



2009

# Annual Report

*Building a Stronger  
Community...  
One Life at a Time*



## From the Executive Director

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership continues to “Help People and Change Lives”. During this year our revenues have increased a great deal as a result of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) signed by President Obama on February 17, 2009. That meant additional funding for several of our programs including, Area Agency on Aging, The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Head Start, Community Services (CSBG) and Weatherization. The largest increase being in Weatherization; \$3.2 million over 2 years. By the time that federal agencies responsible for distribution of the funds established rules and Idaho’s state plans were approved, very little of the money was actually spent before the end of the 2009 fiscal year. The plans however and the implementation are in place and more low-income individuals will be helped as a result of these dollars. Our plan is to weatherize an additional 300+ homes than would have been possible without the extra weatherization stimulus dollars. In regard to CSBG, the decision was made that the best use of the stimulus funds would be to partner with educational institutions in the area and extend help to keep qualified students enrolled in Eastern Idaho Technical College, Idaho State University, University of Idaho and BYU-Idaho rather than have them drop out because of a barrier of some sort. The goal is to remove those barriers. Other ARRA funds were very specific in their uses and plans for the distribution have been made and distribution started.

In 2009, the Board of Directors modified the agency Mission Statement to make it more understandable and indicative of what EICAP really does. Our new Mission Statement is; “Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership helps at-risk individuals and families meet their basic needs and increase independence through support and education.” Change is still a part of the agency and the new Mission Statement reflects how the agency is moving forward.

In 2009, EICAP completed the purchase of the Market Lake Townhouses in Roberts and began construction of the 23 unit farm worker housing, Lakeview Family Housing, adjacent to Market Lake Townhouses. Completion is expected by May 1, 2010. Work also started on the infrastructure development of vacant land next to the above properties to be used for the Mutual Self-Help Housing units. Fifteen new homes will be built on that site.

The sale of the main office of EICAP is still planned and the purchase and renovation of the new facility at 935 Lincoln Road is moving forward. Designs have been completed, bids received and final contracts have been awarded for that renovation. Move-in is projected to be December, 2010.

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership is still moving forward and changing the lives of low-income individuals in eastern Idaho. During these economic times, the need is greater than ever before and EICAP is postured to respond. With the invaluable input of staff, Board and the community at-large, EICAP will continue to be a valuable asset to eastern Idaho.

Sincerely,

Russell K. Spain, CCAP  
Executive Director

## From the Board President



As President of the Board of Directors for Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership (EICAP) it is with great honor that I present EICAP's Annual Report, an overview of accomplishments achieved during the past year and goals for the future.

It is apparent as you read through this report, that EICAP lives up to the promise of Community Action, by changing people's lives, embodying the spirit of hope, improving communities and ultimately making America a better place to live.

EICAP's work in the community is summed up in the statement on our website; "building a Stronger Community, one life, home, child, family, parent, volunteer and one meal at a time." Small steps create big strides and bring about enormous change for individuals and families in need. This is what EICAP does each and every day.

As members of the Board, we are honored to be a part of such an important organization that is changing the face of communities all around us. We recognize that these achievements would not be possible without the dedicated employees, volunteers and community partners of EICAP. We truly appreciate your service and commitment to this organization.

Sincerely,

Chandra Witt  
2009 EICAP Board President

**175** households received assistance at the Haven Shelter, *learning life skills* and making their lives better.

**284** families had their home *weatherized*, making their home more *energy efficient* and giving them more disposable income.

**Over 5,200** households received an Energy Assistance benefit during the winter months, allowing them available income to spend on other *basic needs*.

*"I would like to thank EICAP for being willing to help my family. Our family graciously accepts your help, and wants you to know we won't forget. To Ruth and April, you are exceptional, and I believe invaluable. You've reacted with a warm heart, which is rare in today's world."*

**268 families** received services from the *Head Start Program*.

**871 home visits** were conducted by *Family Advocates*. Their job is to link families to community resources.

**113 Grandparents** that are raising their grandchildren participated in *GRG Support Group* activities in 2009.

**1,318 single parent households** were provided services through *Community Services Division* in 2009. Services include, but are not limited to: *Energy Assistance, Emergency Services, Salmon Family Development, Haven Shelter*.

