

O.C.E.A.N., INC. 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

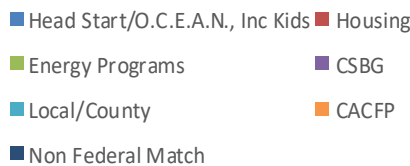


PERSPECTIVES OF EXCELLENCE

***MUTUAL BENEFICIAL OPPORTUNITIES
THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS***

2023 Annual Report

O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Funding and Impact Chart



HEAD START
Served 500 children & their families through the O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Head Start and EHS. 100% of the children received dental exams and 98% received medical exams

HOUSING
152 affordable rentals; 11 1st Time Homebuyer closings; 458 1st Time Counseling; 673 Avoided Eviction/Foreclosure; 2,019 Case Management

HOME ENERGY
Assisted 16,860 households

WEATHERIZATION
Assisted 133 households

Food Distribution
Assisted 5,897 households

FOR EVERY CSBG DOLLAR EXPENDED, THE ECONOMIC IMPACT REALIZED IS \$18.12

The CSBG network leveraged \$7.85 in non-federal funds for every \$1 of CSBG. Leveraging allows Community Action Agencies like Ocean Inc. to maximize their impact and provide more comprehensive programs and services.

In 2023, Community Action provided over \$770M in funding to produce an Economic impact in the communities and served over \$9M customers.

Teamwork is a critical aspect of business partnerships. Learning how to work with others and inspiring those around you to work as a team promotes healthy, lasting professional relationships. *“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Helen Keller*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anita Woolery	Chair
Glynis J. Wray	Vice Chair
Tracey Triniwell	Treasurer
Mary Guarin	Secretary
Dr. Henry Jackson	Member
Jennifer Barnes	Member
Marion Callazzo	Member
Ernest Coursey	Member
Shamaila Sheikh	Member
Stephen E. Smith, Esq.	Board Attorney

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Channell Wilkins	President/CEO
Harold Smith	Weatherization
Connie Fahim	Grants Officer/Pub. Relations
Beth Hudson	CFO
Sharonda Sheppard	Direct Services
Sherrie Huff	Human Resources
Meg Saunders	Head Start
Debra Lynn Keefer	Home Energy
Tammy Rivers-English	Property Manager



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Creating partnerships at Ocean Inc. provides more ways to get involved in the mission and offers attractive benefits to the agency

Throughout 2023, Ocean Inc. provided an overwhelming number of program activities that included collaborations with many partner organizations throughout Ocean, Atlantic and Cape May Counties. All agency outreach events were fully captured in publications, website, social media and email blasts.

Every New Jersey Community Action Agency has that one thing which makes them unique and separates them from the rest. For Ocean Inc., the biggest victory and success that warrants re-telling is our strong use of partnerships with many organizations including fellow CAA's in and out of our region. As the American Song-writer Carly Simon vocalized in the James Bond Theme Song, "Nobody does it Better." "Baby, We're the Best in Partnerships!"



*City of Atlantic City and Ocean Inc.
Credit Repair Collaboration*

Creating partnerships provides more ways to get involved in the mission and offers attractive benefits to the agency. Together we lean on the expertise of each other to brainstorm creative ways to elevate our programs. Teamwork is a critical aspect of business partnerships. Learning how to work with others and inspiring those around us to work as a team promotes healthy and lasting professional relationships.

All Ocean Inc. core programs including Housing Counseling, Home Energy, Weatherization, Head Start, Housing Assistance, Direct Services are continuously reviewed to ensure they meet the needs of the communities we serve and always include partnership organizations who weave in meaningful and customized experience to combine services directly to those who need it the most.

