St Louis County Services

Mission:
AEOA’s mission is to strengthen communities by providing opportunities for people experiencing social and economic challenges. AEOA provides services to community members through five major departments including Employment and Training, Head Start, Housing, Senior Services, and Arrowhead Transit. Not all departments operate programs in every county within AEOA’s service area.

Key staff and board members:

Executive Director: Paul Carlson

Department Directors: Julie Greenly (Employment & Training); Jim Glancy (Fiscal Services); Skip Ferris (Head Start); Cathy Pazzelli (Human Resources); Scott Zahorik (Housing Services and Assistant Executive Director); Beth Peterson (Planning); Marilyn Ocepek (Senior Services); Jack Larson (Arrowhead Transit).

AEOA Board: The Agency is governed by a 27-member board, representing an equal cross-section of low-income individuals, public officials, and private sector parties. Currently, there are fourteen (14) St. Louis County representatives.

Number of staff members: Three hundred sixty-four (364) employees work in St. Louis County

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(218) 749-2912, 800-662-5711; http://www.aeoa.org

In St. Louis County, AEOA served...

- Adult Basic Education provided service to 442 St. Louis County residents. This could include basic skills improvement, GED preparation, college and career readiness, employment skills, digital literacy, life skills, and English language learning.
- Last year, approximately 808 people who were low-income, on public assistance, or were dislocated workers were assisted with employment- and/or education-related needs.
- Senior Employment Programs provided 12 individuals with an opportunity to build a pathway into employment for our low-income, older citizens, ages 55 and older. Entering the workforce, they learn and apply new skills while earning a paycheck.
- Head Start provided child development and comprehensive support to 345 low-income children ages birth to five and their families.
- Housing Services assisted 489 individuals who were homeless in the past year.
- Housing Rehabilitation was performed on a total of 44 homes to improve the safety, livability, energy efficiency, and accessibility of the home. Another 23 homeowners were provided emergency home repair assistance and four (4) households were provided sub-surface sewage treatment system improvements to come into County compliance.
• Housing Services assisted 135 homes in the City of Virginia Forced Steam Conversion program.
• AEOA’s Energy Assistance Program provided support to 7,438 households, including 3,079 crisis situations; and 361 energy-related repairs were provided.
• Weatherization services were provided to 68 homes in St Louis County.
• The Business Energy Retrofit program assisted 57 community business owners in achieving energy related improvements.
• The Downtown Building Rehabilitation program assisted eight (8) community business owners in achieving code & accessibility related improvements.
• Arrowhead RSVP had 752 volunteers who donated almost 81,831 hours, serving 94 St. Louis County non-profits, running the gamut from helping seniors to remain living at home to managing tourist attractions and small non-profits.
• Senior Nutrition provided 177,803 nutritious meals to seniors, roughly averaging 706 meals per day. Of those meals, 95,310 were delivered to older people who are homebound.
• The Food Shelf served 6,747 individuals, providing over 904,198 pounds of food over 17,116 visits in calendar year 2018.
• RSVP Bone Builders had 12 locations in St. Louis County, with eight (8) volunteers giving 626 service hours leading classes with 314 participants.
• AARP Tax Aid Program in St. Louis County had 27 volunteers who gave 2,234 service hours to prepare taxes at no cost to lower-income residents and senior citizens.
• Arrowhead Transit provided 177,443 rides to St. Louis County passengers, totaling 671,707 miles.
• Rural Rides provided 34,921 work-related rides to obtain or maintain employment.
• The Volunteer Driver Program had 146 volunteers and provided 31,613 rides.

AEOA is committed to continuing our strong partnership with St. Louis County. We are proud of the work we do to help struggling households meet their basic needs met; homebound seniors live in their own homes; people find work and have the transportation to get there and making sure that low-income children are prepared to enter kindergarten. We currently have 364 people working in St. Louis County who contribute to the local economy and are very dedicated to the services they provide.