

**ANOKA COUNTY
COMMUNITY ACTION
PROGRAM, INC.**

**1201-89th Avenue NE, Suite 345
Blaine, MN 55434**

For further information on our services
and programs, please call:

763-783-4747

Other ACCAP lines include:

Head Start Office: 763-783-4300

Foreclosure Prevention Hotline: 763-783-4880

ACCAP Twice Nice: 763-754-0935

Housing Hotline: 763-783-4710

Energy Assistance Application Line: 763-783-4712

TTY Phone Line: 763-783-4724

ACCAP Fax Line: 763-783-4700

Head Start Fax Line: 763-783-4333

Web Site: www.accap.org



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*Upon request, ACCAP will make this brochure
available in alternative formats per requirements of
ADA.*

ACCAP is an Equal Opportunity Agency
in Employment and Client Services

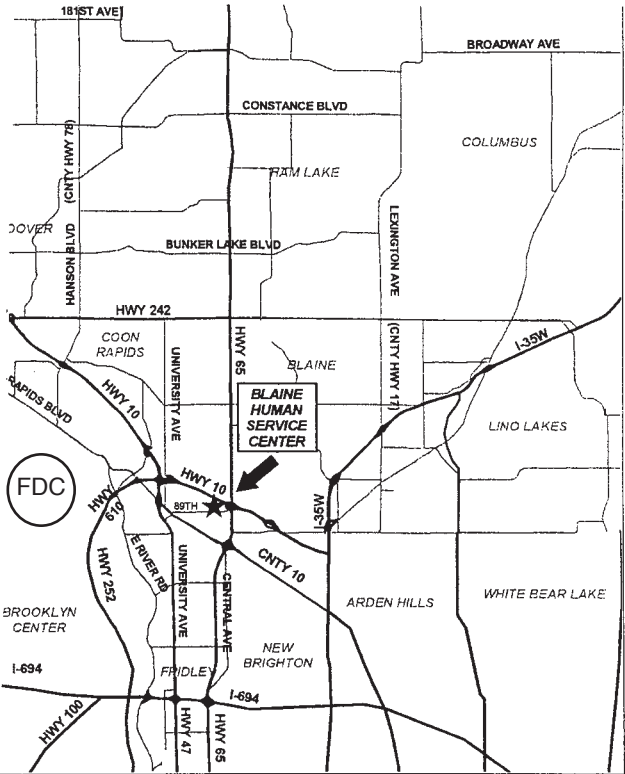


**Visit us on the web!
www.accap.org**

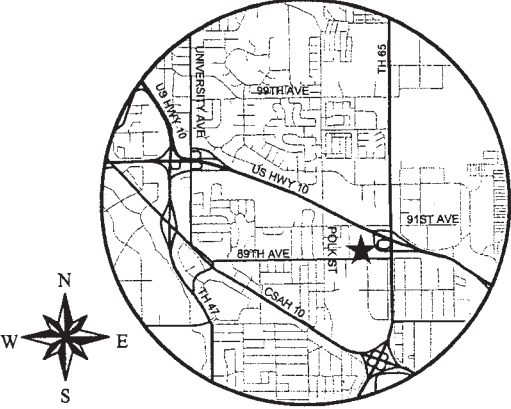
ACCAP OFFICES

Mission Statement

The Anoka County Community Action Program, Inc. is an innovative catalyst for empowering lower income Anoka County residents to achieve their aspirations and dreams.



Blaine Human Service Center
1201 89th Avenue, Suite 345
Blaine, MN 55434



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES & SERVICES

ACCAP Twice Nice Thrift Shop _____

ACCAP Twice Nice Thrift Shop will encourage Anoka County citizens to recycle usable goods, provide employment and volunteer opportunities, and provide resources for ACCAP programming. The Thrift Shop serves the Anoka County Community with quality goods at affordable prices. For more information, please call **763-754-0935**.

