

Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership

Factsheet 2016



1 in 4 children (28%) live in poverty in Oakland



1 in 7 children (15%) live in poverty in Alameda County

12.5% Alameda County residents (**194,639**) living below the federal poverty level

20.4% Oakland residents (**82,165**) living below the federal poverty level

COMMUNITY IMPACT

79,942 Low-Income Alameda County Residents Served by **AC-OCAP**

2,472 Alameda County Low-Income Residents Received **Legal Assistance**

19,000 **Summer Lunches** Served to Oakland's Low Income Children

23,087 Alameda County Low-Income Residents Received **Free Tax Preparation** at 57 VITA Sites

951 Alameda County Low-Income Families **Housed**

124 Alameda County Low-Income Residents **Employed**

\$26.2 mil In Tax Refunds Captured, Including **\$8.9 million** brought back to low-wage earners through Alameda County's EITC campaign

\$806,000 In Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funds invested into the community and over **\$6.9 million** leveraged



Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership *Helping People... Changing Lives*

Meet Gina...

Gina is a trans-girl who was deeply involved in street life when she first entered Alameda Family Services' AC-OCAP funded DreamCatcher program. She was using drugs to cope and was lost in the isolation of her identity. DreamCatcher worked with her for over two years. The process was painfully slow and at one point everyone thought Gina was lost. One day, however, she walked in the door and said, "I don't want to do this anymore." The case manager, attorney, and shelter staff have all stayed close and engaged Gina in many conversations about her possibilities, strengths, and value. She participated in groups for Lesbian Bisexual Gay Transgender and Queer and Trans individuals supporting her identity. She also participated in groups on exploitation and sought help for her drug addiction during her time at DreamCatcher.

Even though Gina aged out, DreamCatcher, worked with her to move her to transitional housing and she was also accepted into the Kaiser 40 hour a week outpatient drug program. Today she looks healthy, more at peace, and she continues to be part of DreamCatcher's drop-in center. She also discussed the possibilities of college and received direct support from the President of Alameda's Community College.

Meet Anthony...

Anthony enrolled in Hayward Unified School District's AC-OCAP funded Youth Enrichment Services (YES) program as a high school dropout. It was a challenge to figure out what career path he would pursue, and he understood that obtaining his General Educational Development (GED) was top priority. Anthony decided to take on the GED exam immediately. He visited twice a week to take practice tests and soon realized that he possessed the knowledge to successfully pass at least two of the four GED tests. While pursuing his GED, Anthony also participated in YES workshops which consisted of resume/job interview training and leadership training which greatly enhanced his soft skills and also assisted Anthony to become more social and outspoken.

Anthony also participated in a summer internship with the Eden Computer Clubhouse learning about 3D printing and graphic design. By March 2016, Anthony had received tutoring for his final two GED tests through the YES program and successfully passed all four exams by April 18, 2016. As a result of his accomplishment, Anthony had a new mindset and the motivation to be successful. Anthony's next step was enrolling in a technology focused youth program called Year-Up based in San Francisco and his goal is to become a computer engineer.

Meet Rebekah...

Rebekah is a Ugandan immigrant and talented artisan who was inspired to share the artistry of her homeland through her business, Lwanga Design. After coming to the United States, Rebekah learned about how the apparel business works in this country by working as an assistant buyer for several large department stores. But she didn't want to just be buying and selling other people's things; she wanted to make and sell her own items.

AnewAmerica's AC-OCAP funded program appealed to Rebekah because it spoke to her needs as an immigrant entrepreneur. "When you come from another country, you have to start from scratch. When I see [fellow entrepreneurs] working with their own businesses, I feel a sense of enthusiasm and reinforcement of my own goals. AnewAmerica offers so many connections in the areas of community development, social responsibility and financial literacy that apply to people from all different social statuses."

Thanks to the help of AnewAmerica's program, her African-inspired products are finding a global marketplace, enabling her to work toward the economic security of her family and others.