

NYSCAA Newsletter - July 2019

From the CEO

Dear Friend,

It has been a busy and productive summer so far at NYSCAA! We are proud and relieved to have submitted the new RPIC Region II T/TA grant this month.



We are currently in the process of finalizing the agenda for the [2019 RPIC Region II Finance, HR, and Leadership Conference](#) in Binghamton, NY scheduled for September 18th & 19th. The conference will focus on four topic areas: HR, Finance, Leadership, and Data, with multiple sessions running concurrently. [Registration](#) for the conference is now available!

We have begun planning for the 2019 Executive Director's Seminar. It is anticipated that the seminar will be held on November 14th & 15th. New this year is an orientation for new CAA Executive Directors that will be held on November 13th, the day before the seminar. Stay tuned for more information and the agenda.

We look forward to seeing you at our future events! It is our goal to always provide you an opportunity to connect, learn, and share with your Community Action colleagues.

Best,

[Jackie Orr](#), NCRT

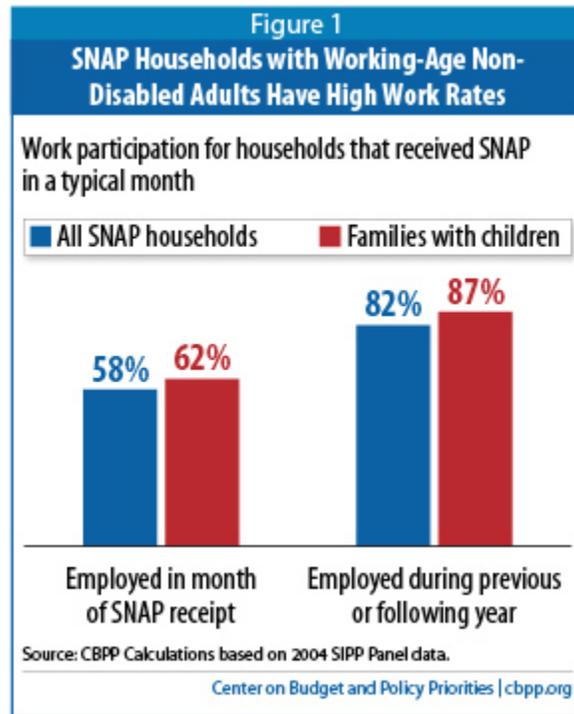
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July's Poverty Myth: "SNAP Recipients Don't Work" - False!

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program's ([SNAP](#)) primary purpose is to increase the food purchasing power of eligible low-income households in order to improve their nutrition and alleviate hunger and malnutrition. The program's success in meeting this core goal has been well [documented](#). Less well understood is the fact that the program has become quite effective in supporting work and that its performance in this area has improved substantially in recent years.

The overwhelming majority of SNAP recipients who can work do so. Among SNAP households with at least one working-age, non-disabled adult, more than half work while receiving SNAP – and more than 80 percent work in the year prior to or the year after receiving SNAP. For the full article, [click here!](#)



NYSCAA News

The annual RPIC Region II Finance, HR, and Leadership Conference will be held September 18th & 19th, at the [DoubleTree by Hilton](#), in Binghamton, New York. The [preliminary agenda](#) has been posted. Registration for the conference is now available! [Click here to register!](#)

The Conference will include tracks for HR, Finance, Leadership, and Data. The conference planning committee is hard at work making arrangements for the conference. We hope to see you there.

2019 Executive Director Seminar

The 2019 Executive Director Seminar will be held November 13th -15th! A new Executive Director Orientation will be held on Tuesday, November 13th.

Registration for the Executive Director Seminar and the agenda will be available soon!

Census 2020

How Does the 2020 Census Benefit Your Community?

The next census is coming in 2020. Counting an increasingly diverse and growing population is a massive undertaking. It requires years of planning and the support of thousands of people.

Ultimately, the success of the census depends on everyone's participation. The Census Bureau depends on cross-sector collaborations with organizations and individuals to get people to participate.

The 2020 Census is important for you and your community, and you can help. To learn more about the 2020 Census [click here](#).

