

From: NYSCAA
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 9:26 AM
To: Phoebe Schimpf
Subject: January Update from NYSCAA

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NYSCAA Newsletter



NYSCAA
Newsletter
January 2016



FROM THE CEO

Happy New Year!

Hello -

I begin the new year excited and energized after attending the National Community Action Partnership's Management and Leadership Training Conference. I had an opportunity to learn about the innovative two-generation approaches being used to address rural child poverty; I heard the most up to date news on ROMA Next Gen; I was challenged to address the intersection of race, gender and poverty; and I learned about the most up to date strategies for ensuring that Community Action's voice continues to provide national leadership on the issue of poverty and its impact. All of this under the conference theme of "Leading with Resilience - The Community Action Way."

Now Governor Andrew Cuomo has further inspired me with his proposed Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative (ESPRI). ESPRI will focus on using existing resources more effectively and purposely to end poverty, strengthen relationships between the business, public and nonprofit sectors in each community, and ensure greater coordination between state and local government to expand economic opportunity for all New Yorkers. The initiative is modeled on the Rochester Anti-Poverty Task Force; Action for a Better Community, the local Community Action Agency, has been involved in that initiative from the beginning. I look forward to the Community Action Agencies in Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, Elmira, Jamestown, Oneonta, Oswego, Syracuse, Troy and Utica also taking part in this innovative opportunity.

As we look to the new year and the opportunities and challenges it will bring for all of us in Community Action, I am determined to continue the "Community Action Way," and lead New York's anti-poverty efforts with the strength, determination and resilience that low income people deserve.

Karla M. Digirolamo

[E-mail me](#)

Karla Digirolamo, CCAP
NYSCAA

NYSCAA News!

REGISTER NOW!

10th Annual Symposium on
POVERTY
& *ADVOCACY DAY*

MARCH 8 & 9, 2016
Empire State Plaza, Albany NY

1st 100 registrants receive a **FREE** book!
\$2.00 a Day, Living on Almost Nothing in America



[Click Here](#) to register and get more information!

NCAF Donations:

Dan Maskin, Executive Director of Opportunities for Otsego, Inc. has taken the lead to get the ball rolling on New York's annual NCAF donation. We sincerely appreciate his effort and thank all of you who have donated thus far. This year, our donation will be critical to the success of NCAF's efforts to pass HR 1655, the Community Economic Opportunity Act of 2015, reauthorizing and strengthening the Community Services Block Grant. Our donation also recognizes David Bradley's role in securing a six percent increase in CSBG funds this year; the most significant increase in CSBG funding for a long time! So, if you have not yet donated to NCAF, do so now! And if you have already donated but can do more or can encourage others to give, please do so. Together we can secure the future for Community Action!

Community Action Awards!



It's official, our Professional Development Conference is booked for June 16 and 17 at the [Woodcliff Hotel & Spa](#) in Fairport, NY.

We are accepting nominations for the 2016 awards now! The deadline to submit a nomination is April 21, 2016.

This is a great opportunity for you to recognize staff and members of your community for their support and accomplishments!

Remember, we always submit our Personal Achievement story to the

2016 Management & Leadership Training Conference!

Our Director of Operations, Jackie Orr presented at the Community Action Partnership's Winter conference earlier this month.

The workshop was presented with Kristi Miller, from CEO in Troy, New York; Edward Gerardot, from the Indiana Community Action Association; and Natalie Kramer from the Community Action Partnership and explored innovative approaches for helping Community Action Agencies streamline the community needs assessment process and collectively leverage its impact. At the workshop, NYSCAA highlighted the work we have been doing in New York to create a series of templates for conducting community needs

National Community Action Partnership for the Annual Sargent Shriver Award.

[Click here](#) for more information on the nomination process.

[Click here](#) to view all the award categories.

assessment surveys for community members, partners and staff. Thanks to Jackie and Kristi for shining a light on the good work being done here in New York!

[Click here](#) if you missed the training or want more information!



