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December/Winter
2017
Newsletter



Region II Information

Community Action Partnership of New Jersey (CAP of NJ) Launches New Initiatives

2018 is finally upon us and at CAP of NJ, we are excited to begin implementation of New Jersey's Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) plan. The Association has worked closely with key staff of the **New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJ DCA)** to develop a training plan that will be delivered in phases. The Association looks forward to supporting our member agencies by assisting the community action network to continue to expand services and supports to their customers.

The initial T/TA roll-out includes a series of Regional Governance Workshops hosted by member agencies in the central, southern, and northern areas of the state. The curriculum will address the following critical topics: The History of Community Action; Board Roles and Responsibilities;

Tripartite Compliance; Fiduciary Responsibility and Reporting; Organizational Standards and ROMA. Trainings will be facilitated by staff from CAP of NJ, NJ DCA, and member agencies.

The second series, scheduled to begin in Spring 2018, will focus on assessing and managing risk and achieving organizational sustainability. Risk Assessment, Grant Writing, Financial Operations and Human Resource Management are just some of the offerings that will be provided during this series. The final series of workshops will take place later in 2018 and will address Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning.

Additionally, CAP of NJ will be working with our Regional and National Partners (including NJ DCA, NYSCAA, the Community Action Partnership and the National Association for Community Service Programs) to design an Emerging Leaders Program. In 2018, at least 30% of New Jersey's Community Action Agencies will have Executive Directors new to their roles. The Emerging Leaders Program is intended to foster peer-to-peer support and collaboration among seasoned leaders and their newer counterparts.

Nationally, the Community Action networks is facing unprecedented challenges at the state and federal levels to healthcare affordability, food security and affordable housing. Our voices and votes matter. CAP of NJ and its Board of Directors encourage you to keep up the good fight.

The Community Action Partnership Invites Members to Join the Learning Community!

Applications are open for local Community Action Agencies, State Associations, and State CSBG Offices to join **The Learning Community!** The project includes Learning Community Groups (LCGs) with both "open" and "intensive" engagement options, the Community of Practice (COP) and the new Community Action Economic Mobility Initiative! The Learning Community will serve as a learning hub for the CSBG Network to support agencies in the identification, adaptation, and implementation of innovative and evidence-informed family/individual-level serves and community-level strategies. [Click here](#) for information about The Learning Community.

The Open LCGs will launch in January 2018, with the Intensive LCGs and COP launching in February. There will also be a Whole Family Institute that will take place in June 2018 in Washington, D.C.

One critical element of this cycle of the Learning Community will be the new Community Action Economic Mobility Initiative. This initiative will offer CAAs a multi-tiered system of support that builds the agency capacity to pursue a whole family approach to help families achieve mobility from poverty. [Click here](#) to learn more about how the Initiative will tie into the larger Learning Community.

Applications for The Learning Community are due January 12th, 2018. Interested agencies should apply online through the Community Action Academy. Follow the below steps to enroll:

1. Create a free account at moodle.communityactionpartnership.com.

You should receive a confirmation email within minutes

1. Login and click *Learning Communities* under **Course Categories** on the right of your browser
2. Scroll down and select **Learning Community Application**

3. Click **Application for 2018 Intensive Learning Community Groups**
4. Select Self enrollment (Student), then click **Enroll**.

This will give you access to the Learning Community Application package and all of its components. You will need to read the application package, complete the survey monkey application, and if participating in an intensive LCG or COP, submit the appropriate letter of commitment to the corresponding assignment portal.

For more information, please contact [Courtney Kohler](mailto:ckohler@communityactionpartnership.com) at ckohler@communityactionpartnership.com

Save the Date: Upcoming Professional Development

The 2018 National Community Action Partnership Annual Convention will take place August 28th-31st at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel in Denver, Colorado.

The 2018 National Association for State Community Services Programs Annual Training Conference will take place September 17th -21st in Bellevue, Washington.



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