

## JUNE 2022



Jacqueline Fox, CEO

### REMINDER: OUR RENT ASSISTANCE IS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

**WOCAP will no longer be accepting rent applications effective May 4, 2022 until further notice**

West Ohio Community Action Partnership (WOCAP) received the Consolidated Appropriations Act Home Relief Grant (CAAHRG) to provide rent assistance to eligible renters during the COVID-19 pandemic but this funding is running low and we are awaiting new funding for this program. WOCAP must temporarily suspend accepting anymore rent applications effective May 4, 2022

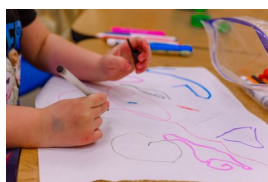
Applications already submitted will be processed by highest need first including clients facing evictions will be the priority at this time.

Please contact the WOCAP offices at 419-227-2586 for any questions, and see our website for updates on when we will accept applications again

### ENROLL YOUR CHILD IN EARLY HEAD START/HEAD START!

Ages Birth—5 years

Call WOCAP Today!  
419-227-2586



### SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM BEGINS JULY 1, 2022

**The Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program** provides a one-time benefit to eligible Ohioans with cooling assistance during the summer months. The focus of the Summer Crisis Program is to provide assistance with electric utility bills, central air conditioning repairs, air conditioning unit and/or fan.

Ohioans enrolled in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus (PIPP) Program are eligible for assistance towards their default PIPP payment, first PIPP payment, central air conditioning repairs, or may receive an air conditioning unit and/or fan.

#### Eligible Applicants:

- 60 years of age or older
- Has been diagnosed with COVID-19, or can provide physician documentation that cooling assistance is needed for a household member's health, or
- Households who have a disconnect notice, have been shut off, or are trying to establish new electric service may be eligible for assistance.

A household applying for HEAP must report total gross household income for the past 30 days (12 months preferred) for all members, except wage or salary income earned by dependent minors under 18 years old. Both homeowners and renters are eligible for assistance.

**For more information including income eligibility and the medical eligibility form, please visit:**

<https://wocap.org/emergency-services/summer-crisis-program/>

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# Head Start Enrollment

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

## ONLINE:

[www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org)

## 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



## Watermelon Fruit Pizza

### Ingredients:

- 1 whole watermelon, cut into 1" thick round slices
- 1 pint or more plain yogurt (or flavored if you prefer)
- Your choice of fruits, cut into chunks: kiwi, blueberries, strawberries, peaches, etc
- Drizzle: Honey or Agave Nectar, optional



### Directions:

- Slice the watermelon into 1" slices and smear yogurt over top
- Sprinkle with chopped fruit and add your drizzle on top

Throughout the month of May, our agency celebrated Community Action Month. We would like to thank our staff, Head Start children and families, Board members, and our community who helped us honor Community Action Agencies and the work we do.



## Future Gardeners



In May, St. Matthews classroom finished up their six week study of gardening. They spent time learning about the lifecycle of plants; from seed to sprout to plants. They also learned what a plant needs to live. The children planted pumpkin, kale, lettuce, beets, tomatoes, leeks, and more. They also painted pots and planted impatiens as gifts. They have had so much fun digging in the dirt and are excited to see their seeds come to life! We have many future gardeners!



# 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

- June 2nd—Last Day of Classes (Market & Home Based)
- June 3rd—Last Day of Classes (All HS/ODE/Duration)
- June 16th—Policy Council Meeting
- June 20th—Agency CLOSED
- June 22nd—Board Meeting

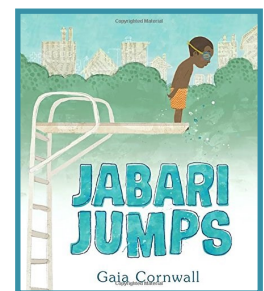
## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6 – Penny Krouse  
7 – Vicky Centers  
8 – Sarah Van Brocklin  
19 – Michela Hinojosa  
20 – Chasity Brewer  
28 – April Jadav  
28 – Miah Katalenas  
29 – Kim Crawford

## BOOKS FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS

### Jabari Jumps

Nothing says summer like the pool. Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall is the story of a little boy finding the courage to take his first jump off the diving board. His supportive family helps him find the moment that is just right for him.



### When Lola Visits

What smells do you think of when you think of summer? For a young girl in When Lola Visits by Michelle Sterling, it is all the smells and experiences associated with her grandmother's visit from the Philippines.

<b>HOUSING DEPARTMENT SCHEDULE</b> <b>CALL WOCAP AT 419-227-2586 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.WOCAP.ORG TO SIGN UP</b>		
<b>Fair Housing</b>	<b>Financial Management</b>	<b>Homeownership</b>
Providing information, training and educational materials to the community	Economic stability through education about family budgeting, savings, and behaviors that affect financial stability	Providing pre-purchase counseling and homeownership classes
Please call Housing Specialist for More Information Allen & Mercer Counties Contact: 567-371-5787	July 26, 27 & 28 10 am—12 pm Via Webinar Contact: 419-227-2586	July 12, 14, 19 & 20 10 am—1 pm Location: Webinar Contact: 419-227-2586 Ext. 112



### 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 April we had 77 children with Perfect Attendance. Way to Go Parents!

#### Central A

Charlie G.

#### Central B

Emmett C.  
Serena S.  
Kayion W.

#### EHS Home Based (GG)

Alistair P.  
Meena S.

