

*Urban Appalachian Council
2005 Annual Report*



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UAC, an equal opportunity employer and an equal provider of service, is supported by grants from the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, City of Cincinnati, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Ohio Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, Ohio State ABLE, the Commission on Religion in Appalachia, the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, AmeriCorps, TUPCF, and contributions from individuals, churches and foundations.

From the Executive Director

The Urban Appalachian Council, at the midpoint of this first decade of the 21st century, is looking ahead at both challenges and opportunities.

In the early 1970's, the majority of those we served were clustered in "port of entry" neighborhoods. Now, many of the urban Appalachian children and grandchildren of the first generation migrants have dispersed into second ring neighborhoods and the surrounding counties.

While education continues to be a central concern and focus of our work, in response to the needs of our community and to the requirements of today's workforce, we are aware of critical human service needs as the population ages and environmental and health concerns increase. In addition, we look to our cultural heritage as a source of strength and to our youth, families, and communities as the basis for our continued success.

UAC is an organization rooted in and responsive to the Appalachian community we serve. For this reason, we have focused our efforts in two primary areas: Community Education and Services and Community Development and Outreach. The following report gives some dimension to accomplishments in these areas over the past year.

Maureen Sullivan
UAC Executive Director

Community Education and Services

The Urban Appalachian Council provides community education and services every year to residents in a number of Cincinnati neighborhoods including Over-the-Rhine, East End, Camp Washington, Lower and East Price Hill, Northside, Sedamsville, Saylor Park, and South Fairmount. Services include emergency assistance, case management, client advocacy, life skills and parenting classes, wellness education, homework help, tutoring/GED, employment training, cultural education training, and help with holiday food and gifts. Nearly 2,000 individuals were served during 2005.

Project ACE

Through UAC's Project ACE (Americorps Community Education), six neighborhoods were provided with educational services for 851 residents. As a result:

- ◆ Of those who were pre and post tested on nationally standardized tests, 72% advanced one grade level in reading and/or math, 21% were able to reach high school level academic functioning in at least one area, and 78 individuals earned their GED certificate (High School Equivalency degree). Thirty-two of those GEDs were achieved at the East Price Hill center, operated directly by UAC.
- ◆ Employability Readiness Training was provided for 102 adults at East Price Hill. Seventy-seven percent of those who completed the training developed a career plan and took action to achieve it. Thirty-eight percent found employment.
- ◆ Environmental/Health education screenings and prescription assistance were provided to over 250 inner city residents.

Family and Youth Services

Through UAC's programs to strengthen families, parents and youth are developing increased skills in communicating, conflict resolution, life management and related skills. As a result:

- ◆ Eighty percent of parents involved in Parenting Education Sessions increased knowledge and skills; 60% documented positive changes in parenting behaviors.

- ◆ Three ten-week series on parenting/life skills and two new weekly groups for young mothers were provided.
- ◆ Five-hundred sixty-two individuals received client advocacy (short term service).
- ◆ Three-hundred forty-three received emergency assistance either directly from UAC or indirectly through referral to an appropriate service resource.
- ◆ Thirty-eight individuals received intensive case management services. Of those, 88% increased their ability to manage their life situations and solve problems.
- ◆ One-hundred twenty-four individuals participated in ten Life Skills series: 78% demonstrated increase knowledge/skills.
- ◆ One-hundred ninety-three service providers received training on Appalachian people and culture as well as successful service strategies.
- ◆ Forty-two youth were served in the Homework Help program. One-hundred percent of those pre- and post-tested increased their academic grade level functioning and were promoted to the next school grade.
- ◆ Twenty-five youth participated in weekly service and learning activities with UAC staff and Oyler Elementary School teachers.
- ◆ Two Life Skills series focused specifically on the challenges and opportunities of teenagers and successfully engaged active participation of 28 at risk teens.

Community Outreach and Development

Cultural Programs

Through UAC's Cultural Programs, arts residencies- both multi-cultural and multi-arts disciplines- were presented in inner city Appalachian neighborhoods. Additionally, a number of cultural events were presented in wider community venues to broaden the audience for, and appreciation of, Appalachian culture and arts.

- ◆ Four city-wide Appalachian Arts Events provided musical entertainment, story telling, square dancing, and humor for over 500 audience members.
- ◆ Twenty-seven artist-in-residence sessions in community locations engaged over 350 youth and adults in arts activities.
- ◆ Two multi-arts residencies (*If I Were a Song*) produced visual art and music by youth in two inner city neighborhoods.
- ◆ Over 350 people attended exhibits and performances by youth residency participants.

Environmental Leadership

The Lower Price Hill Environmental Leadership Coalition continued its work on peer education, leadership development, and environmental justice. ELG representatives met with the City Solicitor's office about Title X and around the clean-up of the Queen City Barrel site.

The Youth Environmental Project (YEP) continued the focus from last year on tobacco education and prevention. In addition to the posters and video ads, the seven youth involved created a mural in a local park and a book of essays on neighborhood issues ranging from the painting of the murals to the impact of industrial pollution. Two essays from the booklet are being considered for publication in a national anthology of youth writing.

In the fall, teens in the YEP produced "Our Lives, Our Streets," a video documentary on the problem of prostitution in the neighborhood. Teens from the group also worked as videographers and editors for the local Sierra Club's documentary "Faces and Voices on Environmental Justice".

