



FIFTY YEARS



GREATER ERIE COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Helping People. Changing Lives.

HELPING
PEOPLE
CHANGING
LIVES

Mission Statement

The Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC) is Erie County's designated community action agency formed to provide advocacy and diverse services directed toward the elimination of poverty and the causes of poverty. GECAC is dedicated to empowering individuals and families to improve their quality of life through

- the advancement of opportunity for education and training,
- the opportunity to work, and
- the opportunity to live in decency and dignity.



Ronald A. Steele



Gwendolyn White



GREATER ERIE COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE



Ronald A. Steele
Chief Executive Officer

Gwendolyn White
Board Chairperson

September 11, 2015

Dear Friends and Supporters:

Fifty years have passed since GECAC was founded in 1965 in conjunction with President Johnson's War on Poverty. While many of the programs that emerged from the War on Poverty are now taken for granted, Erie County would be unrecognizable if they had never been enacted: Head Start, Meals on Wheels, Area Agency on Aging, Upward Bound, Senior Centers, Weatherization, Foster Grandparents and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

Our economy and social fabric have changed significantly in the past 50 years. Demographic shifts, rising income inequality, and insufficient access to jobs and education pose new challenges. While much of what we do on a daily basis here at GECAC has changed over the years to meet the changing needs of the community, one thing has remained consistent – **hardworking, caring people**. The cover of this year's annual report showcases the many staff, Board members, funders, family members, clients and general supporters who have shaped GECAC over the years. Without each of these individuals and countless others like them, GECAC would not be the agency it is today.

As we pause to look back on the last fifty years, reflect on the current efforts of the Agency, and anticipate the work that is yet to be done over the next fifty years, please join us in remembering and thanking the thousands of people who have and continue to Take Action on a daily basis to ameliorate poverty in Erie County.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Steele
Chief Executive Officer

Gwendolyn White
Board Chairperson

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Keynote Speaker Jonathan



Edison

"Success Strategist" Jonathan Edison is one of the most compelling thought leaders and Motivational Business Speakers today. As an expert in human development he delivers strategies, methods and tools filled with insight and humor that consistently move people and organizations to their highest potential. His personal Motto is "Results DON'T LIE, people do!"

Growing up in an environment that was a prescription for failure, young John John—his grandmother's affectionate nickname for him—faced many hardships. After exposing him to drugs and violence, his mother was removed from the household by the Department of Social Services when he was five years old. Two years later Jonathan's father left to start a new family on another side of town. Then, his grandmother

Cloraine that took on the challenge of raising him died of cancer when he was 14.

Now homeless, Jonathan was forced to take up residence in his aunt's basement. To afford the \$50.00 a month in rent and his portion of the electric bill, he worked a full-time job as a dishwasher/bus boy at Chili's Grill and Bar in the evenings and on weekends. He graduated from high school with a 1.63 grade point average and completed his first year of college with a 0.62 GPA before dropping out completely.

Instead of becoming another statistic, Jonathan found the courage he needed within himself to rise above adversity. He enrolled in remedial classes at Wayne County Community College. In 1993, Jonathan graduated with

"Results DON'T LIE, people do!"

- Jonathan Edison

an associate's degree as a part of the Urban Teacher Program. In 1995 Jonathan continued his education at Wayne State University, earning a bachelor's and a master's degree in only 3 semesters. During college, Jonathan worked as a bus attendant, waiter, gas station attendant and often slept in his car so that he could hold down his jobs and attend classes.

After teaching for four years, at age 27 Jonathan became the youngest assistant principal in the history of Detroit Public

Schools. In 2002, he was named Wayne County Spokesman for Success. Then, along with hundreds of other dedicated educators, Jonathan was fired. With no savings, clients or plan, in 2004 he launched Edison Speaks International, a motivational and training development company. Since then Jonathan has shared his "Strategies for Success" with over 1,000 audiences and 1 Million people, authored four books and has spoken in over 40 States. Jonathan's Fortune 500 clients include: CVS Pharmacy, Daimler Chrysler, FBI, Folgers Coffee, General Motors, Hewlett Packard, McDonald's and State Farm Insurance.



Area Agency on Aging

Past

Enacted in 1965, the Older Americans Act served as the basis for concentrating on the needs of Older Adults in the United States of America. Locally, GECAC began providing its first Aging programs in the late 60s and early 70s through the establishment of GECAC Nutrition and Health Services, Foster Grandparent and Retired Senior Volunteer Programs. Updates to the Older Americans Act formed the foundation for Area Agencies on Aging and on May 20, 1974, GECAC was designated the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for Erie County. Programming continued to evolve to include In-Home services, Older Adult Protective Services, Domiciliary Care and the opening of several "mini-senior centers" across Erie County.

Present

Over the forty year history of the GECAC AAA, programming has continued to focus on the key mandates of the **Older Americans Act**. Specifically, programs are designed to respond to the needs of those seniors who:

- remain active and involved in their community;
- are cared for in their homes where they are comfortable and secure;
- require placement eligibility; or
- require protection and advocacy.

Information and Assistance serves as the entry point for AAA services. Needs are evaluated through a standardized **Assessment** process, and consumers are referred to the appropriate community resource and/or assigned to a professional care manager. **Care Management** provides an in-depth evaluation of client needs and the facilitation of the most appropriate services. **Enrollment** and **Service Coordination** connects consumers through the **Aging Waiver program** with a state approved care plan to the exact services they need to be maintained in the community.



