

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015



Brett Schroyer & Taisha

## A Home for the Homeless

Taisha and her eight children were bouncing from house to house looking for a place to call home.

She felt hopeless and did not know at times where her family would sleep on a daily basis.

With the help of CAPMC's housing department, Taisha was able to spend a few nights in a hotel, and get into a temporary shelter until permanent housing became Available.

CAPMC's housing department spent several days communicating with local agencies, and housing facilitators, and were successful in helping to expedite the process of placing this family into safe, affordable housing.

As with most homeless individuals, Taisha and her children lacked the basic essentials and needs that come with having your own home. She and her eight children and were sleeping on the floor, and were in desperate need of beds, and other important household items. With the help of other CAPMC departments, and working together, we were able to reach out to an organization called "Beds for Little Heads" operated by Brett and Donna Schroyer .

Within 48 hours of that phone call, all eight children had a bed of their own that was delivered, assembled, and made with all new bedding for each bed. Along with that, CAPMC was able to buy other items such as pots and pans, towels, dishes, hygiene items, and other various items to help get this family back on their feet.

As of today, Taisha and all eight children have safe, affordable, and permanent housing, but more importantly, a place to call home.



### *Our*

#### **Mission:**

*Helping People Help  
Themselves Through  
Leadership in  
Community Partnering  
That Provides  
Opportunities to Live with  
Decency and Dignity.*

### *Our*

#### **Mandates:**

Fight Poverty  
Promote  
Self-Sufficiency  
  
Feed the Hungry  
  
Improve Social  
Services  
Engage the Private  
Sector

#### **Our Values:**

We Believe That  
Poverty is  
Unacceptable to the  
Community and That  
All People are Valued  
Regardless of Race, or  
Socio-Economic Status.

## *A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR & CEO*



As this message is being written the state of Pennsylvania has still not passed a budget and the federal government will probably vote for a continuing resolution and consider a period of government shutdown. This is the environment in which we find ourselves as we simply attempt to go about our day to day jobs of helping others.

In May of 2016 CAPMC will celebrate 50 years of existence. In June of 2016 I will step down as CEO after 32 years. These two events are cause for reflection. I think about all of the partnerships that have been built over those years and are displayed in this most recent annual report.

I think about the high quality of our Board and staff over that time when I read the names of those currently serving in those roles. I read the cover story of this year's report and I am reminded of why many of us are in this line of work.

And I am always mindful that without your community support none of this would be possible. As you review this year's annual report I hope you continue to view CAPMC as a responsible steward of your tax dollars.

As always, thank you.



AMERICA'S LARGEST POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK



*Ronald Errett, President/CEO*

*Ray Benedict, Board Chair*



**CURRENT CAPMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**OFFICERS**

Mr. Ray Benedict, Chairman  
 Ms. Autumn Wray Klein, Vice Chair  
 Ms. Tricia Kehoe, Secretary  
 Mr. Richard English, Treasurer

**PUBLIC SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. John Lechner, Mercer County Commissioner  
 Ms. Denise Anthony, (Rep. Sen. Michele Brooks)  
 Mr. Terry Harrison, Farrell School Board  
 Mr. Robert Kochems, District Attorney  
 Mr. Ed Palanski, Sharon City Councilman

**PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. Ray Benedict, Social Services (Retired)  
 Mr. Richard English, Richard G. English Associates  
 Ms. Denise Jarrett, First National Bank  
 Ms. Karen Winner Sed, CEO Winner Holdings  
 Mr. Walter Matthews, Sharon Steel (Retired)

**TARGET SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. Pete Costar, Mercer County Area Agency on Aging  
 Ms. Autumn Wray Klein, Constituent Representative  
 Ms. Tricia Kehoe, Constituent Representative  
 Ms. Mary Ellen Reese, Head Start Representative  
 Ms. Vivian LaCamera, Handicapped Constituents



Garden Way Apartments, Inc.      Primrose Apartments, Inc.  
 Hempfield Apartments, Inc.  
 Hempfield Apartments So., Inc.  
 Independence Park, Inc.  
 North East Manor, Inc.  
 Tushim Manor, Inc.  
 Westfield Towers, Inc.  
 Alameda Gardens, Inc.



