



September
Newsletter



FROM THE CEO

Dear Friend,

Although the weather this week does not seem so, summer is over and we in the north east will soon be preparing for the cold and snowy weather. For those who are lucky, this means pulling out those nice, warm sweaters, getting our snow tires on and buttoning up our houses to withstand another winter. For those who are not as fortunate, the change of seasons brings a series of crises—how will we afford boots, snow pants and warm clothes for the children who grow a size or more every year? How can we tape plastic on our windows, close off rooms and put on layers of clothing to make it through a long winter in a drafty, cold home or apartment?

For the countless families who struggle to meet their families' basic needs, Community Action can be a critical part of their preparation, literally a life saver for people like the elderly woman who one CAA found trying to stay warm by using her cooking stove. Through Community Action, they can find advice and perhaps assistance on how best to weatherize their homes and they can find gently used clothing and house hold goods for themselves and their children. And equally important, these families find a listening and compassionate ear and a place they can go for help where they will be treated with respect and dignity. They will find the embodiment of the promise of Community Action in the spirit of hope and opportunity that are imbedded in the culture of Community Action.

So, as I get ready for the change of seasons and think of all I have to be grateful for, I will remember my neighbors who do not share my good fortune and I will once again give thanks to Community Action for working tirelessly to make the American dream real for all who seek it.

With gratitude,

Karla M. Digirolamo

Karla Digirolamo, CCAP

NYSCAA

Regional Performance and Innovation Consortium

The Regional Performance and Innovation Consortium Region II conference was convened on September 18 and 19th in New Brunswick, New Jersey. We were pleased to have a very good turnout from the New Jersey Community Action Agencies and were also joined by Francisco Gutierrez, the Director of the Puerto Rico Community Action Association and, for the first time, representatives from the CSBG office in Puerto Rico. Unfortunately, our colleagues from Puerto Rico returned home to face devastation from the hurricane that hit the island at that time so our thoughts are with them and their friends and neighbors at this difficult time.

Emerging Leaders Institute

The final seminar in this year's Emerging Leaders Institute is upcoming, scheduled for October 3-5, and we are already thinking about ELI 2018! This year's class was a record for us with a total of over 50 people in the ELI 1 and 2 class. Thanks to all of the agencies who support their staff's participation in ELI.

Executive Director Seminar

The 2017 Executive Director Seminar will be held November 8-10 at the Sagamore Hotel in Bolton Landing, New York. This seminar is an opportunity for professional development and learning as well as a time for new and "veteran" EDs to come together to share experiences and tap the tremendous wealth of knowledge and wisdom in New York's Community Action Network. Please plan to join us for an enjoyable and educational experience.

UPCOMING EVENTS

REGISTER NOW!

*Executive Director's Seminar
November 8-10, 2017*



The Sagamore Resort, Lake George, NY

[Click here to register!](#)

NYSCAA HELP DESK:

Have a tech question? The NYSCAA Help Desk is open to all NYSCAA Members. Call Phoebe Schimpf at [518-690-0491](tel:518-690-0491) x 28 or submit an inquiry [here](#).

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.

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