For those persons who can be maintained safely in their home environment, **in-home support services** are provided and may include assistance with bathing, dressing, feeding, ambulation, housekeeping, grocery shopping, meal preparation and home delivered meals. Professional counseling and nursing services also may be offered.

In a specialized initiative, funded by the Housing Authority of the City of Erie, seniors residing in two senior apartment complexes receive in-home services through the **HomePLUS Project**, designed to reduce risk factors and to stabilize housing.

For persons who are cared for by a family member in a home environment, the **Caregiver Support Program** may provide education, benefits counseling and limited reimbursement for the cost of medical supplies, in-home services, authorized equipment and home modifications.

Other consumers may be identified through **Pre-Admission** to be better served through placement in nursing homes, personal care homes, domiciliary care homes or referrals to home and community services through either the Aging Waiver or the LIFE program. For those consumers living in a long-term care facility and

wishing to return the community, the **Nursing Home Transition** staff can evaluate and assist with making this a safe transition.

Seniors requiring protection and advocacy are served through:

- **Older Adult Protective Services**, which provides 24-hour access to caseworkers who investigate abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment of persons 60 years of age and older.
- **Senior Advocate** who assists seniors in obtaining services and benefits along with coordination of the APPRISE program to help seniors access Medicare and prescriptions plans.
- **Ombudsman** who advocates for residents of long-term care facilities and evaluates and mediates the complaints on behalf of such residents. Volunteers are recruited and trained to assist the Ombudsman. These **Ombudsman Volunteers** can be individuals from the community or they may be **PEER Volunteers** who actually reside within the long-term facilities, all providing visits and resources for the residents.

Seniors, 55 years and older, wishing to remain active in the community may choose to volunteer through either the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** or the **Foster Grandparent Program**. They also may choose to attend one of the ten Senior Center locations offering nutritional, recreational, educational and social activities throughout the city and county.

Additional services offered include **Apprise** counseling for information on insurance benefits; the **Farmer's Market Nutrition Program**, offering seniors vouchers to purchase fresh produce at local Farmer's Markets; and the **Northwest Regional Link**, an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), providing for more direct linkage between providers and participants to secure home and community based services.



Future

Looking forward, the need for Aging services will continue to grow as the aging population also continues to increase. Programming will continue to focus on keeping seniors happy, healthy and safe to allow for a comfortable aging process. New initiatives focused on the coordination of care are expected to continue to expand to ensure holistic, cost effective services are being provided. One example of an initiative of this type that GECAC already has begun is the **UPMC for Life Options Community-based Care Coordination Initiative**. The effort began in 2014 and is focused on integrating the service delivery of long-term care supports with the medical care coordination among a target group of UPMC Health Plan members.

Child Development



Past

The foundation of the Child Development Division is the Head Start program. Head Start, also celebrating fifty years this year, is one of the first programs offered by GECAC. Originally provided through eight delegate agencies, GECAC quickly recognized that consistent services could not be provided under this model and centralized program operations. While some of the centers dropped out of the program, most stayed, and the program quickly expanded from the original eight to the current thirteen locations countywide. The focus of Head Start has always been on providing quality, comprehensive services to meet the needs of the entire family.

Present

Head Start

Head Start continues to provide a comprehensive child development program serving preschool children ages

three to five and their families. The Head Start program has a tradition of delivering high quality services for low-income children with the overall goal of promoting school readiness by enhancing the social, emotional, physical and cognitive development of children. Significant emphasis is placed on engaging parents in their children's learning and assisting them in making progress toward their educational, literacy and employment goals.

The success of GECAC Head Start is contributed to the program's ability to impact all facets of a child's life: education and early childhood development, health and safety, nutrition, mental health, family involvement and community partnerships.

Education and Early Childhood Development services provide all children with a safe, nurturing, engaging, enjoyable and secure learning environment. School readiness skills are promoted through individualized planning supporting the continuum of children's growth and development. The program implements a standard curriculum, based on scientifically valid research and aligned with Pennsylvania's Early Learning Standards, by

following sound developmentally appropriate practices. In collaboration with local education agencies and parents, children with disabilities are included in a mainstream setting. Children with physical, emotional and learning **disabilities**, and their typically developing peers, learn from one another and from teachers, therapists and parents.

Head Start promotes the importance of preventive **health services** for children to ensure health problems are quickly identified and addressed. **Nutrition services** assist families in meeting each child's nutrition needs and in establishing good eating habits that nurture healthy development and promote lifelong well-being. Through participation in the Child and Adult Feeding program, all children attending Head Start receive a nutritious meal and snack.

Head Start services are **family centered** based on the belief that children develop in the context of their family and culture and parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children. Head Start offers parents opportunities and support to enhance their personal growth. Services are designed to support parents as they identify and strive to meet their own goals, nurture the development of their children and advocate for themselves and their family.



To promote the highest level of services to children and families, the program relies on its **community partnerships**. Churches, schools, community centers and the Housing Authority of the City of Erie provide space for 45 center-based classrooms and meeting rooms for parent activities at 13 centers throughout Erie City and Erie County.

Pre-K Counts

The GECAC Pre-K Counts program is part of the state initiative administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Office of Child Development and Early Learning to provide pre-kindergarten services to additional low-income children in Pennsylvania. The GECAC Pre-K Counts program provides services to 68 three to five year old children residing within the North East, Millcreek, Northwestern and Girard School District areas. Transportation is provided along with nutritious meals through participation in the Child and Adult Feeding program. Through the same research-based curriculum utilized in GECAC's Head Start program, enrolled children grow academically and socially to their maximum potential.