***FARRELL HOUSING LTD. PARTNERSHIP***



**WILLIAM A. GARGANO TOWERS**

First National Bank of Mercer County, Ltd. Partner

PNC Bank, Ltd. Partner

Community Action Partnership of Mercer County, Owner/General Partner

## OUR FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

*American Legion Post 1338  
 Department of Energy  
 Department of Health & Human Services  
 Department of Housing and Urban Development  
 Department of Public Welfare  
 Lawrence County Community Action Partner-  
 ship  
 Mercer County Veteran's Affairs Office  
 Mercer Elementary School  
 PA Department of Education  
 Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency  
 PA Office of Mental Health  
 Phillips Steel Company  
 Reinhart's Insurance Agency*



*Our special acknowledgment to the businesses who have supported our efforts with their generous donations and our friends who have given freely to support our mission.*



## CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

Community Action Assoc. of PA  
 Community Action Partnership  
 Community Health Partnership of Mercer County  
 Mercer County Housing Coalition  
 Housing Alliance of PA  
 Manufacturers Assoc. of Northwest PA  
 Mercer County Career Link  
 Mercer County Mental Health Assoc.  
 NAACP (Lifetime Member)  
 National Community Action Foundation  
 National Low Income Housing Coalition  
 PA Assoc. of Housing Management Agencies  
 PA Weatherization Task Force  
 Penn-Ohio Regional Health Care Alliance  
 Sharon Rotary  
 Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce  
 Shenango Valley River Watchers, Inc.  
 Trans Union Credit Bureau





## AmeriCorps VISTA

**Community Action is proud to be a partner with AmeriCorps VISTA which is celebrating 50 years of Volunteers in Service to America.**

AmeriCorps VISTA taps the skills, talents and passion of more than 7,000 Americans annually to support community efforts to overcome poverty.

AmeriCorps VISTA members make a year-long, full-time commitment to serve on a specific project at a non-profit organization or public agency. They focus their efforts to build the organizational, administrative, and financial capacity of organizations that fight illiteracy, improve health services, foster economic development, and otherwise assist low-income communities.

AmeriCorps VISTA is open to all U.S. citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent resident aliens age 18 and older. Members and Summer Associates receive a modest living allowance. Members who serve for a year also receive limited health benefit options, childcare, if needed, and other benefits.

CAPMC is an approved AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer organization and presently seeking volunteers.

For more information on how you can participate, contact Emily Rowe, Family Services Manager at [edr@capmercer.org](mailto:edr@capmercer.org).



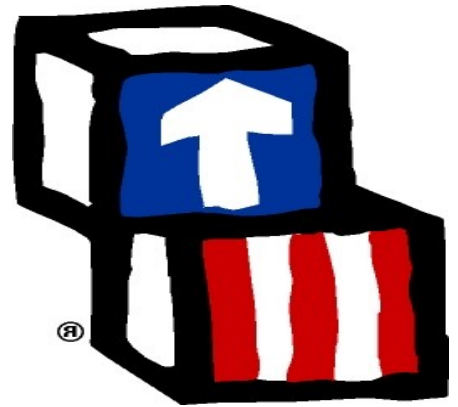
## ***EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT***

CAPMC is the Grantee agency for the Mercer County Early Head Start/Head Start Program. The program is subcontracted to the Farrell Area School district and operates county-wide.

There are two Federal Programs, Head Start serving children 3-5 years of age, (313 children); and Early Head Start serving children 0-3 and pregnant moms, ( 66 children); and two State Programs, which are Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program serving children 3-5 years, (served 59 children) and Pre K Counts serving children 3-5 years (served 83 children).

Federal and State Head Start Programs and Early Head Start all serve families with incomes of 100% of the federal poverty level, the Pre K Counts serves families with incomes up to 300% of the federal poverty level.

The programs provide comprehensive services to support the parents as being the child's first teacher, a research based curriculum and assessment is used in the 29 classrooms. Each classroom is comprised of a degreed Teacher and an Assistant Teacher of which 23 have their certifications. The comprehensive services means services that speak to the child as a whole and not just educationally, the programs provide nutrition, health, family engagement, disabilities and mental health services as well as training and technical assistance.





