

February 2018 NYSCAA Newsletter

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FROM THE CEO

Dear Friend,

We are now just two weeks away from our 12th Annual Symposium on Poverty and Economic Security, which will take place Wednesday, March 14th from 8am-5pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, Troy NY. The NYSCAA staff is hard at work finalizing our plans to ensure a productive and enjoyable day for all attendees. We so hope you will join us!

We are excited to share that Katherine Maciol, CEO of the Commission on Economic Opportunity and Troy Mayor Patrick Madden will be offering words of welcome at the Symposium. From there, our keynote speaker Mary Otto will take the stage to offer insights from her acclaimed book "*Teeth*," and our robust schedule of presentations and panels will follow. Each of our presentations will touch on our overarching theme of how poverty affects health disparities and how health disparities affect poverty.

The Poverty Symposium is a time for all of us in the fight against poverty to come together and share in a day of knowledge and skill building. We are also welcoming exhibitors from 14 different organizations who will be tabling and ready to share information, resources, and opportunities for capacity building with your agency. Registration is still open! If you haven't yet registered, [please click](#) here to submit your registration.

See you on the 14th!

With thanks,



[Email Me](#)

Karla Digirolamo, CCAP
NYSCAA

[NYSCAA Remembers Aliya Anderson-Smith](#)



With this newsletter, we sadly note the passing of Aliya Anderson-Smith, the Administrative Adviser for the Community Action Partnership of New Jersey, Inc. Aliya had a passion for community services, beginning with her time as a member of her local Head Start Policy Council. As an Administrative Adviser, Aliya assisted the New Jersey association in providing training and technical assistance to NJ Community Action Agencies and was well known for her friendly demeanor, vibrant spirit, and commitment to positive change. Our thoughts are with Aliya's family, friends, and colleagues at this difficult time.

[Register NOW for the 2018 Poverty Symposium!](#)



The clock is ticking as we enter the final days to register for the 2018 Symposium on Poverty and Economic Security! Join us on March 14th at the Hilton Garden Inn for this wonderful one-day event. Take a sneak peek at the workshop description for the "Voice of the Customer" panel below:



"The Voice of the Customer Panel brings together local individuals who have received services through Community Action for themselves and their families. Each of the panelists will share insights into their experiences with Community Action, particularly related to access to health care. Panelists are invited to share information about positive experiences, and where Community Action can do more to break down barriers and improve access to health and wellness. These insights are invaluable to assist Community Action agencies in providing excellent services and developing effective methods to eliminate the causes and effects of poverty."

[Click here](#) to view the full agenda, and [click here](#) to register. Registration includes access to the full conference, an all day "beverage break," a morning snack, and a full hot lunch. There is also dedicated time to visit our exhibitors/vendors during our afternoon break, and say hello to colleagues

from neighboring and far-away agencies!

Community Action Statement of Support for CSBG

The National Community Action Partnership issued a statement on Monday, February 26th 2018 rejecting the Administrations FY2019 budget proposal to eliminate funding for the Community Services Block Grant. The CSBG Act, the federal legislation governing Community Action Agencies, requires states to work through the Community Action Network - the nationwide system of over 1,000 local CAAs (49 of which are NYSCAA member agencies) - to connect families and individuals to opportunities to move from poverty to economic security. The Partnership supports funding CSBG at \$750 million.

[Click here](#) to read the full statement of support for CSBG. [Click here](#) for a downloadable version.

[Click here](#) to sign the CSBG support statement.

[Click here](#) to open the "Board Resolution Template" a great way to engage your board by discussing and passing a board resolution in support of CSBG. If your CAA is involved in Weatherization and/or HEAP, there are clauses that can be added to include both programs in your resolution. Once it's completed, scan and send a copy back to csbg@communityactionpartnership.com

Download the #AWiseInvestment Community Action 2018 Advocacy Mini Toolkit by [clicking here](#).



Poverty Symposium Partner Spotlight: Empire Justice Center



Empire Justice Center is once again partnering with NYSCAA for our 2018 Poverty Symposium. Empire Justice center helps make the law work for ALL New Yorkers by teaching the law, practicing the law, and improving the law. At the

Symposium, Empire Justice Center will deliver a breakout workshop on the Home Stability Support Program. [Click here](#) to visit their website.

Save the Date: Upcoming NYSCAA IT Webinars

NYSCAA would like to invite our members to join us for a series of topical webinars related to information technology issues facing your organizations today. Every year we have conduct these educational webinars to assist our New York State network to build fundamental skills and to focus on the various technologies the community action network uses in their day-to-day operations.

These sessions will use the GoToWebinar Platform. For more information on the series, please contact Daniel Healy, Director of Information Technology at

dhealy@nyscommunityaction.org. The schedule of webinars is listed below:

March 15, 2018

Internet Research Tools

- How to do an effective google search
- Other search methods

April 19, 2018

The Basics of running a presentation

- PowerPoint
- Teleconferencing and webinar technology
- Communication tips

May 17, 2018

MS Word and the Basics of Word Processing

- Define features of Word 2007
- Explain basic menu details of Word 2007
- Create, save and print new Word document
- Protect a word document quickly and efficiently
- Manage word files and their printing
- Word Mail Merging

June 21, 2018

Basics of Microsoft Access

- What is a database
- How is a database used
- How to Build your own Database
- Pulling Data from a database

July 19, 2018

Basics of Excel

- Intermediate Excel
- Intro to formulas
- Excel Formatting and List Management

August 16, 2018

Poll production- Survey Monkey and Doodle Poll

- How to Build a Poll
- How to publish a poll
- How to compile results

September 20, 2018

Basics of Adobe Acrobat

- What is a PDF
- How to create a PDF File using Adobe Acrobat
- How to edit an existing document
- How to build a form in Adobe
- How to export an Adobe File
- How to Password Protect an Adobe File
- General Questions

October 18, 2018

Microsoft Publisher and the basics of Desktop Publishing

- Intro to WordPress
- How to set up a website
- How to set up a blog

Future dates will be announced as the become available!