More than **7,000 families** entered the *EICAP offices* and were provided services, the very least being a referral to another service agency.

*"Please extend my thanks to the people who make the funds available to cancer patients in Custer county. It is very much appreciated since we are still making trips to Salt Lake city every few weeks."*

# Building a stronger community... one *family* at a time



*“All too often we pass by the opportunity to acknowledge those who have made a difference in our lives. People like yourself are what give me the courage to continue putting one foot in front of the other in hopes of someday creating a better life for myself and my children. So it is in the most heartfelt manner, I extend THANKS to you for all you are and all you have done.”*

# Building a stronger community... one *volunteer* at a time



*“One of our Assistant Ombudsmen was visiting a facility and met a new resident. The resident was very upset because she had been..told..that she had been committed to the care facility for one year. The Assistant Ombudsman..asked permission to follow up. The resident agreed. After meeting with the Administrator they found THERE WAS NO ORDER. The resident requested a meeting with her doctor that week. The doctor said that he did not want her to be at a facility for a year, but only until her medications were regulated, probably a month. The resident was very concerned since.. her belongings had already been moved to the facility. She was afraid she would not be able to return to her apartment. The Ombudsman program contacted the apartment administrators, explained the situation and was assured that the resident could return, but would still have to pay the monthly rent while she was in the facility. The cost of the facility took most of the resident's monthly Social Security check and she was not able to pay the rent. With permission, the Ombudsman contacted EICAP's Community Services Department and explained the situation. During the investigation, it was found that the resident was several months delinquent on her rent. Community Services was able to pay the back rent making her current on her rent. She has returned to her apartment with her belongings, a very happy and thankful person.”*

**\$17,239 worth** of professional services were donated to the Head Start Program from painters, contractors, etc.

**42,524 hours** of volunteer time was logged in 2009 from the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

**693 RSVP** individuals volunteered their time in 80 different locations throughout our services area

The dollar value of RSVP hours donated is **\$655,145**

**39,176 hours** of service was donated to the Head Start Program from Parents, Policy Council, Board of Directors and Community Visitors.

Volunteer Ombudsmen turned in **1192 hours** and **39,027 miles** for a dollar value of **\$27,789**. The Ombudsman program protects the rights of residents in assisted living and skilled nursing facilities.

*EICAP's Volunteer Ombudsman program received the N4A Award. Helen Stanton received the Jayne Thomas Grassroots Award from CAP and the Lifetime Service for Volunteering from the U.S. president for over 10,100 hours of service.*

Volunteers donated **4,061 miles** getting to and from Head Start activities.

A local philanthropist donated the purchase of land adjacent to the Haven Shelter at a cost of **\$140,000** as well as a cash donation of **\$110,000** to jump start the construction of the **Haven Community Center** to be completed in fall of 2010.

**\$45,358 worth** of supplies and goods were donated to the Head Start Program.

EICAP's Housing Dept. is currently providing *safe affordable housing* to **266** low income households. This represents a total of *535 individuals*.

The Homeless to Homeowners (**H2H**) Program provided *housing and one-on-one counseling* to **10 families** in 2009.

These families moved from the Haven Shelter into *main stream housing* in Idaho Falls.

