

# January 2024

## West Ohio Community Action Partnership

### A joyous holiday season for children & their families in our local community



During this holiday season, our Seal Christmas committee strived to spread kindness and joy. Our committee spends a lot of time planning for this event, including shopping and wrapping days. Our distribution day was held on December 20th and we were excited to provide presents and essentials to 78 families, for a total of 172 children.

Procter & Gamble generously donated 120 bags with household items for the whole family such as laundry detergent, tissues, baby wipes, dish soap and more. Along with these bags, each family was provided a food box from West Ohio Food Bank. We hope these presents and items could bring a smile to their faces and we look forward to holding this event each and every year!

Wishing you all a healthy, safe and prosperous new year in 2024!



This wouldn't be possible without the support of our local community partners:

- A.B.A.T.E of the Ohio, Inc.—Region 3
- Honda
- Cenovus Energy
- Stolly Family
- Davis Glass
- Great Clips
- Lima Radio Hospital
- Shoe Carnival
- Dominion Energy
- Private Donors
- Procter & Gamble
- West Ohio Food Bank



IN  
THIS  
ISSUE:

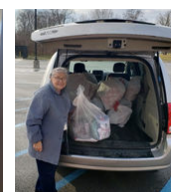
2 Policy Council

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## 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 Insurance
- 13 Paid Holidays
- 5 Personal Days
- Sick Leave
- Vacation Leave
- Weekends Off
- EAP Program
- Paid Tuition
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness

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

Click on Employment Opportunities & then select Job Openings from the drop-down

Please Note: We are no longer requiring the COVID-19 Vaccine

## POLICY COUNCIL

What is Policy Council? Policy Council makes important decisions that guide and direct the Early Head Start and Head Start programs. Policy Council is made up of Parents of currently enrolled children and Community Members. 51% of Policy Council must be parents. Policy Council, along with the WOCAP Board of Directors, must work together to govern the Head Start/Early Head Start programs. Policy Council meets monthly and reviews and approves grants, budgets, policies, serves on committees and has opportunities to attend parent trainings throughout the year. Policy Council members can only serve 5 years in a lifetime.

On Thursday November 2, 2023 the 2023-2024 Policy Council members attended new member training at the WOCAP office. Members received training on Roberts Rules of Order, how to run a meeting, their roles and responsibilities as a Policy Council members and Shared Governance. At this time members were introduced to the different sub-committees that they can sit on.

On Thursday November 16, 2023 Policy Council held their first meeting of for the 2023-2024 Term. Officers were elected and members had the opportunity to sign-up for different committees. Officers elected are: Michelle Peak-Warren as President; Delymar Torres as Vice President; Ciara Cannon as Secretary; Casey Kohnen as Treasurer and Janae Lane as the PC Rep to the WOCAP Board. Policy Council meets the third Thursday of each month at 12:15pm. Meetings are held at the Lima Public Library. We would like to Welcome new members to the 2023-2024 Policy Council Term and wish them a year full of success.

Theresa Wynn  
CDS Coordinator

Phyllis Montrose  
CDS Director

## LEAD CONTRACTOR CLASS

Along with the Ohio Department of Health Lead Grant, our agency sponsored the December 2023 Lead Contractor Class. For more information regarding our Lead Program, please call 419-227-2586 or visit our website at [www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org)



## HEAP WINTER CRISIS PROGRAM

Now - March 31, 2024

To Schedule An Appointment, Call 419-516-0063

Helps Income-Eligible Ohioans that are threatened with a disconnection, have been disconnected, need to establish new service, need to pay to transfer service, have PIPP default, need to pay first PIPP, or have 25% (or less) supply of bulk fuel in their tank maintain their utility service

### Who Is Eligible?

- Households at or below 175% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Facing disconnection
- Have been disconnected
- Have less than a 25% supply of bulk fuel in their tank

### Required Documents?

- Income for primary applicant and all the household members 18 years of age or older
- Social Security numbers for primary applicant & all household members
- Most recent utility bills
- Proof of citizenship for all household members

## Reminder for Auglaize County Residents

### NEW Site Location

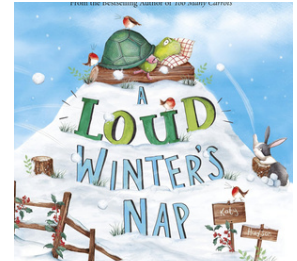
Now located at Mercy Unlimited, 38 E. Auglaize St., Wapak

Mon/Wed/Fri from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

## BOOKS

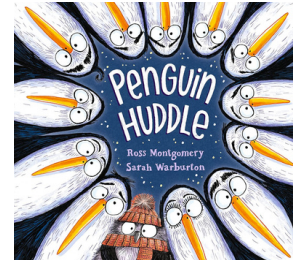
### A Loud Winter's Nap

Every year Tortoise sleeps through winter. He assumes he isn't missing much. However, his friends are determined to prove otherwise! Will Tortoise go to sleep or will his friends convince him to stay awake and experience the frosty fun of the season?



