

Community Action Opportunities

We are a catalyst for individual, family and community change. We help hundreds of people each year to transform their lives. As a Community Action Agency, founded in 1964 by the Economic Opportunity Act, we work with citizens who live on limited incomes, elected public officials and private sector representatives to confront and solve the problems that cause poverty.

How to Contribute

Community Action Opportunities relies on and welcomes community support for financial contributions, additional resources, volunteer service and collaborations and partnerships. Contact us for additional information. We look forward to meeting you!

How to Apply

Residents can contact Community Action Opportunities in their county for information about the Life Works Program or to schedule an appointment with a Life Coach.

Community Action Opportunities	
Buncombe County 25 Gaston Street Asheville, NC 28801 P: 828.252.2495 F: 828.254.4395	Madison County Main Street PO Box 472 Marshall, NC 28753 P: 828.649.3231 F: 828.649.3129
www.communityactionopportunities.org admin@communityactionopportunities.org	

To determine an applicant's eligibility for these services, we need the following information:

- Income records for the past 90 days of all family members in the household
- Proof of residency in Madison or Buncombe County

We can help residents obtain this information and complete the application process.

Life Works

A Self-Sufficiency Program



Life Works

It's easy for people to dream about a better life for themselves and their families, but it's hard to make this dream a reality.

At Community Action

Opportunities, we understand how much harder this struggle is for people on low incomes.

That's why we created Life Works, a program for adults who want to make the changes necessary to improve their lives.

How Change Happens

Life Works participants learn to set specific life goals and find ways to achieve them within one to three years. We provide participants with the resources and support they need to:

- get and keep better jobs
- obtain educational/vocational training
- rent or buy safe and affordable housing
- build self-esteem and a strong work ethic

How Life Coaches Help

Life Coaches meet with participants at least twice a month to help identify their personal strengths, assets, goals and career interests. We discuss progress, setbacks and ways to remove obstacles to success. Coaches also coordinate services through a network of community organizations that provide participants with the resources they need to solve the problems they face.

How Participants Benefit

Our participants leave Life Works with the skills they need to build a better life. They are able to obtain and manage monthly income, maintain a home and use community resources. They are prepared to support their families and handle unexpected setbacks. They often become active in the community. They have the attitudes and behaviors necessary to achieve goals. Our participants understand that positive results come from individual action, commitment, planning and sacrifice.

How Participants Give Back

The Life Works Advisory Committee, made up of current and former Life Works participants, meets regularly to give feedback about the program. The committee sponsors projects that help other Life Works participants on the road to self-sufficiency. The committee also advocates for community changes that affect people who live on limited incomes.

