

April 2022 - Region II News



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Region II News

Community Action Partnership of New Jersey (CAPNJ)



Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Using a gentle approach, [Ocean, Inc.](#) is working with collaborative partners by turning the town teal to bring awareness to April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Ocean Inc. and other organizations are "Turning the Town Teal" - Building a Community Connection throughout the Month of April with St. Francis and the Ocean County Prosecutors Office for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Ocean Inc. is participating in the "Turning the Town Teal" community effort with a 'Teal Box' with decorative lights located in the lobby at 40 Washington Street in honor of Sexual Assault Month. Inside the box are pamphlets, trinkets including, chap stick, buttons, stickers, pens and teal ribbon papers. You can also join the New Jersey Association on Corrections on April 30th at 10 am for [a walk in the beautiful Garret Mountain Reservation](#) in Woodland Park to augment the many services and support they provide for sexual violence survivors and increase education and awareness.

Gateway Community Action Partnership Gala

In other news, it is nice to see the return of annual in-person events that help to bring the community together. Gateway



Community Action Partnership is planning their annual gala with an in-person event in Atlantic City.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the United Community Corporation (UCC) Cafe

A [recent article details](#) the debut of “UCC Café Mobile Food Pantry” program. The initiative features a food truck equipped to serve prepared and packaged meals directly to individuals facing food insecurity. The project was launched to meet the needs of the community, help overcome the barriers of transportation encountered by low-income residents and eliminate the stigma of going to a food pantry or soup kitchen.

The new initiative follows suit with another recent effort UCC has led to address food insecurity, establishing a [community fridge in the city's East Ward](#). The unit provides residents around-the-clock access to staple goods such as milk, juice, cheese, fresh fruits and vegetables, all at no cost. In celebration of next week's UCC Café ribbon-cutting, organization officials will debut another community fridge at South 8th Street.

Putting a second community fridge directly in one of the city's most vulnerable neighborhoods also helps expand this effort to reach as many residents as possible. [UCC's](#) first fridge in the East Ward has already helped serve more than 5,000 residents since its launch. The UCC Café was funded by the [Community Service Block Grant CARES Act Rapid-Cycle Impact Project](#), an initiative aimed to address immediate needs in communities.



Wishing a Happy Retirement to Dr. Allan DeGiulio, Greater Bergen's EVP & COO of 38 Years

[Greater Bergen Community Action Partnership](#) posted [this tribute and video](#) for Dr. Allan DeGiulio to honor his 38 years of service to the community. “Words can never adequately describe or express the impact and imprint that our Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of 38 years, Dr. Allan DeGiulio, has had on our agency and the communities we serve, but fortunately, legacies speak for themselves.

In the video, Greater Bergen staff encapsulated just who “Dr. D” is, as well as his invaluable leadership to operate, grow, foster and shape Greater Bergen Community Action into what it is today moving into the future. Please enjoy this tribute video filled with warm expression, funny relatability, and synopses of Dr. Allan DeGiulio’s 38 year legacy at Greater Bergen; from many of the very people who witnessed and worked alongside him.”



In February, NYSCAA hosted the RPIC Region II Regional Convening. This virtual event brought together over 140 representatives from Community Action Agencies in Region II. Participants gathered to learn about Human Capacity & Community Transformation (HCCT) initiatives in Region II. We were excited to come together around these innovative initiatives to connect, learn, collaborate, and identify opportunities for replication and capacity building. We will spotlight these initiatives in the coming editions of the RPIC Region II newsletter. The complete list of highlighted initiatives from Region II can be found on the [NYSCAA website](#).

From New York:

- **[Chautauqua Opportunities for Development, Inc. \(CODI\)](#)**: An affiliate corporation of Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., CODI was formed in 2003 to provide borrowing opportunities to business start-ups and existing businesses that may otherwise not be eligible for such borrowing opportunities through traditional lenders. These businesses subsequently provide the community with employment opportunities and engaging products & services, which improve the quality of life and the choices available locally. Since its inception, CODI has provided 91 business loans to entrepreneurs who otherwise would not have obtained funding for their business.
- **[Connecting Communities in Action \(CCA\) - Fatherhood Connection Pilot](#)**: The NYS Department of State (DOS) used CSBG Discretionary resources to fund a pilot project to create, sustain, and evaluate a Fatherhood Connection Pilot program. The Fatherhood Connection assists in creating a firm foundation for the men in the community through the facilitation of men's parenting and personal development groups to increase self-sufficiency and self-awareness. CCA was one of three CAAs to participate in a train-the-trainer program where staff become trained and certified as new facilitators during the delivery of a 13-week Fatherhood Connection cohort. During these 13 week sessions, participants were expected to strengthen their understanding of fatherhood roles, improve parenting skills, learn communication techniques and anger management, discuss blended families and co-parenting, address domestic violence, and become more engaged in the lives of their children. Five facilitators were trained across a three-county area and held groups independently. Of the fifty-one fathers who participated, thirty graduated and increased their parenting skills, made connections with their parenting style, handled anger more effectively when frustrated, and identified areas where they need to improve communication with children, caretakers, mothers, and the judicial system.

