

The latest from the New York State Community Action Association. Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here.](#)



NYSCAA Newsletter - January 2019

From the CEO

Dear Friend,

I am very excited to welcome Charles (Charlie) Barbay to the NYSCAA team as the Grant and Training Manager. Charlie comes to NYSCAA after working at the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) as a Program Manager in Workforce Development. We look forward to his contributions and hope you have the opportunity to connect with him and welcome him to NYSCAA.



We have opened registration for our 13th Annual Symposium on Poverty and Economic Opportunity, to be held in Latham, NY on March 27 & 28. Our agenda includes Keynote Speakers Denise Harlow from the National Community Action Partnership, and Ruthie Liberman, Vice President of Public Policy at EMPATH - Economic Mobility Pathways. We will also have lively panel discussions around the Census 2020, CAA Innovative Programs, breakouts on Trauma Informed Care and Whole Family Approaches - and much more. [Click here for the agenda.](#) A special thank you to our Conference Sponsor Medical Answering Services and our Keynote Sponsors, the Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE) and Roemer Wallens Gold and Mineaux LLP.

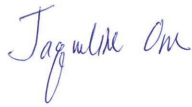
We also will be hosting a [‘Grant Writing as Sacred Service’ Webinar](#) on February 28th, with Jana Hexter. Jana Hexter is the author of Grant Writing Revealed: 25 Experts Share Their Art, Science, and Secrets, and founder of GrantsChampion. And stay tuned for our webinar on

Advocacy with CAPLAW in March!

Below in this newsletter you'll see that the National Community Action Partnership has released the National Impact Report. I hope you will take advantage of the Impact Report toolkit and consider creating your own version of the Impact Report for your CAA.

Our Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) continues this year - I welcome our new 1.0 and 2.0 members. I was impressed with their applications and look forward to working with them throughout the upcoming year.

Best,



[Jackie Orr](#), NCRT

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January's Poverty Myth

"You can live really well on government benefits."

FALSE

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits in 2017

**IN EVERY SINGLE STATE
WERE NOT ENOUGH**

to meet 60% of the federal poverty line.



The monthly TANF benefit is **less than** the rental cost of a modest 2-bedroom apartment in **all** states.

TRUTHS ABOUT POVERTY MYTHS IN THE US:
4thworldmovement.org

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, TANF benefits in 2017 in every single state were not enough to meet 60% of the federal poverty line. And to make the situation worse, the purchase power of these benefits are less than what they were in 1996.

[Click here](#) to read more from ATD Fourth World USA.

NYSCAA News

**Agenda Posted and Registration now Open!
13th Annual Poverty Symposium - March
27th and 28th, 2019**



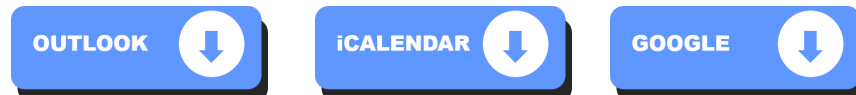
Symposium registration is now open, and the agenda has been posted!

 [Click here to register!](#)

Now in its 13th year, the Symposium on Poverty and Economic Security continues to be a unique opportunity to bring together Community Action Agencies, weatherization providers, human service providers, academics, advocates, policy-makers, low-income residents and others to spotlight and engage in a dialogue about poverty and potential strategies for moving families toward greater economic security

Interested in being a sponsor or exhibitor at the event? [Click here!](#)

Add to your Calendar:



NYSCAA Webinar - Grant Writing as Sacred Service - February 28th at 10 AM

Grant writing can be a really

GRANT

stressful endeavor. Join Jana Hexter for an absorbing conversation about how to approach grant writing so that you are left fulfilled and nourished by the process.

To succeed in creating a beautiful grant proposal it's critical that we create an empowering context for ourselves to do the work. That means embracing beliefs that serve us, disarming those that don't, and truly caring for ourselves throughout the process.

In this webinar you will learn:

- 7 reasons that grant writing is stressful and takes a toll on you
- An effective alternative to grant writing in a fast-paced, high-pressure and fear-driven environment
- 11 questions for conscious grant writing.