Stories...

"Seven women provided leadership for community presentations of the Lower Price Hill Women's Health Survey results at St. Michael's Hall in late Spring 2005... Four of the women had experienced presenting to large groups, three had not. The presentation and all presenters were successful!"

"Julie, a 35 year-old mother of nine, was mandated to attend job readiness and GED programs. She dropped out of school in the 9th grade to become a full-time mom... she worked hard to learn all the necessary skills. Today she has her GED and has found and retained employment."

"...Americorps members, staff, and GED students were talking about some of the things missed by dropping out of school- like a graduation ceremony and a prom. Then and there, the group decided to organize a prom. They raised money for decorations and refreshments, selected a site, and even chose a queen and king. The final comment: A good time was had by all!"

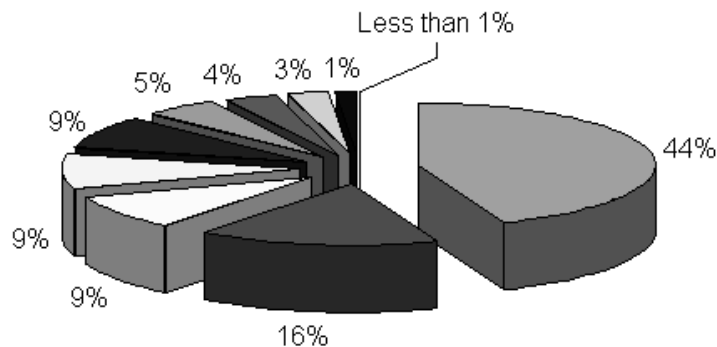
"Brittany had just started school. She couldn't write her name or recognize letters or numbers. She was also very shy. Working with her over the year, we saw her blossom into a more confident, capable student. Her Mom's comment: "Thanks to the Urban Appalachian Council, my daughter is now doing better with her education."

"Paige is 25 with a husband and two sons. When her husband was laid off, she sought emergency assistance and was also referred to the young mom's group. She learned parenting and life skills. She now does day care services in her home. In her family and business, she has used many techniques that she learned in the group."

"By watching these youth...have the strength to break through all of the obstacles placed in their path and triumph is truly inspirational." -Justin Backers, Americorps member

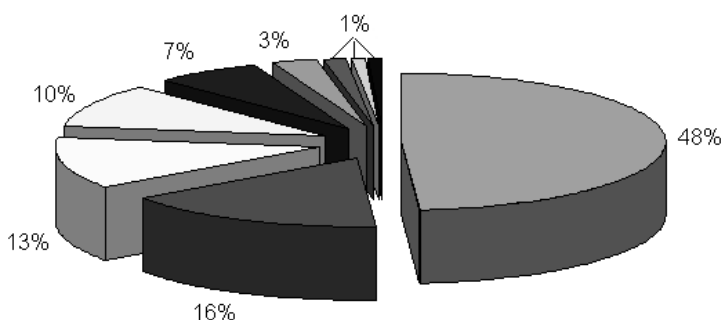
2005 Revenue

Government Fees/Grants	594,310	44%
Custodial Revenue	218,739	16%
United Way Allocation	123,174	9%
Foundations	119,364	9%
Miscellaneous	117,666	9%
Program Matching Contributions	67,819	5%
Program Fees	48,907	4%
Special Events	34,848	3%
Contributions	18,575	1%
Donated Services/Materials	1,130	<1%
Total	1,344,532	



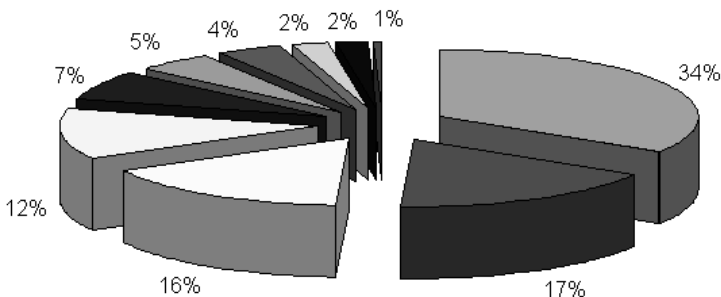
2005 Expenses

Salaries	654,604	48%
Custodial Expenses	217,557	16%
Payroll Taxes/Benefits	167,833	13%
Other Program Expenses	136,669	10%
Contract Fees	87,985	7%
Occupancy	37,590	3%
Supplies	18,501	1%
Assistance to Individuals	11,707	1%
Insurance	10,092	1%
Depreciation	-	-
Total	1,342,537	



Expenses by Program Area

Community Education	455,452	34%
Environmental Programs	226,749	17%
Community School Expenses	217,557	16%
Strengthening Families	162,317	12%
Management	97,191	7%
Cultural Programs	64,291	5%
Youth Development	56,049	4%
Fund Raising	30,376	2%
Capital Improvements	25,519	2%
Identity Center	7,037	1%
Total	1,342,537	



The Urban Appalachian Council (UAC) is a non-profit, social service organization that provides direct and advocacy services in communities of Cincinnati most heavily populated by Urban Appalachians.

The Urban Appalachian Council was incorporated in 1974 to "promote a decent quality of life for the Appalachian people of Greater Cincinnati."

UAC's programs focus on education, leadership development, family and human services, cultural celebration and access to employment and training.

Urban Appalachian Council

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