In 2009, the **Weatherization Program** received *\$1.6 million* in stimulus funding. With that funding they have increased their production from completing **15 homes a month** to **45 homes a month**

*"Thank you so much to EICAP! You've changed our lives by giving us a warm and toasty home with lower heating bills. Thank you!"*

**12,542 hours** of *Homemaker Services* were provided to individuals in our service area—to *keep seniors in their home and safe* as long as possible

**EICAP** owns and operates apartment complexes in *Idaho Falls (3), Arco, St. Anthony, Rexburg, Blackfoot* and starting in 2009, *Roberts*

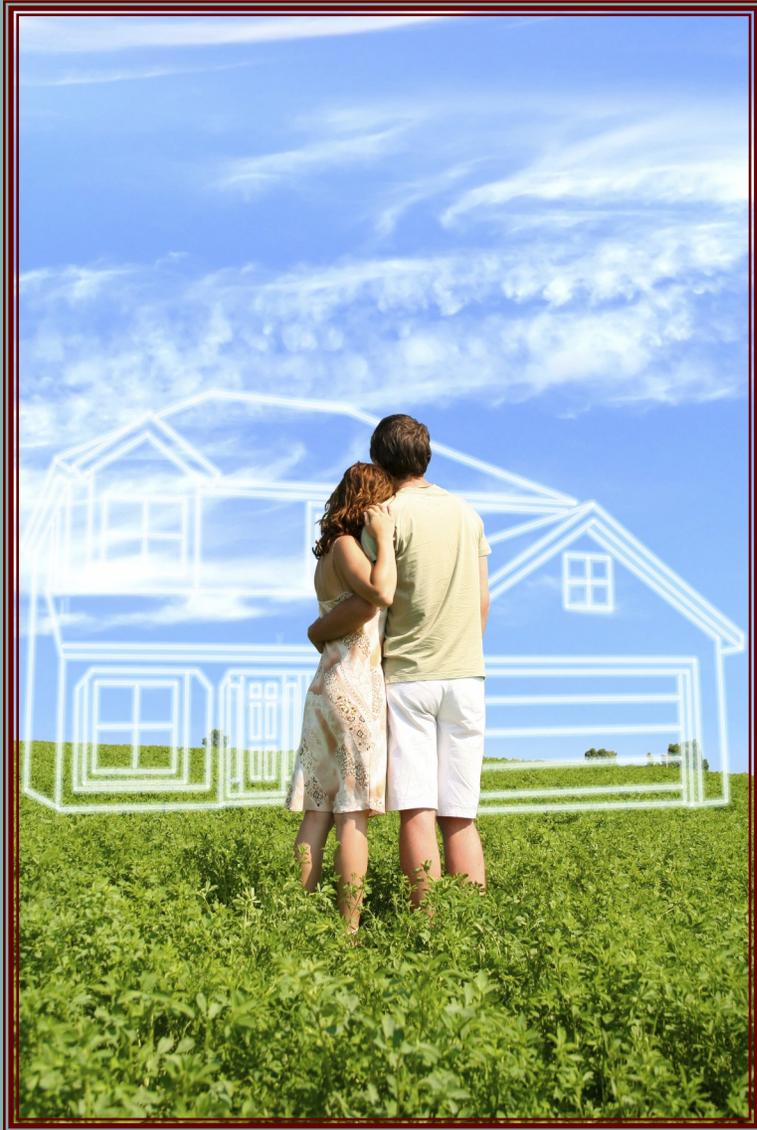
The **Self Help Housing Program** currently has **14 homes under construction** in Jefferson county.

*"I tried a couple of years ago to do the program, but didn't think I could. So, when I finished college I decided to go for it. There were some struggles... but all good in the end. I finally get to have a garden and I am planning for the future."*

Gina

**Weatherization crews** also perform *health and safety tests* that may include, testing heating units and appliances for combustion safety, carbon monoxide, and gas leaks; assessing moisture damage; replacing unsafe heating and cooling systems; repair or replacement of water heaters; window and door replacement; storm windows; and installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

*“One of the best things about my new home is knowing I will never have to worry about NOT having running water or heat in the winter ever again. I didn’t think having my own home was possible. It’s the best feeling you get when you walk into your home and know you built it.”* **Troy**