Volunteer Opportunities _____

No matter what your talent, interests, schedule, or location, there are volunteer opportunities for you. If you're interested, please call ACCAP at **763-783-4747**, or Head Start at **763-4300**.



Voter Registration _____

Persons who are 18 years and older may register to vote at ACCAP. ACCAP's Governing Board of Directors encourages all eligible persons to register to vote and to vote in all elections.



Website Services _____

What does our website have to offer you? Go to our website, www.accap.org, and check it out.



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INTRODUCTION

The Anoka County Community Action Program, Inc. (ACCAP) is an independent nonprofit agency which began in 1965 under the Economic Opportunity Act. Every year, ACCAP serves thousands of residents of Anoka County through a wide range of programs. A volunteer Governing Board, made up of representatives of the public sector, private sector, and the low income community, directs the activities of ACCAP.

ACCAP is committed to helping disadvantaged individuals out of poverty and into the community as productive citizens. The agency offers educational opportunities, information and referral, and direct services, such as Head Start, Affordable Housing, and Child Care Resource & Referral. These programs and services help residents achieve their goal of self-sufficiency.

The Community Action Program also works to educate the broader community and improve the general population's attitude toward low income and other disadvantaged persons. Anoka County residents can help their neighbors by volunteering at ACCAP in a variety of settings. For example, volunteers can serve as Head Start bus monitors and in the classroom.

ACCAP is funded by contracts with the federal government, the State of Minnesota, Anoka County local municipalities, foundations, the United Way, program fees, and donations. Private contributions remain in the community and are tax deductible.

To apply for any of ACCAP's services, please call the agency's phone number listed on the back cover and request more information about the specific program of interest to you.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

ACCAP offers more than 300 rental units of affordable housing throughout Anoka County. We accept Section 8 vouchers and other forms of rental assistance. However, we do not subsidize housing ourselves. We operate one Senior building (Grasslands) where rent is based on income. For information about ACCAP housing and unit availability please visit the ACCAP website at www.accap.org. Free access to computers is available at every Anoka County Library. A brief description of our housing program follows below.

Permanent Affordable Rental Housing —

ACCAP has affordable rental units throughout Anoka County. Most of the units are south of Main Street (Highway 242). We own and manage apartments, townhomes, and single family detached homes. We serve single adults and families. Section 8 vouchers and other rental assistance are welcome. ACCAP screens all applicants for credit, criminal, and rental histories.

Transitional Housing—————

ACCAP has a limited number of units that are dedicated to transitional housing for people with proven homelessness. Case management is a required component of transitional housing. The service providers include RISE, Inc. and ACCAP.

ACCAP does not provide emergency shelter. Crisis housing inquiries can be directed to **1-888-234-1329**, the Metro Area Shelter Hotline, where callers can learn about resources throughout the greater metropolitan area. Single adults can call **763-323-7006** to reach Stepping Stone Shelter in the City of Anoka.

HOUSING SERVICES

Home Rehabilitation

Home Rehabilitation uses funding from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) to make home improvements. The program covers repairs necessary because of health, safety, accessibility, structural deficiency, code standards, or energy conservation. For more information, please call **763-783-4721**.

Weatherization

Weatherization offers no-cost assistance to income eligible households for improving the energy efficiency of their dwellings by:

- Weather-stripping
- Insulating
- Caulking
- Venting
- Furnace cleaning
- Other energy saving options



A “weatherized” home costs less to heat and saves on fuel bills. Weatherization works together with the Energy Assistance Program to promote energy conservation. Homes are weatherized on a priority basis. Applications are taken by Energy Assistance (pg. 6).

Furniture Warehouse

ACCAP’s Furniture Warehouse Program offers low income Anoka County residents the opportunity to pick up good used furniture, once in a lifetime at NO COST. The program also gives local residents the opportunity to recycle their good used furniture. If you are in need of furniture or wish to make a donation, please call **763-783-4735**.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

Head Start

A free comprehensive preschool program, Head Start promotes the growth and development of children and their families. Children enrolled in Head Start make new friends and increase their social skills. By building self-esteem and confidence, Head Start helps children start school geared for success.

