Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency: Who We Are

The Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency (CMCAA) is a county-based organization that belongs to the National Community Action Partnership Network, with over 1,100 agencies nationwide that provide services to vulnerable populations. CMCAA is a Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) entity that is funded by the Federal Office of Community Services and is administered by the State Office of Community Services and Development (CSD). CMCAA’s commitment is to develop effective and efficient programs that support local needs and gaps for vulnerable populations. The Strategic plan has been developed, in an effort to strategically demonstrate results, impactful services and obtain measurable success. The agency, board, subcontractors, and local partners will continue to assess the local community needs, measure outcomes of services and determine gaps through a responsive administration.

Vision

CMCAA is for all families and individuals to have opportunities for achieving security and independence, resulting in a stronger, more prosperous, and progressive community.

Mission

CMCAA will improve lives of our low-income residents by developing and supporting community resources that promote health, safety, and economic self-sufficiency for our mountain communities.

Calaveras Mariposa: Community Profile

The Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency (CMCAA) is a multi-county agency, serving these two rural counties located along the western slope of California’s Sierra Nevada mountain range. Calaveras County, is located in the heart of Gold country in California and is composed by many unique communities spread throughout the rolling foothills and towering mountains. This county serves over 1,000 square miles. The county seat of Calaveras county is in San Andreas. The one incorporated city in Calaveras is Angels Camp.
Mariposa County, is located in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, North of Fresno, East of Merced, and Southeast of Stockton. The county covers over 1,450 square miles. The two counties are non-contiguous, with approximately 80 miles between the most northerly and southerly towns. Elevation ranges from 1,000 feet in the southwestern section of Mariposa to 11,000 feet at the summit of the Sierra Nevada. There are no incorporated cities in Mariposa county; however, there are three communities recognized as census-designated places for statistical purposes. The town of Mariposa is the county seat.

The population of Calaveras county based on the US Census of 2015 was 44,828 (compared to US Census 2010, this is a 1.6% population decrease from 45,578) with population diversity of 44.7 persons per square mile. Calaveras county has the greater population of the two counties. The United States Census reported that in 2015 Mariposa county’s population was 17,531 (based on the US Census 2010, this is a 3.9% decrease from 18,250) consisting with a population density of 12.6 persons per square mile. The reduction trends in population have been observed since the 2005 census data, in which families with children are moving out-of-the counties due to lack or limited employment opportunities, youth activities and affordable child care.

**Demographics:** Calaveras and Mariposa counties are comprised by primarily white race, Calaveras County consisting of 91.7% and Mariposa county of 89.8%, Hispanic or Latino origin at 11%, Native American 1.5%-2.9%, African-American 1%, Asian-Pacific Islander 1% and 3.8% reporting two or more races. Though there is a considerable difference between Calaveras and Mariposa counties their demographic statistics are very similar. Since 2010, there has been a decline in all age groups, with exception, of the 65 and over age group/population which has shown steady growth, equating to one out of four residents is over the age of 65 (25% total population).

**Income and Employment:** Calaveras county has a 5.4% unemployment rate and Mariposa a 7.2% rate, both counties face a higher unemployment rate than California’s current average unemployment rate is 5.2% (*State of California Employment Development Department, December, 2016*).

The median household size in Calaveras and Mariposa Counties average is 2.4 per household, with a median income of $53,233 in Calaveras and $47,681 in Mariposa County (*US Census Bureau, 2015*). Living in poverty are at total of 14.8% of the population in Calaveras county (*Public Policy Institute of California, PPIC.ORG, 2017*), in comparison, California has a median income of $64,500 (Department of Numbers, 2015). Mariposa county has an overall 15.3% of the population living in poverty (*Public Policy Institute of CA, PPIC.org, 2017*).

**Food:** Fifty-percent (Calaveras) and fifty-two percent (Mariposa) of school-age children were eligible for free or reduced price school meals and 22.7% (Calaveras) and 27% (Mariposa) lived in ‘food insecure households’ (*Kidsdata.org, 2015*).