Subgrantee programs spanning from Cape Assist Substance Use Assistance in Cape May County, the Community Kitchen, Shower, Laundry Mobile Outreach, Shop with a Cop to the New Jersey Jobs for America's Graduates project in the Pinelands were accomplished through the use of community partners. Both Ocean Inc. and our partners increase the value of all programs by leveraging each other's strengths, resources and networks creating something unique and valuable for the residents. ♦

Lakewood Blueclaws Partnership

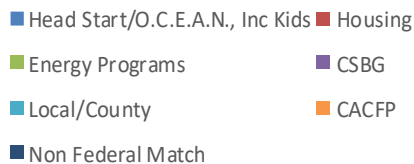


Ocean Inc. has partnered with Lakewood Blueclaws for over 15 years. During the past three years the agency has participated in the 'Medusas de Lakewood' Copa de la Diversion, or "Fun Cup," celebration showcasing the best of Hispanic/Latino culture and heritage at the Ballpark. ♦

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O.C.E.A.N., Inc. 2023 Agency Funding

Major Programs



HEAD START	\$ 5,295,445
HOUSING	\$ 3,100,062
ENERGY PROGRAMS	\$ 2,359,073
CSBG	\$ 1,936,096
LOCAL/COUNTY	\$ 288,348
CACFP	\$ 193,728
NON FEDERAL MATCH	\$ 3,078,848
TOTAL	\$ 16,251,600

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Weatherization Program provides services in Ocean, Atlantic, Cape may and Monmouth Counties, and the agency continues to assist first time homebuyers through the O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Housing Counseling Program including virtual community education seminars (budget/credit repair for First Time Homebuyers). Ocean Inc. has begun the construction of affordable homes in Tuckerton, NJ.

These and other programs were made possible through Federal, State, and local grants as well as grants and donations from private sources such as Causeway CAREs, United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, Lakewood BlueClaws, PNC Bank, Wells Fargo, M&T Bank, OceanFirst Foundation and many others.

The year ahead promises to be challenging and rewarding. ♦

Ocean Inc. and United Community Corporation (UCC) Weatherization Partnership in 2023

In 2023, Ocean Inc. and United Community Corporation (UCC) New Jersey Community Action Agencies collectively applied and were awarded funding through NJDCA to provide Weatherization Services in Ocean and a segment of Essex County.

Through this collaboration, both agencies provided Weatherization assistance, management and crisis intervention services to reduce the energy burden of income-eligible residents within their respective counties. The coordinated delivery of services achieved were two-fold. Firstly it provided cost-effectiveness and better outcomes by improving the safety & quality of more homes. Secondly, it increased the number of NJDCA Weatherization contractors.

As the lead agency, O.C.E.A.N., Inc. monitored the production and expenditures until 2024 during which time UCC was able to move forward independently. ♦

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2023 Ocean Inc. Shop with a Cop Partnership Program

O.C.E.A.N., Inc. provided the 4th Annual ‘Shop with a Cop’ event in Atlantic, Ocean and Cape May Counties. In total, the agency served 640 youth from disadvantaged families throughout the entire region.

Shop with a Cop is not just about taking the youth shopping, it was fun filled days for a number of kids during the holidays while creating a bond with local police officers. At all events, each child was allotted \$150 to shop for a special gift (s) for the holidays.



Throughout the shopping spree at Walmart, police officers were paired with each child, pre-scanned toys and calculated their assigned child’s order to ensure they are within \$150 before proceeding to the checkout. It was a very well-coordinated system in order to meet time constraints. Ocean Inc. staff also provided each participant (child) with a \$50 Shoprite Gift Card to bring home to their family to assist with food insecurities.

“This is an event that Ocean Inc. was able to put together that involves law enforcement at the highest level” said Channell Wilkins, Ocean Inc. President/CEO. “The Shop with a Cop Program is funded by Ocean Inc. through the NJDCA Community Services Block Grant.” The Program promotes social justice and positive police relationships for families as they gain the skills, knowledge and enhance their ability to engage within the community. ♦

Shop with a Cop Community Partnership with Lion Motion Productions

By partnering with local law enforcement and many other organizations, O.C.E.A.N. Inc. fostered a positive atmosphere, encouraging better relationships between the youth and



