



HEALTHY COMMUNITY
ALLIANCE

Annual Report
2024/2025

Healthy Community Alliance, Inc.

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From the Chief Executive Officer



Dear Friends,

Healthy Community Alliance has always believed that health is created where people live, learn, work, and connect. This year, that belief has guided every partnership we strengthened, every program we delivered, and every individual and family we supported. As we reflect on this past year, I am proud to share a year marked by resilience, collaboration, and meaningful progress toward a healthier rural Western New York.

2025 also stands out for the essential work that happened within: strengthening our internal operations, reshaping our strategic plan, and preparing our organization for sustainable growth in the years ahead. Through it all, our commitment to transparency, accountability, and the responsible stewardship of resources remains unwavering.

Most importantly, however, we saw the power of connection. From volunteers and residents to our partners and staff, the people behind this work are the reason Healthy Community Alliance continues to thrive. Their dedication fuels our mission and inspires our vision of a future where every rural resident has the opportunity to live a healthy, connected, and fulfilling life.

Thank you to our partners, supporters, and community members for your trust and collaboration. Together, we are building a stronger rural Western New York—one where good health is not only a goal but a value we share.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Battaglia".

Ann Battaglia, Chief Executive Officer

Commitment to Community Wellness

HCA believes that when people are healthy—physically, mentally, and socially—they can contribute more fully to family life, work, and community engagement. Likewise, when communities invest in conditions that support health related social needs — safe housing, access to care, nutritious food, and social connection—everyone benefits. To this end, HCA is committed to fostering community wellness by helping individuals access vital care and resources while working with partner organizations to expand capacity, increase collaboration, and improve the systems that support good health.

As community needs become more complex, HCA is called upon to not just keep the pace but to

expand programs and respond to new challenges. This past year, HCA made a commitment to reach and serve more community members and did so through creative solutions and new collaborations. To address nutrition and food security, HCA continued its partnership with the Cattaraugus County Department of the Aging and **served and delivered 14,281** nutritious meals this year to older adults in the Gowanda area. HCA also facilitated two additional initiatives to support food security in Gowanda with regular visits from the FeedMore of WNY Farm Market Truck and Connecting Communities in Action Mobile Food Pantry. Both mobile food solutions offer affordable or free nutritious food options on a regular basis to older adults and families in Gowanda.



Mobile Produce - Shoppers purchase affordable fresh fruits and vegetables from Feedmore's Farm Market Truck during its visit to Academy Place Apartments.

To ensure access to affordable healthcare, HCA assists community members with enrollment in affordable health coverage and securing cost savings for consumers whenever possible. Over this past year, **HCA's health insurance navigators assisted 2,909 community members** across Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties with enrollment in and recertification for affordable health insurance coverage on the New York State of Health Marketplace. Additionally, HCA staffs the Medicare Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program in partnership with Cattaraugus County Department of Aging. With help from HCA health insurance navigators and counselors, community members learn about health insurance options, find out if they qualify for free or

reduced health insurance premiums, and enroll in plans that best suit them. To further these efforts, HCA received another round of "Keep New York Covered" funding from Community Services Society of New York which enables navigator agencies across the state to raise the profile of their free enrollment services to clients who may not be aware of the availability of local, in-person help.

HCA continues to be a service delivery partner with the Western New York Integrated Care Collaborative (WNYICC) and expanded this partnership to include screening and navigation services under the newly formed New York Health Equity Reform Social Care Network program. Under this program, HCA screens rural Medicaid members for unmet social care needs and

navigates those individuals to enhanced services such as food, transportation and housing to meet those needs. HCA was an early adopter and continues to be a top performer. In the first year of the program, **the total number of community members screened and navigated by HCA staff exceeded 600.**

"I just needed a little help to cover the deposit so I could move out of transitional housing and into my own apartment. Through the screening process, HCA connected me to housing services that helped me with just that. Now I am finally able to be in my own home where I can work on other steps for a healthier life."