**Health:** Out of 57 California counties, Calaveras county ranked 23rd and Mariposa county ranked 30th in length and quality of life and 21st (Calaveras) and 23rd (Mariposa) in health factors such as, behaviors, care, social/economic and physical environment (*Countyhealthrankings.org, 2015*).
Housing: The median house cost is $285K in Calaveras and $272,450 in Mariposa county (California Association of Realtors, 2017) while the median gross rent is $1,038 in Calaveras and $812 in Mariposa county. The owner-occupancy is 79% in Calaveras and 71.1% in Mariposa (US Census Bureau, 2015).

Community Action Plan 2016/2017

The Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency conducted a community survey and the following three community priorities were identified:

- Employment Opportunities
- Food Security
- Low-Income/Affordable Housing

KEY OBSERVATIONS

The unemployment rate in the county is typically higher than the rate state-wide

- A greater proportion of county residents draws income from retirement and social security than overall state averages
- 11% of the county lives below the Federal Poverty Line
- 40% of the county lives below Self-Sufficiency levels
- The proportion of children living at risk of poverty has held steady at approximately 30%
- A greater proportion of the county is food insecure than receives aid from CalFresh
- The proportion of students eligible for free or reduced price meals at school has increased over time

Central Sierra COC 2016 Point-In-Time Study on Homelessness

The current HUD definition for being homeless is a person lacking in a “fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.”

Homelessness: Calaveras and Mariposa Counties participate in the Central Sierra Continuum of Care. According to the 2016 Point-in-time Homeless Count, at least 221 individuals in Calaveras and 30 individuals in Mariposa are experiencing homelessness with 9% in Calaveras county, of these homeless individuals being long-time residents of ten years or more. A total of 36 individuals are unsheltered in the county. The county is home to 23 emergency shelter beds and 13 transitional housing beds

Of those identified homeless individuals:
- 63% were experiencing homelessness for the first time
- 95% were unsheltered
- 15% of homeless individuals-Youth 18-24
- 6% are veterans

While most unsheltered homeless individuals are adults over the age of 24, half of the discovered homeless youth under the age of 18 were living unsheltered (Central Sierra Point-In-Time Report, 2016).

- Chronically Homeless: 8% of Calaveras & Mariposa County’s homeless are “chronically homeless” which is defined as an individual living with a disability who is living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; has been homeless continuously for at least 12 months or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years

- Abuse: Many of the current Calaveras Mariposa homeless surveyed reported personal experience with physical, emotional, or sexual abuse along with consumption of illegal substances and alcohol usage.
Strategic Approach:
Planning Process Summary
The Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency partnered with CalCAPA to begin its strategic planning in the third quarter of 2016, finishing at the end of the first quarter of 2017. In order to gain a better understanding of the current state of poverty in both counties, the agency identified many key trends through two strategic planning meetings, as well as assessing current demographics, housing, employment and analyzing local data reports from sub-contractors. The strategic planning effort was lead through facilitation with a CalCAPA consultant, staff, and board members to gain a better understanding of the current state of poverty in Calaveras Mariposa counties. CMCAA’s board and staff are pleased to develop a responsive plan to meet the needs of residents in Calaveras and Mariposa county communities.

ROMA Goals
Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency receives CSBG (Community Services Block Grant) funds from the Community Action Network. Since 1994, the network has used an evaluation tool called ROMA (Results Oriented Management and Accountability) in order, to ensure funds align with network goals and local efforts. The ROMA tool focuses on six broad, national anti-poverty goals which also encourage local community action agencies to become more results-oriented and provide accountability.

The Six National ROMA Goals are as follows:
Goal 1.
Low-income people become more self-sufficient. (Family)
Goal 2.
The conditions in which low-income people live are improved. (Community)
Goal 3.
Low-income people own a stake in their community. (Community)
Goal 4.
Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved. (Agency)
Goal 5.
Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results. (Agency)
Goal 6.
Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems. (Family)

Using the ROMA goals to identify crucial components of the plan, Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency reviewed their internal capacity, outcomes, and other factors in order to compile the finalized strategic plan for 2017–2022. The agency will continue to lead and advocate for our community, our clients and support our partners as we all attempt to resolve this enormous challenge.
GOAL 1: Capacity Building
Objective: Improve sustainability of staffing, programs, and services
ROMA Goal 4: Agency - Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.