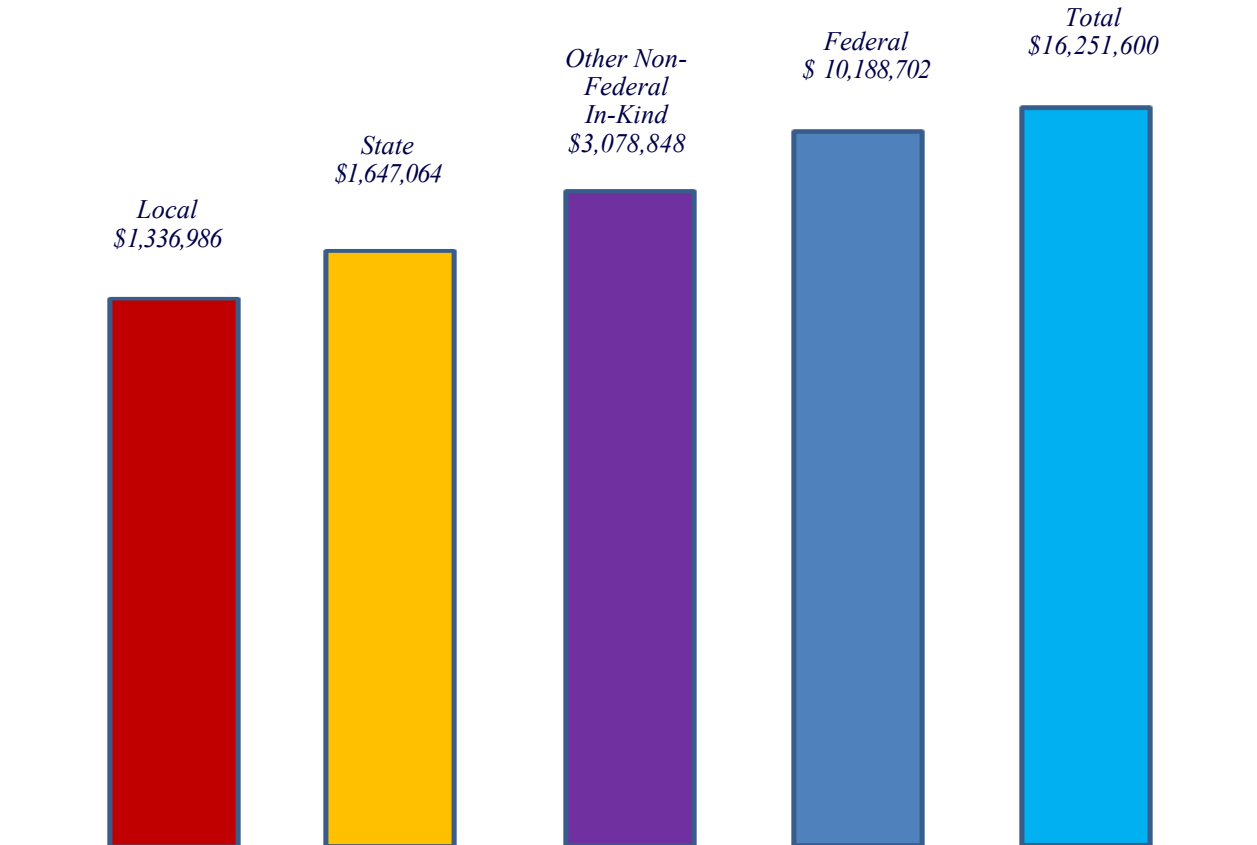
police officers, and spread cheer during the holiday season. In 2023, Ocean Inc. partnered with Lion Motion Production, a social enterprise of Ideal Institute of Technology.

Students at Ideal interviewed, and filmed the entire week of activities and ultimately edited the final version which can be found on the Ocean Inc. website at www.oceaninc.org. ♦

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Public and Private Funding in 2023

O.C.E.A.N., Inc. has provided services to those in need for 60 years. Currently, the agency raises funding through Federal, State and Local sources to support families in many communities. O.C.E.A.N., Inc. could not provide these high quality services without this support.



National Night Out Across the Nation

‘National Night Out’ increases awareness of community police programs and builds bridges between officers and those they serve and protect. Law enforcement departments and unions throughout many communities celebrated ‘National Night Out’ across the U.S. in 2023.