– Social Care Network Client

Commitment to Safe and Healthy Families

Healthy Community Alliance strengthens families by delivering critical services and fostering community collaborations that promote safety, stability, and positive health outcomes across the rural communities it serves. Through education, connection to trusted local resources, and partnerships with healthcare and social service providers, HCA helps families access preventive care, nutritious food, safe housing supports, and wellness services.

Through the NYSDOH Perinatal Infant Community Health Collaborative (PICHC) grant, HCA fosters community-based efforts to improve the overall health and well-being of birthing individuals and their families. In the home visiting program, pregnant and postpartum individuals and their infants are connected to critical health and social care services and are provided infant care and safety items like diapers, travel car seat systems and baby gates. This year, **HCA's PICHC program grew in enrollment by 50%, and HCA's three community health workers**

have now served 173 families across Chautauqua County. The program demonstrates success through increased maternal engagement in prenatal and postpartum care as well as implementation of healthy behaviors that improve birth outcomes.

"I received a call from the sister of a current home visiting client. The sister, also a new mom, was hoping to enroll in our home visiting program. When I connected her to her new HCA Community Health Worker she said, "Oh, I have met that worker before and she is very sweet, helpful and non-judgmental. I look forward to her helping me!" - Susan Guziec, PICHC Program Supervisor



"Out of Reach" training in Chautauqua County – enhancing home safety for families.



In keeping with its values of fostering program co-creation and incorporating the rural voice into community solutions, HCA hosted three NYS Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Listening Sessions across the region. The sessions offered parents the chance to share with policymakers the challenges and barriers faced in rural communities when accessing care and services they need to maintain the health of their families.

To further support maternal health, HCA was awarded a grant from Fidelis Care with a goal to reach 100 rural pregnant and postpartum women and increase their awareness and enrollment in

services around maternal healthcare, baby care, breastfeeding, mental health, family planning and nutrition post-delivery. **HCA held three events across its rural service area along with 30 other community partners. Over 100 women and their families participated** and were able to enroll in programs on site, schedule appointments for additional services, and learn what to expect during pregnancy and in that "fourth trimester" after baby is born.

Through Funding from the Health Foundation for Western and Central New York's *Imagine*



A new mom learns about community resources to help support her and baby.

Nonviolence Initiative, HCA and partners held "Out of Reach": Conversations can Enhance Home Safety and Protect our Kids on May 14th. The training session for caseworkers and home visiting staff featured education on how to address with clients certain sensitive topics such as firearm safety, lead poisoning prevention, and safe storage of medication and hazardous household products. HCA engaged several new partners for the training including Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office, Chautauqua County Health Department Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Chautauqua County Mental Hygiene, HOPE Chautauqua, Upstate



HCA conducted outreach at many community events this year where staff provided safety and health related resources and educational information to families and youth.

New York Poison Center, and Veterans Affairs of Western New York. The 37 attendees also received educational and safety items including medicine lock boxes and bags, automatic pill dispensers, cable locks, and cabinet locks that they will share with families. The "Out of Reach" training was effective in improving knowledge and increasing comfort level when having discussions on sensitive home safety topics with parents.





HCA's Caregiver Tech Solutions makes caregiving more manageable and less stressful by providing coaching and individualized technology to support caregivers giving them more control and greater peace of mind. HCA wrapped up funding from Exhale – The Family Caregiver Initiative bringing the total number of rural caregivers served to 165. To continue the project, HCA was awarded additional funds from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr Foundation

Caregiver Legacy Fund to serve an additional 12 caregivers. The data collected before and after coaching and deployment of the technology solution show that Caregiver Tech Solutions offers sustainable respite and has a significant impact on reducing the intensity of caregiver strain.

“As a full time caregiver for my mom I constantly worry about her safety. Receiving the cameras has been life-changing - for both of us. They give us peace of mind knowing I can check in on her at any time and make sure she is safe and comfortable. The cameras have helped me respond more quickly when she needs something and my anxiety has been reduced to almost nothing in regard to caregiving. I am incredibly grateful for this support. It has made caring for my mom feel more manageable and allowed me to focus more on being present with her rather than constantly worrying.”

