

## Achieving Positive Results

When Angel and her two children, ages 11 and 8, came to Obershaw House they were homeless and residing in a motel. Her finances and other circumstances had forced her and the children out of their home. She felt betrayed, alone, and helpless. After several calls to other organizations, Angel was referred to Community Action Partnership's Obershaw House Transitional Housing Program. The family entered the program in November of 2006.

Angel met weekly with her case manager and outlined some goals she wanted to accomplish. Within two months of moving into Obershaw House, Angel had a better paying job closer to home, the children's grades began to improve and their lives changed. During their stay at the Obershaw House, Angel was able to accomplish many things. She obtained a second job, purchased a better car, and worked on self-esteem issues. Angel was elected Neighborhood Watch Commander for Obershaw House and entered the Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Program. The children attended Summer Camp, which helped both of them tremendously, especially Celeste, who was shy and introverted.

Angel has stated that without Community Action Partnership she and the children would have had no idea where to turn for help. The program was not always easy, and Angel had to overcome many barriers. She says she still has barriers to face. But she attributes her success to Community Action Partnership and the one-on-one spirit of caring and compassion that she received while in the Obershaw program. On April 15, 2008 Angel and her children graduated from Obershaw and moved into permanent housing.



*C* hallenging individuals  
*A* chieving positive results  
*P* romoting personal growth  
*S* triving for excellence  
*B* uilding assets  
*C* reating opportunities

### Family Development's Mission

*"To provide the tools and support needed to help people strengthen their families and their communities."*

### CAPSBC also offers the following program/services

Food Bank (909) 723-1580  
Energy, Education and Environmental Services (909) 723-1620  
Individual Development Accounts Program (909) 723-1571  
Homeless Management Information System (909) 723-1522  
Program Services TTY (909) 723-1505  
Administration TTY (909) 723-1508

**Patricia L. Nickols**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Family Development

Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County (CAPSBC)

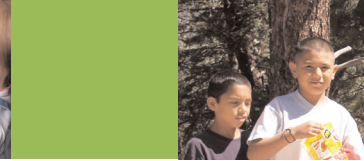


*"Challenging individuals to achieve positive results towards personal and collective prosperity"*



696 S. Tippecanoe Ave.  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0610  
(909) 723-1560  
www.capsbc.org





**S**an Bernardino County is the largest county in the continental United States, with 20,167 square miles and a population of nearly two million people. It has one of the lowest economic indicators in the nation and has been ranked in the top 25% of state and federal listings of economically disadvantaged areas. Thousands of families in San Bernardino County live below the federal poverty level and must rely upon public assistance programs.

Community Action Partnership's Family Development Program (FDP) strives to address the immediate needs of families and individuals in crisis, as well as to provide tools that will help them in reaching long-term goals of self-sufficiency.

Services offered by FDP have eligibility and income guidelines established by the funding source. Clients are interviewed by Family Development Specialists to assess their need and eligibility for services. Some of the services offered by FDP are:

- ◆Emergency assistance such as food vouchers, bus passes, gasoline cards, retail gift cards for clothing and other items, or emergency rental assistance.
- ◆Homeless assistance such as motel vouchers and hygiene items.
- ◆The Passport Self-Sufficiency Program which offers one-on-one case management.
- ◆Asset building programs such as the Individual Development Accounts (IDA) program.
- ◆Free tax preparation to access the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).
- ◆Youth programs such as Summer Camp and the Annual Children Christmas Event.

### The Obershaw House Transitional Housing

Obershaw House provides temporary affordable housing to homeless families as they make the transition from homelessness to stability. Residents of Obershaw House work with a case manager for up to one year to set goals and work toward acquiring employment, saving their earnings, and obtaining permanent housing. While residing at Obershaw House, clients participate in weekly and monthly tenant



meetings and weekly meetings with their case manager. Resources are provided such as access to housing and job searches, assistance with educational opportunities, budgeting and money management, and assistance with individual and family counseling.

### EITC/VITA and IDA

FDP works to help families and individuals acquire assets to build for the future. Through the Individual Development Accounts (IDA) program, clients can save up to \$2,000 and acquire a 2 to 1 cash match, for a total of \$6,000. The savings can be used to purchase a home, start or expand a small business, or pursue post-secondary education.

Through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), families can receive a tax credit of more than \$4,700, depending on household income and family size; and single individuals can receive a tax credit of more than \$400. FDP helps clients access these tax credits through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offered each tax season. VITA helps identify additional assets for low-income taxpayers, and helps to bring thousands of dollars back into the local economy.

