



The Lorain County Coalition for Quality Aging

Launched to bring together aging service providers and social service agencies, many of whom had not previously partnered together. Until this point there was a group coming together with the focused intent to make Lorain County better for older adults.

Purpose: To collectively identify needs and to enhance resources to optimize the quality of life for older adults in Lorain County.

The group has focused its efforts on food security, accessible transportation, falls-related injuries, and local data.

Coalition now includes representatives from

50 partner agencies, yet it began with the following 12 partners:

- Amherst Fire Department
- Alzheimer's Association
- Avon Lake Police Department
- Hospice of the Western Reserve
- Lorain County Community College
- Lorain County Office on Aging
- Lorain County Public Health
- Neighborhood Alliance
- North Ridgeville Senior Center
- Sheffield Village Fire Department
- United Way of Greater Lorain County
- Wesleyan Village

The Coalition has allowed Neighborhood Alliance to meet some of the need for food insecurities with the Food Rescue pilot program by delivering dinners from left-over food from local establishments to our participants that don't have access to food on the weekends. We have been able to work with other agencies addressing needs in the county food deserts. We have been able to refer clients to other organizations immediately. It allows Neighborhood Alliance to be part of the solution to meet the needs of older adults in Lorain County.

Thank You to our Corporate Donors

Over \$25,000

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City of Oberlin
Community Development
Block Grant Lorain County
Community Foundation
of Lorain County
Community West
Foundation
Nord Family Foundation
The Nordson Corporation
Foundation
The Stocker Foundation

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The Norton Family Foundation
Bill Long Foundation
Lorain County Blue
Chemical Bank
TJX
100 Women Who Care About
Lorain County
National Christian Foundation
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Barnes Wendling CPA's Inc.
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TCC Technology Solutions
Walmart #4255 Elyria
The First Church in Oberlin, UCC
Northwest Bank
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Community Foundation of Lorain County -
Hispanic Fund
Community Foundation of Lorain County -
Women's Fund
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
The Northeast Ohio Foundation for Patri-
otism
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
PNC Bank
Rockwell Metals Fund
Walmart #5309 Oberlin
AgriNomix LLC
Will Ptak Foundation
Chicks Against Hunger
Hot Chicken Takeover
Crane Fund for Widows and Children
Northwest Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Neighborhood Alliance has been
compassionately caring for the community
since 1927. We are helping our community
grow stronger by caring for our clients' most
basic needs. We provide emergency shelter,
homeless outreach, daily meal delivery,
nutrition services including an emergency food
pantry and socialization activities for seniors,
childcare and child enrichment programs, and
access to family support programs such as
Help Me Grow for those in need.

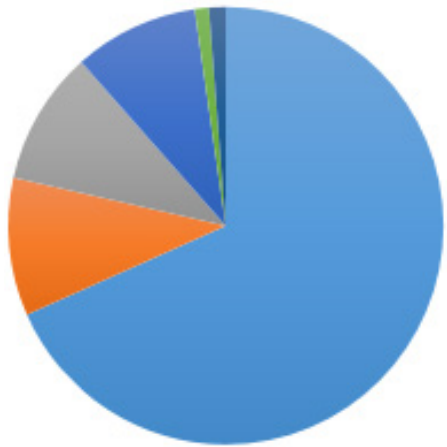


1536 E. 30th St.
Lorain, Ohio 44055

Financial Highlights 2019

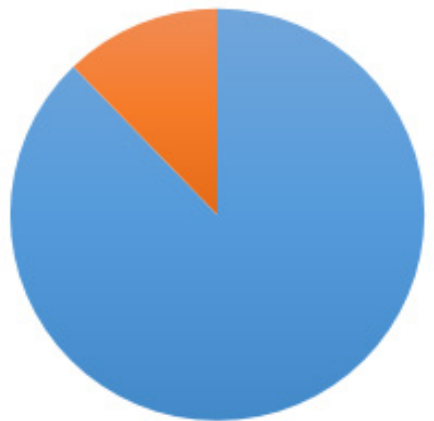
Revenue

Government Agencies	\$2,352,511
Program Fees	\$350,888
Contributions	\$341,174
Donated Property and Equipment	\$0
Foundations	\$319,051
Investment Income	\$36,206
Other Income	\$42,565
TOTAL:	\$3,438,395



Expenses

Program Services	\$2,867,599
Support Services	\$400,034
TOTAL:	\$3,267,633



The mission of Neighborhood Alliance is to help communities grow stronger by meeting critical needs and empowering individual and families. We strive to achieve this mission by focusing on 4 core service areas which include Child Enrichment, Senior Enrichment, Shelter/Emergency and Family Support. Many of our participants come to us during a time of crisis. Our goal is to help them get out of the crisis they are in and find ways to prevent that from happening in the future by empowering them to move forward with their lives and reach their goals.