The initiatives are also available on the National Community Action Partnership's (NCAP) [showcase webpage](#). NCAP's new platform shines a light on Community Action success stories to inspire others. You can access resources to strengthen services, build community outcomes, and create family and community change in your local area.

SAVE THE DATE!

09.29.2022 - 09.30.2022



NYSCAA & NYSWDA'S ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2022



We are excited to announce that our annual professional development conference, in partnership with the New York State Weatherization Directors Association (NYSWDA), will return for in-person attendance in 2022! The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Rochester, NY, September 29th-30th! Stay tuned for information on registration, hotel accommodations, the Community Action Awards, and much more!

Asociación de Agencias Comunes de Puerto Rico

Health Fair

Community Action Agency hosted a Health Fair on March 8, 2022. Over 100 people attended and received health benefits resources.

Managing Emotions and Tools for Well-Being Workshop

On March 31, 2022 Asociación de Agencias Comunes de Puerto Rico hosted a workshop on Managing Emotions and Tools for Well-Being.

April Events

- APRIL 8, 2022: Let's talk about Depression virtual workshop - effects of COVID-19 on Mental Health.
- APRIL 28, 2022: Social and Labor Skills with Listening and Active Communication in Pandemic Times workshop.

National Partner News & Resources

NCAP: Attend the 2022 Virtual Risk Summit for FREE!

The National Community Action Partnership is once again partnering with the Nonprofit Risk Management Center to offer free registration to all Community Action network staff to the upcoming 2022 Virtual Risk Summit. This virtual summit showcases innovation in risk management in the nonprofit sector and is an excellent opportunity to sharpen the risk management skills your agency needs to succeed. An agency-wide risk assessment is not only a requirement of the Organizational Standards, but a broad, deep and effective



risk-mitigation culture is the hallmark of a high-performing Community Action Agency.

The 2022 Virtual Risk Summit will be held over the course of three separate days in 2022 - April 5th, July 20th, and October 13th. Each day features eight fast-paced educational sessions tailored to the nonprofit sector led by risk management experts. Register your Community Action staff at no cost for this impactful event today by [clicking here](#) and selecting Affiliate Member "All-In" Participant Registration.



NCAP: Call for Workshops for the 2022 Annual Convention

The National Community Action Partnership is once again seeking workshop proposals for its Annual Convention. NCAP is currently planning for a hybrid event - both virtual and onsite. Based on our long history of peer-to-peer training, NCAP would like to secure a number of CAA professionals and national network partners to provide training.

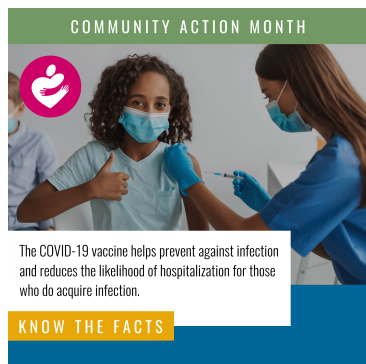
[Click here](#) to submit a proposal and learn more.



NCAP: Community Action Recognizes Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Preventing and mitigating the effects of child abuse and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) is central to the work of Community Action and to many of the services administered by the more than 1,000 Community Action Agencies (CAA) across America. A variety of resources and custom social media graphics tailor-made for Child Abuse Prevention Month are available for Agencies to use [here](#). Spread the word about **#ChildAbusePreventionMonth**.

[Find more resources from NCAP.](#)



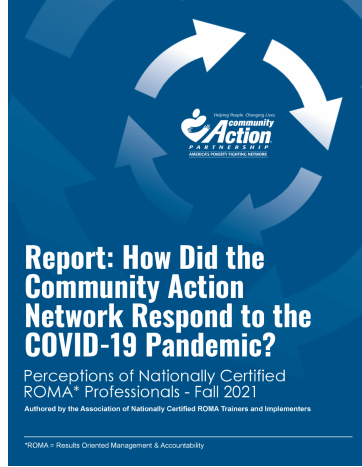
NCAP: May is Community Action Month!

