

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



NYSCAA Newsletter - February 2019

From the CEO

Dear Friend,

We certainly have been busy here at NYSCAA! Staff are organizing the upcoming Symposium on Poverty and Economic Security as well as regional meetings with the Department of State planned for the spring and summer. We look forward to seeing you at these events.



Our agenda for the 13th Annual Symposium on Poverty and Economic Opportunity, to be held in Latham, NY on March 27 & 28 continues to fill with compelling speakers and topics. 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 Census2020 and CAA Innovative Programs. In addition to our keynote speakers and panelists, we have several breakout sessions covering a variety of topics including Accessing Clean & Affordable Energy in New York State, Strong Nonprofit Campaign, CAAs and Rural Health, and many more. [Click here for the agenda.](#) A special thank you to our Conference Sponsor, Medical Answering services, and our Keynote Sponsors; NYSEERDA's Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE) and Roemer Wallens Gold and Mineaux, LLP, The Financial Policy Institute, and T-Mobile for their support.

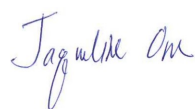
We also have our 'Grant Writing as Sacred Service' Webinar on February 28th, with Jana Hexter. Jana Hexter is the author of Grant Writing Revealed: 25 Experts Share Their Art, Science, and Secrets,

and founder of GrantsChampion, a grant development and training business. And stay tuned for our webinar on Advocacy with CAPLAW in March!

Below you'll see that the United States Census Bureau has released an Audience Outreach Toolkit to assist in connecting people to Census Bureau surveys. I hope that you will take advantage of the Toolkit and consider what strategies you may need to employ when serving the "Hard to Count" population for the 2020 Census.

The National Community Action Foundation's Annual Conference will be held March 20th-22nd, 2019 in Washington D.C. The Conference creates a platform for Community Action leaders to engage with lawmakers and participate in important national conversations. You can join me in at the conference as I will be taking part in conversations and visiting with Congressional Representatives and Senators. I look forward to seeing you there!

Best,



[Jackie Orr](#), NCRT

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February's Poverty Myth

"FOOD STAMPS ARE A WASTE OF MONEY"

Every \$1 spent on SNAP



**Brings \$1.70
in economic
benefits.**

While helping 42 million Americans afford
a healthy diet.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), in a typical month, "SNAP helped about 42 million low-income Americans afford a nutritious diet." That translates to a reduction in food insecurity of over 30%. Moreover, about 40% of beneficiaries are children - and food insecurity can have particularly adverse effects on developing bodies. One study found that half of American children will be fed by food stamps at some point in their lives.

SNAP helps so many people avoid hunger and provides incentives to purchase healthy food and that nutritious diet translates into lower healthcare costs for people who are on the program. Simply having enough food in a household is connected to lower rates of chronic illness, including hypertension, coronary heart disease, and cancer, to name just a few. This translates to 25% less in medical costs each year for people who participate in SNAP than low-income families who do not.

[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! The hotel block is filling up quickly (we've had to add more rooms to the block) so be sure to make your hotel reservation soon.

 [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.

Add to your Calendar:



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



Grant writing can be a really 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!](#)

Save The Date: NYSCAA and DOS Regional Meetings

Five Regional Meetings will be held around NY State, and will be coordinated with the Department of State. Below you can find an up-to-date schedule of this year's Regional Meetings including the hosting CAA, date of the meeting, and location. Stay tuned for the agenda and further details.

1. Capital Region: Schenectady Community Action Program, April 25th,

Schenectady NY

2. Western Region: Wyoming County Community Action, May 8th, Perry NY

3. North Country: Adirondack Community Action Programs, May 14th, Lake Placid NY

4. Central Region: Cayuga Seneca Community Action, June 12th, Auburn NY

5. New York City: Dept. of Youth & Community Development, TBD, New York, NY

New from NYSCAA: Training Request Portal

NYSCAA proudly introduces our new Training Request Portal. If you would like NYSCAA to provide a training for your staff or board members, we now offer you the ability to request the training on line. Found on the NYSCAA website, network members can complete the Training Request Form. We encourage all members to consider what training opportunities may be beneficial to staff, programs, or new initiatives.

To submit your training opportunities request form, [click here!](#)

CSBG National Partner Resources

Community Action Partnership: Community Action Podcast

The National Community Action Partnership brings you an exciting and alternative way to educate yourself on all that the National Impact Report has to offer. Stay up to date with their



new six-part podcast. To check out the podcast on Soundcloud, [click here](#).

Census 2020

United States Census Bureau: Audience Outreach Toolkit

Census partners are critical to helping the U.S. Census Bureau reach people across the nation. The toolkit outlines four barriers that census and external research experts have identified as particularly common reasons for not completing the census. Due to the fact that you know your community best, you are uniquely positioned to break down these barriers and ensure the people you care about are counted. The toolkit provides useful tips and evidence-based guidance on how to make your communications and outreach efforts as effective as possible.

For more information on how to best serve your community for Census 2020 and to download the toolkit, [click here](#)!



