Partnering in Wabasha County

History
Three Rivers Community Action is a nonprofit human service organization incorporated in 1966. Created by community leaders to provide citizens and communities in southern Minnesota with anti-poverty strategies, the Three Rivers mission is "to work with community partners to address basic human needs of people in our service area, thereby improving the quality of life of the individual, family and community."

For over 50 years, Three Rivers has responded to the needs of the community and today operates over 40 programs in Wabasha County in the areas of Housing, Community Development, Early Childhood, Transportation, and Senior Services.

Wabasha Office
By Appointment Only
611 Broadway Avenue
Wabasha MN 55981
Phone: 507-316-0610

Hiawathaland Transit
Dispatch and Training Facility
55049 241st Ave
Plainview, MN 55964
Dispatch Phone: 866-623-7505
www.threeriverscap.org

Three Rivers works with community partners to provide warmth, transportation, food, housing, advocacy, and education to individuals and families across southeastern Minnesota.

Our offices are located in Zumbrota, Rochester, Wabasha, Faribault, Plainview, Northfield & Red Wing.

Housing Development

New Construction & Preservation - Working with community partners to plan and develop new affordable housing projects that meet local needs, and to rehabilitate existing rental and ownership housing stock.

Community Development Services

Homeless Assistance and Prevention Programs - Assistance and support to households experiencing or nearing homelessness.

Senior Advocacy and Caregiver Coaching - Classes and individual advocacy for seniors, their families and their caregivers to help seniors remain independent and in their own homes longer.

Home Delivered Meals - Meals delivered by volunteers to people over 60 or with a disability who are home bound and have difficulty preparing their own nutritious meals.

Energy Assistance Program - Helps pay home heating costs and provides emergency furnace repairs for income-qualified households.

Weatherization - Provides home energy upgrades to income-eligible owners and renters to save energy and improve health and safety in the home.

Homeownership - Classes, coaching and downpayment assistance to help households prepare for and succeed in their homeownership dreams.

Early Childhood

Head Start - Pre-school education focused on the growth and development of children and parents, and assisting families to achieve self-reliance.

Early Head Start - Home visiting program for children ages 0-3 and their parents, providing comprehensive child development and family services.

Transportation

Hiawathaland Public Transit - County-wide public bus service that provides dial-a-ride service throughout the county.

HART Volunteer Transportation Program - Volunteer drivers transport seniors, people with disabilities and residents who are unable to utilize public transportation.

Community Collaboration

Continuum of Care - Coordination of the 20-county regional planning group that coordinates services and facilitates the competitive mechanism by which federal funding is awarded to projects that serve the homeless.

Homeless Response Team - Coordination of inter-agency team to identify and address the needs of people experiencing homelessness in Wabasha County.
Results in Wabasha County

Housing Development
- Owned and operated 20 units of affordable multi-family housing in Plainview.

Community Development Services
- Prevented 5 households who were facing eviction from becoming homeless.
- Re-housed 4 households experiencing homelessness into affordable housing.
- Volunteers delivered 4,944 meals to residents in Wabasha and Mazeppa.
- Supported 112 seniors and their caregivers by providing information, resources, and service referrals.
- Provided 433 households with over $200,000 to help meet their energy needs.
- Hired local contractors to repair or replace 23 furnaces and 1 water heater, and to weatherize 5 energy inefficient homes.

Early Childhood
- Provided Head Start classroom education and family support services to 19 preschool students and their families in Wabasha.
- Supported 12 families with children ages 0-3 through Early head Start and have since received funding to expand the program.

Transportation
- Constructed new facility in Plainview to house transit staff including dispatchers, and provide space for staff training. Facility funded by MnDOT and FTA.
- Operated dial-a-ride bus service 6 days a week in Wabasha, Kellogg, and Lake City and weekdays throughout Wabasha County.
- Drove 68,996 miles in Elgin & Plainview, 41,217 miles in Lake City, and 30,794 miles in Wabasha serving a total of 56,418 passengers.
- Volunteer drivers provided 1,002 rides to Wabasha County residents.

People Served in Wabasha County, 2018
576 households served
- 33% at or below the poverty line
- 52% homeowners
- 46% renters
- $16,622 median annual income*
1,204 individuals
- 35% children
- 29% seniors
- 10% persons of color
- 9% Hispanic or Latinx
- 20% have a disability
- 90% have health insurance
*Of households reporting income source

Opening August 2019!
Hiawathaland Transit Facility
Plainview, MN

Three Rivers is nearing completion of a new facility for its Hiawathaland Transit program. Located in Plainview, the facility will house centralized dispatch and transportation operations for Wabasha, Goodhue and Rice counties. The new building is adjacent to the existing bus garage and small office, which has been housing operations in only 400 square feet of office space. The new building will provide 3,415 square feet of much needed office space for our transit dispatchers and program staff, as well as a large training space. The project was funded by the Minnesota Department of Transportation with Federal Transit Administration funds.

We recently housed a person that was long-term homeless. Over the last several years, this person has been in CD treatment, literally on the streets, or in various homeless shelters. After assisting the client to secure housing with the limited income that he receives from SSI, we were able to sign him up for other support services, including SNAP, to help stretch his income for paying for expenses, but also stabilize his household.