Future

GECAC's original Head Start Director, Dorothy Christoph, said it best in a 1979 *Erie Times News* article, "We have learned that the most important years in child development are the first years." During the 2015-2016 school year, GECAC Child Development will once again offer services to children ages birth-three through an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership grant obtained in collaboration with the YMCA of Greater Erie. Through this partnership seventy-five infants, toddlers and their families will receive comprehensive services at three YMCA locations. It is hoped that this partnership will be the start of many collaborations to comprehensively address the needs of Erie County's youngest residents.

Education, Training & Community Services



Past

Formerly known as the Community & Program Services Division, the Education, Training & Community Services (ETCS) Division was reorganized into its current format in 2003. Nutrition and Transportation were the foundation programs in this division, both started in the early 70s to provide comprehensive services throughout all of Erie County. The Upward Bound program was added to the division in 1974, Emergency Energy Relief (Utility Assistance) began in 1976, Weatherization began in 1978, and emergency Rental Assistance began by the mid 80s. A major component of this division, Drug and Alcohol Services, was provided beginning in 1982. Drug & Alcohol grew rapidly and was given its own division from 1987 until 2008, when the Agency withdrew from providing these services. Despite the many iterations of this division that have existed over the years, its main focus has been on helping families to meet their immediate needs and to advance their knowledge and life situation in order to hopefully avoid their needing emergency assistance again in the future.

Present

Services with ETCS can be divided into three broad categories – Education, Community Services and Supportive Services.

Education services are offered to area youth through the **GO College-Erie** program and the **Upward Bound** program. Both programs focus on assisting area high school students in completing a rigorous high school curriculum, planning for college, enrolling in college and completing college. This is done through a combination of services, including but not limited to: academic support services, personal/career development services, post-secondary education preparation services, SAT/ACT and college application fee waiver services and financial aid assistance.

Community services are offered through Self-Sufficiency Support Services and Weatherization. **Self-Sufficiency Support Services** are designed to meet the economic and self-sufficiency needs of Erie County families. Many clients initially come to GECAC for an emergency housing or utility need. For these families, **Housing/Utility Assistance** provides rent and/or security deposit and utility assistance payments on behalf of eligible applicants to legitimate

landlords or utility vendors. For homeowners, GECAC offers **Mortgage Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling** to intervene in a default and prevent foreclosures.

Families who are no longer in a financial crisis are encouraged to further improve their financial position by participating in one or more of GECAC's **Financial Literacy and Match Savings Account** programs. These include:

- **Credit & Budget counseling**, which provides basic financial literacy classes centered around budgeting, banking and credit repair
- **Individual Development Account programs**, which offer low-income savers financial literacy education classes and a dollar for dollar match up to \$2,000 when used for approved purchases.
- **Money Works for You** offering low-income savers financial literacy education classes and a dollar for dollar match up to \$500 when used for approved purchases. **Money Works for You Youth** offers a similar program to a targeted youth population.
- **Home Buyer Club** assisting persons wishing to purchase a home. The Club operates over a period of five weeks with classes covering topics such as budgeting, credit, savings and shopping for a home.
- **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** offering free tax preparation for low to moderate income households, many of whom qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit.



Also designed to help families stretch their limited resources is the **Weatherization** program which decreases energy consumption and costs. Services are available to income eligible owner and renter occupied residences within the City of Erie. An energy audit is performed on each approved home, in accordance with industry standards. Some measures taken are: weather-stripping, caulking, replacement of broken glass, attic and sidewall insulation, furnace replacement and furnace inspection. All work is inspected upon completion to insure the quality of workmanship.

Finally, Food and Transportation services support the Aging and Child Development Services of the Agency.

Food Services prepare meals from four kitchen sites (Erie, Albion, Union City and Corry) served to clients of the Area Agency on Aging, Head Start and Pre-K Counts. Meals are prepared in compliance with standards requiring that 1/3 of the clients daily nutritional requirement be met.

Transportation Services provides door-to-door services for Head Start children attending centers, as well to other GECAC programs as needed. Children are transported in school buses operated by drivers who hold a CDL license with a School Bus Endorsement. In addition to client transportation, the program delivers meals to senior centers, Head Start centers and Pre-K Counts centers.



Future

Programs in the ETCS division will continue to support families and individuals by providing the tools needed to help them meet their goals of achieving self-sufficiency through saving, budgeting, credit repair and the pursuit of education through college preparation. An increased emphasis will be placed on meeting the expectations to meet national standards, particularly in Weatherization and Housing.

Executive Division & Special Projects



Past

Incorporated in February 1965 in response to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the Greater Erie Anti-Poverty Action Committee (GEAPAC) began in room 509 of City Hall under the direction of Mr. Charles Peters with a budget of \$63,034 and the mission of addressing poverty in Erie County. GEAPAC's early programs focused on preschool education, employment, and youth recreation. While the Agency's overall budget grew rapidly and increased to \$1.5 million in just its second year of service, the early years of the Agency were rocky due to an anti-poverty stigma and backlash, and the Agency saw a turnover of several Executive Directors (Mr. Peters: 1965-1967; Mr. Fred Thompson: February – June 1967 (acting); and Mr. William H. Clark: 1967 – 1969) before promoting Mr. R. Benjamin Wiley from Deputy Director to Executive Director in 1969. Mr. Wiley led efforts to implement the suggestions made by Booz-Allen-Hamilton, Inc.'s management improvement project, developing a strong management team, implementing tighter financial controls and adding a planning and evaluation division to expand the offering of the Agency to meet community needs. The efforts paid off and the Agency quickly outgrew several locations until it found its current home at 18 West Ninth Street in 1978. The Agency continued to grow and remained under Mr. Wiley's leadership until his passing in 2004. Serving as Board Chairperson at the time, Mr. Ronald A. Steele was named to replace Mr. Wiley as CEO and continues to lead the Agency to adapt services and collaborations to meet the ever changing needs of the Erie County community.