Many organizations including Ocean Inc. worked with law enforcement to provide outreach services. It was great to see so many people from the community come together for an amazing evening of fellowship, food and fun! Children of all ages interacted with local law enforcement as we built community partnerships! ♦



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1st Bergen Federal Credit Union Partnership

On May 9, 2019, Ocean Inc. opened the 1st Bergen Federal Credit Union at Ocean Inc. in partnership with Greater Bergen Community Action Agency.

The partnership is built on the foundation of cooperation and a distinguished focus on growing and improving both organizations through unique financial service programs.

Our partnership provides value to the members and are staffed by people who aspire to help members accomplish their financial goals. Collectively, we are making strategic decisions to remain relevant to current and future members. ♦



Rich History of Partnerships

Ocean Inc. Community Action Agency (CAA) is a local public non-profit organizations that carries out the Community Action Program (CAP), which was founded by the 1964 Economic Opportunity Act to fight poverty by empowering the poor as part of the War on Poverty.

Ocean Inc. promotes self-sufficiency, and depends heavily on partnership and volunteer work, especially from the low-income community. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is



one of Ocean Inc's' core federal funding. The agency also operates a variety of grants that come from federal, state and local sources including the Head Start program which focuses on early child development. Other programs administered by Ocean Inc. includes Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) utility grants and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) funded through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). ♦

President Johnson signing the EOA, August 1964

DIRECTORY OF O.C.E.A.N., INC. SERVICE LOCATIONS

Corporate Office

P.O. Box 1029
Toms River, NJ 08754
Tel: 732-244-5333
Fax: 732-349-4227

Home Energy/Weatherization

1256 Indian Head Plaza
Toms River, NJ 08733
Tel: 732-244-9041
Fax: 732-244-3962

Lakewood Office

144 John Street
Lakewood, NJ
Tel: 732-942-3405
Fax: 732-942-3409

Atlantic Home Energy Offices

Galloway Office
76 W Jimmy Leeds Rd
Galloway, NJ 08205
Tel: 609-677-6801
Fax: 609-677-6805

Atlantic City Office
200 N. Texas Ave
Atlantic City NJ 08401
Tel: 609-345-1359
Tel: 609-345-1365

O.C.E.A.N., Inc. Kids-Head Start Centers

Manchester

2950 Wilbur Avenue
Manchester, NJ 08733
Tel: (732) 657-8076
Fax: 732-657-2456

Brick Township

503 Adamston Road
Brick, NJ 08723
Tel: 732-477-1155
Fax: 732-477-6513

Toms River

1 N. College Drive
Toms River, NJ 08753
Tel: 732-864-1401
Fax: 732-864-1407

Delegate Agency

30 East Eighth Street
Lakewood, NJ 08701
Tel: 732-364-4333
Fax: 732-364-4236

Southern Administrative Office

200 N. Texas Avenue

Atlantic City, NJ 08401-4806
Phone: (609) 345-1359
Fax: (609) 345-1365

Direct Services - Ocean

40 Washington Street
Toms River, NJ 08753
Tel: 732-244-5333
Fax: 732-349-4227

Subrecipient Office Locations

PAL of Atlantic City

250 N. New York Ave
Atlantic city, NJ 08401
Tel: 609-347-5504

Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro

100 East Main St
Whitesboro, NJ 08252
Tel: 609-536-8352

Cape Assist

3819 New Jersey Ave
Wildwood, NJ 08260
Tel: 609-522-5960

Ideal Institute of Tech

1000 W. Washington Ave.
Pleasantville, NJ 08232
Tel: 609-318-8008

OCEAN TIDES

O.C.E.A.N., Inc.

P.O. Box 1029

Toms River, NJ 08754

732-244-5333 (Tel)

732-349-4227 (Fax)

Collaboration is a key part of Ocean Inc's culture. We selectively partner with like-minded organizations that place a premium on social programs. Our partnerships begin with careful listening and engagement to build a big-picture view of our customers' needs and understand their current challenges. We do more than offer programs; we build outcome-focused relationships.

Visit us on the Web
at
www.oceaninc.org