CENSUS 101

It's about fair representation.

Every ten years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

CENSUS 101

Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"

Resources from the 2020 Census Stakeholder Webinar

If you were unable to join the [2020 Census Stakeholder Webinar](#) you may have missed some of the useful resources and information that were presented. Below, links to handouts, fact sheets, toolkits, and additional information have been compiled to help you raise awareness for the 2020 Census.

- [How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond](#)
- [2020 Census Operational Timeline](#)
- [2020 Census Promotional Materials](#)
- [Requesting 2020 Census Logos & 2020 Census Brand Guidelines](#)
- [2020 Census Barriers, Attitudes, and Motivators Study](#)
- [2020 Census Paid Media Campaign](#)
- [Complete Count Committees Map & Contact Information](#)
- [Census Bureau Regional Offices & Contact Information](#)
- [Response Outreach Area Mapper](#)
- [Census Solutions Workshop Toolkit](#)
- [2020 Census Jobs](#)

CSBG National Partner Resources

Dear Colleague 2019 - Office of Head Start Collaboration Initiative

From the Dear Colleague letter...

We are excited to inform you of a renewed partnership at the federal level between the Office of Head Start (OHS) and the Office of Community

Services (OCS). While collaboration between our offices is not new, the goals of this partnership are to reaffirm our common mission to support children and families with low-income as well as contribute to building strong communities. This partnership is critical, as approximately 531 Community Service Block Grant Community Action Agencies (CAA) are host to both Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

To read the full letter, [click here](#).

CAPLAW: Tips for Responding to ICE Inquiries at Your CAA

Preparation is crucial when it comes to an unannounced visit by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to your Community Action Agency (CAA). CAPLAW has compiled a few tips for responding to immigration officials who show up at your CAA's offices asking to speak to employees or clients, or seeking the CAA's records pertaining to employees or clients. [Click here](#) to view these tips.

Additional Resources

Upcoming LIFE Webinars from NYSERDA

The Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE) is a unique statewide dialogue that brings together organizations and individuals committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities facing low-income New Yorkers as they seek safe, affordable and reliable energy. The LIFE dialogue encourages an interactive exchange of information and collaboration among the programs and resources that assist low-income energy consumers. LIFE has a host of webinars available for registration; please see the schedule below.

1. Focus on Health - Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (BRACE)
 - Wednesday, August 21, 2019, 1:30PM - 2:30PM EST
 - Presenter: Neil Muscatiello, NYS Department of Health

- [Click here to register!](#)
2. Connecting People to Services - Using myBenefits.ny.gov as a resource.
- Thursday, September 19, 2019, 1:30PM - 2:30PM EST
 - Presenter: Jeremy Troskowski, Learning & Development Services (LEADS), Buffalo State College
 - [Click here to register!](#)
3. HEAP Updates for 2019-2020 Heating Season
- Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 1:00PM - 3:00PM EST
 - Presenter: HEAP Bureau, NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
 - [Click here to register!](#)

Prosperity Now Scorecard - New Local Data

[Prosperity Now Scorecard](#) is a comprehensive resource for data on household financial health, racial economic inequality and policy recommendations to help put everyone on a path to prosperity. New local data has been released with the latest financial statistics for your city. [Click here](#) for the latest release and to compare current trends with reports from the previous Scorecard.



New Funding to Support Women Affected by the Opioid Crisis - RESTORE Grant Program

The Women's Bureau announced a new grant program to help women affected by the opioid crisis re-enter the workforce. The Re-Employment, Support, and Training for the Opioid Related Epidemic (RESTORE) grant will award \$2.5 million to organizations that assist in providing coordinated, employment-focused services to women.

