

Volume 43 Issue 2

Spring 2022



COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF DELAWARE COUNTY, INC.

Community Action NEWS

John P. DiEnna, Jr., President — Edward T. Coleman, Chief Executive Officer

CAADC Partnering with Solarize Delco to Provide Grants to Qualified Homeowners

Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC) has partnered with Solarize Delco for a new Solar Savings Grant Program to make the savings of rooftop solar power installations available to low-income homeowners. Solarize Delco's volunteers will provide homeowners with no pressure information and help them decide if solar is right for them. CAADC will provide eligibility screening for the Grant Program as it does for its current free Home Weatherization Program. Homeowners can contact Solarize Delco (www.solarizedelco.org) or CAADC (www.caadc.org) to find out if they can participate in Delaware County's transition to clean energy and lower their energy bills.

Pictured: Edward T. Coleman, Chief Executive Officer of CAADC, with Peter S. Puglionesi, from Solarize Delco, at the Delaware County Sustainability Conference on April 21st at Subaru Park.



Story Continues on Page 2

DID YOU KNOW?



CAADC continues to help families affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic by providing emergency shelter, food assistance and making sure they are linked to the services and help they need.



CAADC has established over 200 partnerships in the community with local government, corporations, social service agencies, schools, etc.



CAADC's Housing Locator helps families find decent and affordable housing.



CAADC partners with PECO, AQUA and DELCORA for our Utility Assistance Programs.



Last year over 1,200 families were diverted from the homeless system thanks to case management.

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How You Can Help!

Please consider supporting CAADC by making a contribution through the United Way. Simply designate CAADC and include our number (#06194) on your United Way Donor Choice form for the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your support.

Solarize Delco (continued from Page 1)

The **Solar Savings Grant Program** demonstrates that residents from every neighborhood in Delaware County can participate in the transition to clean energy. Participants can power their home with sunshine, nature's clean renewable energy, while also saving significant money on their family's electric bills. It is critical that we support solar adoption in low-income communities and communities of color so that our most vulnerable residents can benefit from the savings, jobs, and resilience that result from installing solar on local rooftops.

Those who can pay or borrow the project cost already know that home Solar power provides excellent financial payback. Solarize Delco provides a simpler approach that improves the financial returns and removes the worry of contracting for this home improvement for everyone, but income limited homeowners who may have poor credit scores may access these savings. Solarize Delco is making this option more affordable, both to scale up this important climate action solution and to ensure that the transition to clean energy is equitable and inclusive.

Solarize Delco is an all-volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation helping neighbors learn if solar is right for them. All Delaware County homeowners, businesses and non-profits can receive our help. Since the program launched in 2019, over 200 homeowners have learned about solar through the program, over 40 homes and houses of worship have gone solar, and over 280 kW of power generating capacity has been installed.

Get more information on how to go solar the easy way, view educational videos or sign up for a consultation with your solarized neighbors at <https://solarizedelco.org/>, email Solarize Delco at SolarizeDelco@gmail.com or contact CAADC about grant eligibility at (610) 521-8770.



Got sun? Let's Solarize Delaware County!

Astound Broadband Makes \$25,000 Donation

Astound Broadband powered by RCN donated \$25,000 to CAADC to establish a new partnership. The support will go towards Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Programs.

Pictured: Sanford Ames Jr., SVP & General Manager of Astound Broadband Pennsylvania (far right) presents the check to CAADC's Edward T. Coleman, CEO, Danita Miller, Senior Support Services Manager, Gina Ondo, Controller and John P. DiEnna, Jr., Board President.



Monroe Energy Donated \$1,000 to the Wesley House Shelter

Monroe Energy LLC made a donation of \$1,000 to the Wesley House Emergency Shelter facility. Monroe Energy also donated blankets and clothing for the residents. The Wesley House Emergency Shelter provides families and single women with safe and healthy housing when they are homeless.



Pictured: Representatives of Monroe Energy make the donation at the Wesley House Shelter.