Building a stronger community...  
one *safe home* at a time

# Building a stronger community... one *child* at a time



*During a meeting with the father of a Downs Syndrome child, Head Start received high praise for all the things the child was learning in the program. He said the doctors told him his son would never be able to eat independently, follow routines or even go to the bathroom without assistance. But since he has been at Head Start the child is helping with meals at home, can follow family/classroom routines, can play with other children and is successfully potty training. The father was so moving when talking to the team about his child, everyone in the meeting was in tears. He was also excited thinking that his child had one more year in the program and is looking forward to more developmental gains and accomplishments.*

Head Start Program served **282 - 3 and 4 year olds**, with an average enrollment of 100%

- **93%** of those children received *medical exams* (the likelihood of that being their first doctor visit is very high)
- **85%** of those children received *dental exams* (again, the likelihood of that being their first dentist visit is very high)

**127 grandchildren** that are being raised by their grandparents have participated in the *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) Support Group* programs.

**90%** of the *Head Start children* transitioning to kindergarten are able to recognize and/or spell their names, identify at least 8-10 colors and identify 5-6 shapes.

More than **375 children** have resided at the *Haven Shelter* in 2009. During that time the staff have worked with them to increase their grade level by meeting with them every afternoon and working on their *literacy skills*.

**85%** of *Head Start children* know the basic colors in English and Spanish. And they know their number up to 10 in *German, Spanish, English and Sign*.

*“Just recently, the whole class participated in a quiet reading time—sat with a buddy and read with them tracking print, telling the story, going through the books the correct way and talking about the illustrations.” Head Start Teacher*

During the past **13 years**, the *Mutual Self Help Housing* program has helped 150 families with over **328 children** fulfill their dreams of *homeownership*.

**61,666** Congregate meals were provided to seniors at the *16 senior citizen centers* in our service area

Over **100,000 pounds** of food was donated during the Boy Scout, Postal Workers and Bank of Commerce food drives in 2009.

More than **18,000 food boxes** were provided by the *14 food pantries* in our service area during 2009. These pantries are located from *Idaho Falls to Salmon and Challis, Driggs and St. Anthony.*

**72,427** Home Delivered meals were provided to *senior and disabled individuals*; helping to keep them in their home as long as possible

Over **3,000 steelhead and salmon** were collected from the *Pahsimeroi and Stanley* Fish Hatcheries and distributed to *low income families* in our service area.

At the **Haven Shelter**, residents participate in cooking classes. They learn how to make things from scratch and learn about *healthy eating*.

**39,406 nutritious meals** were provided during the school year to 3 and 4 year-old **Head Start children**.

Building a stronger community...  
one *meal* at a time



# Building a stronger community... one *life* at a time



*12/2/09—We had our first couple get their GED (they are starting college in January) and we just had the 3rd sibling in a family get her GED as well. The boys are in their early 20's and their sister is 18. The first brother was required by probation to do it, but the other two are not on probation and just wanted to better their lives. So, between April 2009 and now they all got it done. One I know for sure is going on to higher education.*

*Anne Johnson, Haven Shelter Manager*

69 individuals completed their GED in 2009.

- 63 at The Haven Shelter and 6 from our Salmon office.

88 people participated in Caregiver Support Groups monthly meetings; learning that they aren't the only ones caring for a loved one.

The Ombudsman program performed 659 visits to assisted living and skilled nursing facilities; 230 consultations were done with residents and 235 complaints were addressed and/or resolved.

1,373 hours of Respite was provided to caregivers; allowing them to be away from those they are caring for without worry or concern

413 Adult Protection investigations of neglect, abuse or exploitation were conducted in 2009. In some cases, the first time the person being neglected or abused has had someone in their corner.

*"Thank you so much for intervening on behalf of my dad... He is safe now and getting good care. I'm applying for guardianship. None of this would have happened if it were not for your help."*

More than 150 individuals received supportive services through the Community Services Division to help them with their continuing education, with more than \$200,000.

