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**NYSCAA  
NEWSLETTER  
August 2015**

## Training Opportunities

NYSCAA's staff has a remarkable depth and breadth of knowledge and has developed a wide range of training and technical assistance services for Community Action Agency staff, Board members and the public.

Below are some training topics which you might be interested in for your next staff day or community education event.

Contact us for information on any of these opportunities or if you are interested in developing a special program for your agency.

- \* Advocacy 101
- \* Cloud Computing

Hello-

It doesn't seem possible that another year has passed and the National Community Action Partnership's Annual Convention is nearly here. This year we are proud to be celebrating twelve new Certified Community Action Professionals (CCAPs) from New York State. Now is the time to start thinking about next year. In fact, if you are going to the Convention in San Francisco next week, you can schedule a time to meet with someone from the CCAP Commission and discuss the process. You can make an appointment at the registration desk to meet with Charles McCann but sign up early, as availability is limited and it's first come, first served. There will also be a valuable CCAP Orientation on Tuesday afternoon from 2:30 - 3:30 in Salon 3 and a CCAP Affinity Group Session on Thursday from 3:45 - 4:45 in Salon 2. If you are even considering CCAP, this will be time well spent.

To learn more about the CCAP process, visit the Community Action Partnership's [website](#) or talk to one of the many CCAPs in New York.

- \* Understanding the Community Needs Assessment Process
- \* Connecting the Dots: Community Needs Assessment, Strategic Plan and Work Plan
- \* Creating & Maintaining Effective Community Partnerships
- \* Dealing With Difficult Situations
- \* Disaster Preparedness
- \* Domestic Violence
- \* Food Security 101
- \* History of Community Action
- \* Introduction to ROMA
- \* Making the Most of Free Media
- \* Management and Supervision in a ROMA Environment
- \* Many Avenues to Poverty
- \* Organizational Standards
- \* Poverty 101
- \* Poverty Simulation
- \* ROMA for Board Members
- \* Social Media Etiquette
- \* Storytelling
- \* Technologies Your Agency Should be Using
- \* Technology Trends
- \* Theories of Change
- \* Trauma Informed Service Delivery in Community Action
- \* Understanding Strategic Planning



Having CCAPs at your agency provides an edge when competing for funds, improves the professional marketability of the agency when recruiting for management positions, and enhances your agency's profile and credentials. It also provides your management staff with a guided and strenuous learning opportunity that deepens their understanding of Community Action and develops their leadership skills. It's a win-win for agencies and staff.

NYSCAA will once again host a study group for 2016 CCAP candidates, a good way not only to prepare for the exam but to expand your (or your staff's) professional network.

The calls for that study group, where candidates can get guidance and support throughout the process, will begin on October 1. We hope to see many of you join New York's growing CCAP cohort!

*Karla M. Digirolamo*

Karla Digirolamo, CCAP  
NYSCAA

[E-mail me](#)

NYSCAA staff and David Bradley meeting recently with Congresswoman Elise Stefanik and CAA staff and community members from the North Country.

NYSCAA is a statewide association that provides services and advocacy to strengthen the ability of its members to improve the quality of life for low-income people throughout New York State.

## NYSCAA NEWS

**Join Us!** [The RPIC Region II Finance, Human Resources and Leadership Conference](#) will be held September 17 & 18, 2015 in Binghamton, NY. Registration is open - [click here to register](#). Pulitzer Prize winning American investigative journalist and economist David Cay Johnston will deliver a keynote address as will Kent Rader, motivational humorist. Click [here](#) for a conference brochure.

**NYSCAA 2015 Regional Meetings** - Register today - click on links below:

[Central Region in Syracuse on September 21](#)

[NYC and Long Island in NYC on September 24.](#)

The NYC meeting will feature a discussion on the new TRACS system. Remember, all are welcome to attend any regional meeting - if you are interested in hearing more about TRACS, please join us in NYC.

**2015 Executive Seminar** - The Executive Seminar will be held on November 5 & 6, 2015 at the Inn on the Lake in Canandaigua, New York. Click [here](#) for more information.

**IT Webinar** - Sign up today! Click on links below.

August 25 Webinar - Tech Tools for Senior Staff. Click [here](#) for more information.

This webinar will be repeated on September 2, 2015 from 1 - 2 PM. Click [here](#) for more information on the September 2 session.

**THE PROMISE OF COMMUNITY ACTION:** Community Action changes people's lives, embodies spirit

of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

## MEMBER NEWS

### Spotlight on The Community Action Partnership for Madison County

The Community Action Partnership for Madison County was founded in 1983 and works with Low to Moderate Income (LMI) families to provide education, guidance and accessibility to resources for families and individuals striving toward economic self sufficiency. The agency serves one in every 16 residents of the county. CAP for Madison County provides Early Childhood Programs, Special Education Advocacy and Youth Mentoring to Individuals. For families, the agency provides Family Action, Self-Sufficiency/Stabilization and Housing Assistance. They provide food pantries and resources and help with health care to the community. Additionally, the agency provides Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) services to Otsego County. CAP for Madison County has partnered with the CASH Coalition of Madison and Chenango Counties to provide Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services for fourteen years. Last year over one million dollars in refunds were obtained for over 500 filers. The agency works with the Mary Rose Clinic to ensure those in most need of medical care (the uninsured, age 16+) receives medical services including free prescription drugs and lab services.



