

## MARCH 2022



Jacqueline Fox, CEO

### JOIN OUR TEAM

Visit our website at [www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org) for all current job openings, job descriptions, requirements, and to apply online

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## Beware of Rental Listing Scams

### How Rental Scams Work

#### Hijacked Ads

Some scammers hijack a real rental or real estate listing by changing the email address or other contact information, and placing the modified ad on another site. The altered ad may even use the name of the person who posted the original ad. In other cases, scammers have hijacked the email accounts of property owners on reputable websites.

#### Phantom Rentals

Some individuals may make up listings for places that aren't for rent or don't exist, and try to lure you in with the promise of low rent, or great amenities. Their goal is to get your money before you find out.

### Signs Of A Scam

#### They tell you to wire them money

This is the surest sign of a scam. It is never a good idea to wire money to pay a security deposit, application fee, or first month's rent. That's true even if they send you a contract first. Wiring money is the same as sending cash — once you send it, you have no way to get it back.

#### They want a security deposit or first month's rent before you've met or signed a lease

It's never a good idea to send money to someone you've never met in person for an apartment you haven't seen. Always be sure to confirm that it's for rent, and that it is what was advertised. In addition to setting up a meeting, do a search on the owner and listing. If you find the same ad listed under a different name, that's a clue it may be a scam.

#### They say they're out of the country

But they have a plan to get the keys into your hands. It may often involve a lawyer or an "agent" working on their behalf. Some scammers even create fake keys. If you can't meet in person, see the apartment, or sign a lease before you pay, keep looking.

### How To Report Scams

If you find yourself the target of a rental scam, report it to your local law enforcement agency and to the Federal Trade Commission. Contact the website where the ad was posted, too.

# Head Start Enrollment

## Families Earn WOCAP CASH



Pictured is Mindy and  
Lincoln VonDeylen

Mindy and Lincoln earned WOCAP cash with attendance, turning in In-Kind sheets and reading logs, and attending parent meetings. This is the second Melissa and Doug toy set they have earned this year!

Head Start families can pick out awesome items such as this using the WOCAP cash they earn. Great job Mindy and Lincoln! Hope you enjoy your new toy set and continue earning WOCAP cash. We encourage all of our Head Start families to earn WOCAP Cash so they can also come in and select awesome rewards.

## St. Matthew's Classroom

The children in our St. Matthew's classroom have been busy this past month! We love watching the children learn through play. The children showed off their future engineering skills. Providing the right materials and a nurturing environment allows the children to be very creative. STEM learning took place and the children fully enjoyed it. The class also studied tubes, tunnels and ramps. This involved discussing simple machines, animals that build tunnels underground, and experimenting with their tubes to observe how their marbles moved through them. The children also enjoy the aquarium in their classroom which provides peaceful observation and teaches them how to care for living creatures by feeding their two fish named Tiger Lily and Bruce. They observed Miss Whitney clean the aquarium and helped as well.



Reach us

Monday-Friday,  
8:00 am -5:00 pm via  
any of the following:

### ONLINE:

[www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org) & scroll  
down our home page to  
find the application

### PHONE:

Angie Montgomery at  
419-227-2586 Ext. 120

### EMAIL:

Angie Montgomery  
[amontgomery@wocap.org](mailto:amontgomery@wocap.org)

Application forms can be sent  
to your home if you prefer



# HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND - UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The HAF Utilities Assistance Program is for homeowners in need of assistance with housing expenses such as utilities, lot rent, property taxes and more. All available assistance can be found below. In order to receive Utilities Assistance Plus (UAP) assistance, eligible homeowners must have experienced a financial hardship after January 21, 2020.

Eligible homeowners must be at or below 150% Federal Poverty Guidelines

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 11th—Home Based Family Day
- March 23rd—Board Meeting
- March 25th—Home Based Family Day
- March 31st—Winter Crisis Program Ends

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Amy Wannemacher
- 1 – Wendy Zomer-Thornton
- 2 – Holly Rex
- 3 – Heidi Hoff
- 9 – Christine Magoto
- 11 – Mr. Kim Upshaw
- 26 – Kim Bruns

# BOOKS FOR PRESCHOOL READING

## Kindness Makes Us Strong

Kindness is a universal theme in preschool, and this title brims with optimism and age-appropriate examples. Share it with kids and then celebrate their own kind ideas and actions.





## Hooray For Hat!

There's a pervasive dark cloud of grumpiness among the animal friends, until they start gifting hats to one another. Its many chances to chime in and notice details in the pictures, and a sweet message about friendship, make this one of our go-to read aloud books

## HOUSING DEPARTMENT SCHEDULE

CALL WOCAP AT 419-227-2586 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.WOCAP.ORG](http://WWW.WOCAP.ORG) TO SIGN UP

	<b>Fair Housing</b>		<b>Financial Management</b>		<b>Homeownership</b>
<p><b>Please call Housing Specialist for More Information</b></p> <p><b>Allen &amp; Mercer Counties</b></p> <p><b>Contact: 567-371-5787</b></p>		<p><b>April 19, 20 &amp; 21</b></p> <p><b>10 am—12 pm</b></p> <p><b>Via Webinar</b></p> <p><b>Contact: 419-227-2586</b></p>		<p><b>April 5, 7, 12 &amp; 14</b></p> <p><b>2 pm—5 pm</b></p> <p><b>Location: Webinar</b></p> <p><b>Contact: 419-227-2586 Ext. 105</b></p>	

### Excellent Attendance

Our goal is to prepare your child for their next stepping stone of education whether it is Head Start or Kindergarten. Regular Attendance is an important part of your child's educational, social, and emotional development. When children are absent from school they are missing out on a lot of educational and social opportunities. We would like to thank those parents who assure their child is attending school every day. In the month of January we had 37 children with Perfect Attendance. Way to Go Parents!

