

Summary of FY 16 One Cent and General Funds

Community Action Partnership of Natrona County distributed \$383,382.00 to Casper’s human service programs. Of the total funds distributed, \$255,311 was City of Casper funds, and \$128,071.00 was provided by Natrona County. The distributions are as follows:

Organization	Amount Awarded
12-24 Club	\$ 12,200.00
ARC of Natrona County	\$ 9,800.00
Brain Injury Alliance	\$ 4,200.00
CASA of Natrona County	\$ 14,600.00
YMCA	\$ -
Central WY Senior Services	\$ 22,800.00
Child Advocacy Project	\$ 17,900.00
Child Development Center	\$ 10,300.00
Casper Family Connections	\$ -
Food Bank of the Rockies	\$ 22,800.00
Girl Scouts	\$ 5,800.00
Hospice	\$ 12,100.00
Meals on Wheels	\$ 10,000.00
RSVP	\$ -
Housing First/	\$ 95,000.00
Mercer Family Resource Center	\$ 23,200.00
Cent Wyo Rescue Mission	\$ 14,300.00
Self Help Center	\$ 28,200.00
Dementia Care	\$ 8,600.00
Healthcare for the Homeless	\$ 22,400.00
Wyoming Senior Companion Program	\$ 8,300.00
Youth Crisis Center	\$ 10,300.00
Reserve Emergency Need	<u>\$ 30,582.00</u>
	<u>\$ 383,382.00</u>

With our current application process, we fund the following service categories: Child Care, Developmental Disabilities, Homeless Support, Family Violence/Sexual Assault, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency, Mental Health, Senior Citizens, and Substance Abuse. The CAPNC Board makes funding decisions based on the Needs Assessment Data we gather every three years.

We gather data from human service recipients and providers. In 2014 we received surveys from 109 community partners and 172 individuals who live and/or work in Natrona County. Surveys were distributed at 38 locations. According to survey respondents, the top three needs are in the areas of health, housing and employment:

Health: (41.3%)

- Lack of health insurance
- Lack of dental services

- Lack of low cost medical services

Housing: (40.1%)

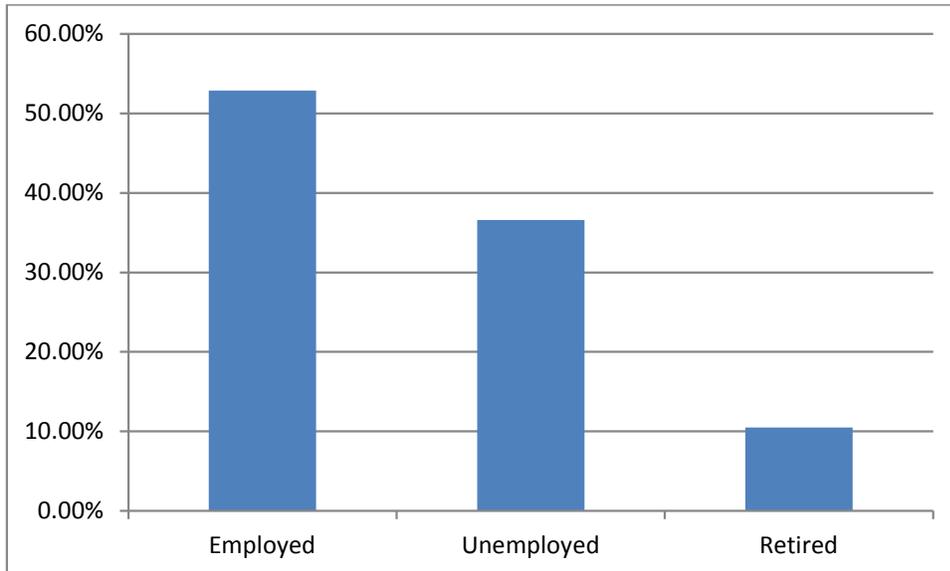
- Lack of affordable housing
- Lack of suitable housing
- Credit issues

Employment: (34.9%)

