

## about the organization

Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc. is a non-profit Community Action Agency established in 1965. Our mission is to help low-income people in Bucks County achieve and maintain economic self-sufficiency. We provide a broad range of self-sufficiency, emergency and preventative, free tax preparation, financial literacy and asset development, food assistance and weatherization services. Our services are based on the principle that empowering people with the education, training, resources and skills necessary to permanently leave poverty is far more beneficial than helping them cope in poverty. We work closely with human services organizations, faith-based organizations and others to address local needs and issues affecting low-income individuals and families.

What clients say about the  
Bucks County Opportunity Council:

*"Supportive and non-judgmental"*

*"They treat me like a person, not a number"*

*"They genuinely want me to do well"*

*"Excellent support and constant communication"*

*"I have a support system"*

*"They help all races, religions and cultures"*

*"I'm not on this journey alone"*

*"You have changed my life"*

*"I couldn't have done it without you"*

For assistance or more information,  
contact one of our service offices.

### **Upper Bucks County**

347 New Street, Room 108  
Quakertown, PA 18951  
Phone: 215-536-0353

### **Central Bucks County**

Neshaminy Manor Center  
1282 Almshouse Road  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
Phone: 215-345-3295

### **Lower Bucks County**

1230 Veterans Highway, Suite F-1  
Bristol, PA 19007  
Phone: 215-781-2661

### **Weatherization Program**

Phone: 1-866-375-3280 or 215-529-1663

Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc. is committed to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, national origin, handicap or disabilities.

Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc. is thankful for financial support from the County of Bucks, Bucks County Commissioners, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Department of Agriculture, Department of Public Welfare, United Way of Bucks County, and hundreds of businesses and individuals throughout the community.



## Bucks County Opportunity Council

Providing people in poverty with  
an opportunity to succeed.

100 Doyle Street  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
Ph: (215) 345-8175

## economic self-sufficiency

Empowering motivated, hard-working people with the education, training, resources and skills



necessary to achieve and maintain permanent economic self-sufficiency is the cornerstone of our service provision. Participants who

qualify for our self-sufficiency program work with our skilled case management team to surpass the following self-sufficiency benchmarks in five years or less:

- Free of all housing, food and cash welfare subsidies.
- Employment that pays a livable wage
- Health insurance for the entire family
- Safe affordable housing
- Balanced budget
- Checking and savings accounts
- Safe reliable transportation
- Reciprocity through community involvement and volunteerism.
- Relationships with supportive, resourceful individuals and organizations

182 families in Bucks County have exceeded the above benchmarks and graduated from the program. Fifty graduates are homeowners.

**“They treat me like a person, not a number”**  
~Economic Self-Sufficiency Program participant

**“The Bucks County Opportunity Council took me from a place where I felt helpless and alone to a place where I feel proud and empowered.”**  
~Economic Self-Sufficiency Program participant

## food assistance

We provide food to low-income individuals and families in need through an extensive network of thirty-one food providers located throughout Bucks County.

## emergency & preventative

Our emergency and preventative assistance helps low-income individuals and families achieve and maintain their independence. Eligibility for assistance in the following categories is determined by income on a case-by-case basis in accordance with program guidelines:

- Rental - move-in, eviction prevention
- Utility - electric, water, sewer, gas, other

Whenever possible, families and individuals are asked to contribute a co-payment. Families and



individuals seeking assistance with move-in expenses or eviction prevention should contact us with as much advance notice as possible.

## free tax preparation

Free tax preparation service for moderate and low-income people. BUCK\$ BACK allows filers to avoid loans and preparation fees and helps them develop an asset base and strong saving habits.

## financial literacy & asset development

Financial education and asset development services help moderate and low-income people develop and acquire knowledge and financial resources to prevent and overcome crisis. Our matched savings and financial literacy programs help moderate and low-income families



to responsibly save toward specific professional, educational and personal goals.

## weatherization

Weatherization is a home energy conservation service for low-income homeowners and renters that can reduce annual energy costs by 15-25% and increases safety, comfort and value.