Present

The Executive Division consists of Building Services, Finance, Human Resources, Management Information Systems, Office Services, and Planning. All executive

services support the overall operations of the Agency to provide a strong foundation for providing Agency programming. A few initiatives are coordinated directly out of the Executive Division.

Erie Together

Erie Together is a movement of hundreds of local individuals, organizations, and businesses working together in strategic ways to prevent and reduce poverty, elevate prosperity, and make the Erie region a community of opportunity where everyone can learn, work and thrive.

Launched in 2009 by GECAC, United Way of Erie County and Mercyhurst University, Erie Together began, and operated for its first five years, with significant financial support from the Erie Women's Fund. Since 2010, four countywide action teams have been working to meet the goals of 1) more children become successful adults; 2) more adults obtain family sustaining employment; 3) more families are able to meet their basic needs.

GECAC's primary responsibility to the project is the Family Action Team component. Family Action Teams are group mentoring experiences that are designed to help individual families make plans and move from dependency to self-sufficiency.

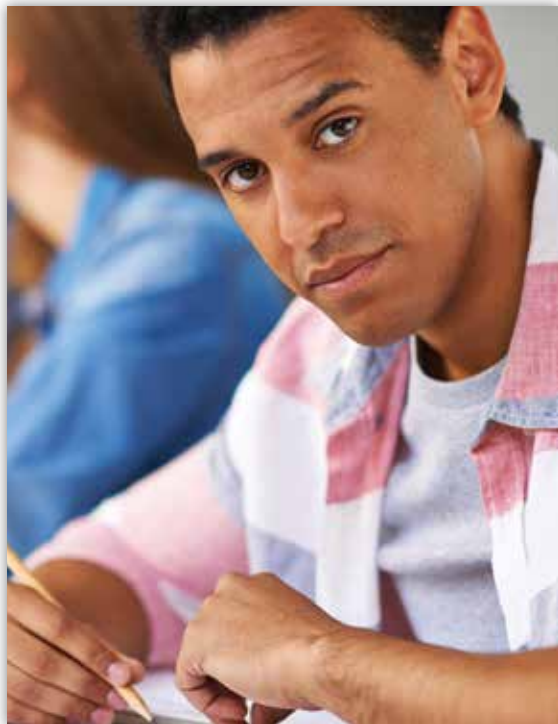
Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program

GECAC is an approved Scholarship Organization under the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit and the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit programs. A scholarship organization provides tuition assistance to eligible students to attend primary and/or secondary schools in Erie County. Tuition assistance is financially supported by businesses that receive Pennsylvania state tax

credits for their contributions to the program. For the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, the following businesses generously contributed to the Scholarship Organization: **Baldwin Brothers, Inc.; Erie Insurance; First National Bank of Pennsylvania; Highmark Inc; Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.; MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton LLP; Maplevale Farms, Inc.; PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.; and UPMC Health Plan.** \$98,363 in tuition assistance was provided to 167 qualifying families for the 2015-2016 school year.

Poverty Simulations

The Poverty Simulation, developed by the Missouri Association for Community Action, is designed to help participants, from the broader community, begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month. In the simulation, 44 to 80 participants assume the roles of up to 26 different families facing poverty. After the simulation, the participants are debriefed regarding their experience and are provided with next steps on how they may address the issues of poverty in our community.



Future

As we continue into our next 50 years of service to the community, focus will continue on providing programs that fill in the gaps to helping low-income residents in Erie County to achieve self-sufficiency in a highly efficient and effective manner. During the next year, the Agency will be focusing on conducting an updated comprehensive Community Assessment and fully implementing the new Community Action National Standards.

Workforce Development Services



Past

Employment-based programs have been seen as an essential stepping stone out of poverty since the beginning of GECAC's history. Early employment and training programs included the Neighborhood Youth Corp (NYC). NYC began in 1969 and was funded by the United State Department of Labor to provide training, work experience and education to Erie County youth. Another early workforce program, Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), focused on the opposite end of the age spectrum. Still offered today, SCSEP was first funded in Erie County in 1974 to provide training and work experience for adults age 55 and older. Recognizing that education is essential to being able to obtain family sustaining employment, GECAC added GED® preparation classes to its program offerings in 1989 with the opening of the GECAC Training Institute.

Present

For the past several years, Workforce Development Services (WDS) Division programs have been housed primarily in the GECAC Adult Learning Center (ALC), located at 440 West 18th Street in the "Little Italy" section of the City of Erie. Division programs have included Adult Basic Literacy Education, EmployAbility Erie, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) and the Work Ready program.

GECAC is a full service Adult Basic Literacy Education provider, offering all levels of Adult Education, including GED® and English as a Second Language, through multiple delivery methods (classes, distance learning, independent computer-based software, tutor matches). Transition to post-secondary training classes also were added for those individuals already possessing a diploma or GED® but needing some refresher courses to enter post-secondary education. Curriculum includes standards-based instruction with embedded career pathways activities, Work Certified™ opportunities, and case management to assist students in

making career and personal choices. The GECAC Adult Learning Center also is a certified Pearson Vue Testing Center, approved to conduct the GED® test. Interested persons can schedule to take the GED® test at this inner city location; they do not need to be students of the GECAC Adult Learning Center.