Free Tax Assistance Provided Countywide to Low-Income Families

For the 16th straight year, Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC) provided Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. CAADC has now provided free tax assistance to low-income households over 11,000 times during that span. CAADC was once again fortunate to be able to partner with the Internal Revenue Service for our VITA sites. The VITA sites aim to serve families who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) with free tax preparation services. In addition, CAADC also received a grant from the County of Delaware to expand its efforts and to reach many more families. As a result, CAADC was able to operate five sites Countywide this year in the City of Chester, Upper Darby, Darby, Media and Boothwyn.

THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED AND AMAZING VOLUNTEERS THAT MADE THE PROGRAM POSSIBLE!!!

In 2022, CAADC had the following results:

Returns Prepared: 855

Earned Income Tax Credits: 263 Amount of EITC: \$359,919

Child Tax Credits: 132 Amount of CTC: \$273,150

Total Amount of Refunds: \$1,207,740

Volunteer Preparers and Hours: 31 Volunteers for 959 Hours

Recent Development Activity

CAADC has been fortunate to receive the following private contributions from the community during the last quarter: **The Network for Good** donated \$920 for the Wesley House Shelter. The Life Center received a donation of \$1,329 from **Fox & Roach/Trident Charities**. **Covenant United Methodist Church in Springfield** donated \$328 to the Life Center. **Monroe Energy, LLC** donated \$1,000 to the Wesley House Shelter. The **First Presbyterian Church in Springfield** donated \$630 to the Life Center. CAADC received \$4,832 from **PECO** for utility assistance. **The Foundation for Delaware County** supported our food programs with a \$5,000 grant. **Boeing Employees/Boeing Match** supported the Agency with a \$352 donation. **Astound Broadband powered by RCN** supported the Agency with a donation of \$25,000. CAADC received \$1,950 from the **Benevity Community Impact Fund**.

Veterans & Family Bowling Night

On March 3rd, the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program participated in the Veterans & Family Bowling Night at Playhouse Lanes in Drexel Hill. The event was sponsored by Representative Mike Zabel and Senator Tim Kearney. Over 80 Veteran households participated in friendly games of bowling. SSVF staff were on-hand to provide information about our Veteran programs, Weatherization Program and our free tax assistance (VITA).



Pictured (left to right): Jerry Paldino (CAADC), Representative Mike Zabel, Senator Tim Kearney and Steven Scott (CAADC) at the Bowling Night.

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National Community Action Month

Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. (CAADC) celebrates National Community Action Month during the month of May. CAADC is proud to join over 1,000 Community Action Agencies nationwide celebrating its efforts helping low-income people move toward self-sufficiency and economic stability. National Community Action Month highlights Community Action Agencies' work helping millions of families and individuals escape poverty and achieve economic stability each year. Community Action Agencies have been supporting their local communities for over 57 years changing people's lives, embodying the spirit of hope, improving communities and making America a better place to live.

Community Action Agencies were vital during the Pandemic assisting with food, housing and shelter. CAADC CEO Edward T. Coleman stated "Community Action Month is a wonderful time to honor and celebrate the impact Community Action has in the lives of families and communities across the country. We are proud to provide assistance in Delaware County."



Service Profile

January 1 - March 31, 2022

Program	Number Served
Utility Assistance Programs	16
Weatherization	43
Helping Hand Program	46
Rental Assistance	35
Transitional/Rapid Re-Housing	95
Temporary Emergency Shelter	54
Emergency Shelter	90
Housing Locator	34
Permanent Rental Housing	260
Life Center Meal Program	2,880
Workforce Development	63
Clinical Medical Assistant Program	15
Finally Home Program	16
Play Group Participants	116
After School Program	21
Recreational Therapy Assessments	54
Transportation	87
Information and Referral	8,081
Food Stamp/SNAP Outreach Project	137
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	855
Veterans Housing Program	45

Total Units of Service

13,043