**Poverty Symposium Partner spotlight:
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy**

NYSCAA is proud to partner once again with the Schuyler Center for the 2018 Poverty Symposium. The Schuyler Center works to shape policies to improve health, welfare, and human services for all New Yorkers, especially those who are poor or vulnerable. At the Symposium, the Schuyler Center is assisting to present not one, but two different workshops! [Click here](#) to visit their website.



February is...

Black History Month



February marks Black History Month. Senate Resolution J3708 proclaims February 2018 as Black History Month in New York State. [Click here](#) to read the full resolution.

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History announced their 2018 Black History Month theme as "African American's in Times of War," which commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918, and explores the complex meanings and implications of this international struggle and its aftermath. Read more about "African Americans in Times of War," by [clicking here](#).

For more information about Black History Month and African American History and Culture visit the Smithsonian National Museum for African American History and Culture website by [clicking here](#). NYSCAA's Training Specialist, Lauren Ford, had the opportunity to visit the museum with her family earlier this month and was very moved by the incredible depth and breadth of collections at the museum.

Below is a photo Lauren took of the museum:



American Heart Month



February is also federally designated as American Heart Month. 2,300 Americans die of cardiovascular disease each day, an average of 1 death every 38 seconds.

American Heart Month aims to change that by reminding Americans to focus on their heart health and encourage their families, friends, and communities to get involved. According to research by the American Heart Association, even modest changes to diet and lifestyle can improve heart health and lower risk by as much as 80 percent!

[Click here](#) for more information about American Heart Month.

To watch a video about the Go Red for Women Campaign, which encourages women to educate themselves about preventing cardiovascular disease, [click here](#).

Think you know all there is to know about heart health? Challenge your knowledge by taking a fun "Know the Facts" quiz - [click here](#) to take the quiz.

Highlights at our Agencies...

Albany Community Action

Partnership Announces 4th Annual "Dress for Success" Spring Clothing Sale

When: Saturday, March 10th from 10am-2pm

Where: Siena College
515 Loudon Road
Loudonville, NY 12211

What: ACAP will host their 4th Annual Dress for Success Albany Spring Clothing Sale. Business attire such as dresses, slacks, blazers, and shoes will be available for purchase at a low cost.

Multiple NY CAAs participate in "Wear Orange Day"

Many CAA's from around the state participated in the annual "Wear Orange Day" on Tuesday, February 13th to raise awareness for Teen Dating Violence Month. Organizations also participated in the virtual #OkayForPetsNotPartners virtual advocacy campaign. Here are a few photos highlighting each campaign:



[from Cayuga/Seneca CAA]

CONTROLS YOUR ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION



#OK FOR PETS NOT PARTNERS

[from Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.]

Community Action Organization of Western New York Sponsors Middle School Students to see "Black Panther"



On February 26th, the Community Action Organization of Western New York sponsored a large group of 7th and 8th grade students from Westminster Community Charter School to attend their own screening of the Marvel film "Black Panther."

Economic Opportunity Commission of Nassau County, Inc. holds Black History Month Program

On February 28th, EOC of Nassau county, Inc. hosts a "Black History Month Program" at their Roosevelt/Freeport EOC. [Click here](#) for more info.

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. Announces Promotion of Diane Hewitt-Johnson



Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. announced the recent promotion of Ms. Diane Hewitt-Johnson to the newly created role of Director of Operations. In this role, Ms. Hewitt-Johnson will provide mission-driven leadership, guidance, and direction to day-to-day development and implementation of strategies, major service delivery plans, and the integration of services.

CAPCO to Co-Host Easter Egg Hunt



When: Saturday, March 24th @ 10am

Where: Suggett Park
Homer Ave
Cortland, NY 13045

What: In conjunction with Cortland Youth Bureau and the YMCA, Cortland County Community Action Program will host an Easter Egg Hunt. Visit corlandyb.recdesk.com for more information.

Mohawk Valley community Action Agency, Inc. Announces 52nd Annual Community Champions Award Gala

When: Friday, May 4th 2018 from 6-10pm

Where: Hart's Hill Inn
135 Clinton Street
Whitesboro, NY 13492

What: Join MVCAA as we celebrate 52 Years of Helping People in the Mohawk Valley and Honor Our 2018 Community Champions! Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and award presentation, followed by dinner and dancing! This year's Honorees are: Steve Darman, Treva Wood Community Activist; Sefija Katjezowicz, Community Achiever; St. John the Evangelist Church, Community Builder; Alicia Mroz & Teoka Muhammad, Community Visionaries.

[Click here](#) to register.

NYSCAA HELP DESK:

Have a tech question? The NYSCAA Help Desk is open to all NYSCAA Members. Call Dan Healy at 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.

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 Community Action, 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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