



2024 Annual Report

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.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to OVO's 2024 Annual Report.

This past year was a memorable one for me as it marked my start with OVO as the Executive Director in July. I've learned many things, most importantly that the people of OVO are what makes it an outstanding organization, and one that touches many lives.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Elaina Freeman for her remarkable service as our former Executive Director. Elaina's commitment to our mission has left an indelible mark on all of us. We are incredibly grateful for her hard work, guidance, and the positive changes she has brought to our organization. Thank you, Elaina!

In this report, you will discover highlights and achievements from the past year. You will also find how we rise to meet the changing needs of the communities we assist.

Our organization continues its commitment to excellence. OVO has a bright future that will continue its culture of excellence now and in the future.



ABOUT OHIO VALLEY OPPORTUNITIES

For nearly 60 years, OVO has been dedicating to helping people help themselves and each other. Our mission is “opening doors through individualized, comprehensive services that empower low-income individuals and families to improve their quality of life.”

OVO’s vision is to provide quality services that empower low-income individuals and families to become financially stable, realize their full potential, and become participating citizens and leaders in the community in which they live.

THE OVO EXECUTIVE TEAM



Brad Wood
Executive Director



Michelle Kimmel
Head Start Program
Director



Brandi Bivens
Chief Financial Officer



Jeff Rowlett
Weatherization
Program Director



Jamie Bare
HR Director



Angela Spurgeon
Director of Program
Management &
Compliance

OVO'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Holly Armstrong

Emily Hall

Sharon McCoy

Leslie Bixler

Keith Howard

Dana Riddle

Mary Beth Boone

Misty Jacobs

Steve Sollman

Sheila Coffin

Tammy Johnson

David Sutter

Casey Goode

Jason Judd

Tom Taylor

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for our Board of Directors' unwavering dedication and support. Their commitment to our mission has been instrumental in driving positive change within our community.

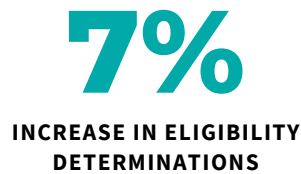
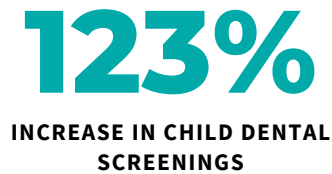
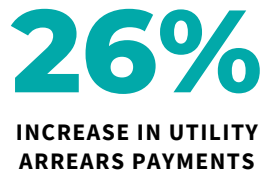
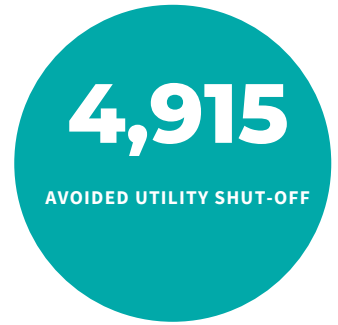
The tireless efforts and invaluable contributions of our board have enabled us to reach new heights and make a significant impact on the lives of those we serve. Their strategic guidance, generous donations, and active involvement have been the cornerstone of our success.

We are deeply appreciative of the time, energy, and resources they have invested in our cause. Their leadership and vision inspire us to continue striving for excellence and to expand our reach even further.



2024 Impact

AT-A-GLANCE



ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The purpose of the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is to help keep members of low-income families safe and healthy, and assist them in achieving energy self-sufficiency and avoiding utility disruptions. Participants are encouraged to control energy costs and identify strategies which allow them to pay their future energy bills.

EAP provides a one-time annual benefit that can assist with the high cost of home energy and can help people who are disconnected or are about to get disconnected. An EAP benefit will not cover annual heating and electric costs. These benefits are paid directly to the utility vendor to help cover heating and electric costs.

- 2,817 crisis benefits issued
- 7,223 families received Energy Education
- 4,915 individuals avoided disconnection
- 771 had utility restored after disconnect
- 31 inoperable furnaces repaired/replaced

6,479

households served



13,009

individuals served



HEADSTART PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Head Start (HS) is a family centered child development program whose mission is to promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. Children participate in a variety of educational activities that reflect best practices in early education. We strive to create a learning environment that will develop cognitive, social, emotional, and physical skills. We encourage parents to build their skills by becoming involved in our program, doing this helps to increase self-confidence and problem solving skills in both the parents and children.

