



North Star
of Chester County
Helping Single Working Parents Succeed

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2019



Our Mission

North Star of Chester County, formerly Interfaith Housing Assistance Corporation of Chester County, guides Chester County's single working parents with dependent children, who are at risk of homelessness, toward stability and financial independence. We help our participant families remain in clean, safe, affordable housing as they work to secure their future through a structured program of financial assistance, mentoring and supportive services.

Single parents who stay in our program for three full years emerge stable and proudly able to provide for their families.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

North Star parents are hardworking single moms and dads who do not have a safety net. They are the face of what the United Way has designated ALICE (Asset-Limited Income Constrained Employed) families. Families who work but can not afford the basic necessities of life including housing, childcare, healthcare, transportation, and food. There are more than 10,000 ALICE single parent families in Chester County. Their wages are low, their rents continue to rise, they earn too much to qualify for most assistance programs but are struggling to make it on their own.

In the last year, 53 single parents came through our doors, looking for support and guidance. We are grateful that all of our ALICE families remained in their homes while enrolled in our program and we are honored to be a part of their journey toward self-sufficiency. Our families still face many challenges including the ongoing lack of affordable housing, insufficient public transportation, stagnant wages, and cuts to benefits. We are committed to serving them, providing the support and guidance they need now so they can flourish in the future. We believe an investment in our families is an investment in the entire community and we remain committed to helping them succeed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joyce Lacy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joyce" and last name "Lacy" clearly distinguishable.

Joyce Lacy, BS, MBA
Executive Director



North Star of Chester County Board of Directors

Top (left to right): Rae Morgan, Gary Liddick, Stuart Brooks, Rick Riegel, Jeremy Mueller. **Bottom** (left to right): Dahnielle Schmidt, Julie Breiner, Kathy Giuffre, Jessica Hoopes. Not pictured: Bob Eaves and James Pepperman

North Star of Chester County Staff



(Left to right): Ros Tilghman, Senior Case Manager; Catherine Welch, Case Manager; Nicholas Lohr, Project Manager; Joyce Lacy, Executive Director; L. Diane Toalton, Senior Case Manager

Annual Service Statistics

Served **145** single parents and children

96% of parents served were single mothers

Paid more than **\$39,000** in rental assistance to keep **26** Chester County families in their homes

4,960 nights of homelessness prevention generated by our rental assistance

0 families were evicted while enrolled in our program

\$7,823 in additional support including summer camp fees, purchasing beds for kids, and utility assistance to avoid shut-off



Case managers spent **973** hours with parents, guiding them toward self-sufficiency

14 donors provided gently-used home furnishings including beds, couches, and tables for **9** families

Events, Outreach, & Workshops

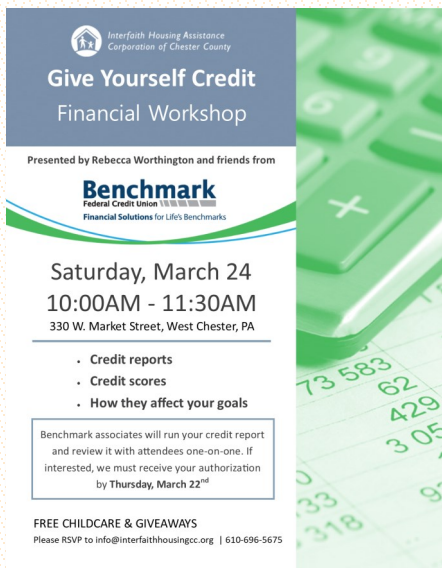



This year marked the beginning of operating under our new name. To spread the word about our services, we attended several community events to reach parents in need including the Downingtown Fall Festival, West Chester Chili Cook-off, and Early Head Start Family Block Party.



In addition to new beginnings, we celebrated the agency's 25th year serving Chester County at our two annual fundraisers: a fall gala "Dinner, Dancing, & Destinations" and Casino Night. Together, our efforts helped raise more than \$85,000 to support our homelessness prevention & self-sufficiency program.

North Star of Chester County hosted several workshops related to self-sufficiency including employment, credit scores, child support, and legal aid.