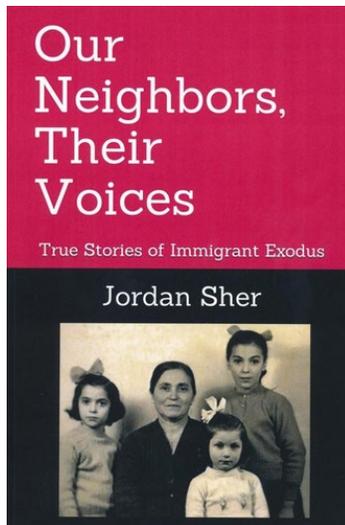
Organizations applying must provide the following types of activities:

- Providing skills development and employment services to women workers affected by the opioid crisis;
- Establishing a new program or expanding an existing program to quickly address the urgent challenges faced by women in areas of the country hardest hit by the opioid crisis;
- Forming partnerships with key stakeholders, which may include women's organizations and state and local women's commissions, as well as agencies and organizations in workforce development

The recipients can use the grant to foster cooperative relationships among a wide range of entities, including key stakeholders, public health and substance abuse treatment professionals, and other human services and support service providers, to provide skills development and employment services to women workers.

[Click here](#) to view the solicitation for grant applications. Apply by August 23, 2019.

Utica Families Featured in New Book



With immigration policies taking front and center in American conversations, it is important to recognize what is at the core of why people leave their home countries.

In “Our Neighbors, Their Voices: True Stories of Immigrant Exodus,” written by first-time author Jordan Sher, in-depth narratives of the lives of 14 people and their families are chronicled as Sher guides his interviewees to share the often-harrowing saga of each journey to America. Three of those stories feature people who live, or have lived, in Utica.

To read more, [click here](#).

Low-Wage Workers Would See Huge Gains from Minimum Wage Hike

Raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour will be hugely beneficial to low-income Americans, according to a new report from the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office.

The main takeaway from the [CBO's report](#) is the estimate that a \$15 minimum wage by 2025 would raise wages of up to 27.3 million low-wage workers, decrease income inequality, and reduce the number of families in poverty by 1.3 million. To access the full article, [click here](#).

Highlights from our Agencies

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Have something you would like to share in our upcoming newsletter? Email cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org!



Pictures appreciated!

JCEO Constructs New Greenhouses for Local Area Food Programs!

The Joint Council for Economic Opportunity (JCEO), along with 10 community partners including the North Country Healthy Heart Network, has constructed new greenhouses that will support food programs in the region, including the Mobile Farmers Market.

The greenhouses were built thanks to a grant from the Adirondack Health Institute's Performing Provider System (AHI PPS), which supports innovative healthcare projects. This innovation funding is part of New York State's Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program, an effort to fundamentally restructure the Medicaid system. A total of 14 projects involving 70 regional organization in nine counties received nearly \$1.7 million this year

To learn more about JCEO programs and services, [click here!](#)

Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO)

The [Commission on Economic Opportunity](#) (CEO), partnered with the Mental Health Association of New York State, Inc. (MHANYS) for a training on Mental Health First Aide for older adults. Staff from MHANYS provided information on the importance of ending the stigma associated with mental health and promoting mental health wellness to the populations we serve in Community Action.

[Click here](#) for more about how you can partner with the Mental Health Association of New York State, Inc. and for trainings and other resources associated with mental health.

Free Job Listings for members

Below is a listing current openings. Click on an item to view the job details.



Do you need to get the word out about a job opportunity at your agency? [Click here to view CA job listings and add your own!](#)

National Professional Development Opportunities

Community Action Partnership

2019 Annual Convention

Chicago, IL

August 26th-27th, Pre-Convention Training

August 28th-30th, Annual Convention

[Click here](#) for more information.

NASCSP

2019 Annual Training Conference

Little Rock, Arkansas

September 23 - 24: Pre-conference Training

September 25 - 27: Annual Training

[Click here](#) for more information.

The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the 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.



Our Agencies

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](#) * [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.](#) * [L.E.A.P.](#) * [WestCOP](#) * [Wayne County Community Action Program, Inc.](#) * [Wyoming County Community Action, Inc.](#) * [Yonkers Community Action Program, Inc.](#)

New York State Community Action Association, Inc.

www.nyscommunityaction.org

phone: (518) 690-0491, fax: (518) 690-0498
Address: [2 Charles Blvd, Guilderland NY 12084](#)