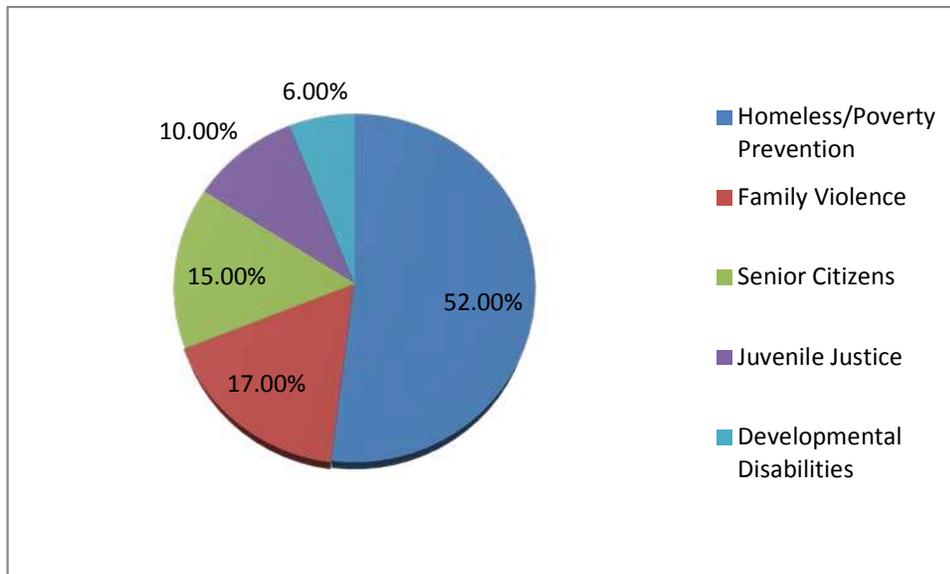
- Lack of employment opportunities
- Lack of reliable transportation
- Physical disability

The other poverty indicators were transportation (30.4%), use of income (25%), nutrition (22.8%), and education (13.1%). A full copy of the Needs Assessment was distributed during the summer of 2014; however, bound copies are available at CAPNC's main office or electronically by request.

Sixty three percent (63%) of respondents were employed either full time, part time or are retired senior citizens (most with only social security as income). Of those employed, 66.8% stated a monthly income of less than \$1,500.



Using this data, the CAPNC Board of Directors distributed the City of Casper/Natrona County funds in the following service categories:



In reporting period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 the agencies receiving funding served a total of 16,202 unique individuals.

In December 2013 CAPNC collaborated with Central Wyoming Rescue Mission and United Way to open an overflow emergency shelter on Life Steps Campus. In order to continue serving the most vulnerable during our harsh winter months, we continued this collaboration with Central Wyoming Rescue Mission and operated an overflow emergency shelter again on campus during the months of November 2015 – March 2015.

In addition to providing funding for direct services throughout the community, we utilize City of Casper and Natrona County General Funds for administrative support for Community Action Partnership of Natrona County with the intent to leverage those community funds to acquire other no local funds to support human services.

In 2016 we utilized the general funds in our contract, in part, for administration expenses to operate Community Action Partnership of Natrona County. We were able to leverage those funds as follows:

- CAPNC applied for and was awarded \$513,872 to provide emergency and self-sufficiency services from October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017.
- CAPNC applied for and was awarded \$921,000 for primary medical care services at Healthcare for the Homeless for services from March 1, 2016 – February 28, 2017. We applied for continuing services (3/1/2017 – 2/28/2018) and were awarded \$1,042,184 to continue medical care to the homeless.
- CAPNC applied for and was awarded \$112,000 to provide Rapid Re-Housing Services to individuals and families living in shelters or on the street. These funds provide 1-3 months of rental assistance.

- CAPNC applied for and was awarded \$105,000 to support 18 units of the Housing First program targeting chronically homeless individuals. These funds support housing expenses.
- CAPNC applied for and was awarded \$89,175 to provide employment services to low income families with children under 18.
- CAPNC applied for and was awarded \$100,930 to expand Housing First with an additional 4 units, as well as provide intensive case management services to this extremely high risk population.
- \$60,000 from private foundations.

In summary, the funding provided by the City of Casper leverages over \$26 of federal, state, and private human service funding to serve this community for every \$1 invested by the City of Casper.