About the instructor:

Jana Hexter is the author of *Grant Writing Revealed: 25 Experts Share Their Art, Science, and Secrets*, and founder of GrantsChampion, a grant development and training business. She has raised over \$70 million and written well over 150 successful proposals for a wide variety of non-profit organizations throughout the nation. Jana has served on the National Board of the GPA and as a subject matter expert for the Grant Professionals Certification Institute (GPCI) to develop the Grant Professionals Certificate exam. In addition, she has served on peer review panels for New York State and the United States Department of Education.

 [Click here to register!](#)

CSBG National Partner Resources

National Impact Report

Recently the National Community



Action Partnership released their “National Impact Report - Building Opportunity for All” - a compelling reflection of how Community Action works, and how Community Action Agencies across the country are responding to local needs. In addition, the partnership has made all the graphics, images, fonts, and infographics available to all Community Action Agencies for use and modification to create their own Impact report. If you need assistance with modifying these images, etc. please reach out to Phoebe Schimpf at pschimpf@nyscommunityaction.org.

To download the report, and the toolkit please [click here](#).

NASCSP releases two new helpful resources for the CSBG Annual Report

Other NPIs - NASCSP has released a list of Other NPIs that can be used when reporting in the CSBG Annual Report. This is a list of common indicators that the CSBG network said were missing from the Annual Report. NASCSP reviewed hundreds of indicators from the network and with the help of the CSBG DATA Task Force, narrowed them down to the most common indicators not already found in the Annual Report.

CSBG Annual Report Lexicon - This lexicon serves as a dictionary for terms in relation to CSBG and the Annual Report. The DATA Task Force Guidance and Training Committee has worked extensively on this tool, and the general DATA Task Force has provided feedback to ensure the definitions are acceptable and useful for the Network. This document is meant to be a quick reference for terms as you work on your Annual Report submissions.

Both resources can be found on NASCSP’s website by [clicking here](#).

CAPLAW Resource: CSBG and Head Start Crosswalk



CAAs that run Head Start programs are tasked with following two sets of different, yet overlapping, requirements that apply to the funding they receive under the CSBG and Head Start Acts. CAPLAW developed a crosswalk showing the connections between the two sets of requirements to help CAAs better understand the overlap and establish a more integrated approach to compliance. [Click here to learn more!](#)

Share Your Annual Report with Virtual CAP!

Virtual CAP has been collecting CAA annual reports from around the country. The New York CAA Annual reports can be found [here](#).

Many of you have them posted - but if yours is not, please reach out to Ken Ackerman at ken@cafca.org.

Additional Resources

2019 Poverty Guidelines

The 2019 Poverty Guidelines have been released. You can view and download the guidelines from NYSCAA's website by [clicking here](#).

Solar for All

Check out NYSERDA's new low-income community solar program, Solar for All. Community solar projects are an array of solar panels installed in a sunny, offsite location. Community solar allows you benefits from solar without installing panels on your home.



Below are a few facts about the program, and you can also check your eligibility and learn more by visiting nysesda.ny.gov/solarforall.

- Program participants save money through a free community solar subscription
- Participants gain access to solar whether they are a renter or a homeowner
- No upfront cost, fees, or payments to participate

Just released: 2019 Prosperity Now Scorecard

This year, the Scorecard's research team developed a new ranking methodology that strengthens the analysis of each state's racial and ethnic disparities. These updated rankings successfully highlight how racial economic inequality effects residents' ability to achieve prosperity.



Resources available in the Scorecard include:

- Disability Disparity Reports
- Racial Disparity Reports
- Trend Data Charts
- Customizable Reports
- and more

Learn more about the Scorecard tool [here](#).

In the News

Neighborhood Life Expectancy

"Two miles separate residents of Schenectady's Hamilton Hill from those on the north side of the city. But when it comes to how long they'll live, the difference is much greater – 21.2 years, to be exact."

Does your neighborhood play a role on your life expectancy? Find out why bordering neighborhoods can have such drastic differences in resident life expectancy. For more information follow [this link](#).