EmployAbility Erie, funded by a Community Services Block Grant Discretionary grant, combines the goal setting and barrier reduction strategies of the Family Action Teams (see Executive section) with the work readiness skills training of the Work Certified™ curriculum to help area job seekers find and sustain employment.

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), formerly known as the Senior Aide Program, places low-income seniors, age 55 and older, into part-time subsidized community service training opportunities with non-profit and governmental "host agencies" across Erie, Crawford and Venango counties. Host Agencies provide supervision and help seniors develop new skills on the job to prepare them for unsubsidized employment.

The Work Ready program is funded through the PA Department of Public Welfare to provide TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) recipients with education, skills training, work activities and job placement services designed to enable them to become self-sufficient. GECAC is the centralized work-site for training and provides community service, paid work experience and job development opportunities to link participants to other training programs or entry level jobs in the local market.



Future

The passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is marking a significant turning point in the delivery of workforce services across our nation, providing a new emphasis on carefully matching the needs of the employers with the employment and training programs offered to job seekers. Several new funding opportunities were offered during the 2014-2015 program year, and GECAC was successful in obtaining three of them. The Agency looks forward to bringing the following to the northwest PA region in the coming year:

Pathways to Careers, a PA Department of Labor and Industry funded Community-based Organization grant, to assist Erie County job seekers in attaining stackable credentials to prepare for entry level jobs with career potential in the health care, manufacturing and hospitality industries.

WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs and TANF Youth program – located at the PA CareerLink® Erie County, services will be offered in the areas of Career Services, Training Services and Business Services. The goal of all WIOA Title I programs will be to meet the needs of area employers by matching and assisting local job seekers to obtain the skills to fill those needs.

The **Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF) program** will be a five-year program serving the six-county Northwest PA Workforce Investment Area. Designed to fill in the gaps of current program offerings, WIF will implement strategies for providing training and supportive services to meet the needs of the manufacturing and health care industries. WIF is designed to meet the needs of the job seekers with the most significant barriers to employment and to create greater efficiencies and stronger collaborations across the workforce system.

Executive Management Staff



Ronald A. Steele
Chief Executive Officer



Georgia L. Del Frio
Vice President/Operations



Dianne Presogna
Vice President/Finance



Bettie J. Vincent
Vice President/Human Resources



Edward Sitter
Director of Planning

Board of Directors



Gwendolyn White
Board Chairperson



Michael Butler
Vice Chairman



Christine F. Konzal
Secretary



Chanel Cook
Treasurer



Adrian Beliveau



Pasquale J. Bruno, III



Stephen M. Danch



Danny Jones



Brenda McWilliams



Alice Quinones



Alison Samuels



Homer L. Smith, Jr.



Mary Timashenka



Jean Wayne



Deborah Wisinski

GECAC Division Managers



G. Jean Burrell
Workforce Development



Nicole Johnson
Education, Training &
Community Services



Debra Mennecke
Area Agency on Aging



Wendy Wojtecki
Child Development

GECAC Agency Services 2014-2015

Area Agency on Aging

Aging Waiver	1,056
Assessment	3,289
Care Management	1,324
Domiciliary Care	26
Family Caregiver	44
Foster Grandparent Program	75
Home Delivered Meals	691
Home Health	393
HomePLUS	400
Home Support	162
Legal Services	426
Long Term Care Ombudsman	252
Medical Supplies	233
Older Adult Protective Services	318
Personal Assistance Services	118
Personal Care	204
Prime Time Wellness (Service Units)	2,682
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	525
Senior Centers	1,477
Transportation	1,152

Child Development Unit

Head Start	
Federal Slots	713
State Slots	78
Pre-K Counts	68

Special Projects

Educational Tax Credit Scholarships	167
Erie Together	
Family Action Team Members	54
Community Partners	23

Education, Training & Community Services

Credit and Budget Counseling	49
Family Savings Account/ Individual Development Accounts	44
Financial Education Counseling	16
Food Services Meals	
# meals for Elderly	218,549
# meals for Child Care	157,194
GO College-Erie	240
Housing Assistance	1,399
Money Works For You	34
Money Works For You Youth	10
PNC Home Buyers Club	12
Transportation	874
Upward Bound	74
Utility Assistance	889
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	562
Weatherization	
# of homes weatherized:	33
# of clients services:	84

Workforce Development Services

Adult Basic Literacy Education	148
Senior Community Service Employment Program	120
Work Ready	145

GECAC Staff Roster

Aging Services

Adams, Bridget
Adkins, Rosan
Bastow, Scott
Baysek, Deborah
Benson, Sally
Blakely, Wanda
Bratek, Wanda
Calhoun, Charles
Carter-Snell, Helen
Casane, Pasquale
Clabbatz, Nancy
Coburn, Carmen
Craven, Christa
DeCrease, Christine
Dedad, Polly
Dickens, Bettie
DiMattio, Carolyn
Dregalla, Jamie
Dropcho, Cynthia
Edwards, Jennifer
Edwards, Kimberly
Fetty, Adam
Fleming, Cynthia
Frank, Ashley
Fresch, Malia
Garcia, Abner
Gibbons, Brenda
Grigoryan, Karine
Hagstrom, Kyle
Hooks, Lydia
House, Regina
Howze, Abram
Hromek, Amy
Hutzelman, Kimberly
Huyck, Kimberly
Jones, Latece
Jordan-Jewell, Lauri
Joyce, Henry
Kerr, Heather
Kerr, Roxane
Lehman, Valeri
Letkiewicz, Nitasha
Lindberg, Mark
London, Ernest
Maholtz, Raymond
Malone, Kimberly
Martin, Erika
Mattson, Cathy
Mehler, Erin
Mennecke, Debra
Mitchell, Benny
Muckinhaupt, Thomas