- 97% average monthly enrollment
- 79% average monthly attendance
- 50,644 breakfasts, snacks, & lunches served
- 68% received dental exams
- 86% received medical exams
- 27 children received special services
- 4% of eligible children served



189

Families served

65

Children transitioned to Kindergarten



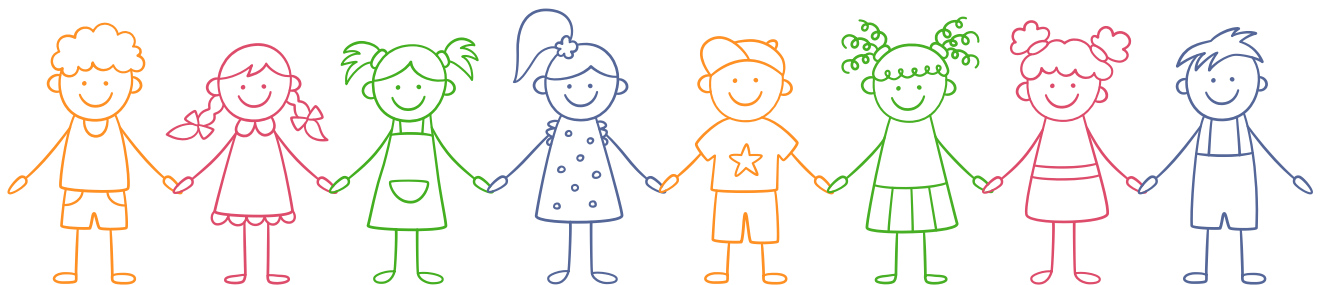
170

Parents participated in Parent-Teacher conferences

HEAD START PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

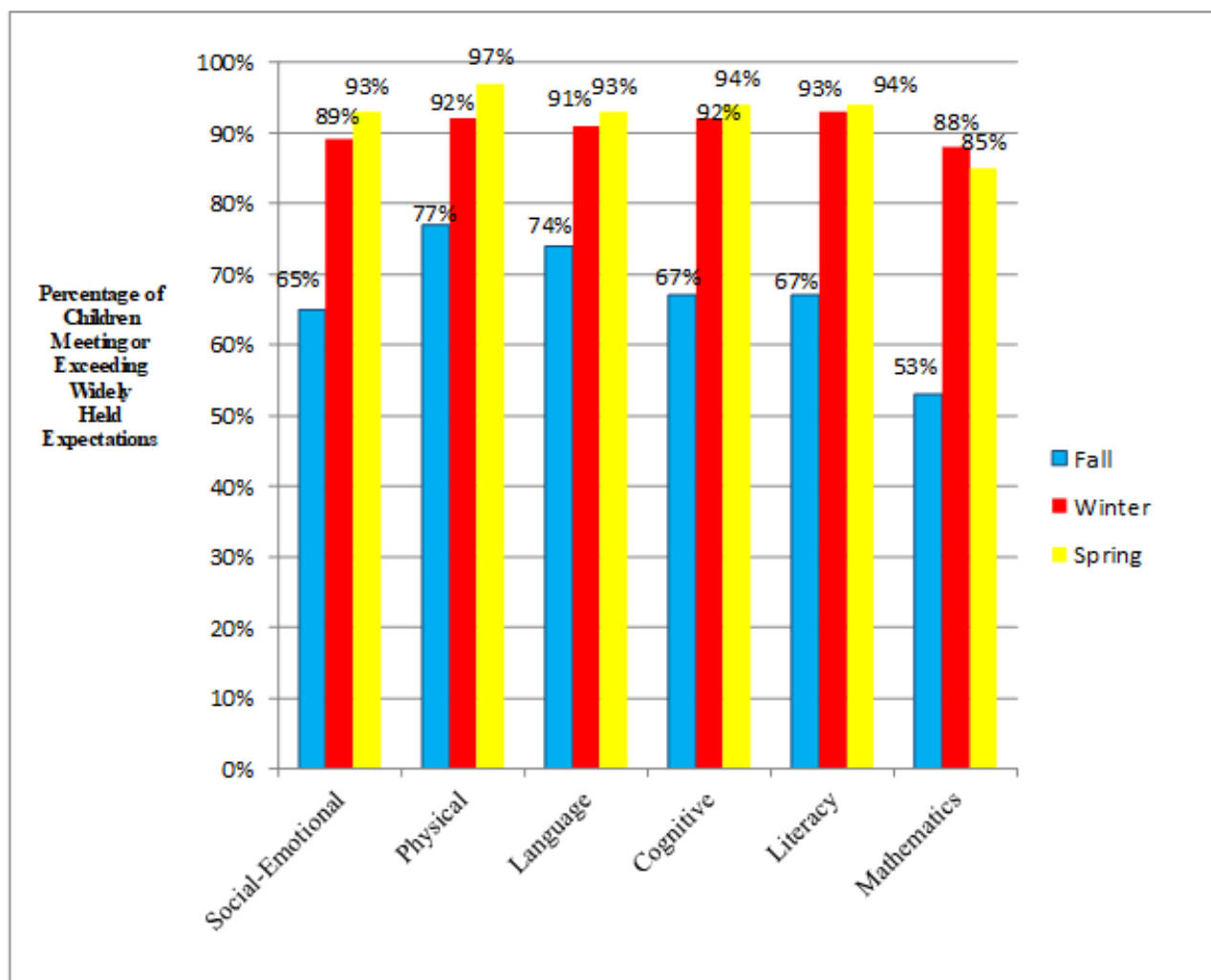
CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development in center-based preschool programs. CLASS includes 3 domains (Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support) with dimensions and indicators within each domain.