Interested in the effect of neighborhood unemployment and income on life expectancy in NY State and across the country? [Click here](#).

NYS Office of Victim Services releases Request for Applications



This Request for Applications outlines how to apply for funding to support direct services that meet the immediate and long-term needs of crime victims under the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim and Witness Assistance Grant Program. Contracts resulting from this

procurement will be in effect for three years with the option of one two-year renewal period. The due date for applications is April 3, 2019. [Click here to view the RFA.](#)

Highlights from our Agencies

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Have something you would like to share in our upcoming newsletter? Email pschimpf@nyscommunityaction.org by January 10th, 2019. Pictures appreciated!



Community Action of Orleans and Genesee:

On January 24, 2019, Congressman Chris Collins (NY-27) announced \$2,800,426 in federal funding for the Community Action of Orleans and Genesee Inc. The grant was awarded through the Head Start Projects Program from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Check out more [here](#).



RECAP participates in Orange County's Housing Consortium Annual Point in Time Count



The Point In Time Count happens annually across the nation to get an accurate count of the homeless. The RECAP team spent their evening in the City of Newburgh talking to neighbors and community members. They provided food packages, socks, hats, gloves and community resources.

RECAP's CEO, COO and CFO participated along with Director of Human Rights Commission Inaudy Esposito, Orange County Legislature Kevindaryan Lujan, Kelli O'Brien, Kerri Foley, Margaret Quinn, Michelle R and Allison Capella.

Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. (MVCAA)

On January 28, 2019, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. (MVCAA), in partnership with Utica College, presented their 2019 Poverty Symposium at Carbone Auditorium on Utica College's campus. The event featured a tour of MVCAA's Head Start Site, PhotoVoice display, and panel discussions. Participants also participated in the Human Library project - in which attendees had a unique opportunity to hear the personal stories and testimonies of those affected by poverty, the obstacles they faced and how they triumphed over them.

Did You Miss It?

ALICE

The ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Project is a cross-state collaboration among United



Ways, with research support provided by Rutgers University. The Project brings focus onto families and individuals who work but whose salaries do not provide sufficient resources to meet basic needs of those who are above the federal poverty level, but below a sustainable wage. The report also allows users to look at data at the town level.

Recently LIFE held a webinar with the United Way on the ALICE project. You can find the recording from the webinar [here](#).

NYSCAA Events

Grant Writing as Sacred Service (Webinar) - February 28th at 10 AM

For registration please click the link below!

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5329104557566419969>

Poverty Symposium - March 27 & 28, 2019

Latham, NY

Registration now open! [Click here for the agenda and registration.](#)

Emerging Leaders Institute

Three Seminars will be held for those in the Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI). The first sessions will be on March 26th, prior to the Poverty Symposium

Regional Meetings

Five Regional Meetings will be held around NY State. These regional meetings will be coordinated with the Department of State, and run between late April through June, 2019.

Professional Development Conference - Week of June 3rd, 2019 - Mid-Hudson Valley

NYSCAA's annual June Professional Development Conference will be held the week of June 3rd, 2019 in the Mid-Hudson Valley. The conference will include the Annual Community Action Awards Ceremony - so start making your list of nominees now!

RPIC Region II Conference ***Location TBD***

The annual RPIC Region II Conference will be held the week of September 16th. We look forward to working with our Region II partners in New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to create an exciting event! The Emerging Leaders Institute seminar will also be paired with this event.

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

**National Association for State Community Services Programs
2019 Winter Training Conference**
Arlington, VA

February 11th-12th, Pre-Conference Event
February 13th-15th, Core Conference
[Click here](#) for more information.

**National Community Action Foundation
Conference**
Washington, DC

March 20-22nd
[Click here](#) for more information.

**Community Action Partnership
2019 Annual Convention**
Chicago, IL

August 26th-27th, Pre-Convention Training
 August 28th-30th, Annual Convention
[Click here](#) for more information.

CAPLAW
2019 National Training Conference
 Charlotte, N.C.
 June 19-21
[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.

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