



Community "IN" ACTION

Newsletter February 19, 2008

Deadline is the second Friday of the month; Contacts for articles are: Child Dev. - Farzana Siddiqui, F&CR – Barb Dame, Morale & Wellness - Phyllis Johnpoll, Development – Lisa Brown, All others – Nancy Peters. Editor: Renée Bruce

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Jerralynn Ness
Executive Director

Our national Community Action Partnership office this month released a report called "Rooting Out Poverty" that they refer to as the bedrock of their national campaign to reduce and eliminate poverty in America. This

national campaign for action seeks to reach, educate and inform our nation about the facts of poverty in America and what can be done to generate the economic and social change needed. There are five action themes that emerge from this report, as follows:

Maximize Participation – Engage many, especially the voiceless, in making it possible for people and communities to help themselves and each other achieve their full potential.

Build an Economy That Works for Everyone – Commit to strategies that provide opportunities for skill development, along with economic justice in the creation of financial tools and economic development.

Invest for the Future – Provide education, workforce training,

Directors' Corner continued


infrastructure and protection of natural resources to improve the quality of life, increase economic opportunity and capacity to meet future challenges.

Maximize Equality of Opportunity – Remove barriers and create policies, programs and initiatives that allow people living in poverty to reach their full potential.

Ensure Healthy People and Places – People are better able to avoid or advance out of poverty if they are healthy and living in safe and healthy environments.

You can read the full report at:
<http://www.communityactionpartnership.com/>.

NEWS OF NOTE

Where'd they go? 

See page 4



Program Assistant's Corner

We are continuing to collect food, etc. for the Shelter. A box is located inside the employee entrance at CA Main for your use. Thank you!

COMINGS & GOINGS

WELCOME:

Janet Phillips, Teacher III
Bonnie Taussig, Teacher II/Family Support
Tricia Davis, Bus Driver
Faria Scamarone-Garcia, Teacher II/Sub
Deborah Wong, Teacher II/Sub

Goodbye to:
Bill Urban
Nicole Russell



UPCOMING

Safety Meeting	3/03
Building Meeting	3/18
Head Start	
Policy Council	3/18
Board Meeting	3/20
New Hire Orientation	3/28

March 2008 BIRTHDAYS



Stefanie Scovill	4
Brooke Zimet	5
Lindy Ersan	7
Eliaz Piza	7
Jan Alvarez	10
Leticia Flores	10
Jenine Macon	10
Natalia Merecias	10
Zoe Marshall	11
Beth Dasher	12
Samantha Kitchen	12
Fabiola Contreras	13
Beverly Sampson	16
Patricia Gamboa	17
Maria Regino	20
Harry Weiers, Jr	21
Jenifer Allen	24
Michele Walker	24
Teri Smith	25
Maria Elena Solis-Tovar	27
Charlotte Salgado-Zerber	29
Rosa Diggs	30

March 2008 ANNIVERSARIES



We wish all of you that will have a **Community Action anniversary** this month ~ congratulations!

Time once again to be thinking about a theme for your program's gift basket contribution for the **April 18th Wellness Day.....** more information will follow in the coming weeks.



MARCH IS

- American Red Cross Month
- Professional Social Work Month
- Nutrition Month
- Women's History Month
- Poison Prevention Awareness Month
- International Hamburger & Pickle Month (Who knew?)



Remember, on March 8, Daylight Saving Time Begins (Clocks move forward one hour). Those of us who have seen the movie "National Treasure" know that it was Benjamin Franklin who first suggested Daylight Saving Time.

March 17 is St Patrick's Day. Here's a clever idea for leftover corned beef & cabbage!

Irish Egg Rolls Recipe

Serves 8

- 4 ounces chopped corned beef
- 1 cup shredded steamed cabbage
- 1 cup diced cooked potatoes
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced onions
- Salt & pepper
- 8 egg roll wraps
- 1 -1/2 quarts oil (for deep frying)

In a medium bowl mix together the shredded corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and onion. Season to taste. Place about 1/2 cup of mixture into the corner of egg roll wrapper and roll according to the directions on the package. Wet edges with water to seal. Deep fry egg rolls a few at a time in oil that has been preheated to 375 degrees for about 5 minutes or until golden brown. Drain on paper towels when done.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Home Visits

Community Action Head Start supports children and their families through home visits. Visits provide comprehensive services to support and strengthen the relationships between children and their parents. Parents are encouraged and supported to build on the activities that are introduced during the home visits.

This visit allows the teacher to better understand the child's unique strengths and needs, and provides an opportunity for parents and staff to discuss child care and early education issues. Some parents may be intimidated or uncomfortable talking with staff in the classroom setting, so these informal gatherings in the home may empower parents and facilitate more discussion.

Reaching families through home visits is an effective way to develop services which meet the needs of individual children and their families and to deliver services which support high-quality education.

The Head Start teachers have just completed the task of home visits. If you want to hear a funny or heart warming story—ask a pre-k teacher about one of their home visits. You are sure to get a smile.

2008 Wellness Day
Friday, April 18th

Save the Date !



CHECKS & BALANCES

Fiscal – W2's - These were mailed out on 1/30/08. If you still have not received yours, please contact Francisco at 503-693-3285.

There are 3 paydays in February. On the third payday this month, Feb. 29th, you will not have a "Deduction" for your Medical benefits. All other deductions will be unaffected; this applies to your Kaiser Medical deductions only. This occurs twice a year, once in each of the months that have 3 paydays. This will cause your paycheck to be slightly larger than normal on Feb. 29th.

WHAT'S DEVELOPING?

Does your program need a group of 10-30 volunteers for a one-day or half-day project? Corporate and faith-based groups are often searching for "team building" volunteer projects. Groups usually prefer to accomplish their project at one location during weekday business hours. Occasionally, groups can provide materials to help with the project. Group volunteer projects are good opportunities for people to learn about your program and how Community Action assists low-income families. Some businesses match employee volunteer hours with cash donations. Volunteers are sometimes so thrilled by what they discover that they make an in-kind or monetary donation to the program. Groups can accomplish a great deal in a short time, so it's important to consider whether your project would keep all group members busy for several hours. If you have an idea for a group project, Resource Development would be delighted to hear from you. Please call Scott, x254, or e-mail: sschlegel@caowash.org.

HR – from Jerralynn



We are in the process of recruiting for our HR Director position. At a recent Supervisor's training, we took time to get feedback on what skills our staff would like the new person to bring to this position. Here is a summary of what we learned, which is being incorporated into the interview questions:

Responsive, timeliness regardless of the answer

Approachable, accessible – easy to talk with, respectful, non judgmental to both parties, can adapt communication to fit the individual

Good HR Skills – warm & caring, knowledgeable, trustworthy, flexible (not rigid), objective neutral to both sides

Excellent Organization Skills – can delegate & use time management

Experienced – with diverse employee groups

Creative Thinking - with benefits, effective advocate with vendors for employees

Team Player – committed to staff development and supervisor training skills

Sense of Humor – good attendance, daily responses

Sees Roll as supporting Community Action employee's customer service skills

Good HR Networking Skills - current on HR issues

FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Community Action's
Emergency Rent Assistance Program
has a **new phone number**.
The number is **(503) 615-0770**.

This number is to be used by all Washington County residents who are seeking Emergency Rent Assistance. This new number is strictly a voice mail system. The recording will let callers know what funds are available, the eligibility requirements and will ask the caller to leave a number so they can be called back. Calls will be returned in the order received and appointments will be scheduled for both the Hillsboro and Beaverton sites.

This system will enable us to answer calls faster and more efficiently, and will allow us to give out current information regarding the status of funds.

Unfortunately, we are only able to assist about 10% of those seeking help. Historically, we receive approximately 400 calls each month and are only able to provide assistance to 40.

Anyone using the old Rent Assistance numbers, or those who call the main office in Hillsboro, will be given the new number to call. We will not be able to transfer calls.

LOOKIN' FER WORK IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES

Job Openings may be viewed at
Common/Agency Info/HR Resources/Job Postings

*NOTE: Please check this address weekly for current information and details. We have many jobs in development that will be posted before the next publication and we will take applications as each job is posted.

* Photos

Unfortunately the wind caused some damage to our trees. Several large limbs fell on the cars below and it was recommended that we remove them before any more damage could happen.

