

NEWSLETTER

July 2026

Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana

Celebration Continues!



HELPING PEOPLE.
CHANGING LIVES.

SINCE 1966

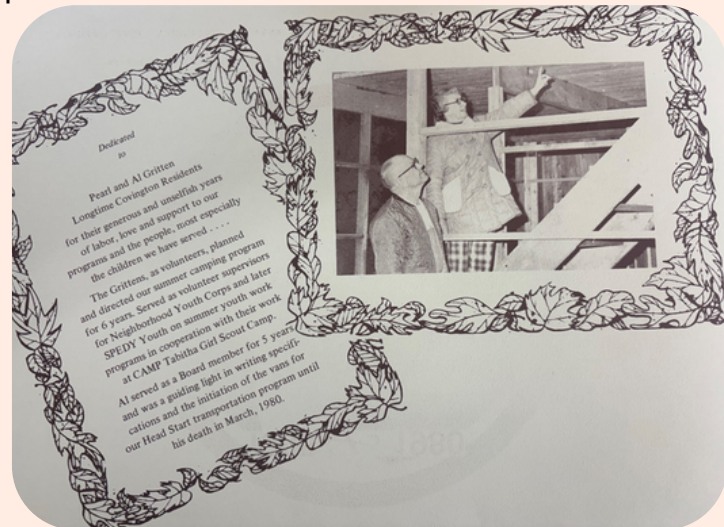
Quarterly Highlights

- CAPWI Celebrates 60th Anniversary
- Head Start & Early Head Start Enrollment Open
- Make a Difference as a Next Level Youth Mentor
- Community Action Month & Beyond



As we continue celebrating 60 years of CAPWI, we're taking a look back at one of our favorite summer programs—CAP Camp! Held for several years during the early 1970s, CAP Camp allowed local middle school students to enjoy a fun-filled summer of swimming, arts and crafts, team-building activities, and field trips. The camp is believed to have been held at Hanging Rock and was made possible through the dedication of Pearl and Al Gritten, who played key roles in planning and directing the program. While the photos we've preserved from CAP Camp may be faded with age, they clearly capture the joy, friendships, and unforgettable memories made by the children who attended.

CAP Camp also laid the foundation for future CAPWI youth initiatives, including the Neighborhood Youth Corps, which eventually evolved into our Employment and Training, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG), and Summer Youth programs. As we celebrate six decades of serving our communities, we're proud to reflect on programs like CAP Camp that helped shape the future of CAPWI and the lives of the young people we serve.



Head Start & Early Head Start Enrollment Open

CAPWI Head Start and Early Head Start are now enrolling for the 2026–2027 school year! Applications are accepted year-round, so that families can apply at any time.

Our highly qualified, trained, and caring staff provide high-quality early childhood education and family support services that help children and families learn, grow, and flourish.

Current openings include:



Head Start – Academic Year, Center-Based (Ages 3–5)

- Benton – (765) 385-0712
- Boone – (765) 535-7930 (Center is full – accepting applications for our waitlist)
- Fountain/Warren – (765) 793-0473
- Montgomery – (765) 362-3575
- Parke – (765) 569-3848
- Vermillion – North: (765) 492-7319 | South: (765) 205-4150

Head Start – Full Year, Center-Based with Before and After Care (Ages 3–5)

- Montgomery – (765) 362-3575

Early Head Start – Center-Based with Before and After Care (Ages 1–3)

- Montgomery – (765) 362-3575
- Parke – (765) 569-3848

Early Head Start – Home-Based (Prenatal to Age 3)

- Benton/Warren – (765) 385-0712
- Boone – (765) 535-7930
- Fountain/North Vermillion – (765) 793-0473
- Parke/South Vermillion – (765) 569-3848



To learn more or to apply, contact your local CAPWI Head Start office. We look forward to partnering with families to give children the best possible head start!

Make a Difference as a Next Level Youth Mentor

As CAPWI prepares for the second year of Next Level Youth Mentoring, we are looking for caring adults who want to encourage and support local students.

Since launching the program, our volunteer mentors have shared how much they enjoy the experience and the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with students. They especially appreciate the updated curriculum, which provides engaging activities and thoughtful conversations designed to help youth build confidence, strengthen social-emotional skills, and develop positive connections.

Mentors meet with a small group of three students for just 30 minutes once a week during the school day. CAPWI provides mentor training, along with the curriculum, activities, and materials needed to help volunteers feel prepared and successful in their role.

The program is currently offered through Covington Community School Corporation and Southeast Fountain School Corporation. The 2026-2027 school year will begin with a Kick-Off Event during the first few months of the school year, bringing mentors and students together to start the year with excitement and connection.

Whether you are a working professional, retiree, community member, or simply someone looking for a meaningful way to give back, mentoring provides an opportunity to positively influence a young person while creating a rewarding experience for yourself. You don't need special experience — just a willingness to listen, encourage, and be a positive role model.

If you've ever wanted to make a difference in the life of a child, now is the perfect time to get involved. Contact Elaina Dillon at (765) 793-4881 or esmith@capwi.org to learn more about becoming a volunteer mentor or to get started with the application process.





Community Action Month and Beyond

Each May, Community Action agencies across the country celebrate Community Action Month, a time to raise awareness about the programs and services that help individuals and families thrive. Throughout the month, CAPWI staff shared information about our programs, connected with community members, and highlighted the resources available throughout Western Indiana.

While May provides a special opportunity to celebrate the impact of Community Action, CAPWI's commitment to community outreach continues year-round. During the second quarter of 2026, staff participated in several community events focused on connecting families with resources and building partnerships.

CAPWI participated in the Child Abuse Awareness Fun Night Out in Crawfordsville, Safe Kids Day at the Boys & Girls Club in Crawfordsville, and the Vermillion County Community Resource Fair at the Vermillion County Fairgrounds. These events provided opportunities to share information, connect with families, and support the communities we serve.

Through Community Action Month and continued outreach efforts, CAPWI remains committed to strengthening communities and helping individuals and families access the resources they need to succeed.



Our Mission: CAP of Western Indiana empowers individuals and families toward self-sufficiency by addressing challenges through comprehensive services, support, and education.

Our Vision: CAP of Western Indiana believes in the value, dignity, and worth of all people, with the goal of helping people help themselves.

All services are provided without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, familial status, or status as a veteran.