

# WEST OHIO COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

JANUARY 2025



Kimberly Bruns, CEO



## MAKING THE HOLIDAY SEASON BRIGHTER

Our agency held our annual Seal Christmas Day on December 20, 2024. "Seal Christmas With Love" is a partnership between WOCAP, private community businesses, and area service organizations. Through this partnership and private donors, we were blessed to serve 166 children this holiday season, as well as their families. Each family went home with supplies donated by Procter & Gamble and gift cards for food. WOCAP would like to extend our deepest gratitude for our Christmas program's generous sponsors and volunteers. Their kindness and support have made a meaningful impact, bringing joy and warmth to families in our community during this special holiday season. Altrusa International of Lima helped with shopping for presents and wrapping and assisted us on distribution day. We greatly appreciate Honda of Lima sponsoring 25 children and delivering presents with us on our distribution day. Our longtime partner, ABATE of Ohio, Inc. - Region 3, is a crucial part of this annual event and we could not do this without them. The generosity of each of our sponsors, embodies the true spirit of the holidays, reminding us all of the power of giving and community. A special thank you to the children at our Early Learning Center for creating beautiful ornaments for the tree.



Thank you to our sponsors, volunteers, and staff committee members for making this season brighter for so many!

- P&G
- Our Town Roast
- Joey's Deli & Italian Subs
- Shoe Carnival
- Sullivan Insurance
- Honda
- ABATE
- Robert Brown's Flower Shoppe
- Enbridge Gas Ohio
- Cenovus Energy
- Altrusa International of Lima
- Humana
- Private Donors
- WOCAP Staff Committee



JOIN OUR TEAM

# WE ARE HIRING!

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR



**POSITION AVAILABLE!**

★ **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](http://www.wocap.org)**

**419-227-2586**



# Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin'-By World

Do you ever wonder why, no matter what you do, you are unable to get ahead? No matter how hard you work, do you still struggle to make ends meet? If so, Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin'-By World can offer you the answers you are looking for!



Getting Ahead is comprised of 16 small group sessions lead by a facilitator, guided by the workbook *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World*, written by Philip E. DeVol. Participants will discuss how poverty impacts their daily lives and their community. They will investigate their own personal resources and the resources in the Lima area, while learning the rules of social classes.



**Every Tuesday & Thursday**  
**January 7, 2025 -**  
**February 27, 2025**



**5:30 - 7:30 PM**



**West Ohio CAP**  
**540 S. Central Avenue**  
**Lima, 45804**

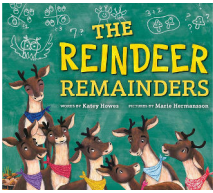
## *Participant Supports:*

- Meal at each session
- Childcare on-site
- \$25 Walmart Gift card for each session attended
- Free workbook
- Opportunity to share experiences and learn from one another
- Expanded knowledge of the community for future networking

Interested Attendees please contact  
Kris Keller, Community Services Director

**419-227-2586 x 141**

# BOOKS



**The Reindeer Remainders**  
A delightful rhyming picture book for back-to-school about working together and including others!



**Colors in the Cold**  
Offers fun ways to engage with little ones during story time and play time. Each book includes story-related tips that help extend the reading experience and emphasize key learnings

## Winter Crisis Program

November 1 – March 31

The Home Energy Assistance Winter Crisis Program (HEAP Winter Crisis Program) helps income eligible Ohioans that are threatened with disconnection, have been disconnected or have less than a 25% supply of bulk fuel in their tank maintain their utility service. The program can also assist with fuel tank replacement, fuel tank testing and heating system repair.