In addition to the leverage that the City of Casper and Natrona County funds provide, often federal and state funding requires non-federal matching funds. Community Action Partnership of Natrona County is required to match the following grants:

PATH (provides supportive services for Housing First Clients)	\$29,000
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	\$13,000
Emergency Solutions Grant (homeless prevention/rapid rehousing)	\$21,785
HUD Housing First Transitional Housing Transition	<u>\$80,000</u>
	\$143,785

In addition to Community Action Partnership of Natrona County match requirements, the CAPNC Board of Directors uses match requirements as a deciding factor when determining how to allocate local agency funding. In FY 2016 the following agencies had matching requirements and were funded with City of Casper and Natrona County general and one cent funds:

- Child Development Center
- Hospice
- Children’s Advocacy Project
- Central Wyoming Senior Services
- Self Help Center
- Meals on Wheels
- CASA
- Mercer Family Resource Center

Summary of FY 16 CAPNC Agency Programming

CAPNC operated three distinct programs: Housing First, Healthcare for the Homeless, and Empowerment for Success, a self sufficiency program.

Housing First

During grant year 2016 CAPNC worked with HUD to move from a transitional housing program that prioritized chronically homeless to a Permanent Supportive Housing Program serving solely the chronically homeless. In FY 2016 the program housed Life Steps Transitional Housing provided shelter to 45 adults and 26 children. Of those families, 88% of our residents moved from transitional housing to stable housing, and 24% of them were able to increase their earned income. In addition, 12% increased total income. Our program is able to accomplish these three goals by offering comprehensive case management that focuses on learning to carefully budget monthly income, to make thoughtful purchasing decisions, and to save for future expenses, such as permanent housing deposits and rents.

To better maximize resources in the community, we collaborate with Centsible Nutrition to provide all transitional housing residents with nutrition education. This education includes proper nutrition and purchasing guidance to maximize budgeted food dollars. We also collaborate with the University of Wyoming Occupation Therapy program to enhance the life skills education provided to all residents. And Casper College provides an Empower, Train, Employ program with residents to enhance employment skills.

Healthcare for the Homeless

During Calendar Year 2016 our medical clinic was able to provide 3,799 medical visits. We saw patients ranging in age from 9 to 69. Sixty-four percent (64%) of our patients were male and 36% were female. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of our patients were below the poverty line with only 2% having Medicaid coverage and 3% having Medicare. The remaining 95% were covered solely under the sliding scale for payment, translating to a cost of approximately \$5.00 per medical visit for the patient. The medical cost for each patient visit is an average of \$235.00. We receive patients from a variety of referral sources. In 2016 the patients came from the following:

- Emergency Shelter -- 25%
- Transitional Housing -- 24%
- Doubled Up -- 26%
- Street -- 4%
- Other -- 21%

One of the most startling statistics with our patient population is the rate of mental health disorder(s); 72% of our patients suffer from a mental health diagnosis and/or substance abuse diagnosis, often being a significant contributing factor to their homelessness. In order to address the mental health issues that significantly contribute to homelessness and unemployment, the clinic has received funding to provide a psychiatric specialist. This specialist has improved our ability to properly diagnose and treat mental health issues. We have also entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Central Wyoming Counseling Center to better address substance abuse issues and mental health.

We participate in the patient assistance program to help address the high cost of mental health medications that are often prohibitive in allowing patients to maintain the appropriate prescription regimen to stabilize mental health diagnoses symptoms. This program allows our medical providers to order prescription medications for patients. These are donated by the pharmaceutical companies. Although there are still issues with how to properly medicate patients while waiting for the application to be processed and prescriptions to arrive, this program has greatly improved patients' ability to access appropriate medications.