New York State Complete Count Commission

The New York State Complete Count Commission has announced six public hearings across the state to gain public input and hear from Census experts and advocates, beginning March 4 in Rochester.

The Complete Count Commission, [appointed last month](#), is tasked with building upon the sweeping efforts already underway to prepare for next year's federal Census. With these meetings, the Commission is undertaking a multi-year, collaborative strategy involving all state agencies, local and county governments, non-profits and local stakeholders across the state.

Each meeting of the Commission will be open to the public and webcast. The events will feature detailed presentations to the Commission by various entities involved in the census, as well as testimony from advocates, and the general public on a first-come, first-served basis. The hearings scheduled are:

The hearings scheduled are:

1. Monday, March 4, 2 p.m.
Rochester City Council Chambers
30 Church St.
Rochester, NY 14614
2. Monday, March 11, 6 p.m.
Hostos Community College
500 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451
3. Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.
SUNY Sullivan
112 College Road
Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759
4. Friday, April 12, 3 p.m.
Suffolk County Legislature - William J. Lindsay County Complex -
William H. Rogers Building
725 Veterans Memorial Highway
Smithtown, NY 11787
5. Friday, April 26, 10 a.m.
Mohawk Valley Community College - Utica
1101 Sherman Dr.

Utica, NY 13501

6. Monday, May 6, 6 p.m.
Rockefeller Institute of Government
411 State St.
Albany, NY 12203

Additional Resources

New from Community Commons: Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Advances Success for First Generation College Students



Investments in early childhood development have high returns economically and improve health outcomes throughout the lifespan. However, investing in other periods of life, such as the transition between K-12 education and higher education, also make a big difference. Higher educational achievement correlates with lower rates of chronic disease, improved overall health, lower smoking rates, and lower rates of disability. These health disparities often continue, and deepen, from generation to generation.

For the full article and to learn more, [click here!](#)

LIFE Webinar Series: Addressing the Unique Utility Needs of Victims of Domestic Violence

Victims of domestic violence often face unique challenges in establishing and/or maintaining utility service, especially when attempting to leave an abusive home. On March 20th, Webinar participants will learn more about these unique challenges and the stark consequences to the victim and their children. Participants will

also learn how to leverage existing legal and policy protections to help victims and their families to connect and maintain safe, stable, and affordable utility service.



For more information on upcoming webinars and to register, [click here!](#)

NYATEP - State of the Workforce

The State of the Workforce Brief is an annual snapshot of publicly available data, to inform communities about the dynamics of their regional economy and the workforce impact. The New York Association of Training & Employment Professionals embarked on this project to use readily available data to understand who is working and who isn't, what sectors and occupations are growing across the State, and the number of potential workers produced by New York's education & training systems.

To access a full version of the brief, [click here!](#)



Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health In New York - Free Seminar

Learn about how New York is working to meet the Social and Emotional Needs of all children Birth through Five. The Seminar will be hosted by the NYS Council on Children and Families, NYS Head Start Collaboration Office, and experts in Early Childhood Mental Health in New York State.

The seminar will take place April 4th, 1pm-4pm, at the Turningstone Conference Center, Verona, NY at the NYAEYC Pre-Conference Day.

Space is limited, register today by [clicking 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!

PathStone of Rochester:

PathStone, a Rochester, New York based CAA that serves several states and Puerto Rico, partnered with Rural LISC to invest a joint \$500,000 in InverSOL, an affordable, small scale, portable solar-powered generator as an alternative to gas-powered generators that delivers a safe and environmentally-friendly power solution to island residents. InverSOL is producing the generators iCaguas, Puerto Rico, creating approximately 40 local jobs.



For more information about PathStone and its programs, [click here](#).

Opportunities for Otsego: Violence Intervention Program - Rape Counselor Certification

The Violence Intervention Program of Opportunities for Otsego will hold its Rape Crisis Counselor Certification course beginning March 4, 2019. The 30-hour course teaches community members about the dynamics of sexual assault and domestic violence and how to appropriately support and respond to victims. Upon completion, volunteers may assist with community education, outreach events, and may support staff and clients by answering the 24-hour hotline and providing accompaniment and advocacy at hospitals, police departments or service provider offices.



To register or for more information about the course, contact Taylor at 607.433.8031 or tashton@ofoinc.org. Registration closes March 1st

at 5PM.

Community Action Partnership for Madison County: Awarded Grant for Infant and Toddler Literacy

Community Action Partnership has received a \$2,500 grant for its Infant/Toddler Literacy Development program to help train family support workers on strategies and techniques to promote literacy with the families they serve. Community Action is one of four local groups in Madison County that were awarded program grants recently for their literacy efforts. The grants were distributed by the Literacy Coalition of Madison County (LCMC), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving literacy in the county. CAP officials say scores in the area of language and literacy are typically lower in homes in poverty or those experiencing difficult stressors and the trend has been true in the Early Head Start program over the last three years. Coaches trained in The Reading League methods will provide three training sessions to the family support workers who will then work with these strategies with the families they serve in Madison County.



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

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 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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