### Eligible Participants

- Household income 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 Documentation

- Income for primary applicant & all 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

## To Schedule An Appointment

419-495-0200

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



**Allen - 540 S. Central Avenue, Lima**

**Auglaize - 38 E. Auglaize St., Wapak**

**Mercer - 420 N. Brandon Avenue, Celina**

## BIRTHDAYS

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

## ANNIVERSARIES

- Jason Boyle - 1 year
- Heather Harner - 12 years
- Ginger Gossard - 25 years
- Charlene Adams - 5 years
- Whitney Macklin - 5 years
- Penny Krouse - 26 years
- Megan Williams - 7 years
- Cynthia Davis - 27 years
- Doris Engler - 4 years
- Laura Art - 24 years
- Kristina Keller - 8 years

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1st - Agency CLOSED (New Year's Day)
- 17th - Home Based Family Day
- 16th - Policy Council Meeting
- 20th - Agency CLOSED
- 30th - Winter Family Engagement
- 31st - Home Based Family Day

## 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 57 children with Perfect Attendance.

**Central A**  
Quayvion W.

**EHS Home Based (GG)**  
Ari'el G.  
Malaya P.  
Willow T.  
Robert W.

**EHS Home Based (JJ)**  
Levi A.  
Lyra A.  
James K.

**EHS Home Based (WW)**  
Sapphire B.  
Carolyn M.

**Lima Sr. I**  
Dylan B-T.

**Smart Start**  
Jaionna M.  
Maasai S.  
Mamie S.

**Kingdom Daycare**  
Elijah A.  
Arielle R.

**Shawnee Infants**  
Luxx F.  
Asher L.

**Shawnee Munchkins**  
Kane H.

**Shawnee Terrific 2's**  
Malachi C.  
Charlotte L.

**Shawnee Tiny Toddlers**  
Drue F.

**The Children's Place**  
Bonnie A.  
Boston M.

**Central D**  
Envee M.  
La'Miyah T.

**Central G**  
Jordyn B.  
Teagan E.  
Charlie G.

**Howard A**  
Kaine W.

**Howard B**  
A'Layah G

**O'Neal A**  
Ka'Marion R-M.  
Pilar S.

**HS Home Based (KC)**  
Dionna G.  
Makaila G.  
Kolton K.  
Abel M.

**Market St. I**  
Parker A.  
Austin K.  
Elena W.

**Market St. II**  
Zanyiah H-B.

**St. Matthew's**  
Theodore H.  
Rosalina L.  
Nathan L-G.

**Allen East**  
Addisyn H.  
Ayanna H.  
Zander M.  
Grayson R.  
Za'Raeah S.

EARLY HEAD START/HEAD START

# ENROLL NOW

Ages Birth - 5 Years



## FREE PROGRAM THAT OFFERS SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND INTELLECTUAL GROWTH TO PREPARE CHILDREN FOR SUCCESS IN LIFE

Head Start is a comprehensive program for children and their families. We offer Home-Based and Center-Based options to best meet your needs. The Home-Based option consist of a home based teacher, child, and family work together to provide activities and experiences designed to meet the child's needs in the home environment for 1.5 hours.

### WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED?

Developmental screenings, hearing, vision, dental exam and treatment, lead testing, hemoglobin testing, parenting classes, and various training opportunities. Transportation to the center may be provided for eligible children and each child receives a free snack, breakfast and/or hot lunch daily. Field trips and family days are scheduled throughout the year.

### WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

- Families income must be at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- Families/children experiencing homelessness or who are in foster care are also eligible.
- Children with a disability may also qualify.
- Services available for children age birth - five years of age
- Service are available to families/children that live or work in Allen County

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**419 - 227 - 2586**

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

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**540 S. Central Avenue  
Lima, OH 45804**



Parents are involved in decision making and in carrying out the program's activities. Parents serve on Parent Policy Council, parenting groups, and work as volunteers in the classroom. They also help to develop educational and social activities for their children.

## Board of Trustees - 2025

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

### Low-Income Representative

Homer Burnett  
C.A.L.L. Pantry

Brianna Dysert  
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

Linda Chartrand (VP)  
Retired

Elizabeth Muether  
Mercer Co. District Library

Warner Roach  
City of Lima

Josh Unterbrink (President)  
Lima Chamber of Commerce

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