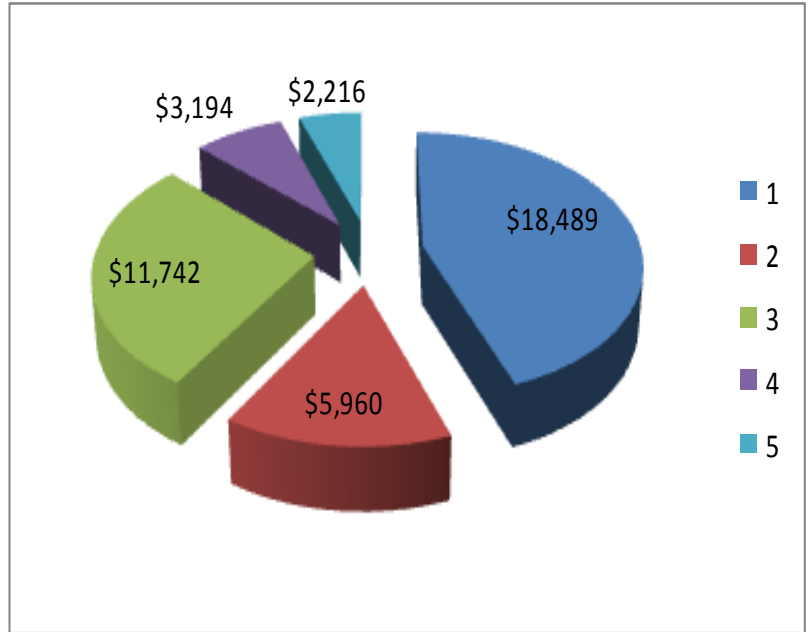
**W.R.A.P. Expenditure by Category**  
**Total Expenditures: \$ 41,600**

**Water & Rental Assistance Program (WRAP)**



The WRAP Program is available to low income families in Mercer County.

Individuals who are looking for assistance with a security deposit for their water or who have fallen behind in their payments may qualify. Individuals must be income eligible and must provide a shut off notice and documentation that their hardship is temporary. All qualifying individuals will be required to attend budgeting counseling.

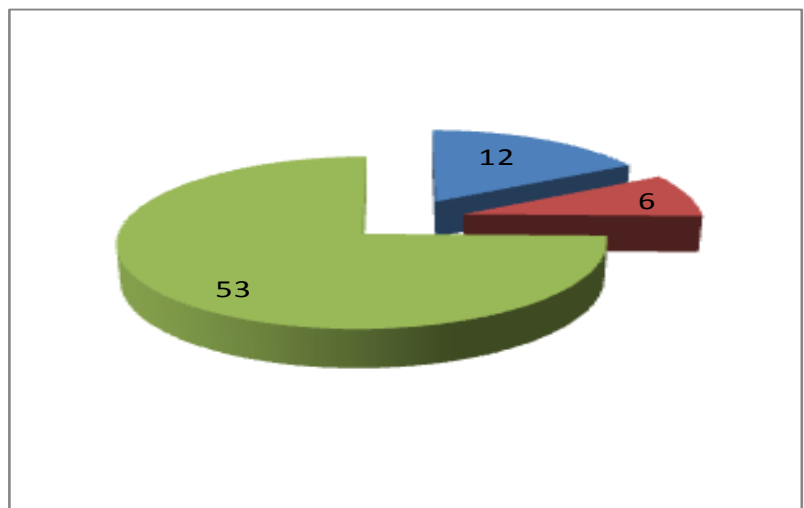


1. Arrearages
2. Subsidized Housing
3. Security Deposits
4. Water Assistance
5. Homeless Prevention



Rental assistance is provided to low income individuals who meet

eligibility requirements and can provide an eviction notice. These individuals must have a verifiable monthly income to include but not be limited to: full/part-time employment, SSA, SSDI, etc. All qualifying individuals will be required to attend budget counseling.



Water Assistance	12
Homeless Prevention	6
Rental Assistance	53

## ENERGY PROGRAMS



Weatherization Works

### Energy Weatherization Program

This program is designed to reduce the usage of energy consumption in the home through the installation of energy conversation measures such as

attic and sidewall insulation.

It will also correct minor existing health and safety issues. This program is offered to any household whose income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. Determination of income eligibility is based on the total income of all persons residing in the dwelling for a period of twelve months preceding the date of application. The dwelling can either be a rental or owner occupied unit.

We also provide utility weatherization programs for the following companies: National Fuel Gas, Pennsylvania Power, Dominion's Peoples Gas, Allegheny Power and Pennsylvania-American Water.

