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Straight from the Corner Office (Literally)

It's an honor to share our continued mission and progress with you. At Cornerstone, Community in Action means standing beside our neighbors as they work toward stability, dignity, and opportunity. We believe in empowering people, changing lives, and supporting their journey to self-sufficiency, not just in moments of crisis, but through long-term, sustainable growth...

This year, we celebrate meaningful wins. We proudly opened the William B. Travis Resource Center in Weatherford, expanding our ability to connect families with vital resources right where they are. We also completed a clean financial audit, demonstrating transparency and responsible stewardship, with an outstanding 91.4% of funds directly supporting the people we serve. This is more than a number; it is a reflection of our priorities and our heart.

Most importantly, our dedicated employees show up every day with compassion and integrity. They believe deeply in our mission and uphold our values as they serve individuals, families, and communities across our region. Together, we are building pathways to brighter futures, one life at a time.

Thank you for supporting this mission and standing with us as we continue to create lasting, positive changes.

*Hanna Adams*Executive Director



From Schoolhouse to Powerhouse: The Travis Campus Transformation

Some people flip houses. We flip entire campuses. After years of planning, permits, and enough meetings to qualify as a part-time job, Cornerstone Community Action Agency proudly unveiled the newly renamed **William B. Travis Resource Center** in Weatherford.

Guests toured sparkling new offices and our Head Start and Early Head Start classrooms. The reactions were priceless, a mix of "Wow, this is beautiful" and "Are you sure this is the same building?" (It is, we checked.)



William B. Travis Resource Center Ribbon Cutting, September 12, 2025.

Plans to transform the old gym into a full-scale

Training Center continue to move forward, but like most great projects, there's still **planning** and **funding** to fine-tune before we break out the confetti. The good news is that progress is rolling, CCAA recently received funding from the Office of Head Start to begin renovating the campus kitchen, which will soon help provide thousands of nutritious meals each year.

From classrooms to community resources, there's no shortage of exciting work underway to make the William B. Travis Resource Center a true cornerstone of hope and opportunity for families in Parker County.

Every nail, brushstroke, and blueprint has been worth it. The William B. Travis Resource Center is proof that great things happen when vision meets a very determined to-do list.



Head Start: Tiny Humans, Big Futures

2025 marks 60 years of the Head Start
Program. Each year, Head Start serves nearly
750,000 children and families nationwide.
Locally, Cornerstone Community Action Agency
(CCAA) in 2024 served 1,370 Head Start and
Early Head Start students and family
members across Jack, Palo Pinto, Parker, and
Wise counties. During that same timeframe,
we provided 140,473 nutritious meals.

Early learning through our Head Start programs sparks curiosity and builds confidence by the time children enroll in public school. Research shows that children who attend Head Start score higher in reading and math, are more likely to graduate high school, and are less likely to repeat a grade compared



Head Start Class in Decatur TX on Mulberry

to children from similar low-income backgrounds who did not attend any early learning program. They also show stronger social-emotional skills, the kind that help them make friends, handle challenges, and maybe even share their crayons without a meltdown.

As you may know, CCAA completed the renovation at our Weatherford campus, adding new Head Start classrooms to serve Parker County. What you might not know is that we've also secured funding to renovate the original Head Start location in **Mineral Wells** for Palo Pinto County. Once complete, CCAA will move our Head Start operations to the campus on Garrett Morris, expected in 2026.

Did You Know?

According to the National Head Start Association, every dollar invested in Head Start returns between \$7 and \$9 to society through higher earnings, better health, and reduced reliance on public assistance.



Veteran Services: Serving Those Who Served (and Then Some)

Cornerstone Community Action Agency is proud to announce that on September 9, 2025, we received \$350,000 in funding from the Texas Veterans Commission to continue supporting our General Assistance Program.

This funding helps us provide direct assistance to Veterans, Surviving Spouses, and Dependents of Veterans across the communities we serve.

Through this program, eligible households may qualify for:

- Rental assistance
- Mortgage assistance
- Utility assistance
- Minor dental work
- Transportation assistance (fuel, bus passes, and minor car repair)

To learn more or apply, visit www.cornerstonecaa.org

- Referral assistance
- And So Much More!



Our service men and women handled defending freedom, so we'll handle the occasional help with rent, the lights, and maybe even the dentist. It's our way of saying thank you, with fewer push-ups and a lot more heart.



Executive Director Hanna Adams and Community
Service Director Shenika Arredondo



Get in on the Action, it's a Busy Corner

We've shared our stories, now it's your turn.

If you or someone you know has been part of our Head Start or Early Head Start program, tell us how it made a difference in your life. Maybe it was a teacher who believed in your little one, or maybe it was finally learning how to get glue out of hair without panic. We want to hear it all. Your stories remind us why this work matters and help us inspire others to get involved.

Share your story at www.cornerstonecaa.org/head-start

Feeling inspired and ready to do something about it? Join our volunteer team. We have opportunities that fit every schedule and skill set. You can sort donations, help at events, or lend your expertise to programs that change lives. Volunteers don't need a cape, just a good heart and maybe a little caffeine.

Sign up to volunteer at <u>www.cornerstonecaa.org/volunteerportal</u>

And if your idea of volunteering is cheering from the sidelines, that works too. You can support all of our programs by making a donation. Every dollar helps keep families housed, classrooms open, and hope moving forward right here at home.

Click the **Donate** Button at <u>www.cornerstonecaa.org</u>

Because around here, every helping hand, every story, and every gift makes our corner of the world a little brighter, and a lot more fun to be part of.

Did You Know?

Over the last 3 years, **6,044 pounds** of venison has been donated to local food banks/pantries feeding **1,250 families** through Cornerstone's **Hunters for the Hungry** program?



Where Can I Find Cornerstone?



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