Musone, Elizabeth
Myers, Teresa
Perales, Roxanne
Pete, John
Piotrowicz, Kathleen
Price, Rachael
Reynard, Peggy
Reynolds, Lisa
Rist, Nicholas
Roberts, Carolyn
Rodgers, Carol
Rozanski, Cynthia
Rybar, Linda
Schermer, Sharon
Shannon, Diane
Shapiro, Barry
Simmons, Gertrude
Skaljic, Almir
Soriano, April
Spaid, Laura
Spencer, Vanessa
Strasser, Robert
Tau, Kathleen
Taylor, Richard
Titko, Tracy
Trenn, Amanda
Trott, Matthew
Trott, Maureen
Valentine, Rachel
Velez, Maribel
Wunch, Tina
Yauger, Jennifer
Zaytsev, Aleksandr
Zuba, Alicia

Child Development Services

Agens, Cheryl
Allen, Barbara
Anderson, Susan
Baez, Tiffany
Bailes, Lesley
Bailey, Deanne
Balkovic-Johnson, Brenda
Barber, Lynn
Barnes, Cornelia
Barney, Debbie
Beers, Melinda
Belden, Laura
Black, Julie
Blarr, Cheri
Botwright-Noonan, Beth
Bridgett, Sarah
Britt, Kathy

Bryant, Lisa
Buchanan, Paula
Buettner, Deborah
Byes, Ebony
Callahan, Erin
Candelaria-Vega, Maria
Causgrove, Thomas
Chernicky, Krisztina
Conley, Molly
Cook, Jennifer
Courtney, Carol
Crandell, Elizabeth
Cullison, Lisa
Davis, Patricia
Decker, Beth
Demaske, Leslie
Denial, Rebecca
Driscoll, Kim
Ducharme, Bridget
Dudick, Elizabeth
Duffrin, Betty
Evans, Doris
Ewing, Cynthia
Foriska, Katherine
Frontera, Dawn
Fuller, Michelle
Gambill, Debra
Gamble, Melinda
Gantz, Laura
Gates, Emily
Gates, Leah
Gee, Tammy
Golden, Doreen
Grabinski, Lori
Graves, Shelly
Greenman, Marie
Gruver, Deborah
Hatch, Katherine
Hawkins, Suprena
Herrmann, Pamela
Hicks, Liana
Howze, Stacy
Hudson-Estrella, Nena
Jeannerat, Debra
Johnson, Amanda
Jones, Patricia
Kafando, Vera
Kauffman, Brenda
Kilbane, Deborah
Kilburn, Tiffany
Kimmy, Tammie
Kruszewski, Nicole
Laine, Denise
Lasko, Deborah

Lemak, Casandra
Leninsky, Joy
Letzelter, Sherry
Liebau, Trisha
Lunger, Brittny
Majewski, Linda
Mason, Shana
Mattson, Jamie
McCallum, Veronica
McEwen, Rebecca
McFadden, Kathleen
McLaughlin, Cindy
McLaughlin, Louise
McLaurin, Paula
Messner, Stephanie
Miller, Sharon
Moore, Tyonna
Moore-Roebach, Barbara
Morgan, Leianne
Mortimer, Brandee
Nelson, Tabatha
Nientimp, Gail
Ow, Joann
Pacley, Cathy
Pascarella, Gina
Plott, Leamon
Podalski, Angela
Potter, Mary
Potts, Stephanie
Rajewski, Shannon
Raun, Carol
Reichel, Colleen
Ritchie, Martina
Roberts, Norma
Rodriguez, Brianna
Romba, Doreen
Rose, Sandra
Royal, Dianne
Sanford, Caralyn
Sanford, Christine
Sargent, Marcia
See, Kimberly
Seth, Renee
Shirley, Donna
Shufesky, Candace
Smith, Kathleen
Songer, Dana
Sova, Seth
Sturgill, Heather
Sullivan, Cathlin
Tate, Angela
Tate, Martha
Teribery, Nancy
Thomas, Tracey
Thorhauer, Corinna
Tursunovic, Samra
Velez, Jalitza
Vitale, Lori
Washington, Leslie

Wheeler, Samantha
Whitney, Nancy
Wierzbicki, Grazyna
Williams, Anthony
Wilson, Robin
Wojtecki, Wendy
Woodson, Dana
Zaczyk, Shirley

Education, Training & Community Services

Barnett, Sandra
Champion, Stacie
Cornwell, Cheryl
Courteau, Janet
DelleCurti, Frank
DiPlacido, Nicola
Ferrell, Diane
Fiolek, Leora
Fuhrman, Daniel
Geist, Carolyn
Gouldsmith, Helen
Gray, Alan
Harvey, Todd
Higley, Nancy
Hope, Wendy
Hunter, Julian
Jaroski, James
Johnson, Nicole
Konetsky, Linda
Kosiorek, Dana
Lansberry, Scott
Lewis, Gilbert
Long, Michael
Markley, Ronald
McClellan, Barbara
Meerhoff, Kelli
Momeyer, Michael
Nieder, Gregory
Norton, Michael
Pickens, Lori
Schwabebauer, Patricia
Smith, Karen
Snyder, Stanley
Suminski, Dennis
Tweed, Cathleen
Wills, Diane
Wilson, Benjamin
Wolfe, Karen

Executive

Blanks, Gerald
DeFelice, Linda
Del Freo, Georgia
Dyke, Matthew
Ferguson, Jeanette
Hoffman, Susan
Jones, Alvin
Knight, Rodney