Programming for
**infants, toddlers,
preschoolers
(kindergarten
readiness),**
and for **school-age**
children before and
after school.

Facilitated in-home
parenting
**education and
developmental**
support for families
with children
prenatal up to three
years old.

Active Senior
programming
and
Home-delivered
meals to
Homebound
Seniors throughout
Lorain County.

24-hour, 7 days
a week extended
stay **family shelter**,
with additional
services available
to address the
various needs of the
residents.

www.MyNeighborhoodAlliance.org

Children

Family

Seniors

Homeless

Neighborhood Alliance 2019 Annual Report

COLLABORATION
the action of working with someone to produce or create something

Dear Supporters and Friends:

Twenty nineteen was a year of development and collaboration during which we developed new relationships, fostered connections, and supported the growth of our team members and the partner organizations. I am so proud of all we accomplished in 2019, and I am excited to share some of the highlights with you!

Our Child Enrichment Services team worked incredibly hard to reach the 5 Star rating for Step Up to Quality, the highest quality rating according to the state of Ohio, at our Lorain Center and a 3 Star rating at our Elyria center. These are the highest ratings achieved by Neighborhood Alliance centers yet, and we look forward to reaching the 5 Star rating at our Elyria center soon.

The Senior Nutrition team partnered with Lorain County Public Health, Second Harvest Food Bank, and Oberlin Community Services to create a collaborative project called Food Rescue, in which leftover food from various local restaurants is “rescued”, frozen, repackaged, and served to those in need.

University Hospital conducted a training class where 30 members of our team were trained in CPR, First Aid, and AED procedures. Chemical Bank assisted us with the removal and set up of new storage units for our residents and ALUCC, a church that has partnered with the Haven Center, provided a remodel and addition of the computer lab at the Haven Center. Naomi’s House was opened in Oberlin and more than 100 people have taken classes at Naomi’s House in 2019, learning about financial literacy, nutrition education and cooking healthy on a tight budget, resume creation, interviewing skills, and other basic life skills, all offered by partner agencies.

Five college students received instruction in our centers through internship and practicum programs. We have created partnerships with LCCC, Youngstown State, and Cleveland State to offer these inters practical experience in a social services setting. Our partnership with Vantage Aging, formerly Mature Services, was renewed and several workers were placed in our programs, providing various types of support at no cost to us while learning valuable skills for future employment.

Leadership Lorain County included me in the Best Class of 2019. An experience for which I am truly grateful as it has opened doors to new friendships and powerful community connections.

As you can see, many new relationships were cultivated during 2019, and many relationships that had fallen through the cracks over the years were renewed with a new energy and intent to collaborate with community partners. We hope that you will see the ways in which we are collaborating to help our community grow stronger and will be inspired by what you see. It takes all of us, working together, to build great communities, and I am thankful to collaborate with all of you!

Sincerely,

Alicia A. Foss
President/CEO



The UCAN Collaborative

There are many reasons why an individual in Lorain County may need emergency financial assistance. The UCAN (United Community Assistance Network) collaborative was developed to assist working families with those emergency needs in times of crisis. Neighborhood Alliance considers United Way to be a valued partner in utilizing this funding. Through this collaboration with United Way, Neighborhood Alliance saw an opportunity to stay true to its’ mission in helping the community grow stronger by meeting critical needs and empowering individuals and families.

The UCAN collaborative strives to assist working families and individuals who are experiencing a crisis and need help to become financially sustainable again. Some of the clients have had injuries, illness or a family crisis that kept them from going to work for a period of time, for others it was as simple as a car repair to get them back to work. With the UCAN fund, those families can request assistance to help pay their rent, pay utilities or have their car repaired so they can earn an income again.

This collaborative is important to Haven Center for several reasons. Residents of Haven Center can utilize the funding if they are working and are needing help with first month’s rent or security deposit. Haven Center and Neighborhood Alliance as a whole, are able to help our neighbors when they are experiencing crisis. This gives us the opportunity to demonstrate to the community that we believe in carrying out our mission. The collaborative has also strengthened our relationship with the other partner agencies and their case managers, giving us support with complicated cases or a much-needed referral. Our hope is that this collaborative will only grow stronger in the future and we will continue to have the opportunity to serve our neighbors in this capacity.



Rising Titans Community Collaborative

Lead Partner- Neighborhood Alliance

Neighborhood Alliance is the proud Lead partner of the Rising Titans Kindergarten Readiness Community Collaborative, funded by the United Way of Greater Lorain County. Rising Titans focuses on one of the five target outcomes of the Lorain County, United Way funded, Collaboratives.

