

# ANNUAL REPORT

2024



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**COPE**  
Christian Outreach  
Program – Elkhorn

# OUR MISSION

## COPE IS COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

The Christian Outreach Program – Elkhorn (COPE) is a non-evangelical, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization made up of eleven Christian churches in western Douglas County. Our mission is to help families stay in their homes and keep food on the table.

Our services include resource referrals, utility assistance, and educational workshops in addition to monthly shopping for food, clothing, household items, diapers, and personal care products at our outreach center.

Through the generous support of our community, COPE is able to provide short and long term services to our neighbors in need. The strong commitment of our staff and board to serve allows us to remain a steadfast presence in our community.



## A note from our Executive Director



Everyone has a story. For many of the neighbors we meet at COPE, their story has reached a chapter filled with uncertainty and hardship. We encounter them at a moment when things aren't going well — when displacement, disaster, or financial struggles have disrupted their lives.

Our work begins by listening, understanding, and identifying the specific needs of our unique community. By doing so, we can provide meaningful support that helps people move forward with dignity.

We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of support we received in 2024 as we navigated the aftermath of the tornado. That generosity helped our community begin to recover and rebuild. As we look ahead, we remain committed to our goal of growing into a comprehensive housing stability program serving western Douglas County. In 2025, we invite you to walk alongside us — together, we can create a stronger, more resilient community where everyone's story includes hope and opportunity.

*Nancy Lary* Executive Director

# OUR IMPACT

In 2024, the COPE outreach center served 725 families, with an average of 4 outreach encounters per family.

5,319  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

111,776  
POUNDS  
DONATED

307  
FAMILIES FOR  
CHRISTMAS

\$655,454  
ERA FUNDS  
DISTRIBUTED

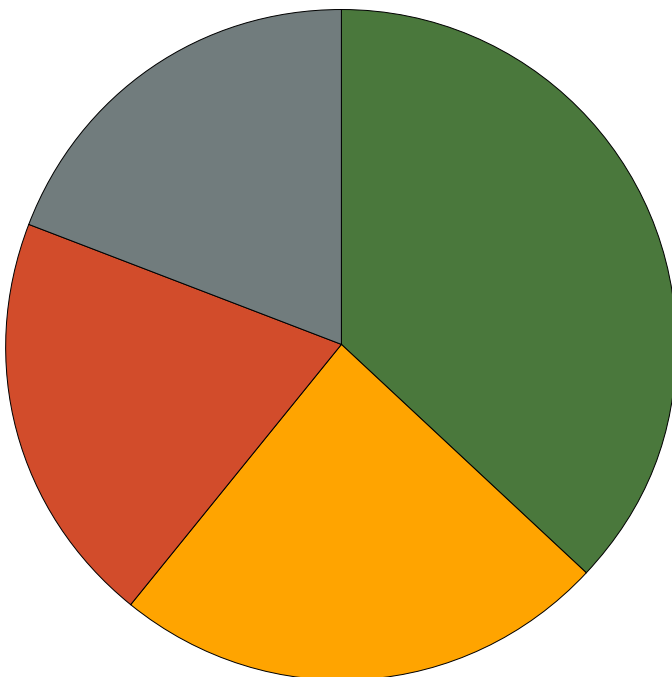
\$19,933  
UTILITY  
ASSISTANCE

73  
FAMILIES RECEIVED  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE

## 2024 FUNDS

COPE strives to run an efficient agency while allowing room to stretch and grow to meet community needs.

Individual Business Church Grants



Monthly operating costs:  
**\$24,123.07**

\*Rent, utilities, payroll, and administrative costs, a portion of which is related to and covered by the ERA Program.

