

WEST OHIO COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

OCTOBER 2024



Kimberly Bruns, CEO

MEET OUR COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Intake Specialists at West Ohio CAP serve clients who apply for our Home Energy Assistance Programs (HEAP), Winter Crisis Programs (WCP), Summer Crisis Programs (SCP), and (Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) programs.



FAQ ABOUT THE HEAP WINTER CRISIS PROGRAM

All clients must meet the income guidelines of 175% of the FPG or less using all household income

Q) CAN WCP HELP RESTORE SERVICE WHEN A CLIENT'S GAS HAS BEEN SHUT OFF?

A) Yes. For a regulated gas company such as Enbridge (formerly Dominion Energy) the Winter Crisis Program can pay up to \$175 which would be split between your electric and gas bills. This \$175 would be enough to restore your gas due to the Special Reconnect Order from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Customers who owe more than the \$175 will need to make payment arrangements with the utility company for the remaining past-due amount.

Q) DOES THE WINTER CRISIS PROGRAM ASSIST WITH PROPANE BILLS?

A) Households that meet the income guidelines of 175% of the Federal Poverty Guideline or less are eligible for assistance with the purchase of propane as well as other bulk fuels used to heat the home as long as the bulk fuel tank is at 25% or less of the fuel supply

Q) CAN THE WINTER CRISIS PROGRAM HELP WITH A FURNACE REPAIR?

A) If a client is income-eligible for the program, they can receive assistance towards a furnace repair

Q) WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY HEAP CREDIT FOR MY HEATING BILL?

A) WOCAP does not issue the credit to your heating bill when you apply for HEAP. Nor does WOCAP determine the amount you will receive. The credit is issued from the state and will not be issued until after the first of the year. Sometime in 2025, clients will receive a letter from the state informing them of how much will be received towards the heating bill

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REACH A STAFF MEMBER IN OUR COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT:



419-227-2586



www.wocap.org



Allen-540 S. Central Avenue
Auglaize-38 E. Auglaize Street
Mercer- 420 N. Brandon Avenue





OCTOBER IS

NATIONAL HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH

Head Start programs promote school readiness for children up to five years old from low-income families by working with them, & teaching at their own pace



West Ohio
Community Action
Partnership

Enroll your child in
Early Head Start/Head
Start Today! Our
priority is to help you
raise strong, educated
& successful children.

Our Child Development
Services help prepare
you & your child to
become strong,
successful citizens with
numerous
opportunities &
advantages going
forward

Visit our website at
www.wocap.org
or
call 419-227-2586
to find more
information

Every October, we celebrate Head Start's historical roots, current impact, and lasting legacy

HEAD START PROGRAMS SUPPORT CHILDREN'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THEIR SERVICES:

1. **Health-** All children receive health and development screenings , mental health support, and nutritious meals, as well as medical and dental services as well.
2. **Early learning-** Head Start knows children's readiness for school comes from learning experiences as well as their environments. These programs help kids form relationships with adults and other children so they grow in many aspects of development.
3. **Family well-being-** Head start programs strengthen and support children's relationships with their parents, and bring families together to show the importance of education, financial security, and housing stability.

JOIN OUR TEAM

WE ARE HIRING!

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR



POSITIONS

- Teachers
- Co-Teachers
- Primary Caregivers



WOCAP offers competitive salary, benefits, paid education, and professional development.

BENEFITS

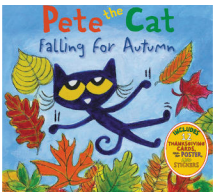
- Paid Time Off
- 13 Holidays
- Medical, Vision, Dental
- 403b Retirement
- Paid Professional Development
- Degree Seeking Education

If interested in any of these positions, please visit our website to apply - www.wocap.org

419-227-2586



BOOKS



Pete The Cat: Falling For Autumn
Pete the Cat isn't sure about the changing of the seasons from summer to autumn. But when he discovers corn mazes, hay rides, and apple picking, Pete realizes there's so much to enjoy and be thankful for about autumn.



Thank You, Neighbor
This charming story gently reminds us to slow down and be grateful for all the people, places, and things around us all year long.

WEATHERIZATION DAY OCTOBER 30

Each year, communities across the country mark October 30th as National Weatherization Day. Weatherization Day is an opportunity to highlight the impact of the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) which saves energy, improves the health and safety of homes, and supports jobs and small businesses.

For Auglaize and Mercer County residents interested in Weatherization services for their home, you may contact the following:

**Miami Valley Community Action Partnership
937-341-5000**

Auglaize & Mercer Counties are 2 of the 9 counties in Ohio that this Miami Valley CAP serves with Weatherization services.

How to Apply

Applications can be uploaded through the Client Kiosk on their website (miamivalleycap.org/weatherization/) or mailed to the office. You can download an application from the website, or call 937-341-5000, ext 226 and one will be mailed to you.

