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Cumberland Community Action Program, Inc.

eNews

February 2011

New CCAP Board Officers Announced

CCAP recentloy held elections for its Board of Directors for the term to expire January 2012. The CCAP Board of Directors is composed of a tri-partite membership with equal parts representing public elected officials, private organizations, and democratically selected community representatives.

"The economic recession combined with the mortgage foreclosure crisis has tripled the number of "working poor" and low income families seeking the programs that CCAP offers--programs that help folks establish a stronger economic foundation," said CCAP Chief Executive Officer, Cynthia Wilson. “We are pleased to have such an experienced and active slate of Officers working to establishing policy, and supporting strategic initiatives that address the food, housing, employment, and early child development needs of the families and individuals that CCAP serves.”

The CCAP Board of Directors are:

Ms. Lisa Chance, of Hope Mills, was elected to her first term as Board Chairperson. Chance has recently served as Board Treasurer.

Ms. Terri Thomas, of Fayetteville, was elected to her first term as Vice Chairperson. Thomas has recently served two terms as Board Secretary.

Mr. Edwin Deaver, of Hope Mills, was elected to the position of Treasurer. Over his years of service on the board Deaver has been elected to various board officer positions including Parliamentarian, Treasurer, and Chairman.

Ms. Shena Ray, of Fayetteville, was elected to the position of Secretary. Ray also serves on the Head Start Policy Council.

Mr. Lenwood Edwards, of Fayetteville, was elected to Parliamentarian. Edwards recently completed two terms as Chairperson.

Mrs. Doris Ann Shipman, of Fayetteville, was re-elected to serve as Chaplain.

Mobile Pantry Vehicle Delivered to SHFB

On February 21, SHFB received delivery of a new vehicle addition to its fleet that will increase distribution capacity substantially. The mobile pantry has been operating for some three months in Robeson County out of SHFB trucks and vans. With the adddition of this custom vehicle, food will be distributed directly from the vehicle on arrival through special side panel doors and windows. Fresh produce, such as that provided by the gleaners from the Society of St. Andrew, will be taken to "mobile pantry" sites in Robeson County. Sponsors are needed to help pay for gas and other mobile pantry related expenses.

Photo by Jessica Evans

ASPIRE Self-Sufficiency Team Collects Data on Agency-Wide Work

The Community Services Block Grant Information Systems Report documents information obtained for the past year in reference to ASPIRE Self-Sufficiency Program participant statistics. The report also references other numbers that relate to other various CCAP programs.

"This report is a holistic look at the comprehensive services we provide to our community annually," remarks Stephanie Ashley, CSBG and Weatherization Director. "We know that our program has a meaningful, significant impact in the lives of those we serve; compiling this data gives our funding sources proof they need validate the program's continued support."

The report is submitted to the State and Federal Agencies that oversee the distribution of CSBG funds. The report helps policymakers at both levels determine the positive effects of the funding and is a critical tool in measuring economic impact of funding.

Head Start Welcomes Office of Head Start (OHS) Review Board

CCAP CEO Cynthia Wilso and Head Start Director Donna Barnette meet with the OHS Board to discuss procedures for the week-long review of Head Start centers and staff.

CCAP Human Resources Coordinator Kay Tarpley along with Head Start employees Sandra Shambley, Linda Darden, Janice Wright and Annie Kelly take notes and listen to the OHS Review Board.

The Office of Head Start (OHS) performed its review CCAP Head Start Centers last week. The review takes place every three years and ensures that centers across the country comply with national Head Start policies and procedures implemented by the government.

"The 2011 Review Team provided us another lens in which to view the way we administer a wide range of services to children and families," said CCAP Head Start Director Donna Barnette. "We all learned something from the preparation as well as the actual team visit. As a whole the experience was very positive for Head Start and the Team as well."

Photos by Jessica Evans

Sampson County Sees Increase in Weatherization Clients Due to Recent Intake Sessions

The Weatherization Assistance Program held a series of intake sessions in Sampson County during January and February and had great success in response to the sessions.

"We're so happy to receive such a positive response to the intake sessions in Sampson County," said Weatherization Program Specialist Sonya Corbett. "We've had roughly 10-20 people at each session, which is great. We're just glad that everyone is coming out to learn about the program and hopeful they will eventually benefit from it."

A crew member seals air leaks in an attic in Sampson County.

Photo by Jessica Evans

SHFB to Receive $73,912 to Help Fight Hunger

Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina will receive $73,912 as part of a settlement won by the NC State Attorney Roy Cooper. SHFB joins its 5 sister food banks in receiving grant funds to help fight hunger in the state.