### **PennPower** Customer Assistance Program

A FirstEnergy Company

This is an alternative payment program for low-income, payment-troubled residential customers. is the lowest possible payment arrangement Penn Power can offer a customer. Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund

This is a voluntary program designed to provide assistance to qualifying individuals who require help to prevent disconnection of a utility service, to pay overdue bills for any energy source, to purchase any type of heating fuel or to repair or replace heating equipment.

### Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund

To receive Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Funds a person must be 55 years or older, receiving disability or unemployment income, able to demonstrate a certified medical emergency and, a resident of the National Fuel Gas service territory.

### Heating/Water Heating Repair or Replacement Program

We can repair or replace faulty, hazardous or non-working primary heating and or water heating equipment for National Fuel Gas customers who have an active account using natural gas as the primary heat source.

The family's total gross income for this program must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline. This program is for owner occupied units who have been living in the dwelling for at least one year with the intent of living there for at least one year after the installation of the equipment. Normally the arrangement to repair or replace the equipment is made within 48 hours of referral notification.

### Dollar Energy Fund



We can provide assistance and aid to families and individuals experiencing difficulty with their utility

service.

The applicant must have paid at least \$150 on their account during the last 90 days, with exception of seniors age 62 and over, who must have paid at least \$100 during the last 90 days (applicants will be required to provide proof of payment). A balance of at least \$100 must be left on the account, and the name on the account must be that of an adult who is currently living in the household. A copy of the most recent bill with proof of payment must be provided. Total gross income can not exceed 200% of the federal poverty level.

***CAPMC assisted 280 families in partnership with private utility companies. 95 households received utility payment assistance of \$ 5,833 and 236 households received weatherization services.***



## HOUSING



### **Housing Counseling**

CAPMC is a certified HUD Housing Counseling agency. We provide HUD housing counseling services under contract with the Mon Valley Initiative, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency and the City of Sharon.

*Housing Counseling Services were provided to 175 household.*

### **Special Needs Housing**

CAPMC owns and manages 32 units of special needs housing at 10 locations.

### **Legacy House**

This four unit complex is leased to AWARE, Inc. for the provision of transitional housing for victims of domestic violence. Residents may stay up to 18 months and are provided services enabling them to move into stable permanent housing. This development was funded in part by Housing and Urban Development and the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

### **Independence Park**

This is a ten unit development for individuals and their families who suffer from chronic mental illness. Support services are provided by the Mercer County Community Counseling Center, Inc. and the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc. Funding for this development was provided by Housing and Urban Development.

### **Permanent Supported Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness**

Eight units at three locations. Support services are provided by the Mercer County Community Counseling Center, Inc.. Funding for this development was provided by Housing and Urban Development.

### **Mental Health Housing**

Nine units at four locations for persons with mental health issues. This project was developed with financial support from the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc.

### **Single Family Rental Housing**

The agency provides decent, safe and affordable housing for nine families.

Services are provided to families who wish to purchase the home they are renting.

**CAPMC Assisted 38 Seniors in Obtaining \$ 18,000 of Rent Rebates.**



## EMPLOYMENT



### Work Ready Program

The primary goal of Work Ready is to help participants transition to an Employment & Training Program and to secure and retain employment by providing services that will help the client stabilize barriers that may hinder them from achieving self-sufficiency. This is accomplished through appropriate assessment, valuation, services, and activities.

**20 People Obtain Employment With Our Help.**



### Supportive Services for Veteran Families

A partnership of providers in a six county area is offering a new program for Veterans who are experiencing a housing crisis. This is made possible with funding received from the Federal Government and under contract with the Lawrence County Community Action Partnership.

Under this program, CAPMC aims to improve very low-income Veteran families' housing stability in Mercer County. CAPMC will provide eligible Veterans and their families with outreach, case management, and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits, which may include:

- Health care services
- Daily living services
- Personal financial planning services
- Transportation services
- Fiduciary and payee services
- Legal services
- Child care services & Housing Counseling

**148 People Obtain or Maintain Safe, Affordable Housing**

## VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE

In addition, veterans may also be eligible for time-limited payments to third parties (e.g., landlords, utility companies, moving companies, and licensed child care providers) if these payments help them and their families stay in or acquire permanent housing on a sustainable basis.