In addition to the application, you must provide the following:

- Verification of the past 90 days of income for all household members 18 or older (this may include check stubs or award letters from other programs);
- Proof of ownership (if applicable);
- Most recent gas and electric bills (both pages 1 and 2) or other fuel bill for propane, oil, kerosene or wood.
- Social Security cards for all household members.



BIRTHDAYS

- 10 - Gerrica Simpson
- 11 - Stephanie Debuque
- 12 - Lynn Miller
- 18 - Nancy Benroth
- 21 - Whitney Macklin
- 21 - Sherry Rister

ANNIVERSARIES

- Sequoya Walker - 2 years
- Crystal Boroff - 2 years
- Stephanie Staley - 9 years
- Angela Montgomery - 10 years
- Mary Hurley - 19 years
- Melina Robinson - 1 year
- Kimberly Schultheis - 25 years
- LaTina Rios - 2 years
- Megan Groves - 4 years
- Kay May - 2 years
- Lue Bradley - 17 years
- Alizabeth Demoss - 1 year
- Michela Hinojosa - 10 years
- Kristen Jordan - 11 years
- Katrina Collar - 14 years
- Shareena Ingram - 9 years
- Wendy Zomer-Thornton - 3 years

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 11th- Home Based Family Day
- 14th- Agency CLOSED
- 17th - Policy Council Meeting
- 23rd- WOCAP Board Meeting

- 25th- Home Based Family Day
- 25th- No EHS or Duration Classes - Staff Work Day (Allen East & St. Matt's In Session)

**ENROLL IN
EARLY HEAD
START & HEAD
START TODAY!**

Early Head Start and Head Start are free programs for children birth – 5 years old that qualify

More information can be found at our website www.wocap.org or by calling 419-227-2586

**ENROLL IN
EARLY HEAD
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BRIGHT FUTURES BEGIN LEAD-FREE

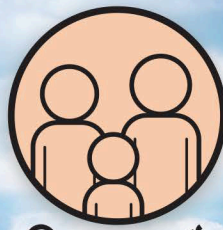
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR INFORMATION THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

October
20-26,
2024



Get the facts



Get your
child tested



Get your
home tested

Bright futures begin lead-free



#LeadFreeKids

#NLPPW2024



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 August, we had 57 children with Perfect Attendance.

Central A
Ava B.

Central B
ZaKion M.

EHS Home Based (JJ)
James K.

Little Rascal B
Jenesis G.

Shawnee Munchkins
Madaline S.

Shawnee Terrific 2's
Natalina M.

Shawnee Tiny Toddlers
Braylan B.
Charlotte L.

Shawnee Transitional Toddlers
Kane H.

Shawnee Wobblers
Westyn W.

The Children's Place
Amiri E.
Amirah G.
Zenesto M.
Chosen P.

Trinity Creative Childcare
Amara B.
Harper R.

PARENT TO PARENT ARTICLE



POLICY COUNCIL

Submitted by:
Michelle Peake-
Warren



I hope you and your littles have had a great first month of school! Now that school is in full swing, I want to talk with you about Policy Council. I encourage you to attend your child's classroom parent engagements. You might have met with your teachers or even Ms.

Wynn, and learned a little about the process to become a classroom representative or co-rep for Policy Council. I'm here to tell you a little about what Policy Council is and why your role in this is important.

First, Policy Council is made up of parents and community members. We work closely with the programs management and governing body to help in making decisions for the program. Second, while on the Council you get to learn more about what makes up the program that is educating your child. You get to help make decisions on interests and needs of the children and community that the program serves.

Third, and to me the most important, without you and your child/children there would be no Head Start program. I say that because not only is Head Start serving your little(s) in the classroom, they are also there to help you learn and grow. One of the ways the program helps you is by the confidence you grow by being a part of the Policy Council.

Please consider being a part of the Policy Council when your child's classroom goes to vote. Head Start and your child's future depends on it. Learn more at the link below.

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/organizational-leadership/article/what-policy-council>



Board of Trustees - 2024

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

Low-Income Representative

JHomer Burnett
C.A.L.L. Pantry

Janae Lane
Policy Council Representative

Connie Dershem
Allen Co. Council on Aging

Hellen Douglas
Family Promise

Anna Schnippel
MET Housing - Auglaize

Shannon Tyler
MET Housing - Allen

Private Representative

Susan Hord
Rhodes State College

Linda Chartrand (VP)
Retired

Elizabeth Muether
Mercer Co. District Library

Warner Roach
City of Lima

Josh Unterbrink (President)
Activate Allen County

Ryan Knodel
Benchmark Human Services

Public Representative

Amy Freymuth
Auglaize Co Commissioner Appointee

James Mehaffie
City of Delphos Appointee

Ann Miles
Lima City Schools

Jerome O'Neal
Allen Co Commissioner Appointee

Mayor Sharetta Smith
City of Lima

Shelly Vaughn
Mercer Co Commissioners Appointee

