

Community Action, Inc.

105 Grace Way Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Local Stimulus Funding

Updated as of 12/30/2011

How is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) affecting our local community? The projects listed below are all funded through ARRA.

Business Employment Stability and Training (BESAT) Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

The BESAT project provides 50% of wages and benefits to eligible business industries in Clarion and Jefferson Counties when they hire new employees, recall laid-off employees, or provide training for existing employees to receive higher wages.

- Funds expended \$86,127
- Businesses served 13
- Jobs created 25

Comprehensive Employment Support Services (CESSP) Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

The CESSP project provides at-risk families with confidential, intense case management to promote family development in order to achieve self-sufficiency and alleviate poverty.

- Funds expended \$100,668
- Individuals reached 194
 - Clarion County residents 90
 - Jefferson County residents 104
- Participants who obtained full-time employment 42
- Participants who obtained part-time employment 13
- Participants who obtained driver's license or other transportation to work 3
- Participants who achieved education or life skill goals 4
- Referrals made (50 other organizations or projects) 341

Adult Education Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

The Adult Education Project is included in the funding for the CESSP Project and provides valuable services and resources to adults who have a need to obtain their GED or improve their workplace skills. This project also provides additional resources and support that is extremely beneficial to many adults as they work hard to achieve self sufficiency for themselves and their families. Targeted workshops include topics such as: job search, resume writing, cover letter, interviewing skills, budgeting, and time management and organization.

- Number of attendees in GED, academic and computer classes 109
- Number of attendees in targeted workshops 100

Energy Conservation & Weatherization (ECW) Project – as of 12/31/11

(Project is on-going and will be updated quarterly)

The ECW project installs housing materials in eligible homes in order to reduce energy consumption. Additionally, the project provides energy conservation education.

Financial Literacy Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

The Financial Literacy project provides seminars in Clarion and Jefferson Counties covering topics such as: budgeting; credit history and credit repair; predatory lending; banking; no-cost or low-cost home repair; energy savings; and other helpful topics.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

The VITA project is included in the funding for the Financial Literacy Project and provides free tax preparation to working low-income residents of Clarion and Jefferson Counties, with an emphasis on helping those residents access to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the maximum possible refund.

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Project (HPRP) – as of 12/30/11

(Project is on-going and will be updated quarterly)

The HPRP project provides homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless. In addition, HPRP provides assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are homeless.

• Grant Allocation	\$177,861
(Reduced from \$187,861 as of 12/22/11)	
• Funds expended	\$148,947
• Households screened for HPRP	292
• Households not HPRP eligible	247
• Eligible individuals enrolled or served year to date	122
• Households stabilized and successfully exited program	32
• Currently active households	12
○ Processed, waiting for documentation	1
○ Currently receiving financial assistance	10
○ Screened to be scheduled for intake	2

Junior Achievement/Career Counselor Services (JA/CCS) Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

Junior Achievement programs teach students in grades K-12 the three pillars of success: financial literacy; entrepreneurship; and workplace readiness through interactive lessons taught by volunteers from the local business community. Working closely with school guidance counselors, career counseling provides students with career, work, and educational information and tools.

• Funds expended	\$29,151
• Students served by career counseling	246
• Students enrolled in Junior Achievement classes	405
• Junior achievement classes Initiated:	32

New Choices Career Development (NCCD) Project

(Project concluded as of 9/30/10)

The NCCD project is designed to assist individuals in taking the next step toward obtaining a rewarding career. Students are actively engaged in planning and achieving their professional, educational and personal goals.

• Funds expended	\$41,032
• NCCD classes conducted	8
• Graduates of NCCD classes	54
• Students who gained full-time employment	10
• Students who gained part-time employment	3
• Students who progressed to specialized training	13
• Students who participated in a job shadow experience	4
• Students who participated in follow-up career counseling	13
• Estimated annual governmental savings*	\$87,792

Summary of Local Stimulus Impact

Total number of jobs created	135
Total number of individuals helped	2,001
Total funds expended in the community	\$2,607,757

* As defined by PA Women Work, the “estimated annual governmental savings” represents an annualized savings when NCCD graduates gain employment and discontinue unemployment compensation and other government assistance.