



**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT- A Veteran Success Story**

Levernist Bryant graduated high school in 1974. He was excellent at math. Not having money to pay for college weighed heavily on his decision to join the military. Levernist went to Fort Knox for basic training and then attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. He did so well that he was selected to attend FADAC (Field Artillery Digital & Analog Computers) training. FADAC is used to tell the tank where to shoot the missile. After this training, Fort Knox became Levernist's permanent base. There, he fixed artillery computers until he left the service.



Levernist "Pete" Bryant - Clark County Resident and Military Veteran.

Levernist attended Jefferson Community College and earned an associate degree in Electrical Engineering Technology in 1980. He utilized his degree working at TV stations repairing televisions, working for IBM for six years, and finally for starting his own small business in Lexington repairing computers. He also created an accounting software program for, unfortunately, the University of Kentucky. Cardinal fans...we can let this slide. Go Cards!

In 2016, business was slow and, eventually, the lack of business led to the loss of his Lexington home. He had family living in Jeffersonville, so he moved here. Levernist worked small jobs here and there, but his work opportunities became increasingly limited. Lack of income forced him into a downward spiral. He could barely pay his rent. Levernist took some advice to visit CASI and consequently he received \$500 in Crisis Assistance through the Family Development Crisis Assistance Pro-

gram. The Indiana Family Development Specialist noticed his experience and employment potential through the Family Development Matrix. When an IT Specialist opening became available at CASI, Levernist applied for the position and was selected for an interview, based on his qualifications. Soon he was hired!

Levernist was asked during his interview for this story, "What positive words could you provide to a veteran who is nervous about reaching out for social service assistance?" He replied, "The key is you served your country, now it is time to let your country serve you."

CASI is taking steps to increase our services to veterans in our tri-county service area (Clark, Floyd & Harrison). We have a vision of decreasing homelessness in our area. Homelessness affects veterans and non-veterans living within our communities. The program details include unsubsidized rental assistance, including security deposits/ covered application fees, utility payment(s), including arrears, moving costs, relocation and temporary stabilization services.

**MINORITY HEALTH INITIATIVE**

The mission of this program is to eliminate health disparities through research, training, education, advocacy, and access to health care services for minority populations with a focus on obesity, diabetes and cancer.

**VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)**

VITA provides free tax preparation assistance for persons making \$58,000 or less in annual income. Our volunteers are trained and certified by the Internal Revenue Service.

**HEALTHCARE NAVIGATION/SHIP**

This program provides outreach, education, and enrollment for persons needing quality health plans (QHP) or additional funds to pay for healthcare costs as required under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

**INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS (IDA)**

The IDA program helps qualified individuals in saving for education, housing, or to start a business. IDA accounts are matched three-to-one by the State of Indiana through local lending institutions.

**MICROENTERPRISE**

The Microenterprise Program assists low-income, under-employed, and unemployed persons to establish their own business. The program offers business development planning, training, counseling, and technical assistance so they may gain the opportunity to participate in the economic mainstream.

**ENERGY ASSISTANCE (EAP)**

The Low-Income home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assists low-income families with the high cost of home energy to maintain utility services during the winter and summer seasons.

**WEATHERIZATION**

This program permanently lowers utility bills by providing energy saving home improvements to such as air sealing, insulation, and furnace tune-ups.

**FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**

The Crisis Assistance Program is designed to help persons experiencing a financial shortfall caused by external factors. A qualified Indiana Family Development Specialist assists with the case management.

**GRASSROOTS FAMILY LIFE ACADEMY**

A Youth program designed to follow a select group of students from 8th through 12th grade. Youth are monitored in areas of character education, leadership, 40 developmental assets, critical thinking, and college readiness. A Strengthening Families approach and Family Development tools will be used to include the entire family.

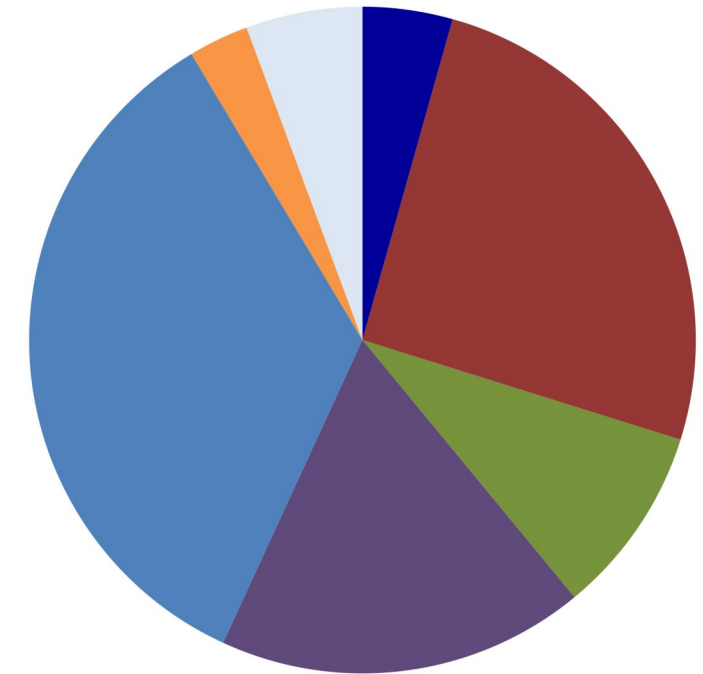
**HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START**

CASI's Head Start and Early Head Start provides programming services to over 300 children (birth - 5). Families and children receive education, case management and health/nutrition services from our Education and Family services Department.

**HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER SECTION 8**

CASI's Housing Choice Voucher Program is committed to the idea that every family has the right to safe, decent and affordable housing. Low-income families select housing based on individual needs and are provided housing vouchers that allow them to utilize housing from approved landlords.

**2016 FINANCIAL SUMMARY**



CSGB	\$357,765	4.37%
EAP	\$2,087,182	25.47%
EARLY HEAD START	\$753,388	9.19%
HCVP	\$1,462,091	17.84%
HEAD START	\$2,832,010	34.55%
NAVIGATOR PROGRAM	\$240,042	2.93%
WEATHERIZATION	\$463,508	5.66%

Total 2016 Revenue: **\$8,195,986**

Community Action of Southern Indiana is a typical Community Action Agency in this era of changing client populations and political headwinds. The graph is a representation of the Agency's total revenues in calendar year 2016. Head Start and Early Head Start represent 43.75% of total revenue. The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) provides a further 25% and 18% respectively.

The challenges of static budgets and Federal, State, and Local programs changing from contract to contract will produce both financial opportunities and problems in the next few years. CASI will be seeking new programs for new housing, Veterans, and housing rehabilitation. The Grassroots Family Life Academy and the Minority Health Initiative are programs that will be featured and expanded in the coming year.



## Community Action of Southern Indiana would like to thank the supporters:

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JEFFERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL EARLY CHILDHOOD DEPT.	FIRST STEPS SOUTHERN INDIANA COORDINATING COUNCIL	JEFFERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PRACTICUM STUDENTS	INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTHEAST PRACTICUM NURSING STUDENTS
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