OHS CLASS Stats 2024	Competitive	Quality	OVO Scores	% vs 2018
Emotional Support	5	6	6.2778	+105%
Classroom Organization	5	6	6.3148	+121%
Instructional Support	2.3	3	4.3333	+150%



HEAD START PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Widely Held Expectations incorporate the skills, behaviors and general knowledge that would be typical for a specific age group or grade level. These norms are utilized nationally through the Teaching Strategies GOLD® Assessment.



HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Housing Choice Voucher program, also referred to as Section 8, is a rental assistance program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program allows income-qualified families, including working adults, older adults and individuals with disabilities, to afford safe and decent housing in the community of their choice. Program participants are required to pay a portion of their rent, usually 40% or less of their income. The remainder of the rental cost is supplemented by a Housing Assistance Payment made directly to the property owner or manager by OVO each month.

The participant is free to choose any housing unit that meets program requirements. An individual or family issued a housing voucher is responsible for finding a suitable housing unit of their choice where the owner agrees to rent under the program. This unit may include the family's present residence if rented. Rental units must meet minimum standards of health and safety, as determined by OVO.

- 658 families received rental assistance
- 368 disabled & 222 elderly received rental assistance
- 895 individuals served
- 305 inspections conducted by certified staff
- 40 new rental vouchers issued

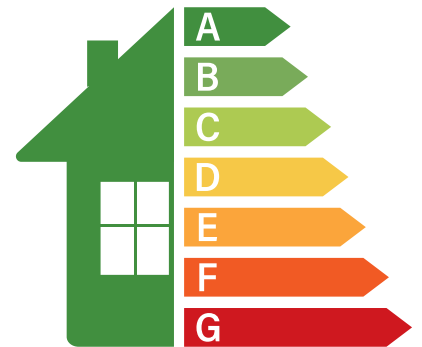


WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

OVO's Weatherization program works to decrease utility costs for families with low-incomes by increasing the energy efficiency of their home. According to the Department of Energy, families receiving weatherization services have, on average, savings of \$437 dollars on annual utility bills. Our weatherization program gears to low-income persons who are particularly vulnerable. This includes the elderly, persons with disabilities, families with children, high residential energy users, and households with high energy burden.

Weatherization is received at no cost to the client, and also includes health and safety measures. All eligible dwellings will be audited but not guaranteed weatherization benefits.

- \$17,250 average spent per home to improve energy efficiency
- 59 homes weatherized
- 88 individuals served
- 23 homes rehabilitated (Healthy Homes)
- 190 Continuing Education hours completed by staff & contractors



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Grant Funding	
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$205,752
Head Start	\$2,661,864
Energy Assistance Program (EAP)	\$3,703,279
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	\$287,656
Housing Choice Voucher Program	\$2,393,068
Department of Energy (DOE)	\$478,689
BIL	\$81,064
Center Point Duke Rebate	\$30,916
USDA Food Program	\$137,744
Duke Supplement	\$6,883
Housing Properties	
Apple Blossom Court Apartments	\$25,720
Scott Valley Court Apartments	\$206,521
Valley Court Apartments of North Vernon	\$184,879
Local Support	
We Care	\$1,783
Donations/Revenue to Programs	\$10,519
Duke A/C Project	\$8,800
Unrestricted Funds	\$539
Family Services Centers - Buildings	\$41,976
Total Agency Revenue	\$10,467,652



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Ohio Valley Opportunities provides all of its services without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, familial status, or status as a veteran.