– Caregiver



Community Place and Academy Place Apartments

A distinctive example of HCA's mission at work is its ownership and coordination of the multi-use facility at 1 School St. in Gowanda. The upper floors house



Academy Place Apartments, HUD-supported senior housing managed with People Inc. The first floor's Community Place serves as a hub for medical, behavioral health, and aging services, as well as recreation and food access. This integration of housing, care, and community

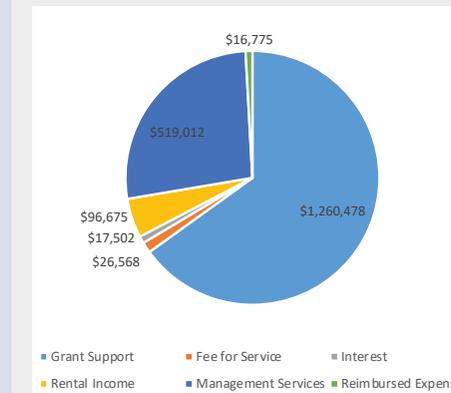
services reflects HCA's commitment to addressing the social drivers of health.



Desiree Sanderson, Senior Wellness and Nutrition Site Manager (left), and kitchen volunteers display Emergency Preparedness Bags distributed to older adults in partnership with Erie County Office of Health Equity.

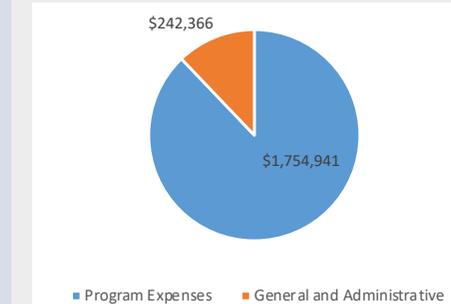
Financials

Revenues:



Grant Support	\$ 1,260,478
Fee for Service	\$ 26,568
Interest	\$ 17,502
Rental Income	\$ 96,675
Management Services	\$ 519,012
Reimbursed Expenses	\$ 16,775

Expenses:



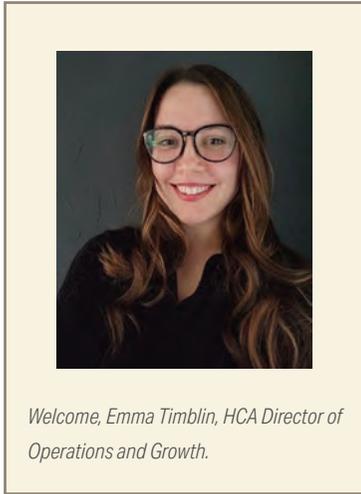
Program Expenses	\$ 1,754,941
General and Administrative	\$ 242,366

*From audited financial statements for year ending July 31, 2025

Commitment to Long Term Sustainability

To further its mission, Healthy Community Alliance not only focuses on building community capacity to advance rural health equity but also on building its internal capacity to ensure long term impact over time. HCA works toward building strong partnerships and enduring community solutions as well as investing in evidence-informed strategies, sound governance, and diversified funding to further strengthen the organization for lasting impact.

This past year, HCA staff and Board of Directors reshaped its strategic plan to ensure long-term viability of the organization through focused attention on partner development, brand awareness, program growth, and internal operations.



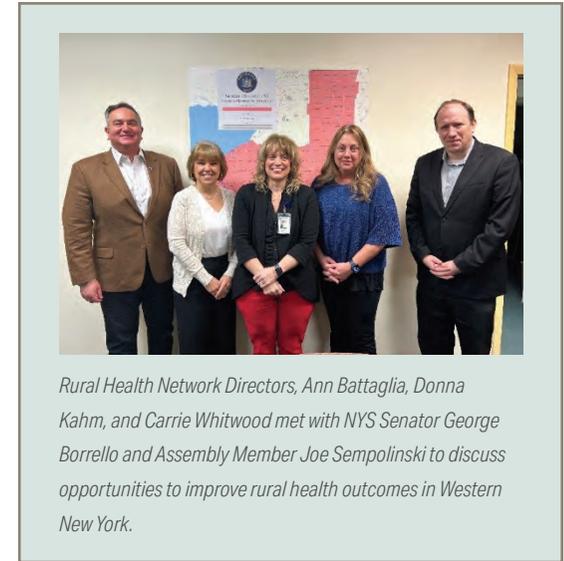
Welcome, Emma Timblin, HCA Director of Operations and Growth.