### Veteran Employment Track (VET) Program

This program is offered in partnership with the Lawrence County Community Action Program (LCCAP) Participants in our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program who also have an employment goal are provided specialized employment-focused services to gain and retain employment in an effort to sustain stable housing and move toward self-sufficiency.

This targeted group of employment-focused Vets and family members are provided innovative career awareness, case management, job readiness, pre-employment training, and job development to help them overcome employment barriers and connect them to local employers.

### Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program

The ESG Program is designed to assist veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. It is designed to help Veterans acquire permanent housing as quickly as possible or to attain stability in their current housing situation.

Housing relocation and short to medium term rental assistance may also be provided.

**CURRENT CAPMC STAFF****ADMINISTRATION**

Ronald J. Errett, President/CEO  
 Debra Bellich, V.P./CFO  
 Michelle L. Clarke, Finance Manager  
 Gary A. Cervone, V.P. Development  
 Mary Kay Kelecseny, Administrative Assistant

**FAMILY DEVELOPMENT \$ VETERAN'S SERVICES**

Emily Rowe	Family Services Manager
Nicole Dora	FD Caseworker
Janet Smith	FD Caseworker
Reenie Whiteside	PCAP Caseworker
Charles Fleet Jr.	Housing Counselor
David Howe	Housing Counselor
Brian Flick	Veteran's Housing Advisor

**HOUSING**

Heather Koerber	Housing Manager
Carole Langiotti	Site Manager
Karen Rentz	Site Manager
Alice Stanley	Site Manager
Laura Davis Snyder	Site Manager
Dale Fennell	Janitor/Pre-Maintenance
Cory Williams	Janitor/Pre-Maintenance
Daniel McFadden	Maintenance Worker
Brad Mattson	Maintenance Worker
Fred Sculuca	Maintenance Worker
Michael Spencer	Maintenance Worker

**ENERGY**

Karen Smith	Energy Director
Lashawndra Smith	Energy Intake Worker
J.C. Moore	Energy Auditor
Dana Christy	Energy Auditor
Kathie Merritt,	Energy Educator Caseworker

**CURRENT PROJECTS****EDUCATION**

Early Head Start/Head Start/Pre-K Counts

**FAMILY DEVELOPMENT****EMPLOYMENT**

Work Ready  
 Veteran's Employment & Training

**HOUSING COUNSELING**

City of Sharon  
 PA Housing Finance Agency  
 Mon Valley Initiative (HUD)  
 VETERAN'S SERVICES

Housing  
 Supportive Services

**ASSETS PROGRAM**

First National Bank  
 WATER & RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**ENERGY**

\$ Dollar Energy Fund  
 First Energy Customer Assistance Program  
 Heating/Water Heating Replacement  
 Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund  
 Penn Power Customer Assistance Program  
 Project CURE  
 State Residential Weatherization  
 Penn Power Weatherization  
 National Fuel Gas Weatherization  
 Dominion Peoples Gas Weatherization  
 Conservation Consultants H20

**SENIOR HOUSING**

Garden Way Apartments  
 William A. Gargano Towers  
 Hempfield Apartments  
 Hempfield Apartments South  
 Tushim Manor  
 North East Manor  
 Westfield Towers  
 Alameda Apartments, Inc.

**SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING**

Legacy House  
 Independence Park  
 Fairfield, Inc.

# SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES & ACHIEVEMENTS



## EDUCATION

Early Head Start/Head Start/Pre-K Counts  
*521 children served*



## FAMILY DEVELOPMENT— WORK READY

*164 individuals obtain employment support; 11 secure employment*



## HOUSING COUNSELING

*Housing Counseling Services were provided to 175 household.*



## VETERAN'S SERVICES

*29 veterans receive services*



## WATER & RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

*12 families receive water assistance*



*59 families receive housing assistance*



## ENERGY

*516 homes weatherized  
95 households received utility payment assistance of \$ 5,833*



## SENIOR HOUSING

*235 seniors are able to maintain independent living  
38 Seniors obtain \$ 18,000 of rent rebates.*



## SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

*17 individuals receive decent, safe & affordable housing.*



AMERICA'S LARGEST POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

**TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED: 1738**

# EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

## COMMUNITY



American Red Cross  
 Aware, Inc.  
 Catholic Charities  
 Children's Aid Society  
 Community Food Warehouse  
 Disability Options Network  
 Good Shepard  
 Helping Hands  
 Joshua's Haven  
 Keystone Blind Association  
 Literacy Council/Move-UP  
 MCAR, Inc.  
 Mercer County Family Centers.  
 Mercer County Housing Coalition  
 Mon-Valley Initiative  
 People in Need  
 Prince of Peace  
 Salvation Army  
 Shenango Valley Urban League  
 The Community Foundation of  
 Western PA & Eastern OH  
 WIC 790 AM

## PUBLIC



Butler County Veteran's  
 Administration  
 City of Sharon  
 Community Counseling Center of  
 Mercer County  
 Mercer County Area Agency on  
 Aging  
 Mercer County Assistance Office  
 Mercer County Behavioral Health  
 Commission, Inc.  
 Mercer County Commissioners  
 Mercer County Housing Authority  
 Mercer County Intermediate Unit IV  
 Mercer County Regional Planning  
 Commission  
 Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
 PA Housing Finance Agency  
 PA Rural Development Council  
 PSU Shenango Campus  
**SCHOOL DISTRICTS**  
 Farrell, Greenville, Hermitage  
 Lakeview, Sharon, West Middlesex  
 Sharpsville, West Middlesex, Grove  
 City, Mercer, Commodore Perry,  
  
 Work Force Investment Board  
 UPMC Farrell

## PRIVATE



Buchanan Manor  
 Consumer Credit  
 Counseling Services, Inc.  
 Dollar Energy Fund  
 Dominion  
 First Energy  
 First National Bank of PA  
 Howard Hanna Financial  
 Huntington Bank  
 Hudson Group, LLC  
 National Fuel  
 Penn Power  
 Penn Star Credit Union  
 PNC Bank  
 West Penn Financial  
 Services  
 West Penn Power



## OUR LOCATIONS

### Administrative Offices & Weatherization

75 South Dock Street, Sharon, PA 16146  
 PH:(724) 342-6222 FAX: (724) 342-6301  
 Email: capmc@capmercercer.org

### Work Ready/Housing Counseling, Utility Assistance & Veteran's Programs

109 South Sharpsville Avenue  
 Sharon, PA  
 PH: (724) 342-3532 FAX: (724) 342-3450  
 Email: edr@capmercercer.org

### Early Head Start /Head Start & Pre-K Counts

John Hetra Building  
 1901 Memorial Drive, Farrell, PA 16121  
 PH: (724) 346-4482 FAX: (724) 346-4431  
 Email: wtorres@mchs-ehs.org

### Alameda Gardens

164 Alameda Road, Butler, PA 16001  
 PH: (724) 282-0264 FAX: (724) 282-0423  
 Email: als@capmercercer.org

### William A. Gargano Towers

941 Sharon-New Castle Rd., Farrell, PA 16121  
 PH: (724) 347-1959 FAX: (724) 342-1124  
 Email: KRentz@capmercercer.org

### Garden Way Apartments

2350 Garden Way, Hermitage, PA 16148  
 PH: (724) 342-7791 FAX: (724) 342-7790  
 Email: KRentz@capmercercer.org



### Tushim Manor

20 Coolspring Street, Mercer, PA 16137  
 PH: (724) 662-5901  
 Email: cjl@capmercercer.org

### Independence Park

613-629 Spearman Avenue, Farrell, PA 16121  
 PH: (724) 347-1959 FAX: (724) 342-1124  
 Email: KRentz@capmercercer.org

### Hempfield Apartments

92 Hadley Road  
 Greenville, PA 16125  
 PH: (724) 588-0137 FAX: (724) 588-0141  
 Email: cjl@capmercercer.org

### Hempfield Apartments, South

94 Hadley Road  
 Greenville, PA 16125  
 PH: (724) 588-4176 FAX: (724) 588-4203  
 Email: cjl@capmercercer.org

### North East Manor Apartments

4132 South Washington Street  
 North East, PA 16428  
 PH: (814)347-5132 FAX: (814) 34275123  
 Email: lss@capmercercer.org

### Westfield Towers

200 Westfield Drive  
 Aliquippa, PA 15001  
 PH (724) 788-1596 FAX: (724) 788-1623  
 Email: als@capmercercer.org

*This publication was financed in part by a CSBG Grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.*



[www.capmercercer.org](http://www.capmercercer.org)

