The people ENCAP serves, most of whom have incomes below 75% of the poverty threshold, are working to find a way back to stability and greater independence. They have experienced crises and setbacks, sometimes for the first time.

Poverty is complex and not easily defeated. ENCAP offers people a hand up, providing a continuum of services to help them address their greatest needs, build on their strengths, and have hope for the future.

Program Areas:

Financial Assistance
Provides emergency rent and utility assistance, ongoing case management and financial education, and connections to available community resources.

Community Response
Collaborates with the community to prevent families from entering the child welfare system and to help them build resilience.

Behavioral Health
Provides comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluations and counseling.

Food and Nutrition
Distributes food to seniors with little to no income, provides a community garden to clients and neighbors, and operates the Bellevue food pantry in partnership with the Bellevue Ministerial Association.

Transportation
Provides transportation to and from school to ESL/migrant and homeless students of OPS.

Established in Omaha in 1965 as a nonprofit Community Action Program to combat poverty, our mission is to eliminate the causes of poverty by strengthening individuals, families, and communities through self-sufficiency initiatives in Douglas and Sarpy Counties.
2017 by the numbers

866 families
received emergency rent or utility assistance

11,749 hours
worked by volunteers

138 organizations
partnered with ENCAP

3,474 people
received emergency food assistance

33,920 food boxes
were distributed

In 2017, ENCAP served more than
7,000 individuals
2,500 families

332 people
received mental health and substance abuse treatment services

Marjie’s story

“Marjie” contacted ENCAP sobbing. She needed help and was hungry and scared. Marjie, a single woman in her mid-70’s, had an unforeseen loss of income and her rent and bills had overwhelmed her. Her financial situation was so dire that she couldn’t afford to put gas in her vehicle to pick up food at ENCAP.

So we went to Marjie. We delivered a box of food: salmon, canned fruit and vegetables, milk, juice, cheese, and hot and cold cereals. Upon our arrival, Marjie immediately began crying. “I’m just so embarrassed. I can’t believe that I had to ask for help,” she said. “I can’t thank you enough.”

390 children
were provided rides to school

Currently, ENCAP is supported by funding from the Community Services Block Grant, USDA’s Commodity Supplemental Food Program, transportation contracts with Omaha Public Schools, Lift Up Sarpy (Community Response), contracts with U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services for the provision of behavioral health and substance abuse treatment services, and private donations.