Monetary Donations 2024

**\$528,126**

Individual	\$197,425
Business	\$124,863
Church	\$103,887
Grants	\$101,950

*Includes \$128,650.47 restricted to disaster relief funds*

# OUR STORY

**Our staff is committed to serving those in need in western Douglas County:**

**NANCY LARY**

Executive Director

**COURTNEY NEWMAN**

Planning Director

**SHELLEY GLEASON**

Warehouse Director

**SUE JOHNSON**

Outreach Service Coordinator

**PANASHE JACHA**

Housing Stability Case Manager

**EBONY HUTCHINSON**

Disaster Case Manager

**STEPHANIE DILLMAN**

Administrative Assistant

## We are here for our community, every step of the way

The April 26, 2024 tornadoes affected many of our neighbors. We're walking with families as they recover. Much progress has been made, but there is still a lot of work to do. Our steadfast presence in the community allows us to help neighbors, as it is a long process. COPE has been and will be, here to provide disaster recovery assistance alongside our community partners.



Through the federal Emergency Rent & Utility Assistance Program (ERA), COPE assisted 364 households for an average of \$1800 per household. As these funds are fully expended in 2025, COPE will continue to move toward the establishment of a comprehensive housing stability program.

## What our clients have to say

“

When we have been at our lowest, COPE has always been there for us spiritually and physically.

”

“

This program has greatly impacted our lives especially in the most difficult times. I am so grateful for COPE.

”

# OUR GOALS

## WE WILL STRIVE TO LEARN HOW WE CAN EMPOWER OUR NEIGHBORS TO REACH THE GOALS THEY HAVE FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

We help families stay in their homes and keep food on the table by providing financial assistance, caring concern, educational assistance, and referrals when needed most. We know that our western Douglas County community has different needs for programs and services than other areas. We're dedicated to understanding those differences and tailoring services to those needs.

## WE WILL LAUNCH A COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING STABILITY PROGRAM IN 2025.

COPE has been administering federal funds for rent and utility assistance. Having these funds to provide financial assistance has given us the opportunity to learn about ways we can help our neighbors address the issues that make it difficult to pay their bills. We will raise funds for and launch a comprehensive housing stability program that will include case management, resource management facilitation, job fairs, and educational workshops.

### ✓ FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

2025

- case management
- resource network
- service advisory board
- utility assistance program
- agency and job fair
- credit counseling with CAF
- career certification with MCC
- job assistance with HWS

### ✓ FOR OUR ORGANIZATION

- volunteer guild
- building improvements
- community awareness
- funding opportunities
- development events
- staff enrichment
- continued outreach and seasonal programs

## Your generous support of COPE helps make a difference

### DONATE

Monetary donations help us provide services. Donating clothing, food, and other items for our outreach center supports families right here in our community.

### VOLUNTEER

COPE is a volunteer-run organization. With your help, COPE is able to assist families, distribute food and household supplies, and provide clothing to those in need.

### SUPPORT

COPE has a strong corps of supporters who help out in many ways. Join us by signing up online, and we'll reach out with opportunities to get involved.



# ABOUT US

## THE VISION OF COPE IS TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN WESTERN DOUGLAS COUNTY.

COPE helps our neighbors maintain their dignity during difficult times by providing support services. Our service area consists of the following western Douglas County zip codes: 68007, 68022, 68064, 68069, 68116, 68118, 68130, 68135. Neighbors can visit our outreach center for monthly food, personal care, diapers, and clothing shopping. Case management services are regularly available on a walk-in or appointment basis. We strive to understand the needs of our community and offer programs that will meet those needs.

COPE provides hope to our neighbors in need, regardless of religious, cultural, or ethnic beliefs, while maintaining the confidentiality and dignity of those who are served.



**WE PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT**



**WE HAVE BEEN SERVING WESTERN DOUGLAS COUNTY FOR OVER 20 YEARS**



**OUR BOARD CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUR PARTNER CHURCHES, AS WELL AS COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH A PASSION FOR SERVICE**



LET'S CONNECT



### OUTREACH CENTER HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday  
10:00am - 2:00 pm



402-616-2330



20601 Elkhorn Drive | PO Box 177  
Elkhorn NE 68022



[copeinfo.org](http://copeinfo.org)



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