Community Needs Assessment Survey:

Are you preparing for your next Community Needs Assessment? NYSCAA has something to make the process easier! The NYSCAA-led Community Needs Assessment Survey work group has completed the Community Member Survey. This survey is designed for all community members - customers and others- and can be used to collect the qualitative data necessary for a comprehensive community assessment. We hope that all CAAs in New York will use the survey so we can then incorporate the data gathered from across the state into a state wide report. We are very excited about this project and the opportunities it provides to support our member agencies and to be able to tell the story of Community Action in New York. Please contact Jackie Orr at 518-690-0491 x 21 or jorr@nyscommunityaction.org for more details. [Click here](#) to watch a webinar on the survey development process and implementation procedures.

Updates at our Agencies!

Way to go Jefferson County!

Together with other local Community Organizations; including the Watertown Elks Lodge, Stewart's Holiday Match, and Kmart, Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County provided 291 warm winter coats to Head Start students and their siblings.

Head Start students who received the donations made cards to show their appreciation:



Pictured, from left: Watertown Elks Lodge Chaplain Jackie Powers, Community Action Executive Director, Melinda Gault

Success Story at Oppotunities for Otsego, Inc.

In late December, a young man who was helped through the Emergency Housing Assistance Program's shelter came for a visit to let them know how well he is doing. With the assistance of OFO, he found a stable place to complete drug court, was assisted in moving into the SRO and has now moved - on his own - into a rental apartment. He works two jobs, one of them in landscaping which was his dream. He has regular visits with his daughter and even bought a huge Christmas Tree to celebrate! Congratulations to OFO and to this remarkable man!

"A Book on Every Bed" is a part of ProAction of Steuben and Yates's newest initiative: Pathways to School Readiness.

Jill Bruce Wiley.



Pictured: Linda George, Family Literacy Coordinator at ProAction Steuben & Yates.

Read the full article [here](#).

In the News & Helpful Tips

- January is National Blood Donor Month! Start the New Year with a resolution to roll up a sleeve to give this month and all throughout 2016. Learn more about [National Blood Donor Month here](#) are the Red Cross.

- As winter approaches, use these [22 Low - Tech Tips](#) to stay warm this winter without wasting energy.



- Last Thursday, the IRS announced that it is withdrawing proposed regulations released last September that would have allowed charities to file information returns with the IRS and donors instead of providing contemporaneous written acknowledgements of charitable donations. Read the full article [here](#).

Webinars & Conferences:

NYSCAA:

Professional Development Conference

June 16 & 17, 2016 Woodcliff Hotel & Spa - Fairport, NY

Region II RPIC: Human Resource, Finance & Leadership Conference

September 15 & 16, 2016 Double Tree - Binghamton, NY

LIFE Webinar:

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) National Evaluations

Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Presenter: Bruce Tonn, Three3, Inc.

[Register Here](#)

Save the Date:

LIFE Statewide Conference 2016:

May 25th & 26th, Albany NY

NYSCAA Help Desk:

Have a tech question? The NYSCAA Help Desk is open to all NYSCAA Members.

Call Phoebe Schimpf at 518-690-0491 x 28 or submit an inquiry [here](#).

FACT OF THE MONTH:

The US economy added 292,000 jobs in December, more than the 200,000 most economists projected. The unemployment rate held steady at 5 percent, its lowest level in 7 1/2 years.

Trivia!

What's The Year?

1. 29th Olympic Games opens at Beijing, China
2. Barack Obama becomes the first African-American to be nominated by a major political party for President of the United States
3. Super Bowl XLII: New York Giants beat New England Patriots, 17-14
4. Seth MacFarlane reaches an agreement worth \$100 million with Fox to keep "Family Guy" and "American Dad" on television until 2012, making MacFarlane the world's highest paid television writer
5. California becomes the second U.S. state after Massachusetts in 2004 to legalize same-sex marriage after the state's own Supreme Court rules a previous ban unconstitutional.
6. Fidel Castro retires as the President of Cuba after nearly fifty years
7. Danica Patrick wins the Indy Japan 300 becoming the first female driver in history to win an Indy car race.
8. The historic Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier burns down for a second time in 80 years.
9. "Breaking Dawn", 4th book in Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight Saga" is published by Little Brown at midnight with a print run of 3.7 million copies
10. The US Government takes control of the two largest mortgage financing companies in the US, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.



The Beijing National Stadium, dubbed "The Birds Nest"_(c) by Joowwww is licensed under CC BY 2.0

The year is 2008.

Riddle Me This!

What am I?

Remove the outside, cook the inside, eat the outside, throw away the inside.

The answer is corn on the cob.

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.

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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