

2016 Annual Report

Summary of Services provided and agency activities 1-1-16 to 12-31-16

Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc

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Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA) was incorporated in June 1980 as a 501 (c) (3) limited purpose agency and in 1981 was officially designated by Congress as the Community Action Agency to serve Inyo and Mono Counties. IMACA has been in continuous operation for 35 years offering services to assist families address issues related to poverty.

In 2016 - January 1 to December 31 - IMACA programs provided assistance to 1,364 Inyo and Mono County families – 2,956 people.

Summary of services provided in 2016

Head Start and State Preschools - IMACA operates five, center-based Head Start/State preschools in **Lone Pine, Bishop (2), Mammoth Lakes, Lee Vining** and a State Preschool only center in **Coleville, CA**. Each School has lead and assistant teachers and provides meals and snacks. In 2016, 174 three and four year old children participated in the preschools working to achieve school readiness goals. 406 other family members benefitted from parent education and counseling, health and dental screenings for the students, family advocacy and childcare allowing them to work. 4 Head Start centers were honored with high quality ratings and received \$14,000 for enhanced teacher education through a quality improvement system supervised by the ICSOS office. Teachers and staff completed over 1,200 hours of training. Childcare admin staff partnered with local businesses and volunteers to provide a Christmas Wish Tree program which delivered Christmas gifts to 220 families.

Homelessness Services and Affordable Housing Management - In recent years, IMACA helped obtain Federal-recognition by HUD for the local Continuum of Care (CoC) for the Homeless. This makes Inyo, Mono and Alpine Counties eligible to receive annual funding to provide services to individuals facing homelessness. In 2016, IMACA helped provide rapid re-housing, emergency shelter, homeless prevention or permanent housing services to 162 individuals in 98 families supported by funding through the Emergency Solutions Grant - HCD, the Community Services Block Grant and the Sierra Health Foundation. Case management services provided with the housing assistance resulted in 8 individuals becoming employed and 19 receiving access to dental services provided by a local dentist.

IMACA also manages Valley Apartments – a 19-unit Senior Housing facility in Bishop, and Glass Mountain Apartments - a 25-unit family housing project, in Mammoth Lakes. During 2016, IMACA worked with the City of Bishop to make funds available to initiate repairs and maintenance to Valley Apartments in 2017.

Through homeless and housing services provided by IMACA, 82 families with 136 people - including 4 homeless veterans - obtained and maintained permanent housing in 2016.

Low-income Home Energy Assistance and Home Weatherization programs; In 2016, IMACA provided energy assistance to 303 families in Inyo County and 178 in Mono County including wood, pellets, propane and electricity – to assure that 881 people maintained heating, cooling and utility services. Agency participated in events to educate people about energy savings, wise use and programs available through utility companies. Staff negotiated with State to re-establish Home Weatherization services in Inyo and Mono County by hiring and training staff capable of providing services in 2017.

Child Care Council, Childcare Alternate payment program, Childcare Resource and Referral programs in Mono County. In 2016 Mammoth-based IMACA staff managed programs which provided: 1.) childcare payment support to 83 people in 28 families, 2.) education and recognition to 23 family and institutional childcare providers, 1,788 information and assistance contacts to scores of families and financial support to 9 childcare businesses. IMACA also staffs the Mono County Child Care Council which assesses, promotes, plans and provides funding to organizations to improve County-wide access to high quality child care. MCCCC sponsored dental access programs, summer youth activities, child care training and recognition activities. MCCCC initiated an assessment of childcare resources and needs in Mono County which will be published in 2017.

Food distribution and food security programs – 1,931 people received over 275,000 pounds of food in 2016 through weekly pantries in Bishop, Lone Pine and Mammoth Lakes and monthly or bi-monthly distributions throughout Inyo Mono in 13 communities from Topaz to Tecopa Hot Springs. IMACA partners with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada – FBNN, USDA, and Von’s as well as school and employee organized food drive efforts at NIH, Caltrans, the Post Office, Boy Scouts and other groups to obtain additional food. In 2016, IMACA food programs received essential financial support from the Berger North Foundation, the Donald M. Slager Sunset Foundation, the Margaret Pillsbury Foundation and several large and small private donors. Holiday food distributions were coordinated with the Salvation Army.

Food Volunteers - It would have been impossible to distribute this food without the help of Lead Volunteers in communities throughout Inyo Mono – *Debbie Harrison & Mary Dahoff - Walker/Coleville; Lou Hill-Bridgeport; Cheryl Nelson, Shirley Strazdins & Linda Dore – Lee Vining; Emilio Gonzales & Josephina Martinez – June Lake; Carolyn Balliet - Mammoth Lakes; Rick Williams & Dave Barrett – Benton; Cheri Stewart, Ellen Landaker & Cynthia Crain – Bishop; Rick Fields – Big Pine; Janice Pederson-Independence; Will Wadelton, Glen and Rebecca Dougherty & the Spry brothers - Lone Pine; Bonnie Frye – Cartago, Connie Strom and Shirley Steele-Darwin; Mark Hamlin and Toni Lizzia – Tecopa Hot Springs.*

Alpine County Food Program – In 2016, IMACA became the Non-profit sponsor of the Alpine County Health and Human Services Department food distribution program, which enabled them to become a partner with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada – FBNN. This makes it possible for Alpine to expand food assistance services to residents year round. 105 Alpine families with 270 people were served in by this partnership in 2016.

Additional Community Impact –

In addition to services provided, IMACA has a significant economic impact in the area – providing 33 full time benefitted jobs, 16 part time jobs and work for several Contractors in Inyo and Mono Counties. These employees teach in 6 preschools, provide childcare assistance, enable families to access IMACA’s services and work cooperatively with other agencies. In addition, IMACA engages in significant commercial relationships with dozens of local vendors and businesses.

IMACA is primarily funded by Federal and State grant programs through Health and Human Services-Administration for Children and Families-Head Start and HUD; the California Departments of: Community Services and Development; Education; Housing and Community Development; and Social Services. In addition to the foundations and donors mentioned above, IMACA also receives significant funding or support from the Inyo County Superintendent of Schools, Mono County Office of Education, County of Mono, Town of Mammoth Lakes, and City of Bishop, local media, local businesses, churches, service clubs, employee groups and 2,990 hours of documented volunteer time. For more information about IMACA programs and for an opportunity to donate, please visit: www.imaca.net or contact the agency at info@imaca.net.

IMACA's mission is "To empower low-income people to advocate for their needs and to find and maintain a healthy lifestyle by breaking the cycle of poverty."