Lloyd, Betty
McCaslin, Kimberly
McCullum, Arden
McKay, Rebekah
Mitchell, Brian
Sawatsky, Holly
Sitter, Edward
Stearns, Kathleen
Steele, Ronald
Vincent, Bettie
Whelan, Roger
Williams, Garry
Williams, Lavita

Finance

Cermak, Leslie
Gerber, David
House, Vivian
Kerner, Dorothy
Kessler, Christina
Kowalczyk, Linda
Love, Charlene
McCullum, Vivian
McMullin, Andrea
Presogna, Dianne
Sirak, Maryann
Steele, Barbara
Stevens, Colette

Workforce Development Services

Burrell, G. Jean
Chaffee, Maryanne
Edwards, Jonathan
Federowicz, Mary
Fields, Robert
Hansbrew, Sandra
Hund, Karen
Ibraheem, Fadhail
Keffer, Douglas
Kennedy-Fink, Maureen
McCoy, Anita
Meyers, Claritha
Nordin, Melissa
Outlaw, Michael
Quirk, Michael
Riley, Gregory
Sanford, Ann
Schutz, Karen
Short, Tracy
Sivillo, Deborah
Swoger, Teresa
Tunis, Murtada
VanSlyke, Susan
Vincent, Jovan
Vroman, Christine
Wang, Jin Chuan
Yankovich, Carole
Zimmerman, Duane

Distribution of Funds

2014-2015	Total Budget	Total Federal	Total Non Federal
ADMINISTRATION & CENTRAL OPERATIONS			
Administration and Central Operations	\$593,506	\$305,793	\$287,713
Subtotal: Administration and Operations	\$593,506	\$305,793	\$287,713
AGING SERVICES			
Aging Waiver	\$1,992,462	\$347,856	\$1,644,606
Area Agency on Aging	\$6,146,870	\$944,924	\$5,201,946
Foster Grandparent Program	\$268,328	\$243,427	\$24,901
HomePLUS	\$562,943	\$466,100	\$96,843
Nursing Home Transition	\$195,728	\$23,854	\$171,874
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	\$169,706	\$71,172	\$98,534
UPMC for Life Community-based Care Coordination Initiative	\$50,750	\$-	\$50,750
Subtotal: Aging Services	\$9,386,787	\$2,097,333	\$7,289,454
CHILD DEVELOPMENT			
Early Head Start Child Care Partnership	\$1,151,774	\$921,419	\$230,355
Head Start	\$8,605,330	\$6,499,832	\$2,105,498
Pre-K Counts	\$534,480	\$-	\$534,480
Subtotal: Child Development	\$10,291,584	\$7,421,251	\$2,870,333
EDUCATION, TRAINING & COMMUNITY SERVICES			
Child Care Food & Other Food Services	\$865,746	\$569,849	\$295,897
Financial Literacy and Savings Programs	\$317,679	\$163,807	\$153,872
Food Services (2)	\$831,916	\$-	\$831,916
GO College - Erie	\$77,617	\$77,617	\$-
Housing Assistance and Counseling Services	\$794,555	\$179,992	\$614,563
Transportation (2)	\$1,012,045	\$-	\$1,012,045
Upward Bound	\$307,821	\$307,821	\$-
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program	\$10,000	\$-	\$10,000
Weatherization	\$400,495	\$340,845	\$59,650
Subtotal: Education, Training & Community Services	\$2,773,913	\$1,639,931	\$1,133,982
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES			
Adult Basic and Literacy Education	\$325,238	\$127,635	\$197,603
Employability Erie Project	\$129,550	\$129,550	\$-
Pathways to Careers	\$392,250	\$392,250	\$-
Senior Community Service Employment Program	\$744,527	\$657,108	\$87,419
Workforce Innovation Fund Program	\$115,182	\$115,182	\$-
Work Ready	\$254,988	\$254,988	\$-
Subtotal: Workforce Development Services	\$1,961,735	\$1,676,713	\$285,022
SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Tax Credit Scholarship Programs	\$97,000	\$-	\$97,000
Erie Together-Family Action Team	\$35,000	\$-	\$35,000
Poverty Simulations	\$200	\$-	\$200
R. Benjamin Wiley Memorial Fund	\$5,775	\$-	\$5,775
Wiley Osborne Golf Classic	\$39,300	\$-	\$39,300
Subtotal: Special Projects	\$177,275	\$-	\$177,275
Grand Total	\$25,184,800	\$13,141,021	\$12,043,779

Funding Source Summary

FEDERAL

Corporation for National Community Service	\$314,599
Department of Education	\$513,073
Department of Energy	\$145,312
Department of Labor	\$772,290
Health and Human Services	\$10,140,621
Housing and Urban Development	\$685,277
United States Department of Agriculture	\$569,849
TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS	\$13,141,021

STATE

Department of Aging (1)	\$4,468,859
Department of Community and Economic Development (1)	\$100,872
Department of Education	\$1,171,700
Department of Human Services~Office of Long Term Living (1)	\$2,093,868
TOTAL STATE FUNDS	\$7,835,299

LOCAL

City of Erie (1)	
County of Erie (1)	\$1,235,414
Corporate/Educational Institutions/Other Agencies	\$413,084
Fees and Contributions	\$217,945
Foundations	
Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation	\$198,113
Housing Authority of the City of Erie (1)	
In-Kind Contributions	\$1,884,974
United Way	\$66,300
Utilities (National Fuel Gas & First Energy)	\$192,650
TOTAL LOCAL FUNDS	\$4,208,480