### Penguin Huddle

A merry band of penguins ventures out of the Antarctic and into the adventure of a lifetime in a quirky, rainbow-bright tale of friendship and community building.



## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all of our staff  
celebrating in January

- 2 - Mary Collins
- 3 - Shareena Ingram
- 7 - Theresa Wynn
- 12 - Patty Rodabaugh
- 18 - Stephanie Staley
- 21 - Kelli Wooddell
- 23 - Lisa Haehn
- 26 - Christine Shepherd

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 1st - Agency CLOSED (New Year's Day)
- 12th - Home Based Family Day
- 15th - Agency CLOSED
- 18th - Policy Council Meeting
- 24th - Board Meeting
- 25th - Winter Family Engagement Event
- 26th - Home Based Family Day

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. 105 if interested

## HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Call WOCAP at 419-227-2586  
or visit our website at  
[www.wocap.org](http://www.wocap.org) to sign up





# HEAD START

OUR CLASSROOMS ENJOYED MANY HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES

## ST. MATT'S

Our St Matt's class celebrated the end of the year with their Christmas program. The children sang three songs and had a very special visit from Mr and Mrs Claus



## O'NEAL A

Our O'Neal A classroom made reindeer food. All of the children brought reindeer food home to throw in the yard on Christmas Eve for Santa's Reindeer



## CENTRAL D & EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The Early Learning Center had a visit from Santa & enjoyed a movie day watching The Grinch. Children in our Central D classroom enjoyed decorating the tree while listening to different kinds of holiday music.



## 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 November, we had 58 children with Perfect Attendance. Way to Go Parents!

**Central A**  
Kirmon N.  
Za'Raeah S.

**EHS Home Based (GG)**  
Biti D.  
Idi D.  
Ariel G.  
Kolton K.  
Robert W.

**EHS Home Based (JJ)**  
Daniel B.  
Stephanie B.  
Harper H.  
James K.  
Sa'Dya T.

**EHS Home Based (WW)**  
Emberly K.

**Lima Sr. I**  
Treyvontay G.  
AuBrania S.  
Ariel T.

**Kingdom Daycare**  
Malaiyah B.

**Little Rascals C**  
Elena W.

**Shawnee Terrific 2's**  
Zy'aire M.

**Shawnee Tiny Toddlers**  
Natalina M.

**Shawnee Transitional Todd**  
Drue F.  
Shawnee Wobblers  
Madaline S.

**The Children's PL**  
Boston M.  
J'Nya P.

**Trinity Creative Childcare**  
Shaylynn M.  
Ka'Mir S.

**Allen East**  
Amurajhe G.  
Grayson R.  
Ruby R.  
Emmeri T-L.

**Central D**  
Bearrett R.  
Serena S.  
Kaidence W.

**Central G**  
Kassidy A.  
Emmett C.

**ELC Howard B**  
Kamryn C.  
Zanyla G.  
Deveon S. Jr.

**ELC O'Neal A**  
Kayven C.  
Treasure G.  
Grecia P.

**ELC O'Neal B**  
Olivia C.  
Keillen C.  
Armani S-M.

**HS Home Based (KC)**  
Adelynn B.  
Xzavier M.  
Meena S.  
Illana W.

**Market St. I**  
Phoenix B.

**Philippian**  
Lamya C.  
Luca M.

Don't want to go out in the cold? Kids bored? Want to keep them entertained without electronics? How about some fun STEM activities for children of all ages.

First let me explain what STEM is. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The purpose of STEM is to make sure children of all backgrounds get appropriate literacy and educational options. You can read more about the benefits included in the link below.

Now for the fun part, a list of Winter at home STEM activities.

-Melting Snowman: Have your kiddo make a mini snowman and see how long it takes to melt.

-Flying Reindeer: Use a toilet paper roll string and a balloon to create "slopes" for the reindeer to slide down.

-Snowstorm in a Jar: Baby Oil (you can use vegetable oil as well but the liquid will be yellow), White Paint, Alka Seltzer Tablet, Clear glass jar, Glitter (optional), Blue food coloring (optional)

Google has so many other options depending on what you and your child would enjoy. <https://www.ed.gov/stem>

## PARENT TO PARENT

### STEM

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

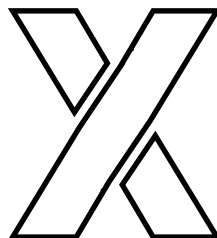
James Mehaffie (Public)  
City of Delphos Appointee

Elizabeth Muether (Private)  
Mercer County District Library

Anna Schnippel (Low-Income)  
MET Housing Board-Auglaize Co.



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FACEBOOK**



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(FORMERLY KNOWN  
AS TWITTER)**



**FOLLOW US ON  
INSTAGRAM**