The agency has created a Resiliency Model for service delivery. This theory of change provides a clear and concise way for the agency to communicate their strategies, services and accomplishments with their community partners and stakeholders. At left, CAPMADCO Executive Director Julie Dale, NYSCAA CEO Karla Digirolamo and CAPMADCO Deputy Director Diane Ryan present the model to a group of business leaders in Oneida, NY during

the 2014 NYS Poverty Tour.

CAP for Madison County was recently awarded \$590,000 for the 1st Time Homebuyer's Program through the New York Community Development Block Grant. The award will be used to assist LMI families to become first time home owners. Maximum grants of \$30,000 will be made - for closing costs and principal reduction. If the recipient stays in the home for ten years, there is no repayment required. The current maximum price for a home is \$125,000 and up to \$5,500 in

closing costs can be covered. In order to qualify for the program the participant may not have owned a home previously OR may be a displaced partner/homemaker. Participants must also meet the HUD income guide lines: (One person household- \$38,400; two person household- \$43,850; three person household- \$49,350; four person household- \$54,800; five person household- \$59,200; six person household- \$63,600; seven person household- \$68,000 and 8 person household- \$72,350). Participants must be pre-qualified through an initial screening and then are assigned a Housing Counselor. In addition to meeting with the Housing Counselor, the participant must attend six one on one classes, completing the 12 hour Homebuyer's Education Class. The agency's Loan Review Committee then reviews the application and makes a final decision on awarding the grant and determining the maximum purchase price. For more information contact the Morrisville Office of the agency at 315-684-3144, extension 34.

**Other NYSCAA members with First Time Home Buyer's Programs** include: Chautauqua Opportunities, Delaware Opportunities, EOC- Suffolk and Opportunities for Chenango.

**On August 20, 2015 CEO in Troy held a ribbon cutting on the Urban Training Center.**



CEO Staff welcome visitors to the new building.



CEO President Katherine Maciol welcomes the crowd and thanks those who made it possible for the Urban Training Center to be built.



A capacity crowd including many elected officials joined the celebration of Troy's newest resource.



Congressman Paul Tonko addressed the crowd and congratulated CEO on their new facility.



The official ribbon cutting with many supporters, CEO staff and board members.



Youth Build Members were already using one of the classrooms in the building.

## Did you know?

As a new school year begins, parents and teachers have much on their "to do" lists. [This website](#) provides advice and links to resources on a number of key topics such as health care and immunizations, healthy lunches and homework help. For even more resources related to youth, check out the home page at [youth.gov](http://youth.gov).

Click on Name of Agency to Visit Website: Action for a Better Community, Inc. \* Adirondack Community Action Programs, Inc. \* Albany Community Action Partnership \* ACCORD Corporation \* CACHE (Community Action Commission to Help the Economy\_ Inc. \* CAPC of Jefferson County \* Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc. Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency, Inc. \* Chautauqua Opportunities Inc. \* Columbia Opportunities, Inc. \* Commission on Economic Opportunity for the Capital District Region, Inc. \* Community Action Organization of Erie County, Inc. \* Community Action of Greene County, Inc. Community Action of Orleans & Genesee \* Community Action Partnership for Madison County, Inc. Cortland Community Action Program, Inc. (CAPCO) \* Delaware Opportunities \* Dutchess County Community Action Agency, Inc. \* Economic Opportunity Program Inc. of Chemung County EOC of Nassau County - Hempstead \* EOC of Suffolk

- Patchogue \* Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. \* JCEO of Clinton & Franklin Counties \* Lewis County Opportunities, Inc. \* Livingston County Planning Department \* Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. \* NYC Department of Youth and Community Development \* Niagara Community Action Program, Inc. \* Opportunities for Broome, Inc. \* Opportunities for Chenango, Inc. \* Opportunities for Otsego, Inc. \* Oswego County Opportunities, Inc. \* Path Stone PEACE, Inc. \* Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc. \* RECAP \* Saratoga County EOC, Inc. Schenectady County EOC, Inc. \* Schoharie County Community Action Program, Inc. \* St. Lawrence County Community Development Program, Inc. \* Tioga Opportunities, Inc. \* Tompkins Community Action, Inc. \* Ulster County Community Action Committee, Inc. \* Warren/Hamilton Counties ACEO, Inc. \* Washington County EOC, Inc. \* WestCOP \* Wayne County Community Action Program, Inc. \* Wyoming County Community Action, Inc. \* Yonkers Community Action Program, Inc.

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