#### Home Based (WW)

Emberly K.  
Haley M.

#### Home Based (GG)

Ke'Koleon H.  
Kolton K.  
Joshua P. III  
Alistair P.  
Meena S.

#### Home Based (JJ)

Star'Ajaha A.

#### Home Based (KC)

Olivia K.  
Illana W.  
Heaven Z.

#### Lima Sr. I

Ahmias R.  
Rayvon W.

#### Lima Sr. II

Nai'Sha I.

#### Unity

Santana J.

#### Shawnee Transitional

##### Toddlers

Daxton F.

#### Shawnee Wobblers

Jackson H.

#### Allen East I

Jayse J.  
Harmoni M.  
Elizabeth O.  
Remington R.

#### Allen East II

Kaysen M.  
Noah M.

#### Central D

Juelle P.

#### Central G

Kali T.  
Telly T. Jr.

#### Howard A

Jockquaveus F. Jr.  
Graham P.

#### Market St. II PM

Olivia B.  
Mi'Layisha W.  
Dakota W.

#### Philippian II

Zy'Lynn M.  
Deveon S. Jr.



# WE ARE HIRING

FOR JOB DESCRIPTIONS & TO APPLY ONLINE,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.WOCAP.ORG



Home Relief Workers – Part Time & Full Time ●  
Teachers/Co-Teachers ●  
Intake Specialist (Allen) ●  
Compliance Coordinator ●  
Family Life Specialist ●  
Education Assistant & Coordinator ●  
Food Service Worker ●  
Technology ●  
Facilities/Delivery Driver ●

WAGES STARTING AT \$12/HOUR

**The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps Ohioans at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines pay their heating bills.**

Ohioans who are threatened with disconnection, have been disconnected from their utility service, transferring services, establishing new services, at or below 25% fuel, or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 12 months, may also be eligible for the HEAP Winter Crisis Program, which started on November 1, 2021.

**Ohioans can visit [energyhelp.ohio.gov](https://energyhelp.ohio.gov) to apply online, download a copy of the application, or find contact information for a local Energy Assistance Provider.**

**Individuals will need to have copies of the following documents to include with their application:**

- Most recent utility bills
- A list of all household members (including birth dates and Social Security numbers)
- Proof of income for the past 30 days for all household members (12 months for certain income types)
- Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal residency for all household members
- Proof of disability (if applicable)

HEAP benefits are applied to an individual's energy bill after January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you need immediate assistance with your energy bills, please contact your local Energy Assistance Provider.

A list of providers can be found at [energyhelp.ohio.gov](https://energyhelp.ohio.gov).

**Applications for the HEAP Winter Crisis program must be received by March 31, 2022.** The last day to apply for the regular HEAP benefit is May 31, 2022.

**[Call 419-516-0063 to schedule an appointment](tel:419-516-0063)**



# 2·1·1

Get Connected. Get Help.™

**NEED HELP?  
CALL 2·1·1**

**We're here for you!**

**Live. Free. Confidential. 24 hours a day. 7 Days a week.**

2-1-1 provides callers with information and referrals to social services for every day needs and in times of crisis. For example, 2-1-1 can offer access to the following types of services:

- |             |                          |                     |                           |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| • Food      | • Veterans               | • Mental Health     | • Transportation          |
| • Clothing  | • Mental Health Services | • Substance Abuse   | • Prescription Discounts  |
| • Childcare | • Education              | • Legal Issues      | • Utility/Rent Assistance |
| • Youth     | • Employment             | • Healthcare        |                           |
| • Seniors   |                          | • Emergency Shelter |                           |

**Text Us**  
419.273.0300

**Call Us**  
DIAL 2·1·1

**Visit Us**  
[allen211.org](http://allen211.org)



## West Ohio Community Action Partnership

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES – 2022

**Representatives must be One Third Private Business, One Third Public Entity, and One Third Low-Income**

Josh Unterbrink (Private)  
(Vice President)  
Activate Allen County

Susan Hord (Private)  
Rhodes State College

Shannon Tyler (Private)  
Premier Bank

Mayor Sharetta Smith (Public)  
City of Lima

Angie King (Public)  
Mercer Co Commissioner  
Appointee

Warner Roach (Private)  
City of Lima

Natalie Bice (Private) (Treasurer)  
J. M. Green & Associates

Jennifer Korte (Low-Income)  
Auglaize Co. Educational Service  
Center

Gina Seay (Low-Income)  
PC Representative for Head Start

Erica Preston (Public)  
Auglaize Co Commissioner  
Appointee

Ann Miles (Public)  
Lima City Schools

Charlene Williams (Low-Income)  
New Life Church International

Pam Fitzgerald (Low-Income)  
Allen Co Council on Aging

Elizabeth Muether (Private)  
Mercer Co District Library

Tiffany Wright (Low-Income)  
(President)  
Allen Metropolitan Housing  
Authority

Shane Coleman (Public)  
Lima Allen Co Regional Planning

Jerome O'Neal (Public)  
Allen County Commissioner  
Appointee

Linda Chartrand (Private)  
Retired

STAY  
CONNECTED

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