#### EHS Home Based (WW)

Madalyn B.  
Emberly K.  
Kysen M.  
Knyko W.

#### Lima Sr. I

Khari J.

#### Unity

Ezekiel R.

#### Shawnee-Infants

Kali J.

#### Shawnee Tiny Tots

Adalei K.

#### Shawnee-Transitional Todds

Emma C.

#### The Children's PL

Levi B.  
Mia B.

#### Trinity

Toby M.

#### Allen East I

Jaiyah J.  
Jayse J.  
Wysdom J.  
Branson M.  
Isabella T.

#### Central D

Angelia C.  
Cameron D.  
Harmoni K.  
MarShay S.  
Zoey S.

#### Central G

Rhyan M.  
Kaydence S.  
Kali T.  
Telly T. Jr.

#### Central H

Keaton C.  
Jaiden H.  
Triniti I.  
Zamariah N.

#### HS Home Based (KC)

Bronx B.  
Olivia K.  
Illana W.

#### Howard A

Keillen C.  
Graham P.

#### Howard B

Kamryn C.  
Malik C.  
Donte J.  
Kamryn S.  
Charlotte W.

#### Market St. II PM

Mi'Layisha W.

#### O'Neal A

Taraji B.  
Kayven C.  
Lela J.  
Javeon T.

#### O'Neal B

Tristen B.  
Mi'Lyah B.  
Makiyah B-J.  
Aliviah G.  
Jaiden G.  
Maleah G.  
Kaydan S-M.

#### Philippian II

Zanoah M.  
Zy'Lynn M.  
Deveon S. Jr.

#### St. Matthews

Lincoln V.

# WE ARE **HIRING** JOIN OUR TEAM

Community Services Case Management Specialist  
Teachers & Co-Teachers  
Intake Specialist  
Food Service Worker  
Primary Care Givers  
Education Coordinator  
Bus Drivers & Bus Monitors  
Information Tech Intern

Visit [www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org) for job  
descriptions & to apply online

## **Younger children most affected by COVID lockdowns**

Educational progress and social development of four-and-five year-olds suffered severely during their first year at school

Some of the difficulties reported included aggressive behavior such as hitting, biting, feelings of struggling in class or being overwhelmed around large groups of children. Claudia Bowyer-Crane states "Not only does it suggest that children who started reception in 2020 are struggling in the specific learning areas of literacy and math, but also that a smaller proportion of these children are achieving a good level of development." The study looked at more than 3,000 children who began their reception year in September 2020, with their school year being disrupted by the 2nd lockdown in November 2020 and the third in January to March 2021. Many had missed out in attending daycare during the March 2020 lockdown.

### **Many children endured the experience of a lockdown with hardships, such as:**

- cramped living conditions
- no access to green spaces
- parental mental health difficulties
- financial hardship
- left some infants with low self-esteem and confidence
- feeling overwhelmed with learning

### **Children struggled with vital aspects of early years development, such as:**

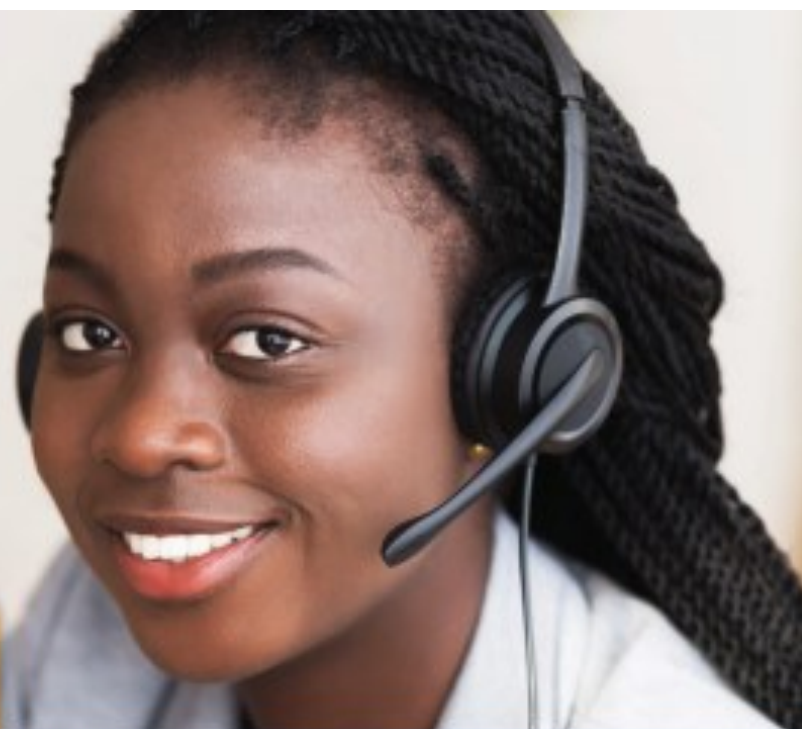
- personal touch
- coping in bigger groups of children
- separation anxiety from parents was observed
- some children were further behind with speech/language development







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**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



## 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**

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(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

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Center

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

Erica Preston (Public)  
Auglaize Co Commissioner  
Appointee

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Lima City Schools

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

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Allen Co Council on Aging

Elizabeth Muether (Private)  
Mercer Co District Library

Linda Chartrand (Private)  
Retired

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Lima Allen Co Regional Planning

Jerome O'Neal (Public)  
Allen County Commissioner  
Appointee

STAY  
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