**BASIC NEEDS**
- 8,411 households, received LIHEAP Utility Assistance keeping homes livable. 421 families’ disconnected utilities were restored.
- 406 months of RENT & 107 DEPOSITS helped 302 families.
- 159 families received EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.
- SUMMER FOOD served 3,088 lunches to children.
- 26 customers went to college or trade school thanks to CSBG SCHOLARSHIPS /Economic Development funds.
- 85 Families received Additional Energy-related help thanks to Ameren & MidAmerican funding: water heaters/utility bills/minor repairs.
- 39 Families received Emergency FURNACE Repair/Replacement.

**TRANSITIONAL HOUSING** served 46 Families and 82 individuals with extensive case management & 13,161 nights of housing to help them end homelessness and achieve self-sufficiency. 51 other families received Supportive Housing Case Management.

25% of U.S. jobs pay below the poverty line of $24,230 for a family of 4.

**PROJECT NOW**
- Project NOW’s SOJOURNER HOUSE provides shelter for up to 7 single homeless women at one time. This beautiful home gives these women time to achieve their goals while they work closely with a Project NOW Case Worker. 16 women were housed at Sojourner House during the past year. Of the 10 women who exited the program, 100% secured safe, decent & affordable permanent housing. 7 women (100%) maintained sobriety after exit and 7 women (100%) maintained employment.

**SENIOR SERVICES**
- 91,119 units of service were provided to 2,885 seniors and disabled individuals.
- 19,034 meals served at 9 MEAL SITES helped seniors eat nutritiously & socially at sites in Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, Port Byron, Milan, Edgington/Reynolds & Aledo.
- 56,346 HOME DELIVERED MEALS helped 489 homebound seniors live independently.
- OUTREACH was provided to 840 HOMEBOUND SENIORS.
- INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE was given to 1,502 Seniors.
- 475 Seniors received FARMER’S MARKET COUPON booklets worth $9,975 to purchase fresh food at local Farmers’ Markets.

Over 90% of entitlement benefits go to elderly, disabled, or working households.

**HOMEBUYER & HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAMS**
- 9 Families purchased homes through our HOMEBUYER W/REHAB Program. Homebuyer Education, Counseling, Closing Costs, Down Payment assistance and Rehabilitation are all a part of this great service.
- Monthly HOMEBUYER SEMINARS educated 198 potential home buyers.
- 4 Families had their homes brought up to Housing Quality Standards thanks to SINGLE FAMILY OWNER OCCUPIED REHAB.
- 4 Families had essential upgrades to their homes through HOME MODIFICATION Program.
- 9 Families were able to stay in their homes thanks to major home repairs through the EMERGENCY REPAIR Program.

1 in 4 (25%) children under age 5 and 1 in 6 (16 %) seniors over age 65 in our 3 counties live in poverty.

**WEATHERIZATION** makes improvements to homes, increasing the home’s capacity to hold heat. Insulation, caulking, sealing and furnace repairs/replacement are the focus. 126 homes were weatherized, saving customers both energy and money.

90 AFFORDABLE HOUSING RENTALS housed 131 families in single family homes, duplexes, & multi family complexes in Rock Island, Moline, Viola, Keithsburg, New Boston and Kewanee.

Old Chicago Apartments, Rock Island, received a much-needed facelift this year.
HEAD START is designed to prepare children for Kindergarten! SCHOOL READINESS is accomplished through an Early Education and Comprehensive Family Support Program for very low income families with 3-5 year old children. Our Center-Based or Home-Based options provide: Education, Health, Disability, Mental Health, Transportation, Parent/Family Support and Volunteer Services.

ENROLLMENT
418 children from 383 families participated in Head Start. During the school year, average monthly enrollment was 352 or 99% of the 360 funded children.
88% of enrolled children were at or below the POVERTY LEVEL, 7 were homeless when they came to us and 11 were referred by child welfare.
9% of the children were able to achieve their potential through treatment of their diagnosed disabilities by community partners.
We were unable to serve 46 applicants which means that 90% of the eligible children that needed Head Start were served.
6% of the children spoke English as a second language.