The Rising Titans Collaborative is made up of twelve partners with fourteen locations across the city of Lorain. The mission of the Collaborative is to create community-wide Kindergarten Readiness for Lorain families with children ages 0-5. Our goal is to design a system that will help parents prepare their child for kindergarten from birth. Various outreach opportunities, free educational programming and collaboration with partners for increased quality care, are all things that we work on to reach that goal.

Through the Collaborative’s work, Neighborhood Alliance has multiple representatives from the abundance of programming we hold throughout the agency. With the strong community-driven mission of the agency, Neighborhood Alliance is also able to Collaborate with Rising Titans partners to increase the support of those they serve.

Rising Titans most recent collaboration over the past year was the implementation of Play Group with our partner Lorain Public Library System (LPLS). Play Group is designed to reach children ages 2-5 with stay-at-home parents, who have not yet enrolled their child in a center. With learn-through-play activities, story times, and more, parents are committed to getting their child involved in educational opportunities prior to their entrance into Kindergarten. Play Group is a Collaborative lead-program, but with the help of space from LPLS and referrals from partners, it has been a success! We served thirteen families from April to December 2019, with three of the children transitioning to a Step-up-to-Quality rated center in Lorain. We are on the same track for excellence in 2020!

We are working hard through various forms of Collaboration to ensure we reach our goal of community-wide kindergarten readiness!

Collaborative Coordinator- Katelyn Gonzalez
Collaborative Outreach Specialist- Melvian Mendez



Collaboration with Child Care Resource Center

One of Neighborhood Alliance Child Enrichment Services collaborative partners in the community is Child Care Resource Center (CCRC). CCRC is an amazing organization that works with child care programs to improve the quality of programs in Ohio. They also work with parents and families to connect them with community resources. CCRC serves as a tool for programs to receive guidance and trainings to improve their programs and to improve the development of child care staff. We work with CCRC often to obtain quality training for our staff and receive guidance in how to advance our program’s Step up to Quality status.

This year, CCRC received the Strengthening Families Grant. This grant allowed them to reach out to centers in the area and develop collaborations for the programs to build family engagement opportunities. CCRC reached out to our program to see if we could benefit from the programming and a new facet of our collaboration developed.

The ultimate goal of The Strengthening Families Framework is to prevent child abuse and neglect. The program offered us many opportunities to develop staff and build relationships with families. With the collaborative we were able to select 3 staff members from each of our Child Enrichment programs to receive 21 hours of free training. The trainings offered guidance how to build relationships with families in our programs and the knowledge of the seven protective factors on how to prevent child abuse.

With CCRC, we were able to create monthly parent cafés for our families. Parent cafes are a forum for the families in our program and in our community to come together to discuss topics relevant to the struggles that many families face. They encourage conversation and provide an opportunity for parents to receive information about local resources. With guidance from CCRC we were able to develop a team with 2 parents at each of our programs. The parent teams received training and guidance and offered them an opportunity to help guide the parent café’s. CCRC’s support from the Strengthening Families Grant allowed funding to support the parent cafes and helped us provide and promote them. They provided funding for food to be purchased, so we were able to provide dinner to

families who attended. The grant also supplied funding to pay our staff to provide free child care for families while they were in attendance of the parent café’s. For each Parent Café there was a CCRC staff member there to support and help engage families in conversations. We were able to serve 14 families through our parent cafes. The parents who have attended were excited with the information they gained and are excited to return.

With the collaboration with CCRC, the grant funding also allowed for the creation of a parent resource area at each of our centers. This area allows for parents to have a place to go and research different resources in our area. The grant allowed for the purchase of either a computer or a tablet for parents to utilize to find resources. The staff also created portfolios with local information and resources for parents to easily access if they are in crisis.

The importance of this collaboration comes down to the heart of our programming: How do we better serve the parents and families in our programs? The collaboration with CCRC and the Strengthening Family Grant helped us answer this vital question. Many of the families we serve are in crisis or have been exposed to trauma. With guidance from CCRC and The Strengthening Families grant we were able to create and implement programs to help support them when they are in times of need. Our families have been able to build trusting relationships with our programs and they are now aware that we are able to provide them with resources that may be able to help them. The grant also helped develop and engage staff to create and build relationships with the community. They are creating additional programs and are excited to continue parent cafes and building family engagement.

We are grateful for our collaboration with CCRC and their amazing staff for their hard work and dedication to the field of Early Childhood Education. Collaborating with us on implanting the Strengthening Families Framework has been an amazing opportunity! We are excited to continue working with them on future projects and programming for our Child Enrichment Programs.

Sarah Bishop
Director of Child Enrichment Services

