

May 2023

Happy Community Action Month



IN THIS ISSUE:

May is here - and you know what that means - it is Community Action Month!

All of us at West Ohio CAP are looking forward to celebrating the exciting accomplishments of our staff and customers as we continue to strive to assist individuals and families in making positive changes in their lives through the Promise of Community Action. Here at West Ohio CAP we provide a variety of services and programs to help families succeed in all areas of their lives whether that be through safe and stable housing, giving their child a head start in life to prepare for Kindergarten, improving their skills as a caregiver, increasing their knowledge of financial management, and so much more! None of this would be possible without our staff, volunteers and community partners. We thank them for their time and dedication each day for their efforts in providing for the members of the communities we serve.

Throughout the month, Community Action agencies are raising awareness of their programs and also giving local residents, many of whom are unaware of the poverty in their communities, a first-hand look at the struggles low-income families face and how Community Action programs help these families achieve financial security.

Another exciting occurrence for our agency this month is the celebration of 30 years of service to the community! The year 2023 marks 30 years, and what better time to celebrate this than during Community Action Month.

Follow us on social media to keep up with all of our uplifting stories and positive impacts as we come together to celebrate everything Community Action stands for, and please know that WOCAP is here for you.

- 2 Head Start Classrooms
- 3 Spring Family Engagement Event
- 4 Weatherization
- 5 Summer Crisis Program
- 6 Head Start Enrollment
- 7 Parent to Parent Article



Jacqueline Fox, CEO

Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



HEAD START CLASSROOMS

outdoor play & family involvement

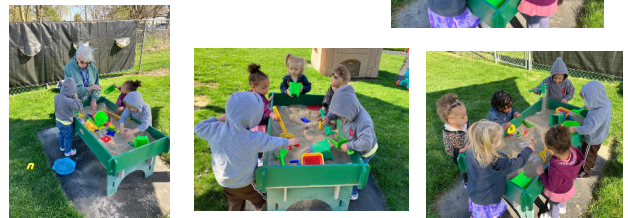
ST. MATT'S

Sunny days are made for parachutes and red light green light! St. Matt's children and teachers enjoyed time outside in the fresh air!



CENTRAL A

Enjoying the water & sand table on a beautiful day



EARLY LEARNING CENTER



The classes invited fathers and other significant male figures in our students' lives to participate in a variety of activities with their children, linking learning at school to activities that families already enjoy at home and builds community among fathers.



CENTRAL D

Reading with Role Models



HEAD START CLASSROOMS

Family Involvement

St. Matt's Family Involvement Day was a big success! They enjoyed a fun filled time making salsa with Apollo Career Center culinary instructor Shawn Orphal and several of his wonderful students. The children really enjoyed the process of chopping the ingredients and creating their very own salsa! Every child was sent home with salsa and chips plus their very own cooking kit so they can continue to explore fun in the kitchen with their parents. A huge shout out to Mr. Orphal and his crew for volunteering their time and talents and to all of the families who were able to attend.

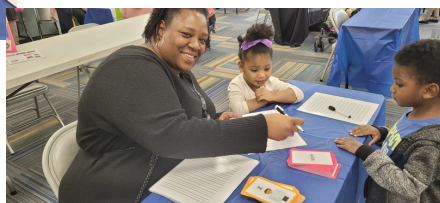


**Thank You To
Apollo Career Center**



Spring Family Engagement Event

On April 25th, families enjoyed a fun evening full of learning. Families had the opportunity to learn about various resources, and the children had numerous activities for learning, crafting, games and prizes



Interested in making a direct impact on the lives of individuals and families in our local communities?

Come join our WOCAP team for a new, exciting and rewarding career

Work in a fast-paced, growing organization, while receiving a comprehensive benefits package that includes:

- Competitive Wages
- Medical, Dental, Vision
- 13 Paid Holidays
- 5 Personal Days
- Sick Leave
- Vacation Leave
- Weekends Off
- EAP Program
- Paid Tuition
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness

Apply Today!