CHILD HEALTH
100% of children enrolled had immunizations, medical and dental exams by year end, with 95% current on preventive health care.
98% of families had doctors & dentists when they left Head Start.

CALL to enroll TODAY!! You will be glad you did.

Poverty can impede children’s ability to learn and contribute to social, emotional, behavioral problems as well as poor health.

RESOURCES
575 VOLUNTEERS, including 299 Head Start fathers or father figures assisted our Head Start program.
Head Start’s 2014 Federal Review noted a need to enhance Annual Report data on school readiness, ensure children are screened within 45 days and receive necessary treatments within 90 days of start date. No deficiencies were noted.
Over $14,000 in local funding was received and $767,200 in donated Services (primarily through Family Engagement) and donated space.
The 2014-15 Head Start budget included $3.46 Million in public & private funding. The 2015-16 Budget is the same. Budget Items include: personnel, in-kind, cost allocation, occupancy, equipment, vehicles, nutrition/food, travel, supplies, parent services and other child costs.

RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
Project NOW provides RIM Rural Public Transportation in rural Rock Island and Mercer Counties to residents of all ages. CALL to SCHEDULE A RIDE TODAY!!!
1-800-788-6308
RIDE THE RIM!!
545 passengers received 7,757 rides this past year.
WWW.RIDETHERIM.ORG
Audited Financials for Year Ending 06/30/2015

Revenue

- Federal: $8,850,689
- State: $3,045,606
- Local: $88,272
- Project Income, Donations & Other: $785,058
- In-kind: $227,422
- Total Revenue: $12,997,057

Expenses

- Utility Assistance: $5,104,907
- Head Start: $2,977,359
- Senior Services: $922,197
- Outreach: $795,502
- Weatherization: $736,452
- Housing-Homebuyer/Home Rehab: $734,200
- Homeless Services & Transitional Housing: $593,556
- Rural Public "RIM" & Senior Transportation: $564,413
- Property Rentals & Unrestricted Activities: $454,851
- Total Expenses: $12,886,439

Project NOW's 2015 Audit expressed an Unmodified Opinion.

From the Executive Director

The Project NOW Board of Directors and Staff thank you for taking a minute to reflect upon poverty. As you reflect, please note that the state of Illinois has stopped payment to us and critical services are seriously affected.

For instance, Home-Delivered Meals to the most vulnerable Homebound seniors is 70% state funded and is highly dependent on state funding. LIHEAP Utility Assistance is operating on only Federal funds (40% of our last year funding) and is expected to run dry during the cold month of December; Weatherization, Rental Assistance and other critical Homeless Assistance, Senior Transportation and Home Rehabilitation State funding has come to a complete halt.

As you read this report, it is our hope that you will reflect upon poverty, the people and the politics. It has somehow become acceptable to place judgement on those in poverty, when the bottom line is, they are broke and need help. And help is being seriously hindered right now.

Thank you for your interest.

Maureen “Mo” Hart,
Executive Director

2015 Family of Distinction

When Keonna interviewed for Project NOW's Transitional Housing, she was enthusiastic about her goals to become a Certified Nursing Assistant, enroll her children in day care and find permanent housing. Keonna entered Transitional Housing in July, 2014. She started her CNA classes at Scott Community College in August and completed her classes and clinical a month later. She quickly found fulltime employment and enrolled her children in day care. Keonna found permanent housing with the Rock Island Housing Authority and she successfully exited from Transitional Housing in January, 2015. When she entered our program, Keonna was unemployed. Now, she has a career as a CNA (the type of work she enjoys), has enrolled her children in day care, and is living in permanent affordable housing. Keonna accomplished everything she set out to do in 6 short months! Congratulations Keonna!

The maximum federal benefit for SSI (seniors, children & disabled adults) is $721/month, < 75% of the poverty line.