May is Community Action Month. The National Community Action Partnership has created a number of resources for Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to support and participate in Community Action Month 2022. [Click here](#) to access social media messages and sample posts, Community Action values graphics, equity and heritage month graphics, COVID response story templates, and more!

NCAP: Report: How Did the Community Action Network Respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic?

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit American communities in early 2020, the nation's Network of over 1,000 local Community Action Agencies (CAAs) sprang into action. CAAs adapted existing services, implemented new ones and – almost overnight – shifted their entire organizational operations. How did they do this?

This report answers this question based on input from Nationally Certified Results Oriented Management and



Accountability (ROMA) Professionals (NCRPs). View and download the report, [here](#).

National Partner Resources on COVID-19

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on day-to-day life, the national partners have compiled available resources to assist the Community Action network and their customers.

- [The Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)
- [CAPLAW](#)
- [National Association for State Community Services Programs \(NASCSPP\)](#)
- [National Community Action Partnership \(NCAP\)](#)

National Professional Development Opportunities:

CAPLAW:

- [2022 National Training Conference](#): June 28 - 30, 2022 - Chicago, IL

National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP)

- [2022 Annual Training Conference](#): October 24-28, 2022

National Community Action Foundation (NCAF):

- [Annual Washington Conference, Presented Virtually](#): September 26-27 & October 3-4, 2022

National Community Action Partnership (NCAP):

- [2022 Annual Convention](#): August 29 - September 3, 2022 - New York, NY

Additional Resources



Springfield College: Reduced Tuition Opportunities for CAA Staff

As you might already be aware, the [National Community Action Partnership \(NCAP\)](#) and [Springfield College](#) have a partnership that allows you to receive a grant of \$5,000 or \$10,000 toward your education. All Community Action Agency employees who work 20 hours or more per week and are enrolled in one of the College's degree programs are eligible. If you'd like to learn more about the partnership and our

degree program offerings, we invite you to explore the webpages listed below.

- [Community Action Partnership Grant](#)
- [Fully Online Degree Program Options](#)
- [Virtual Information Sessions](#)

If you'd like to speak with someone from the Admissions Office about getting started, please use [this link](#) to schedule a phone call or Zoom meeting with Melanie Bonneau, National Online Recruiter.

United States Census Bureau: Back to Data Basics Webinar Series



Enhance your data skills and learn from our experts about how to access and utilize a variety of Census Bureau data products and resources with their Back to Data Basics Webinar Series. Each webinar will give you the foundational information and skills necessary to work with data from the Census Bureau. This series offers 2-4 webinars every month until September 2022. All classes are free and open to the public.

To register for the webinars, [check the catalog](#). Registration is available on a first-come first-served basis.

United States Census Bureau: New Statistics Available From the 2016–2020 ACS 5-Year Estimates



In March, the U.S. Census Bureau released new statistics from the 20162020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. Following pandemic-related data collection disruptions, the Census Bureau revised its methodology to reduce nonresponse bias in data collected in 2020. After evaluating the effectiveness of this methodology, the Census Bureau determined the standard, full suite of 20162020 ACS 5-year data are fit for public release, government and business uses. These statistics boost the understanding of the social and economic characteristics of the U.S. population.

[Click here](#) for highlights from this release on income and poverty.

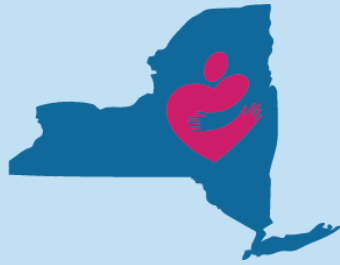
The logo for WIPFLI, consisting of the word "WIPFLI" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a blue rectangular background.

WIPFLI

WIPFLI: Stronger to Serve Conference - July 11-15, 2022

WIPFLI is thrilled to announce that registration is open for their Stronger to Serve Conference in Las Vegas this July! You can register today through the Conference website, [here](#). Join top trainers, including Denes Tobie, Tammy Jelinek and Brian Gaumont, for five days of sessions packed with must-have perspectives on leadership, operational effectiveness, compliance, risk mitigation and talent to take your organization to the next level.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.



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