*"When I first came to you my life was filled with fear (and the basement was cold). With all your support and help I now have nothing but hope (and a warm basement). Thank you for listening, caring and believing in me."*

175 adults resided at the Haven in 2009. There they learned budgeting, life skills, cooking, coping, self-esteem, job skills, etc.

6,966 contacts were made with the Aging Information and Referral office. 510 of those required translation/interpreting. 105 were seniors requesting weatherization and 49 individuals were assisted with Medicaid applications.

## Agency's efforts to prepare children for kindergarten

EICAP Head Start teaching staff works with our children on the 10 learning domains of kindergarten readiness. These skills include: mathematics, science, social/emotional, language, literacy, approaches to learning, physical health, social studies, creative arts and technology. Children are observed throughout the year on a 3 level basis (not yet, developing, secure) and are assessed at 3 separate checkpoints throughout the school year. All lesson plans and activities are based on the needs of children and focus on preparing them for the transition to kindergarten. Parents and teaching staff work together to assess the goals for their children at two home visits and two parent teacher conferences each year. At the end of the year, the teaching staff prepares transition passports prior to the last parent/teacher conference. This passport lists the child's strengths, needs, transition priorities, and strategies to support the transition. Parents share this information with the receiving school. Staff also prepares transition kits for the parents including items such as tip sheets on how to make the transition successful, a 3 month daily activity calendar and other resources they can use with their children to make their transition successful.

### Parental Involvement Activities

EICAP Head Start works in close partnership with parents to assist them in developing and utilizing individual and family strengths in order to successfully meet personal and family objectives. In following the tenets that children develop in the context of the family and culture and that parents are respected as the primary educators and nurturers of their children, parents are encouraged to become involved in all aspects of the program. Parental participation in children's activities, program decision making, and parent focused activities for growth and change allows families to develop together.

The following list, though not exhaustive, is a sampling of parental involvement activities offered this school year:

- Talk about Touch and safety training
- Mental health training with education centered on challenging behaviors in children and how to help them control their behavior facilitated by Jared Ostermiller LCSW.
- Nutrition night where parents learned how to prepare a meal item and the nutritional benefit. Children and parents made the item together.
- Positive discipline training
- Personal budgeting and finance
- Germ education and free blood pressure checks facilitated by Bingham Memorial Hospital
- Oral health presentation given to families and children concerning proper care of their teeth facilitated by Dr. Stuart Marshall
- Education on the importance and effectiveness of using coupons for household purchases
- EICAP Strategic Planning retreat

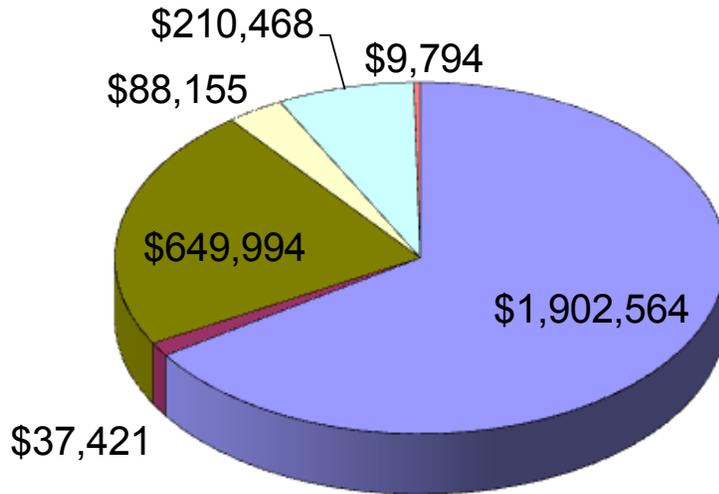
### **Projected Head Start Total Public and Private Funds:**

• Head Start Federal Grant	\$1,880,857
• USDA Revenue	\$100,664
• ARRA Grant	\$86,786
• TANF Grant	\$210,468
• United Way Grant	\$10,600
Non-Federal Share/In-kind	<u>\$476,164</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2,765,539</b>