 **Interfaith Housing Assistance Corporation of Chester County**

Give Yourself Credit Financial Workshop

Presented by Rebecca Worthington and friends from

Benchmark
Federal Credit Union
Financial Solutions for Life's Benchmarks

Saturday, March 24
10:00AM - 11:30AM
330 W. Market Street, West Chester, PA

- Credit reports
- Credit scores
- How they affect your goals

Benchmark associates will run your credit report and review it with attendees one-on-one. If interested, we must receive your authorization by **Thursday, March 22nd**

FREE CHILDCARE & GIVEAWAYS
Please RSVP to info@interfaithhousingcc.org | 610-696-5675



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Where are the jobs?
What are the tools?
Next steps on your career path

Panel hosted by
Jessica Hoopes
Former Assistant Dean of the Widener School of Business Administration
With representatives from
Wings for Success
and
Roxanne Allen
Hiring Manager, UPS, Chesapeake Division

Get a Better Job Workshop

Saturday
February 9th
10:00am - 11:30am
330 W. Market Street
West Chester, PA 19382

Please RSVP
610-696-5675
info@northstarofcc.org

 **single Mothers' Conference**
Workshop Preview Series



 **North Star**
Helping Single Working Parents Succeed
Formerly Interfaith Housing Assistance Corporation of Chester County

Navigating the Child Support System

330 West Market Street
West Chester, PA 19382
northstarofcc.org

Saturday, April 6, 2019
10:00am - 11:30am

Guest Speaker
Rae Morgan, Establishment Manager
Chester County Domestic Relations

Topics Covered

- Filing complaints
- Establishing support orders
- Enforcing support orders

Please RSVP before March 29, 2019
610-696-5675
info@northstarofcc.org

Childcare and refreshments provided



We collaborated with the Chester County Single Mothers' Conference to reach a bigger audience, and extend programming for the conference, by opening our workshops to their single moms.



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LEGAL AID SERVICES WORKSHOP

PRESENTED BY DEBORAH STEEVES, ESQ.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
10:00AM — 11:30AM

DEBT RELIEF • CHILD CUSTODY & CHILD SUPPORT • HOUSING ISSUES • PUBLIC BENEFITS • UTILITY PROBLEMS AND MORE

REGISTER FOR FREE
www.northstarofcc.org/events/legal-aid

PLEASE JOIN US AT:
330 WEST MARKET STREET
WEST CHESTER, PA 19382
QUESTIONS? CALL 610-696-5675

 **single Mothers' Conference**
Encore Presentation

 **LASP Legal Aid**
of Southeastern PA

Financial Results

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Assets

Cash	\$143,251
Certificate of Deposit	\$100,000
Accounts Receivable	\$10,654
Promises to Give, current	\$10,000
Prepaid expenses	\$5,414
Prepaid Rent	\$4,900

Total Current Assets

\$274,219

Liabilities

Accrued Expenses	\$8,344
Accounts Payable	\$1,922
Total Current Liabilities	\$10,266

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$253,953
Temporarily Restricted	\$10,000
Total Net Assets	\$263,953

