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Community Action Impact Story

Annual Frederick County Community Action Agency Turkey Distribution & COVID Vaccine Clinic



On November 23rd, at Frederick Keys Stadium, Urbana students handed off groceries and carried bags to cars in the frigid air. By noon, they'd gone through about half of their supply, starting with 1,000 turkeys from Wegmans.

Ramenta Cottrell, Director of the Department of Housing and Human Services, said food insecurities have grown with the pandemic, though the turkey distribution started long before COVID-19. Assistant director Michele Ott estimated the Thanksgiving distribution has been going on for more than 25 years. But the day was about more than feeding people for one holiday. Cottrell said she also had a goal to connect food recipients with services that can help them in the long term.

In another section of the parking lot, Frederick Health offered flu and COVID-19 vaccinations. The Love for Lochlin Foundation and Frederick Community Action Agency set up tables offering resources. Volunteers stuffed bags with COVID-19 vaccination flyers and applications for energy assistance. [Read the full article here, in the Baltimore Sun.](#)

Agency Spotlight: Harford Community Action Agency

2021 Harford Chamber of Commerce Award Winner

Harford Community Action Agency (HCAA) was awarded the 2021 Harford Award in the Non-Profit Category. HCAA has received national praise for its working relationships with numerous agencies and



Helping People. Changing Lives.

community partners throughout the county. Given these relationships, HCAA was able to handle the increased need during the pandemic, including a 43% increase in their food pantry need which equates to about 9,000 households. They rose to the occasion, adding 2 new programs to their operations to fulfill this need. Learn more on HCAA's website here: <https://harfordcaa.org/>

MCAP News & Events

Join Us in Ocean City: May 11-13, 2022!



SAVE THE DATE



**2022 MCAP COMMUNITY ACTION
CONFERENCE
MAY 11-13, 2022**

HOLIDAY INN OCEANFRONT
6600 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland, 21842
Phone: 410-524-1600



FREE MCAP Master Class: MCAP Community Action Month Symposium

Gain insight, inspiration, & actionable ideas presented by Community Action and subject-matter experts! As community action

and human service professionals, this symposium is that timely and important opportunity to share best practices, lessons learned, and effective strategies employed to ensure organizational resilience.

Sessions Include:

- Be the Spark: Challenges in the Workplace During COVID19
- Fight Poverty, Hunger, and Health Care Access Needs by Removing Barriers to Program Access
- Implicit Bias
- Hunger is a Racial Equity Issue (Racial Wealth Gap Simulation)
- Whole Family Approach in Action

[Click Here to Register Today!](#)

Network News

**Expected Requirements for
COVID-19 Vaccination and
Masking: A Letter from OHS
Director, Dr. Bernadine Futrell**



Office of Head Start

Providing comprehensive Head Start services to the children and families who need them most is a driving focus for everyone in the Head Start community – at the federal level, at the agency level, and at the classroom level. To that end, Dr. Bernadine Futrell, Director of the Office of Head Start, has shared a letter with the Head Start community which provides an early update on the rule that will revise the [Head Start Program Performance Standards \(HSPPS\)](#) to include additional health and safety requirements. [Click here for the full letter.](#)



LIHEAP and ERA Winter Month Energy Assistance Resources

On November 18th, the **Office of Community Services** released [CSBG-DCL-2021-08](#) to encourage Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) recipients to consider the information, resources, and promising practices identified for coordination between the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Emergency Rental Assistance program (ERA). The Office of Community Services (OCS), Division of Community Assistance (DCA) encourages CSBG recipients to apply these best practices across programs to effectively serve households. Read the full letter [here](#).

Tips & Tools

NEW COVID Response Templates



The **National Community Action Partnership** recently released another new batch of COVID-19 response story templates. These customizable templates are designed to help Community Action Agencies promote their successes in helping families during the pandemic. This latest collection of templates covers equity, homelessness, and job training. [Click here](#) to access the templates.

Tax Season Resources from the IRS

The IRS has sent along several graphics and some sample tweets you can use to spread the word about taxes.

- [Sample tweets](#)
- [VITA Hands Tree](#)
- [Get Ready #1](#)
- [Get Ready #1 \(SPANISH\)](#)
- [Get Ready #2](#)
- [Get Ready #2 \(SPANISH\)](#)
- [Get Ready #3](#)
- [Get Ready #3 \(SPANISH\)](#)



LIHEAP Clearinghouse Website Now Active



The Office of Community Services (OCS) is pleased to announce that the LIHEAP Clearinghouse website is now active.

[Click here](#) to access the site.

Webinars



NCAP's Introduction to Community Action
Tuesday, December 14,
2021 at 4 PM ET

The Community Action Network serves 99% of America's counties providing life-changing services that build pathways to opportunity. And while we reject the one size fits all solution to poverty, there are core Community Action ingredients that are part of our makeup today and have been since day one. **Join NCAP CEO Denise Harlow for a discussion on the core elements of Community Action and how we embed our history into today.**

[Click Here to Register](#)

Current Job Openings

Click "view entire message" below to view all job listings

Click on Agency Name for additional information and job opportunities

<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Agency</u>
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Allegany County Human Resources Development Commission
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Baltimore City Community Action Partnership
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Community Action Council of Howard County
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Community Assistance Network
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Delmarva Community Services
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Garrett County Community Action
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Maryland Rural Development Corporation
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Shore Up!
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee
<u>Multiple Positions</u>	United Planning Organization