HCA also was selected to participate in the newly launched NextWave Mission Accelerator program in partnership with regional funders and Causewave Community Partners. The program, which started with a deep dive into HCA's operational capacity, now continues with HCA receiving funding for a new mid-level manager and capacity investments which will set up HCA for growth and greater impact. Under this program, HCA welcomed Emma Timblin to the HCA administrative team as the new Director of Operations and Growth. Emma is experienced at creating systems that enhance compliance, improve operational efficiency, and support organizational growth.



HCA's Ashley Conti and Ann Battaglia visit NYS Assembly Member Andrew Molitor in his district office in Jamestown.

Building sustainable communities means continuously adapting. Needs shift, partners evolve, and the landscape in which we operate continues to change. Recognizing this, Healthy Community Alliance continues to educate our elected officials on the unique challenges and opportunities of our rural communities. When policymakers are informed, they can champion legislation and funding that strengthen and sustain our rural health systems and improve health outcomes for the people who rely on them.



Rural Health Network Directors, Ann Battaglia, Donna Kahm, and Carrie Whitwood met with NYS Senator George Borrello and Assembly Member Joe Sempolinski to discuss opportunities to improve rural health outcomes in Western New York.

Our Team

Ann Battaglia, *Chief Executive Officer*

Jennifer Foringer, *Director of Finance*

Ashley Conti, *Director of Programs*

Emma Timblin, *Director of Operations and Growth*

Bert Miller, *Building and Maintenance Supervisor*

Mallory Eddy, *Program Assistant*

Susan Guziec, *Program Supervisor*

Brittney Olszewski, *Community Wellness Coordinator*

Lauren Fiorella, *Community Wellness Coordinator*

Lynda Chudy, *Health Insurance Navigator*

Ashley Randolph, *Health Insurance Navigator*

Rachel Povhe, *Health Insurance Navigator*

Maria Ramos, *Community Health Worker*

Ashley Sweatman, *Community Health Worker*

Brenda McKelvey, *Community Health Worker*

Management Services

Molly Higgins,

WIC Nutrition Assistant

Desiree Sanderson,

Kitchen Manager

Jodie Wilson,

HIICAP Coordinator

Diane Ball,

HIICAP Counsellor

Amber Peters,

Aging Services Case Manager

Lindsey Wawrzynski,

Public Health Sanitarian Trainee

Michelle Winicki,

Resource Specialist, Lead Hazard Program

Many thanks to key partners who helped make this year successful!

Academy Place Apartments

Ardent Solutions

Bertrand Chaffee Hospital

BestSelf Behavioral Health

CARES HUB

Cattaraugus County Department of Aging

Cattaraugus County Health Department

Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation

Causewave Community Partners

Chautauqua County Health Department

Chautauqua Rural Ministries

Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo

Community Helping Hands

Community Services Society of New York

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Erie County Health Department

Erie County Office of Health Equity

Erie Niagara Area Health Education Center

FeedMore WNY

Fidelis Care

Fredonia Presbyterian Church

Gift of Life Chautauqua

GLLP Women's Health

Health Foundation for Western and Central New York

Impact HQ Fueled by NSG

LOVE Inc. Gowanda

New York Academy of Medicine

New York State Association for Rural Health

New York State Department of Health

People Inc.

Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation

Southern Tier Health Care Systems

St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center in Fredonia

The Chautauqua Center

Total Senior Care

Village of Gowanda

Western New York Integrated Care Collaborative

Western New York Public Health Alliance

WNY Digital Equity Coalition

WNY Rural Area Health Education Center

Wyoming County Office for Aging



Our Mission

The mission of Healthy Community Alliance is to improve quality of life in rural communities through broad-based, inclusive partnerships that support wellness and prevention.