ROMA Goal 5: Agency - Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.
- Increase internal agency capacity to strengthen performance
- Develop trainings and grantee expectations for sub-contractors to perform based on results and outcomes. Ensure there is planning for sustainability
- Identify capacity and development of board members
- Evaluation of results, outcomes, and management accountability

GOAL 2: Branding and Marketing
Objective: Create a brand to increase awareness and community outreach plan
ROMA Goal 4: Agency - Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.

ROMA Goal 5: Agency - Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.
- Develop a CMCAA marketing plan and implement in Calaveras and Mariposa Counties
- Create board member training and tools that include information on all current programs, community action agency fact sheets, and local community data while increasing opportunities for board members to develop new community relationships, understand and educate the community about CMCAA
- Develop a full and participating board with outreach through current members, orientations, and updating Community Services and Development (CSD) reporting.
- Increase board engagement through personal interest, community presence and connections while providing the board with adequate tools for community building.

GOAL 3: Funding Sustainability
Objective: Create sustainable funding solutions
ROMA Goal 2: Community - The conditions in which low-income people lives are improved.
ROMA Goal 4: Agency - Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.

ROMA Goal 5: Agency - Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results
- Identify existing leveraging opportunities to maximize delivery of services
- Research funding opportunities to support CMCAA mission and objectives
- Seek administrative funding to support operations to ensure quality of services
- Align sub-contractor’s services to increase leveraging and compliance requirements
Strategic Plan Strategies

GOAL 1: Capacity Building

*Improve the lives of our low-income population by increasing internal capacity to sustain, develop, and promote programs, services, and initiatives*

- Increase internal agency capacity through technology, staffing, and software
- Build capacity within sub-contractors to deliver effective services through training, data collection, reporting, and collaboration among local partners
- Develop board capacity through training and involvement in building community partnerships
- Fully engaged and participating board members
- Technical assistance to support staff and board governance to maximize compliance
- Evaluate the performance of sub-contractors and outcomes based on CSD requirements

GOAL 2: Branding and Marketing

*Improve the lives of our low-income population by providing easily accessible and current information about our services, and promote CMCAA services among the community*

- Align CMCAA program outcomes and community data to develop marketing materials
- Define target audience, marketing approach and methods to promote CMCAA community outreach
- Develop marketing plan, budget, and implementation timeframe
- Collaborate with local media (press releases) and social media presence regarding services and events (i.e., website, Facebook)
- Agency and sub-contractors will display CMCAA logo to promote awareness

GOAL 3: Funding Sustainability

*Improve the lives of our low-income population through effective administration, leveraging of resources and sustainable funding*

- Increase funding through research and partnerships
- Encourage and remain fiscally sustainable for administrative, operations and program(s) delivery
- Leverage funding to better serve the community
- Identify discretionary funding for agency capacity building
- Seek non-traditional funding sources and adding efforts with county-wide partners
Programs and Services

2017 Calaveras Mariposa Community Action Agency programs offered through sub-contractors, include:

- Mariposa CASA- Youth Mentoring for at-risk youth
- Mariposa County Parks and Recreation-10-week Summer Day Camp for children
- The Resource Connection Dental Project-Dental services for low-income seniors and children in Calaveras County
- Disability Resources for Independent Living (DRAIL)- Assisting disabled individuals in Calaveras and Mariposa counties with home modifications
- The Resource Connection Food Bank- Assists Calaveras county individuals and families with emergency food assistance
- Sierra Hope- Serves residents in Calaveras County with access to emergency food, rental and utility assistance to prevent homelessness
- Mariposa Safe Families-Connecting low-income individuals and families with services to assist them in reaching self-sufficiency
Community Action
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