

Alameda County-Oakland Community Action Partnership 2018 Factsheet



1 in 5 children (21.3%) live in poverty in Oakland

1 in 10 children (10.1%) live in poverty in Alameda County

9.2% Alameda County residents (**150,895**) living below the federal poverty level

15.3% Oakland residents (**64,305**) living below the federal poverty level

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Helping People... Changing Lives

- 64,698** Low-Income Alameda County Residents Served by **AC-OCAP**
- 3,776** Alameda County Low-Income Residents Received **Legal Assistance**
- 9,000** Oakland Low-Income Children Served **Summer Lunches**
- 23,703** Alameda County Low-Income Residents Received **Free Tax Preparation** at 51 VITA Sites
- 473** Alameda County Low-Income Families **Housed**
- 170** Alameda County Low-Income Residents **Employed**
- \$31.9 mil** In Tax Refunds, Including **\$11.1** million in EITC credits brought back to low-wage earners through Alameda County's EITC Coalition
- \$706,854** In Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funds invested into the community resulting in over **\$6.1 million** leveraged through AC-OCAP's Community Economic Opportunity Network

Source: 2017 American Community Survey, 2018 AC-OCAP Outcomes & Services Report

Myeisha & Drake were evicted from their last apartment when Myeisha lost her job after their son was born. The recent eviction significantly affected their credit, and as the family searched for housing, they became discouraged after multiple applications were denied. The family first moved into AC-OCAP-funded Family Emergency Shelter Coalition's (FESCO) Les Marquis House shelter, then to Banyan House transitional housing program. This allowed the family additional time to save money and pay off outstanding debt.

Although Myeisha was getting regular assignments through temporary agencies, her goal was to become gainfully employed. Myeisha's biggest hurdle in being hired permanently was not having a high school diploma. During the family's stay at Banyan House, Myeisha and Drake enrolled their son in childcare, which allowed Myeisha time to take GED classes and study. The family was also approved for the McKinney Linkages program which provides a security deposit and rental assistance for up to 12 months. With the assistance of FESCO's Housing Specialist, the family was connected to a landlord who had previously rented to FESCO alumni. The landlord approved the family after reviewing their application and having the housing specialist vouch for them and their achievements during their time at FESCO. Myeisha and Drake have settled in their home in Hayward with a new appreciation for what being housed really means.

Ms. Thomas is a senior who became homeless when she could not afford to pay a rent increase on her fixed monthly income of \$997. She had been sleeping on friends' couches or floors for a year before coming to AC-OCAP-funded St. Mary's Center in Oakland for emergency shelter in 2018. In the last year, she was also diagnosed with breast cancer. At St. Mary's Ms. Thomas participated in housing workshops and onsite nursing visits. Despite speaking little English, she was resilient when advocating for herself; she was able to use majority of St. Mary's services to support her healing and stabilization. She also thrived as an artist and which helped stabilize her and supported her health. Her application for senior housing was accepted and she moved into her own studio apartment in subsidized senior building in Oakland.

Luke applied to AC-OCAP-funded Hack the Hood's spring boot camp but was unable to enroll due to challenges in his personal life. Nonetheless, he remained connected to Hack the Hood and when the next program – Bay Area Tech Ladder (BATL)– began to accept applicants, he applied and was accepted. Upon graduating from BATL, Luke completed two internships concurrently. First, Luke was offered an internship at Youth Radio where he supported the instructors' team with small business recruitment, developing curriculum, and mentoring students. While he supported the team, he enrolled in an online Javascript courses through the partnership Hack the Hood has with TreeHouse. Second, Luke applied to and was accepted into an internship at Cruise where he focused on web development projects. Luke completed both internships and was offered an Instructor job at Hack the Hood to teach the Raspberry Pi class, for which he also created the curriculum. Upon completing his employment as Instructor, Luke applied to and was accepted into General Assembly's Web Development Certificate program, which he expects to graduate from in March, 2019. Upon graduating from General Assembly, Hack the Hood's team will help Luke apply to the Adobe Digital Academy internship that can lead to a full-time job at Adobe.

Jennae is a minor who is on probation who lives with her older cousin **Sierra** living in San Leandro. Sierra supports Jennae financially and emotionally, and is in the process of being approved as Jennae's foster home. However, Sierra struggling financially; she applied for CalWorks and was denied, so she turned to AC-OCAP-funded Bay Area Legal Aid for assistance. BayLegal advised Sierra and Jennae that a recent change in the law allows for interim funding for "emergency caregivers" at the basic foster care rate for three months. BayLegal worked with the juvenile probation department to ensure that Sierra would receive emergency caregiver benefits for that period. BayLegal also contacted the CalWORKs office to ensure that Sierra received non-needy CalWORKs while waiting for emergency funding, without any offset. Ultimately, Sierra received the full amount of emergency funding to support Jennae's care plus non-needy CalWORKs payments. Jennae and Sierra are both thriving.
