



ACTION NOW

FALL 2024



THIS ISSUE

Rising Cost of Living

Community Needs

Stories of Impact

Thank you!

PROGRAM STATS

624 Referrals

600 Families Served

Over 300 Gas Cards for work & medical rides

Over \$134,000 in Assistance

PRIMARY NEEDS

Housing

Gas

Utilities

Car Repair

Pest Remediation

THE RISING COST OF LIVING

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a key metric for measuring inflation. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the CPI was up over 22% in April of 2024 compared to April of 2020 [BLS CPI data]. This means that on average, goods and services cost 22% more than they did before the pandemic. More specifically:

- Food and beverages costs are up over 23%
- Housing expenses have increased by over 20%
- Energy prices have also risen between 25 and 30%.
- Vehicle insurance rates have increased an average of 30%.

CAWM is experiencing a significant increase in the number of first time utilizers of services, specifically for young families and older adults. The Action Fund bridges the gap between formal program eligibility and hardship needs that may not be addressed by existing programs or eligibility criteria. Our goal is to support our community through these hardships to ensure independence and resilience. We could NOT do this without you!!

Thank you so much for your support of our program and community!



JAMES FOX

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STORIES OF IMPACT

FROM RECENT ACTION FUND CLIENTS

HOUSING SECURITY FOR ELDERLY

After being abandoned by a family caregiver, an elderly woman was referred to the Action Fund by a local clinic as she had no housing, food, medication, or money. The Action Fund was able to secure emergency housing, securing ongoing benefits, food, household furnishings, and permanent housing!

Housing & Home Repairs

The Action Fund was able to make critical home repairs that allowed an elderly couple to shelter in place instead of moving to assisted living. We are experiencing an increased number of housing insecurity and essential home repair referrals. In all, the Action Fund has assisted 121 families in securing housing or completing essential repairs.

Supporting Transition From Violence to Hope

The Action Fund continues to support families recovering from domestic violence, serving seventeen families to date. The fund has helped to relocate families, pay outstanding storage expenses, and furnish their new homes.

INFESTATIONS THREATEN HOUSING SECURITY

The Action Fund has been able to address an unmet community need by assisting families who are experiencing insect infestation so severe that it threatens housing security and child placement. We have been able to assist over twenty families with insect and rodent infestations allowing them to stay in their homes, and in one case even prevent out of home placement of the children.

GAS & CAR REPAIRS

RAPID RESPONSE - HIGH IMPACT

The Action Fund has assisted over 300 families with fuel assistance supporting transportation to school, medical appointments, prosocial activities, and employment.

We have been able to support 65 families who were just above the income eligibility criteria for our formal car repair program. As a result of the repairs, families report being able to attend work, school, out of county medical appointments, and other critical needs.

KNOW OF SOMEONE IN NEED?

Refer to the Action Fund



<https://forms.office.com/r/7gXpwWYA3j>

THANK YOU!

The Action Fund is constantly evolving to ensure that we are able to address the current unmet needs of our community. Thank you for your support as this would not be possible without you! If you could share our program with others it would be greatly appreciated. We operate the program with existing administrative resources so 100% of your donation goes to direct client support. Donations can be on our website at www.cawm.org or by scanning this QR code from your phone:



Donations can also be dropped off at any CAWM office or Head Start Center or mailed to:

CAWM

Attn: Action Fund

905 Pittsburgh Avenue

Wooster, OH 44691.

CURRENT IN-KIND NEEDS

- Reliable Used Vehicles
- Household Items
- Gas Cards
- Grocery Gift Cards for special dietary needs



Thank you to our incredible

FOUNDATION PARTNERS

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