Head Start provides education and health services for children, social services for families, and education for parents to give them a greater understanding of their children’s needs.

ACCAP’s Head Start program serves both Anoka and Washington Counties. Children may attend a center based program, or participate in a home based program if they live in outlying areas. For more information, please call **763-783-4300**.

HIGHLIGHTS OF HEAD START



- Ongoing registration
- Free program including free meals
- Field trips and special events
- Family and Community Partnerships
- Volunteer and Employment Opportunities
- Computer training
- Family literacy
- Education and Transitioning
- Screenings
- Social Services
- Health and Mental Health Services
- Medical and Dental Services
- Services for children with special needs

Child Care Resource & Referral —



Quality child care is an essential component to self-sufficiency for families as well as the foundation for future learning for thousands of Anoka County children. CCR&R works towards building a healthy child care system, which is

responsive to the needs of families in our community. For more information, please call **763-783-4881**.

Services for Parents, or those in need of child care include:

- Customized child care referral listings based on families' individual needs.
- Phone consultations on child care issues.
- Resource information on early childhood care and education services in the community.

Services for Child Care Professionals and other providers of child care include:

- Assistance in marketing child care businesses and in filling vacancies.
- Phone consultations on child care issues.
- Information on training in the community by topic or location.
- Specialized training workshops (i.e. for newly licensed providers, infant/toddler training, etc.).
- Information on periodic grants and scholarships.

Services for Employers and the Community include:

- Enhanced child care referrals as a fringe benefit.
- Statistical information for planning purposes.
- Identification of gaps in services and development of resources to meet those gaps.
- Serves as a communication link to faith communities, businesses, and other organizations.

HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAMS **HUD APPROVED**

Home Buyer Education and Counseling

ACCAP's Pre-purchase Program helps low to moderate-income individuals and/or first time homebuyers with step-by-step instruction to financial readiness and credit worthiness needed for mortgage loan approval. This begins with a four-part educational workshop. Three-parts are dedicated to pre-purchase and one part is dedicated to post-purchase ("Life as a Homeowner"). These workshops are held monthly. One-to-one pre-purchase financial counseling completes the step-by-step instruction.

Down Payment Assistance

ACCAP's Down Payment Assistance Program is a zero interest deferred loan up to \$10,000 to income eligible first time home buyers in Anoka County who have completed our Home Buyer Education and Counseling. The deferred loan will be forgiven in the sixth year as long as property is not sold, refinanced, or vacated.

Reverse Mortgage Counseling

Our Reverse Mortgage Counseling Program is available to seniors over 62 years of age. If you need more income to make ends meet, need to complete maintenance on your home, or payoff your mortgage, you may want to look into a reverse mortgage. Contact our Reverse Mortgage Counselor for information.

Foreclosure Prevention Program

ACCAP's Foreclosure Prevention Program helps people in Anoka County address the causes of mortgage payment default and develop a spending plan to stabilize and successfully manage their household finances. Our program helps individuals understand the foreclosure process and assists in exploring loss mitigation options that are available and effective for them. Because we are a HUD approved counseling agency, we do the required counseling for households that are part of the federal "Making Home Affordable" Program. Our Foreclosure Prevention Counselors also counsel people with post-purchase issues that are not yet in default. For more information, please call **763-783-4880**.

FAIM – Family Assets for Independence in MN

FAIM is an Individual Development Account (IDA) program for low-income wage earners to gain assets through matched savings. You save earned income, which is matched \$3 to your \$1 of savings for 2 years toward a goal of homeownership, education or small business. FAIM also provides 12 hours of Financial Fitness Education training and monthly budget counseling. Please call one of our FAIM Coordinators today to see if you qualify for this program.

CRISIS SERVICES

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Crisis Services

Emergency grants may be provided for a variety of crisis; first month's rent, prescription drugs, payment of utility bills, etc. Program funds may not always be available. Applications reviewed on a weekly basis by ACCAP Crisis Committee.

