

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH & THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY



Community action has empowered individuals to voice their concerns, mobilize resources, and drive meaningful change at local, national, and global levels. It has led to the establishment of community centers, development projects, and support networks that have enriched lives and strengthened communities.

The influence of community action is evident through enhancements in living standards, heightened civic participation, strengthened social unity, and the development of resilient communities capable of surmounting obstacles and embracing change.

For 60 years, the nation's *Community Action Network* has inspired a spirit of hope, helped people change their lives, and improved communities. When national, state, Tribal, and local leaders tap into Community Action Agencies like us, they can promote workable solutions that connect more families to opportunity—and make America a better place to live for everyone.

THE HISTORY OF COMMUNITY ACTION

On January 8, 1964, **President Lyndon B. Johnson** called on Congress to do something never before done: set an aim not only to relieve the symptoms of poverty, but to cure it and, above all, to prevent it. Johnson acknowledged in his State of the Union Address that no single piece of legislation would suffice. With Johnson's declaration of a "War on Poverty" and the various pieces of legislation that came after, the administration and Congress acknowledged the complexities of poverty, and the intertwined nature of poverty with racial discrimination, and made a commitment to do better across a wide range of issues for all Americans.

On August 20, 1964, President Johnson signed the *Economic Opportunity Act (EOA)*. While the EOA was not the only anti-poverty legislation, it is often seen as the cornerstone of the War on Poverty. The EOA included several titles that created new programs, including Title II, which created Rural and Urban Community Action Programs. Other components of the EOA included programs such as Job Corps, Adult Basic Education, Neighborhood Youth Corps, Senior Community Services Employment, Upward Bound, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), and Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker.



HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDENS

GARDENING SEASON IS HERE!

Growing your own fruits and vegetables can be a rewarding pastime that provides healthy produce and reduces your grocery expenses. Yet, having sufficient space for a prosperous garden is crucial but not always feasible. Our collaboration with Hillsborough County for the Goffstown Community Gardens Program offers up to 50 garden plots annually to county residents, providing a solution for those lacking garden space.

A minimum of 75% of all gardening space are reserved for low-income applicants free of charge and the remaining plots will be made available to other interested community members for a donation of \$20. The growing season each year closes at the end of September.

There are a few remaining plots available. They are on a first come first serve basis. Don't wait too long if you want to establish your own garden. Each 25' x 25' plot allocated to participants is prepared with rototilling and staking, ready for you to plant your seedlings.

Complete the Community Gardens Application, [linked here](#). Once we receive your application a member of the Community Gardens Project will contact you.

For additional questions or assistance with your application, contact the Community Gardens Project at communitygardens@snhs.org or by phone at (603) 668-8010 ext. 6034



GET A HEAD START!

Enroll in the Head Start & Early Head Start program for this upcoming school year!

The **Head Start** and **Early Head Start** Programs cater to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, equipping them with the necessary skills and habits for success both in school and in their future endeavors. These programs work to build your connection to your child's development as well as providing a safe learning environment.

Head Start is a preschool program for children aged three to five. Classes meet daily Monday through Friday for 4-6 hours depending on location with extended day services available at some sites. Head Start has locations in Derry, Hillsborough, Manchester, Nashua, Raymond and Seabrook.

Early Head Start is a child development program designed for infants and toddlers with locations in Manchester and Nashua. Early Head Start Center Based Services are available for children aged six weeks to three years and are ideal for families who are working or attending school full time and in need of full-day, year-round care.



All interest applicants can click [here](#) to see eligibility requirements. You can also contact us headstart@snhs.org or by phone at (603) 668-8010 ext. 6098 for more information.

To begin the application process click [here](#). A staff member will contact you to complete the application process.