The money comes at a time when the state's food banks are working harder than ever to meet the needs of North Carolina families hit by the economic downturn. North Carolina food banks have seen a 30 percent increase in need since 2006, according to the NC Association of Feeding America Food Banks.

Funding for the grants comes from North Carolina's share of a national settlement Cooper and 22 other attorneys general reached with major vitamin manufacturers in late 2009. The attorneys general alleged that certain vitamin manufacturers got together and fixed prices of vitamin ingredients that they sold to food processors and drug manufacturers.

"Many people who've never needed their local food bank before suddenly do," said Attorney General Roy Cooper. "Meanwhile, many of the families and companies that typically give to their local food bank have had to cut back as well. I hope these grants can aid struggling families and spur others in the community to continue to give what they can to help those in need."

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Annual CCAP Leadership Gathering

CCAP Directors and Managers gathered on February 21, 2010 for an all-day summit aimed at guiding the organization through the work of the next year. Staff representing each CCAP program and department gathered at the Double Tree Hotel to brainstorm, learn, and engage each other.

Luis Collazo, Fayetteville-Cumberland County Human Relations Department , was invited to give a presentation on managing human resource issues that may arise.

Photo by Jessica Evans

MoneySmarts

Tune in to 640AM WFNC Talk Radio Wednesday's at 9:00 am for Money Smarts with Patricia Tyson, Director of Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Fayetteville. Learn about better ways to handle your money and call in for financial advice during this half hour radio show. Special Projects Manager, Esther Acker is a regular guest offering additional advice and knowledge.

Call in with your questions today. You can also submit questions in advance by email to MoneySmarts@ccap-inc.org.

You can reach WFNC at (910) 864-6400.

Get The Latest CCAP News Instantly!

CCAP is now sharing published news stories about our programs that you may be interested! You can follow the CCAP News Feed by clicking on the link below, or accessing the feed from the Press Room at www.ccap-inc.org.

Verizon Employee Discount

You can save 8% off your Verizon Wireless bills as a CCAP employee! There is no need to start a new account, existing customers can take advantage of this discount too!

Contact the local representative, Mary Baskerville, at mary.baskerville@VerizonWireless.com or register your current account at www.verizonwireless.com/getdiscount. You will need to enter your CCAP email address to apply the discount to your plan.

SHFB Thanks Nordic Cold Storage

Nordic Cold Storage has made space available to the Second Harvest Food Bank of SE NC to temporarily store frozen and cold foods. These foods needed a temporary home so that maintenance and repairs could take place on the freezers that are in the SHFB Deep Creek Road Distribution Center. Not only does this save SHFB operating costs associated with freezer space rentals, it maintains the safety of foods that will be distributed to those in need. If cold foods stored at the warehouse could not be kept at appropriate temperatures, they would be deemed not fit for distribution. Thank you Nordic Cold Storage for your generosity and commitment to serving the needs of our community.

Head Start Employee Receives Degree in Sociology

Head Start is assisting its staff in actively pursuing higher education through a number of programs. It is the goal of Head Start for all teaching staff to have advanced degrees in their field by 2012. Congratulations to Cynthia Walker for recently receiving her Sociology degree.

Have you recently received a new degree or certification? We want to know, please email that information to jodi.phelps@ccap-inc.org.

CCCS Poster Contest

Consumer Credit Counseling Service sponsored a poster contest in conjunction with the National Foundation for Credit Counseling. The national contest aimed to get school children thinking about saving money with the theme, "Be A Superhero! Save Money!" Prizes include a $100 savings bond for first place, followed by $50, and $25 savings bonds for second and third place with $100 to the winning student's classroom. Winning posters were submitted to the national contest. The national winner receives a $500 savings bond and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC. Look for the winning posters, and more information in next month's edition of our newsletter.

CCCS Offers Free Tax Preparation

It's tax time again and Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Fayetteville will be providing free tax assistance for low to moderate income taxpayers and disabled individuals that have a family income below $50,000 through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).

Volunteers will provide free tax preparation assistance beginning January 18th through April 18th, 2011 in the Fayetteville, Smithfield, Kinston, Goldsboro, and Southern Pines offices. Fayetteville hours are Monday through Friday by appointment only, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Smithfield hours are Friday, 9am to 2pm and Goldsboro will provide services on Wednesdays from 9am -3pm. Kinston will be open on Tuesdays from 9am -2pm, and Southern Pines will provide tax service on Friday from 9am -2pm.

To schedule an appointment please contact us at (888) 381-3720/(910) 323-3192 or email us at cccsfayetteville@ccap-inc.org.