Energy Assistance

Energy Assistance helps low income Anoka County residents by paying a portion of their heating costs. ACCAP encourages families to conserve energy and to pay as much as they can toward their heating bills.

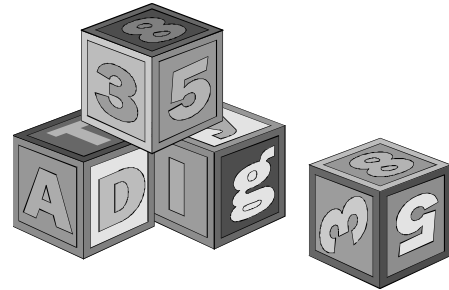
Eligibility and assistance amounts are determined by:

- Household income
- Number of people in the household
- Type of heating source
- Heating consumption for a 12 month period

Call the Energy Assistance Application Line to apply: **(763) 783-4712**.



Child Care Assistance



The Child Care Assistance Program can make quality child care affordable for families. Child Care Assistance can assist you in paying for child care if you are working, looking for work, or are attending school. Help is available from the following Child Care Assistance Programs:

MFIP Child Care: For families who receive assistance from the Minnesota Family Investment Program.

Transition Year Child Care: Available to families for a full year after their MFIP case closes.

Basic Sliding Fee Child Care: Available for other low income eligible families.

If you are interested in receiving more information about this program or an application, please call **763-717-7711**.

Healthy Start Initiative

Healthy Start Initiative serves families, prenatal up to Kindergarten, with universal access and targets intervention services for high-risk families. Healthy Start components consist of sending developmentally appropriate mailings to families; connecting families to home visiting partners; and assisting families with problem-solving and crisis support. For more information, call **763-323-KIDS**.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Serving Seniors and Disabled Adults of Anoka County

Senior Companion Program

The Senior Companion Program offers a weekly one-to-one service, where volunteers age 60 and older provide assistance and friendship to isolated or homebound seniors. Some services include companionship, outings, helping with shopping, errands, and doctor's appointments. Senior Companions can work up to 20 hours per week, and receive a reimbursement for mileage, and meals. If income eligible, they also receive a stipend and a free annual physical exam. If you're interested in having a Senior Companion, or would like to become a Senior Companion, please call **763-783-4717**.

Senior Information Line

The Senior Information Line provides information and assistance, connecting older persons or their family members to community resources (i.e. housing, transportation, chore service or tax assistance). Staff and volunteers answer questions, research new resources, and follow up to ensure that referrals meet the callers need. Please call **763-783-4707**.

Clip & Save



**ACCAP
Senior Programs**



Senior Information Line	(763) 783-4707
Senior Outreach	(763) 783-4741
Chores & More	(763) 767-6521
Senior Companion	(763) 783-4717

ACCAP Chores & More

ACCAP Chores & More is a vital, non-profit service providing assistance with household chores, minor home repairs and seasonal chores to older adults and people with disabilities.

For some people, Chores & More is a solution to a temporary situation-an illness, injury or recent hospital stay. For others, Chores & More becomes an essential service to help them remain living in their homes by providing routine cleaning, seasonal chores, and home maintenance. For further information, please call **763-767-6521** (or **763-502-5151** if you live in Columbia Heights, Hilltop or Fridley).

Senior Outreach Program

The Senior Outreach Program provides assistance to seniors (60+) throughout Anoka County, helping people to remain in their homes in the healthiest and safest manner possible. The Outreach Worker meets at the client's home to identify needs, discussing with the client appropriate programs or services. Clients are linked to services including home delivered meals, food programs, Income Maintenance, Energy Assistance, Chore Services, etc. The Outreach Worker completes the necessary paperwork for various services, a process which often is difficult, overwhelming, or confusing for the client. Any senior may be visited by a Senior Outreach Worker. There is no charge for this service. Requests for outreach services come from concerned neighbors, friends, family members, clergy, nurses, as well as from seniors themselves. To request outreach services, please call **763-783-4741**.