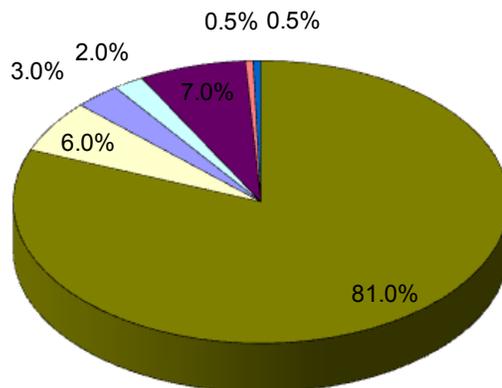
Salaries and Benefits	\$2,159,088
Occupancy	\$186,023
Travel	\$36,529
Training	\$57,420
Supplies	\$176,345
Dues, licenses, memberships, Registration	\$17,702
Other-	\$132,432

## Head Start Total Public and Private Funds

Head Start Federal Grant	ARRA Grant *
Non-Federal Share/Inkind	USDA Revenue



## Head Start Budgetary Expenditures



Salaries and Benefits	Occupancy
Travel	Training
Supplies	Dues, Licenses, Memberships, Registrations
Other	

# 2009 Board of Directors

## Public Officials

- **Erik Simpson** *Legislative Representative*
- **Lee Staker** *Bonneville County Commissioner*
- **Debbie Karren** *Jefferson County Commissioner*
- **Shawn Larsen** *Mayor, City of Rexburg*
- **Chandra Evans** *City Of Idaho Falls*

## Participant Representatives

- **Michael H. Hinman** *Idaho Legal Aid*
- **Joel Gramirez** *Community Council of Idaho*
- **Ariel Jackson** *Neighborhood Representative*
- **Otto Higbee** *Mackay Senior Citizens, Inc.*
- **Lana Gonzales** *Head Start Policy Council*

## Community Organizations

- **Paul Hepworth** *Charter Mortgage Co.*
- **Lewis Blurton** *Falls Southern Baptist Church*
- **Lane Allgood** *Rotary Club of Idaho Falls*
- **Seeley Magnani** *Catholic Charities of Idaho*
- **Remae Murcock** *Idaho Falls School District #91*

## Officers for 2009

- *President* **Chandra Evans**
- *Vice President* **Seeley Magnani**
- *Secretary* **Mike Hineman**
- *Treasurer* **Shawn Larsen**
- *Assistant Secretary* **Lois Perry**
- *Assistant Treasurer* **Jay Doman**

## EICAP's Vision

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership is widely recognized by the public as an organization that makes a difference in peoples' lives. EICAP creates opportunities for all people to reach their highest level of independence and self-sufficiency. EICAP Board of Directors, staff and volunteers work together to expand our role and impact in the community by responding to local needs.

## EICAP's Values

- **Empowerment:** EICAP believes in empowering our customers with the skills, means, and opportunities to achieve maximum independence and self-sufficiency. We will design services and processes that empower people to take responsibility for their lives.
- **Opportunity:** EICAP believes in the personal development of our customers. Everyone can move to a better place in life; EICAP creates and provides options for success.
- **Respect:** EICAP values the dignity of all human beings and seeks to treat all with kindness and respect.
- **Working Together:** EICAP Board of Directors sets the mission, vision, and goals for the organization and works with the staff and the community to accomplish the partnership's mission.
- **Continuous Learning:** EICAP believes a well-trained organization is best able to serve our customers. We continuously work on the personal and professional growth of Board, staff, volunteers and customers.
- **Accountability:** EICAP believes in operating fiscally responsible and compliant programs focused on outcomes.
- **Integrity:** EICAP Board and Staff believe that integrity means living by the values we hold. We ask to be shown where our actions conflict with these values.

## **EICAP's Mission Statement**

**Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership helps at-risk individuals and families meet their basic needs and increase independence through support and education.**

## **Community Action Promise**

**Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.**

