and Housing Counseling programs.

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

An amazing group of low-income seniors, age 55 and older, provided



one-on-one volunteer service to frail, elderly and/or disabled persons. They gave special attention and care to their clients and in many cases respite and piece of mind to primary caregivers.

The Senior Companions' contributions in the lives of persons with limited opportunities for interaction and companionship cannot be overstated. The service provided by these volunteers reduced the isolation many homebound older persons feel and gave the Senior Companions a sense of purpose. Primary caretakers were able to carry on with their daily routines without being concerned about their loved ones.

	Volunteers	Hours	Clients Served
Calvert	10	7,275	18
Charles	27	22,026	42
St. Mary's	27	20,912	28

Companions benefited from the camaraderie and sense of purpose they felt. The stipends they received for their service helped them close gaps in their household budget. The monthly in-service training covered topics that fostered their safety and economic stability.

SOUTHERN MARYLAND AREA RURAL TRANSPORTATION

Southern Maryland Area Rural Transportation, also known as SMART provided transportation to **41 Charles County residents** to enable them to reach therapy sessions and other activities important to their success and stability in the community. This transportation was provided under a contract with the Charles County Circuit Court.

- **25 youth** involved with the **Charles County Juvenile Drug Court System**, were transported by SMART from the schools or homes to services and activities
- **16 adults** involved with the **Charles County Family Drug Court** were transported to services important to their recovery and reunification with their children and other family members.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Swynice Hawkins, president and Leonard Harris, Employee of the Year. Friendly Health Service staff Jerry Waring and Erica Morsell in the background.

Leonard Harris

Leonard Harris, Sr., program assistant/transportation driver for Friendly Health Services has been employed by the agency for four years.

He is known for his strong work ethic, inexhaustible energy and the high level of customer service he delivers daily. Everyday is a productive day for Leonard, he goes over and beyond what is expected.

Leonard can be counted on to boost the morale of his co-workers and the sense of family that the participants of Friendly Health Services feel. He believes in teamwork and doing his part to make things run smoothly.

The key to Leonard's success is his positive attitude, sense of humor, pride in his work and continual willingness to do whatever needs to be done for the betterment of staff, participants and the facility.

He is a true asset to the agency. We can't thank him enough for all that he does!

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Left to right, Kathy White-Thorne, Mike Rose, Teresa Grimes, LaVerne Madison, and Joyce Rose, members of the Crossroads of Hughesville Garden Club attending the Maryland Community Action Partnership Conference Gala in May 2014.

The Crossroads of Hughesville Garden Club

Members of the Crossroads of Hughesville Garden Club have volunteered their time, creativity and artistic talent by decorating the windows of the Stuckey, Monk and Forbes Buildings over the past two years.

The members of the club improve the appearance of the agency's well-aged buildings with their colorful, seasonal inspired decorations. Their efforts are appreciated by staff and customers alike. They have brightened the appearance of the buildings and the spirits of our customers.

The volunteerism shows that they care about the agency, their community and the customers served in the SMTCCAC's Hughesville offices.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2014

Assets

Current Assets		<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	329,036	402,622
Contracts and Grants Receivable		869,364	1,172,020
Other Receivables		47,286	39,232
Prepaid Expenses		<u>71,172</u>	<u>69,872</u>
Total Current Assets		1,316,858	1,683,746
Non-Current Assets			
Due From Affiliates and Related Parties		6,181,126	5,999,460
Notes Receivable and Accrued Interest		9,675	25,084
Investment in Limited Partnerships		288,595	288,595
Property Held for Development		128,226	128,226
Fixed Assets, net		<u>1,204,463</u>	<u>1,335,682</u>
Total Non-Current Assets		7,812,085	7,777,047
Total Assets	\$	<u>9,128,943</u>	<u>9,460,793</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities			
Accounts Payable and Other Accrued Expenses	\$	101,282	104,389
Accrued Liabilities		160,146	421,770
Current Portion Notes Payable		156,304	154,377
Line of Credit		288,849	—
Other Liabilities		<u>151,922</u>	<u>302,969</u>
Total Current Liabilities		858,503	983,505
Long-Term Liabilities			
Due to Affiliates and Related Parties		620,359	620,359
Long-Term Portion of Notes Payable		866,164	906,149
Deferred Loan Payable		283,725	281,103
Total Long -Term Liabilities		<u>1,770,248</u>	<u>1,807,611</u>
Total Liabilities		2,628,751	2,791,116
Net Assets			
Unrestricted Net Assets		2,762,755	2,922,096
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets		<u>3,737,437</u>	<u>3,747,581</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>6,500,192</u>	<u>6,669,677</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	<u>9,128,943</u>	<u>9,460,793</u>

Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc.

**P.O. Box 280
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Community Partner



CFC # 62038