HOW TO APPLY ONLINE

If you are interested in any of our job opportunities, please complete the online application on our website & send a resume to:

WOCAP
(WEST OHIO COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP)
540 S Central Ave
Lima, Ohio 45804
Attn: Human Resource Coordinator

(419) 227-2586

www.wocap.org
Click on Employment Opportunities & then select Job Openings from the drop-down

WOCAP WEATHERIZATION



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Ohioans with a household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines
Priority is given to Ohioans who are older than age of 60, those with disabilities, those with children in the home, and households with a high energy usage and/or burden

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED?

Services including furnace replacement/repair, insulation, air sealing, and hot water tank replacement/repair
An HWAP team member will schedule and conduct an inspection to determine eligible services

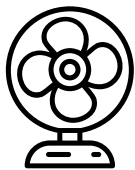
HOW TO APPLY?

For Mercer & Auglaize County Residents
Visit <https://miamivalleycap.org/weatherization/> to apply online & find more information on ways to contact and apply

WOCAP, in partnership with Miami Valley Community Action Partnership (MVCAP), are assisting individuals and families in Auglaize and Mercer Counties with The Home Weatherization Assistance Program. If you would like to decrease your energy costs and make your homes safer and more energy efficient, reach out to us today!

Those approved for the HWAP program will receive a home inspection to determine which weatherization service will be most cost effective.
Renters must have property owner approval.

Auglaize and Mercer Counties
call 419-227-2586 Ext. 228 for more information.



**The program begins
July 1, 2023**

HEAP Summer Crisis Program

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) Summer Crisis Program is a one-time benefit that can be used to pay electric utility bills, purchase air conditioners or fans, or repair central air conditioning units during the summer months

Eligibility is based on many factors, including income, age, certain medical conditions, current standing with utility service, or participation in other energy assistance programs

IMPORTANT DATES

may 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

12th - Home Based Family Day
 18th - Policy Council Meeting
 19th - Home Based Family Day
 24th- Board Meeting
 26th - 30th Anniversary Celebration
 29th - Agency CLOSED

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all of our
staff celebrating in May

3 – Karen Anderson
 4 – Alexis Handshoe
 6 – Vance Cuthrell
 6 – Megan Groves
 8 – Monica Glenn
 9 - Hallie Gossard
 12 – Shannon Sien
 15 – LaTroya Scott
 15 – On’Yae Jones
 18 – Kristen Jordan
 18 – Taylor Cowart
 21 – Lue Bradley
 29 – Angela Montgomery
 31 – Ginger Gossard
 31- Jen Smith

Fair Housing	Financial Management
Providing information, training & educational materials to community	Education on aspects that affect financial security
Please call Housing Specialist for more information Allen & Mercer Counties	Please call 419-227-2586 Ext. 112 or Ext. 156 if interested

HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Call WOCAP at 419-227-2586
 or visit our website at
www.wocap.org to sign up

Healthy & Easy Sugar Cookies



Involve your children in assisting with adding the ingredients, stirring them together, and cutting out different shapes.

Make this a fun activity by allowing your children to use paintbrushes to paint the icing onto the cookies!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup All-Purpose Flour, substitute for GF flour if preferred
- 2 T. Sugar
- 1/2 tsp. Baking Powder
- 1/4 cup Butter, softened at room temp, vegan butter if preferred
- 2 T. Milk, non-dairy if preferred
- 1/2 tsp. Vanilla extract
- Icing or gel food coloring of choice, can mix 1/4 cup powdered sugar and 2-3 tsp. milk to make icing as well

Directions:

- Place ingredients in bowl and mix to form a dough
- Make a flattened disc of dough and wrap in plastic. Refrigerate while the oven preheats.
- Preheat the oven to 375°F and line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
- Roll the dough 1/4-inch thick between two pieces of lightly floured parchment paper
- Cut out the dough with a cookie cutter and transfer to the prepared baking sheets. Bake for 7-9 minutes
- Remove from the oven, let cool on the baking sheet for a minute, and transfer to a wire rack to cool completely

BOOKS

Kindness Makes Us Strong, Sophie Beer

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.