TOTAL AGENCY FUNDING

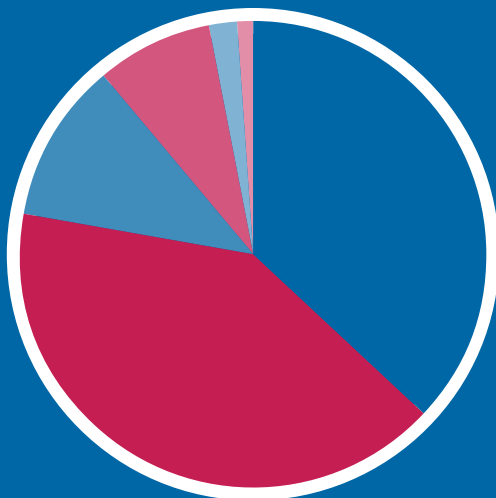
\$25,184,800

(1) Designated Federal funds contracted from this source are reported under the originating federal funding source.

(2) Funds to operate this service are derived from purchase of service agreements with other internal programs and are not included in the grand total.

This is an unaudited financial statement

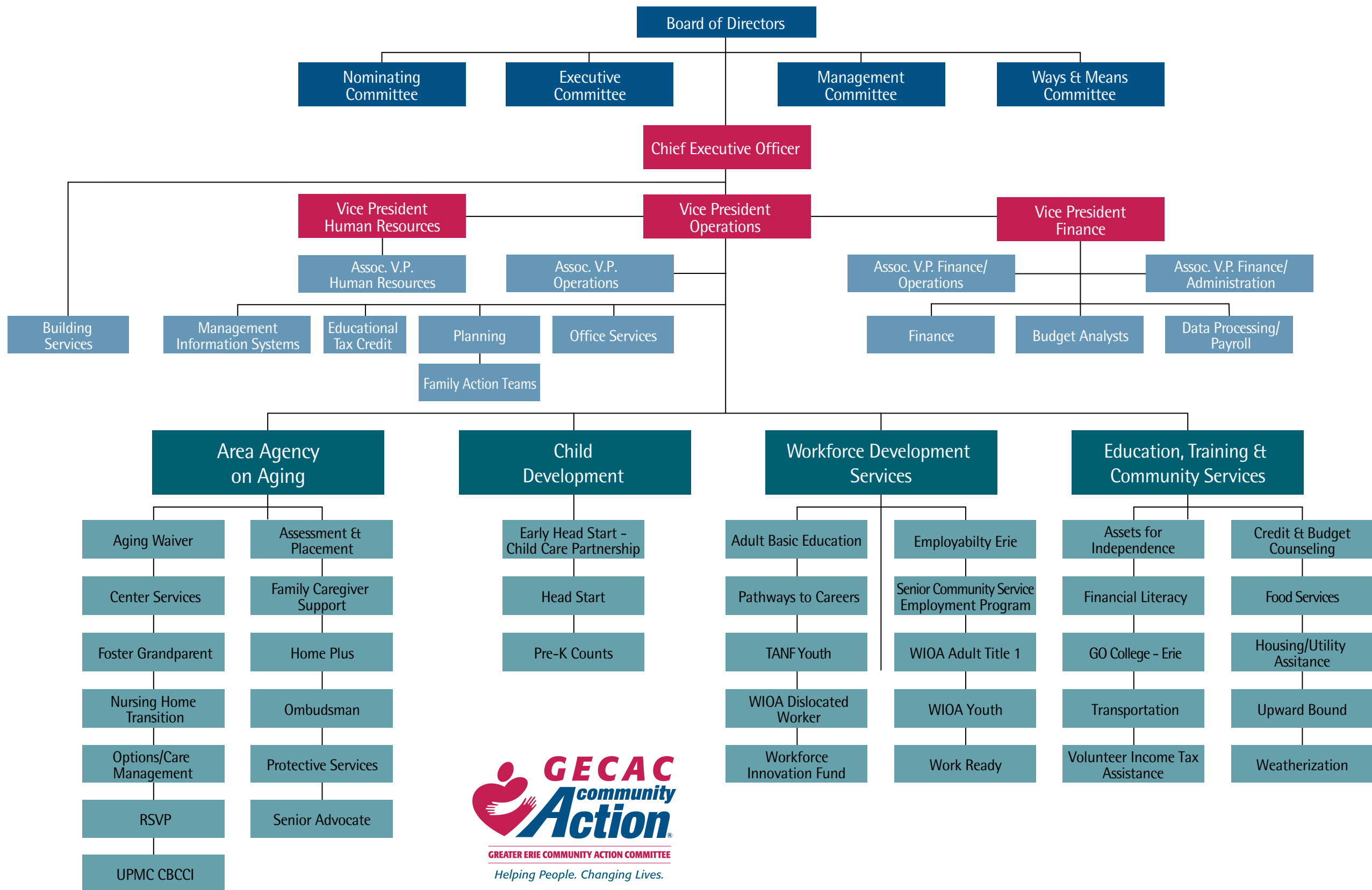
Funding By Division



□ Aging Services	37%	\$9,386,787
■ Child Development	41%	\$10,291,584
□ Education, Training & Community Services	11%	\$2,773,913
■ Workforce Development Services	8%	\$1,961,735
□ Administration & Central Operations	2%	\$593,506
■ Special Projects	1%	\$177,275
Grand Total		\$25,184,800



GECAC Organizational Chart



The Promise

Community Action changes peoples' lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other as they move from poverty to self-sufficiency.



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