

Empowering Communities and Combating Poverty: Insights from  
Honorary Larry S. Nelson, CAC Board Member



communityactioncoalition

## BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

# HON. LARRY NELSON



In the heart of Waukesha County, a dedicated advocate and community leader, Larry S. Nelson, shines as a beacon of hope for the Community Action Coalition (CAC). With over a decade of service as a Waukesha County Supervisor, Nelson brings a wealth of expertise and a passion for positive change to the organization's board of directors. As Chair of the NACo Arts and Culture Commission and Vice Chair of the NACo Community, Economic, and Workforce Development Steering Committee, his influence extends beyond regional boundaries.

Nelson's journey from a retired middle school English teacher to a key figure in community governance reflects his commitment to uplifting others. Having served as City of Waukesha Alderman and Mayor, Nelson has a track record of transformative leadership. Joined by his wife, Dawn Borowski, Nelson's humility and collaborative spirit have paved the way for his 21 years of elected service.

For nearly eight years, Nelson has lent his voice and expertise to the CAC board, driven by a deep belief in the organization's mission to end poverty. He emphasizes the pivotal role the board plays in crafting policies and supporting staff to drive the organization's growth. A core aspect of their strategy involves fostering stronger connections with CAC's dedicated employees, ensuring that their initiatives resonate with the community they serve.

Among CAC's impactful initiatives, Nelson highlights the innovative HUB model tackling food insecurity and the heartwarming Winter Glow events. CAC's collaborative approach, serving as a nexus for addressing housing insecurity and homelessness, underscores its commitment to making a lasting difference. Through partnerships with other organizations, CAC amplifies its impact, creating a safety net for those in need.

Nelson underscores the board's dedication to inclusivity, with a balanced structure representing the public sector, private sector, and lived experience. This diverse composition empowers the board to approach poverty alleviation from multiple perspectives. Nelson's optimism shines as he discusses the organization's trajectory, buoyed by successful events like the Waukesha Open House and the Rise Up Summit. These platforms showcase how CAC positively influences the three counties it serves.

As the community evolves, Nelson encourages younger professionals to step up and contribute their fresh perspectives to the cause. He envisions a great community leader as someone who listens, collaborates, and continuously seeks innovative solutions. With leaders like Larry S. Nelson at its helm, the Community Action Coalition remains unwavering in its mission to foster thriving communities and eradicate poverty from the root.