Boxitects, Kim Smith

A favorite spirited STEAM tale. First of all, the amazing made-up words: Boxitect. Blanketeer. Spaghetti-tect. Kids want to be all of them. There is a nice underlying message about the value of teamwork, and tons of cardboard-box creation inspiration too.



Enroll Your Child Today!

Application forms can be sent
to your home if you prefer



Scan Here To Apply

HEAD START ENROLLMENT

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

ONLINE:
www.wocap.org

PHONE:
Angie Montgomery at 419-227-2586 Ext. 120

EMAIL:
Angie Montgomery,
amontgomery@wocap.org



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 March, we had 52 children with Perfect Attendance. Way to Go Parents!

Central A
Zander M.

Central B
America B.
Sawyer S.
Island W.

EHS Home Based (GG)
Nyla G.
Kolton K.
Meena S.

EHS Home Based (JJ)
Daniel B.
Juanita L.
Harper R.

EHS Home Based (WW)
Emberly K.

Lima Sr. II
A'Layah G.
Khari J.

Kingdom
Terence W. Jr.

Little Rascals A
De'Quan H.

Shawnee Weekday-Infants
Braylan B.

Shawnee Weekday-Terrific 2's
Gabriella B.
King L-K.

Shawnee Weekday-Tiny Toddlers
Ava J.

Shawnee Weekday-Transitional Toddlers
Natalina M.

Central C
Kassidy A.
Evelyn B.
Aaron B-T.
Jordan J.
Wynter P.
Jazariyo S.

Central D
Angelia C.
Knyko W.

Central G
Kali T.

Central H
Alexia B.

HS Home Based (KC)
Olivia K.
Aimee L.
Mario M.
Illana W.

Howard A
Keillen C.
Graham P.

Howard B
Kamryn C.
Zayvion S.

Market St. II
Kaiden D.
A'zon W.

O'Neal A
Kayven C.
Treasure G.
Kysen M.

O'Neal B
Armani S-M.
Kaydan S-M.

Philippian II
Tae'Lynn J.
Loveah P.

St. Matthew's
Lillyanna S.

Looking for something to do indoors with the entire family? Wanting to keep it cheap? Have you ever been to the Allen County Museum? If you have never been, let me try to convince you to go. For my children they love visiting the Children's Discovery Center. They get to experience how life was in prior years, as well as hands-on activities and right next door has a huge model train exhibit.

They also enjoy playing in the school and grocery store. My husband enjoys the Dillinger Exhibit. However, I (as someone who moved to Lima in 2017) enjoy learning about the historical aspect of Lima. We all love going through the rocks and fossils. The diversity we get to experience with the ever changing exhibits is what keeps us coming back multiple times a year.

When we finish up inside the Museum, we cross the parking lot to the Children's Garden. The kids get to run their energy out and we can enjoy a nice little picnic. It's a great way to spend the day keeping everyone entertained for minimum expense.

<https://allencountymuseum.org/>

PARENT TO PARENT

A FAMILY VISIT TO THE ALLEN COUNTY MUSEUM

SUBMITTED BY
MICHELLE PEAKE-WARREN,
HEAD START PARENT

Board of Trustees - 2023

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

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

Jerome O'Neal (Public)
Allen County Commissioner Appointee

Mayor Sharetta Smith (Public)
City of Lima

Shannon Tyler (Private)
Premier Bank

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

Warner Roach (Private)
City of Lima

Brooke Bohman (Public)
Auglaize Co Commissioner Appointee

Shelly Vaughn (Public)
Mercer Co. Commissioners Appointee

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

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

Susan Hord (Private)
Rhodes State College

Linda Chartrand (Private)
Retired

Ann Miles (Public)
Lima City Schools

Homer Burnett (Low-Income)
C.A.L.L. Ministries

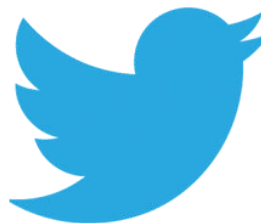
Michelle Peake-Warren (Low-Income)
Policy Council Representative

James Mehaffie (Public)
City of Delphos Appointee

Elizabeth Muether (Private)
Mercer County District Library



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