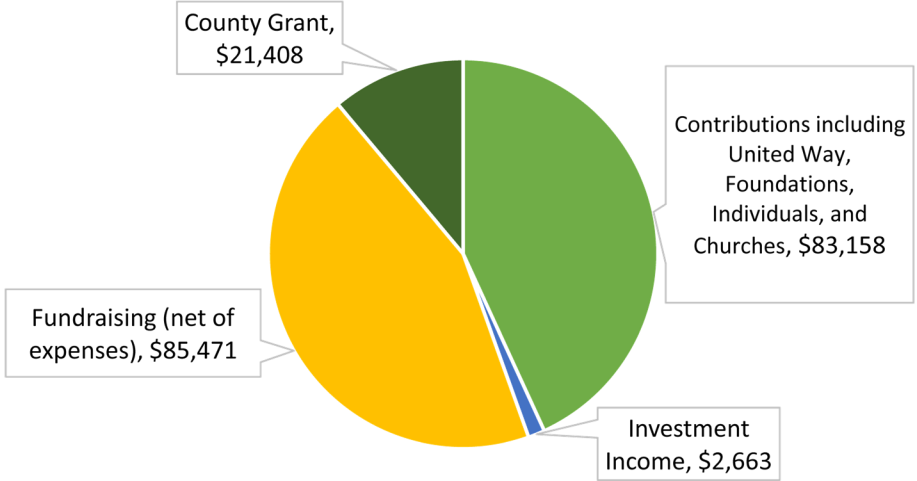
Total Liabilities & Net Assets

\$274,219

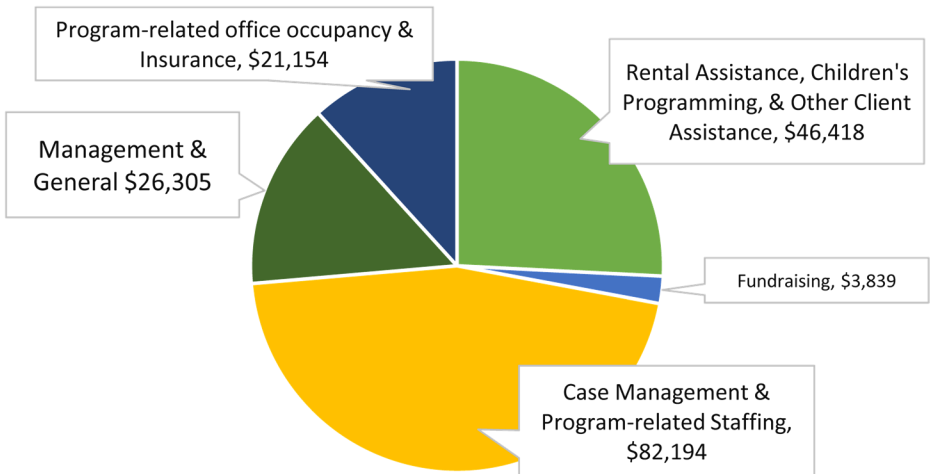
Financial Results

(Continued)

Gross Revenue Sources: \$192,700



Functional Expenses: \$179,910





Volunteers

Volunteers make a difference in the lives of our families. Honors students from West Chester University provided daycare for parents attending workshops and helped make our fundraising events possible. Community members delivered donated furniture to our moms and dads in need. They patched crumbling apartment walls when landlords wouldn't, organized school supplies and so much more. In Fiscal Year 2019, we engaged 39 volunteers in the service of our hardworking families.



Volunteers from Calvary Lutheran Church

Ways to Give

There are many ways to help North Star of Chester County and support hardworking single parent families.

Volunteer

Please consider volunteering for one of our fundraising events, outreach, or furniture delivery.

Online Donation

We accept donations on our website at www.northstarofcc.org/donate

Planned & Legacy Giving

Planned giving and legacy giving are effective ways to help hardworking single parents and provide long-term support to North Star of Chester County.

Sponsorship

Our fundraisers make up as much as 44% of our annual revenue. Sponsors for these events provide significant support to our mission.

Amazon Smile

Register North Star of Chester County as your designated charity of choice when shopping at smile.amazon.com.



Corporations, Foundations, and Organizations

North Star of Chester County proudly recognizes our supporters for making a difference in the lives of hardworking single parent families.

ABC Hearing

Forney Family Foundation

Amazon Smile Foundation

Genuardi Familiy Foundation

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Chester County Community
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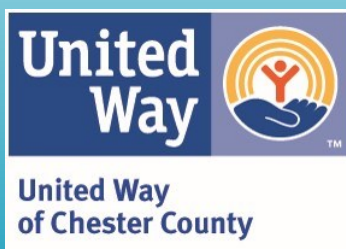
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leadership development • corporate training • executive coaching

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eat. drink. Om... YOGA + CAFE

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Consultant

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Center
Catherine Welch
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Buzz Williams
Willistown Church

Office Location

330 West Market Street
West Chester, PA 19382

Phone: 610-696-5675

Fax: 610-696-1004

EIN: 23-2713075

United Way Donor

Designation: 49470

www.northstarofcc.org

info@northstarofcc.org

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

10:00AM - 5:00PM

Case Management Hours

Monday - Thursday

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Saturday

10:00am - 2:00pm

Or by appointment