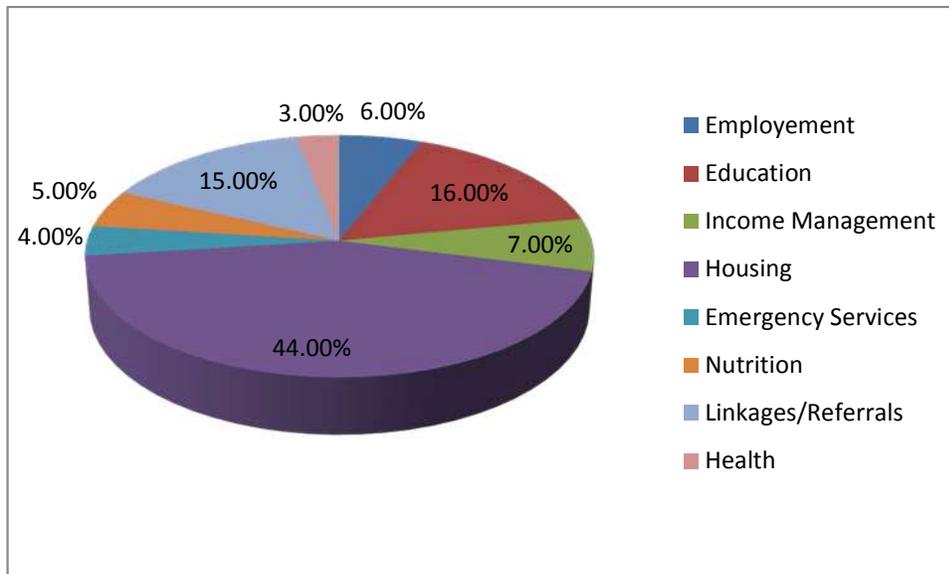
Twenty-two percent (22%) of our patients suffer from heart disease/hypertension and 10% have diabetes. When homeless, these diseases are significantly more difficult to manage due to diet and exposure. In addition to tracking outcomes for these two medical interventions, we now track outcomes for weight, asthma, colorectal cancer, cervical cancer, and HIV.

This last year we have partnered with University of Wyoming Family Practice. This arrangement has benefitted both programs. We have access to volunteer physicians on a weekly basis. These physicians bring medical students to the clinic. Our clinic has access to additional medical providers, and the medical students in the program are able to learn about the unique medical needs of a high risk population. This partnership has been so mutually successful; we will continue collaborating in the coming years.

In order to deal with the complicated medical history of homeless patients, we provide comprehensive medical care. In order to accomplish this, we often have to assist the patient with accessing specialty services, as well. We have less than \$20,000 annually to financially assist patients for medical specialists. In response, we have built successful relationships with private medical providers in the community willing to provide this care at no cost or a reduced cost.

Employment Opportunities for Success (EOS)

During Grant Year 2016 our self-sufficiency program served 1,252 individuals with intensive case management services including basic financial education, budgeting practice and goal setting. We meet with clients on a weekly basis to provide individual services and review progress. This program's primary funding is from Community Service Block Grant funds. The use of these funds is broken down as follows:



Some key demographic data on our clients will explain the importance of the services we provide: Only 13% of our clients have any education past a high school diploma or GED. Of those clients, 3% have no education beyond 8th grade, 25% have a high school diploma, and 72% acquired a GED. Fifty-one percent (51%) of our clients are employed but are unable to meet their expenses with their current income. During FY 16 we have seen an increase in employed individuals who cannot meet current expenses, which has resulted from the downturn in our economy. The largest increase with this population is individuals in the service industry who have had their hours cut. The two highest are restaurant workers and hotel staff. Of the total families we served, 16% were homeless when they came into our office. This number has significantly dropped in the last two years (previously 60%). This is a result of the change in the economy. Significantly more individuals are seeking help to prevent eviction. Sixty-three (63%) were currently and seeking help to avoid eviction. The cost of rent in our community is significant to the number of individuals we serve for housing crises.

The CSBG grant evaluates outcomes in employment and self-sufficiency based on local and national goals of total participants, those expected to achieve an outcome, and those who actually achieve an outcome. Our data was reported as follows:

- 260 families received rent or mortgage assistance with an average of \$352.00 per family
- 111 families received utility assistance with an average of \$170.00 per family
- 160 families received food assistance with an average of \$149.00 per family

From FY 2015 to FY 2016 we saw a 12% increase in the number of individuals requesting assistance for emergency and/or self-sufficiency needs. We had a 35% increase in the number of services provided, as a result of greater need within each family.

In addition to preventing homelessness or rehousing families that are currently homeless, we work to improve employment outcomes. **During FY 16, 62% of the individuals that we worked with who were unemployed when they began seeking services earned employment and maintained that employment**

for a minimum of 90 days. This is accomplished assistance seeking relevant job openings, working on resume building, and practicing job interview skills.

In addition to the direct service activities we conduct with our funding, we also support other agencies with operation support. With CSBG funds, we subcontract \$25,000 to Mother Seton House to support their transitional housing activities. We receive TANF funds, as well. We subcontract \$35,000 to CLIMB Wyoming and \$10,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters.