



Community "IN" ACTION

Newsletter March 18th, 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

Renée and I have just returned from Washington DC where we attended our Community Action's annual Legislative Conference. Renée attended a pre-conference workshop on "How Congress Works: The Legislative and Appropriations Process". The purpose of the workshop was to gain an understanding of how a bill becomes law and how the budget and appropriations processes work. Be sure to ask Renée what it was like to play Senator Hillary Clinton!

As usual, DC was buzzing with political excitement and we had the opportunity to hear from many interesting people: historians, authors, members of congress, ambassadors, organizational leaders and the always delightful, political satire group, "The Capitol Steps". Senator Tom Harkin, from Iowa, was particularly uplifting in his remarks. He talked about how much he admires the work of Community Action and went on to say that "Most Americans psychologically separate themselves from the poor; we dehumanize them; we separate them from the human family." He understands how important CSBG funding is to Community Action and emphatically stated that "I have no higher priority than securing funding for CSBG." He went on to say that "I am tired of hearing that we declared a war on

Directors' Corner continued

poverty and poverty won. When LBJ declared war on poverty in 1964, 19% of Americans were poor. Today, in 2008 that percentage is 12%."

This was the 100th anniversary of President Lyndon Baines Johnson's birth and our theme for the conference was "Remembering LBJ". David Bradley, Executive Director of the National Community Action Foundation, wrote: "As President, LBJ set out to establish a Great Society for all Americans, a society of racial equality and shared economic opportunity. He believed the federal government's role is to be a compassionate partner to its citizens and to enrich their lives. Johnson's presidency changed the lives of every American. His policies democratized our health care system, opened the doors of higher education, and cleaned the air we breathe and the water we drink. He moved our nation far closer to realizing its centuries-old dream of justice for all. President Johnson's Great Society began with the War on Poverty, centered upon the Community Action Program that we carry on as his heirs. By empowering communities and their low-income citizens through Community Action, the nation's public dialogue about policy and politics was changed forever and for the better."

One of the key opportunities we have while in DC is to make personal visits to our Congressional delegation to let them know about the current issues of poverty in our community and the work we are doing to address them. We also let them know how our programs are affected by funding legislation such as CSBG, Weatherization, Energy Assistance and Head Start. Every single one of our members of congress expressed support for our

Directors' Corner continued

work and held our organization and Community Action in general, in high regard. At the end of the week, we left encouraged by their support and their understanding of the critical importance of our work locally. We have every reason to be optimistic about future funding!



Here we are with Congressman Wu!



UPCOMING

Board Meeting	3/20
New Hire Orientation	3/28
Safety Meeting	4/07
Building Meeting	4/15
Head Start Policy Council	4/15
Wellness Day	4/18

COMINGS & GOINGS

CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 4
NEWS OF NOTE WILL RETURN
NEXT MONTH

April 2008

BIRTHDAYS



Lolis Martyniuk	1
Miriam Pleitez	3
Silvia Campuzano	4
Mojgan Hashmat	4
Mary Jones	7
Heather Ross	8
Mika Nukaga	10
Ileana Lopez-Gonzalez	13
Heather Roberts	15
Jessica Sloan	21
Janina Tabor	21
Kristen Long	22
Jennifer Scheib	22
Ingrid Alquinta	23
Veronica Padilla	25
Karen Henkemeyer	30
Chris Kuran	30
Serena Villafana	30
Annette Zahler	30

(If you want your birthday acknowledged, be sure to complete an authorization form – contact HR)

Recognitions:



The following names will be recognized for their five year anniversaries segments at Wellness Day. These are the employees whose anniversaries happen in January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008.

For the anniversaries after June 30, 2008 they will be recognized during Fall All Staff.

If your name should be on this list and isn't, contact Nancy Peters (x202) asap.

Jerralynn Ness	35 years
Bruce Horne	10 years
John Russell	10 years
Keith Byerly	10 years
Brenda Neri	10 years
Brooke Zimet	5 years
Phyllis Johnpoll	5 years
Trisha Thomsen	5 years

APRIL IS

- Animal Cruelty Prevention Month
- National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- National Autism Awareness Month



April 1 is April Fools' Day
 Income tax filing is due no later than **April 15**
 Passover begins the night of **April 19** and ends the night of **April 27**
April 22 is Jelly Bean Day (who knew?)
 Also Earth Day is commonly celebrated on **April 22**, although according to the founders of the holiday, it is officially supposed to be on the Spring Equinox,
April 25 is Arbor Day

RECIPE

Spring cleaning? Make a treat for yourself in your slow cooker and enjoy the sweet scent of this cobbler baking while you clean. Then treat yourself to a big bowlful when you're done!

Strawberry Rhubarb Cobbler



- 2 1/2 cups sliced rhubarb (or substitute other fruit)
- 1 1/2 cups sliced strawberries
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch mixed with just enough cold water to make a smooth paste
- 1 cup + 1 tablespoon flour (or use self-rising flour and omit baking powder)
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup cold butter
- 1/2 cup milk or half & half

Combine fruit, sugar, water, and lemon juice in slow cooker/Crock Pot. Cover and cook on low 4 to 5 hours. Mix cornstarch with a little cold water and add to mixture. Turn to high. Blend dry ingredients. Cut butter until mixture is grainy; mix in milk until just moistened. Drop small amounts over fruit mixture. Cover and cook for about 1 hour on high.

MORALE & WELLNESS



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Field Trips

The Pre-K children are using this winter's snow days as make up days by going on field trips. Besides being a whole lot of fun, during a field trip children are able to see, hear, smell, touch and sometimes taste the objects they only read about in the classroom.

A good preschool program provides opportunities for children to have experiences that allow them to explore their environments. Field trips that are tied to a lesson plan with prior and follow-up activities are more likely to have a greater effect on receptive language skills. During field trips children are exposed to many opportunities to build their vocabularies and enhance their awareness of the world around them.

The Head Start children and their teachers have made trips to the Children's Museum, the library, parks, farms, and even to an assisted living center where they interacted with the residents living there. The main benefits of field trips are fun and education. No matter where they go, the students will be sure to have a fun and educational experience.



A sunny day in Washington D.C. gave us a wonderful view of our Capital.



CHECKS & BALANCES

Fiscal –

The Fiscal office will be closed Friday, March, 21st for training and team building.

Contact information for Fiscal:

Accounts Payable:

Phyllis Johnpoll 503-693-3256 X256 or
Kurt Cabrera 503-693-3283 X283

Payroll:

Javier Pena 503-693-3285

Accounts Receivable:

Ann Hering 503-693-3243

Please remember to use the Fiscal Helpdesk/
WIKI for fiscal requests.

<https://trac.caowash.org/>

WHAT'S DEVELOPING?

"Wouldn't it be great if someone donated a (fill-in the blank) for our program?"



Let Resource Development know what you're wishing for so that we're better prepared to respond to calls asking, "what do your programs need?" We also have the tools required to approach businesses about donating items to your program. **Call x 254 to ask for a Donation Request Letter & Receipt for In-Kind Donations.**

Be sure to plan ahead! Some stores require up to **60-days** to process a request. They may also ask for supporting information. Before pursuing an in-kind donation check to see if funds are actually budgeted by your program to purchase the items you seek. To maintain positive relationships with donors and to comply with standards for the agency's annual financial audit, Resource Development has responsibility for tracking all in-kind donations and for sending donation acknowledgments and receipts for tax purposes. Working together, we can expand access to the resources you need while also building strong community partnerships.

HR – from Nancy



On January 25th we held our first revised New Hire Orientation which is scheduled on the last Friday of each month. The revised format is supported by each of the directors and various staff within the agency and is designed to present a brief overview of all of our programs at Community Action.

After receiving very positive comments from our attendees, we have had several employees ask if they could also attend these orientations. We would like to open the meetings up to any employee that is interested or especially those that have never participated in the New Hire Orientation.

If you are interested in attending, please clear it with your supervisor and notify Nancy Peters (npeters@caowash.org or x202) and she will make a reservation for you.

COMINGS & GOINGS

WELCOME:

Javier Pena, Bookkeeper
Kathleen Casey, Fiscal Program Assistant
Leta Maggio, Bus Driver
Karen Henkemeyer, Energy Program Assistant
Verna Church, Teacher II Substitute
Bahja Osman, Teacher II Substitute

Goodbye to:

Carolina Olivas

Have you chosen a theme for
your gift basket for Wellness
Day? Deadline is April 4th!

Please let Barb know
at bdame@caowash.org.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES



I & R Breakfast Meeting for April

The next I&R Networking Breakfast Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 3rd. The topic will be on “Resources for Diverse Populations”. Check out the flyer on our website at:

www.caowash.org/find/find_docs/brkfstflyer.pdf

Opening Doors Parenting Class

Make Parenting a Pleasure is an internationally recognized curriculum to support parents of children birth to 8. The program is designed to address the stress, isolation, and lack of adequate parenting information and social support that many parents experience. At the heart of the class is the belief that parenting is the most important job there is and that parents are their children’s most important guides and teachers.

Participants will experience a warm and safe environment where you can feel comfortable sharing experiences and learning about parenting. *Snacks, fun activities and child care are provided!*

Location: Tuality Health Education Center

Address: 334 SE 8th Avenue, Hillsboro

Date: Fridays beginning April 4,
through June 27, 2008

No class on April 25, 2008

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

To register for the course or for more information please call The Tuality Health Education Hotline at 503-681-1700.

Happening at Community Action!

One-Credit Class available through Portland Community College
Title: The Power of Portfolios (ECE 179)

Portfolios for children in early care and education programs are a powerful way to demonstrate children’s skills, learning, development, and culture. Creating meaningful portfolios with children and families includes an observation plan, an organization system, and accessible technology (digital photography, scanners, etc.).

Dates: April 26 & May 10

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

A half hour (on your own) lunch break will be taken.

Instructor: Julie Houston,
PCC Early Education & Family Studies

Location: Community Action
1001 SW Baseline St
Hillsboro Or 97123

Register on-line at www.pcc.edu

Any questions regarding the above class, please contact Christyn Dundorf at 503-977-4028 or cdundorf@pcc.edu.