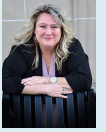


JULY 2026

Quarter 2 Newsletter



Kimberly Bruns, CEO

Celebrating Community Action Month: WOCAP in Action Throughout May 2026

May was a month filled with celebration, service, partnership, and community impact as WOCAP proudly recognized Community Action Month. Throughout the month, our staff, community partners, volunteers, and supporters came together to strengthen our mission of helping individuals and families thrive.

One of the highlights of the month was our Community Resource Fair, where community members connected with local organizations, learned about valuable programs and services, and accessed resources designed to support their needs. We are incredibly grateful for the wonderful turnout and extend our sincere appreciation to every community partner who participated and helped make the event a success. We also thank Fifth Third Bank and the Empowerment Bus for providing financial education and resources that empowered attendees to build stronger financial futures.

We were honored to receive a Community Action Month Proclamation from the Mayor of the City of Lima, officially recognizing May as Community Action Month and acknowledging the important work Community Action Agencies do to reduce poverty, empower families, and strengthen communities.

Community support was on full display during our Community Action Month Diaper Drive. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, countless diapers and baby wipes were collected to help families with young children. Every contribution will make a meaningful difference by providing comfort, care, and essential supplies to those we serve.

Our Head Start program also celebrated a special milestone as classrooms recognized Head Start's Birthday on May 18th with cupcakes and classroom celebrations, honoring the program's lasting impact on early childhood education and family support.

On May 22nd, WOCAP staff gathered for our All Staff Training, an opportunity to reconnect, learn, and invest in one another. We were grateful to welcome Tesha Banks, who energized staff with fun movement activities, and motivational speaker Charles Marshall, whose humor, positivity, and inspiring message reminded us of the importance of resilience, connection, and finding joy, even during challenging times. Their encouragement left our team feeling refreshed, motivated, and ready to continue serving our community with compassion and excellence.

As Community Action Month came to a close, we reflected on the power of partnerships, volunteerism, and community support. Thank you to our staff, board members, community partners, volunteers, donors, and everyone who participated in our events throughout May. Together, we continue creating opportunities, strengthening families, and making a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.



CENTRAL D WRAPPED UP THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH A SPECIAL FIELD TRIP RIGHT HERE AT WOCAP!



Our curious learners had the opportunity to explore the building and discover the many ways WOCAP serves the community. The children enjoyed visiting offices, meeting staff members, and learning about the important roles our community helpers play each day. It was a fun and educational experience that helped our students better understand how people work together to support individuals and families throughout our community. Thank you to all of our staff who welcomed the children and shared a little about what they do!

PROGRAM CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION



WEST OHIO CAP GETTING AHEAD

WOCAP is proud to celebrate the success of our 2 recent Getting Ahead series. The Allen County series was held from November 12, 2025, through January 27, 2026, and brought together eight dedicated participants, all of whom successfully completed the 16-session series. The Auglaize County series was held from January 21, 2026, through May 13, 2026, where 4 individuals completed the program (2 men, 2 women, including one married couple). We would like to recognize and thank the Wayne Street Church in St. Mary's for their partnership in this program for providing our Auglaize County class with a meal, childcare, and a place to hold our classes.

The Allen County cohort consisted of women ranging in age from 26 to 68, creating a diverse

and supportive environment where participants could learn from one another's experiences. Two participants were mothers with young children, and childcare was provided to help ensure they could fully participate in the program. To further support attendance and engagement, a meal was served at the beginning of each class, and participants received a \$25 Walmart gift card for every session attended.

Throughout the series, participants engaged in meaningful discussions, shared personal experiences, and gained valuable information and skills designed to help them strengthen their futures and their connections to the community. The relationships built during the program created a welcoming atmosphere where everyone felt encouraged and supported.

As the series came to a close, participants expressed how much they valued the conversations, resources, and friendships developed throughout the program. Many shared that they were sad to see the sessions end, a testament to the positive impact the program had on their lives.

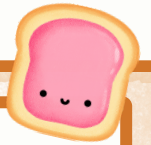
We congratulate all 12 graduates in the two counties on their commitment and achievement and look forward to continuing to provide opportunities that empower individuals and strengthen our community.



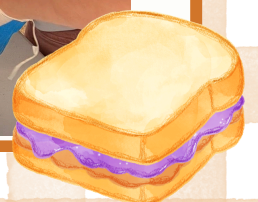


Spread The Love

Free PB&J Meals



Nothing brings a team together quite like giving back. At our most recent leadership meeting, staff members spent time making PB&J sandwiches for Spread The Love, an organization that helps provide lunches to children. Our team loved being able to help support such an important cause and be part of serving our community.



WE'RE HIRING!

Make a Difference. Change a Child's Future. Build Your Career. ♥

*Shape
the Future
ONE CHILD
AT A TIME.*
♥

JOIN OUR TEAM AS A:



TEACHER

Lead a classroom that inspires learning, growth, and school readiness for young children.



CO-TEACHER

Work alongside our teaching team to create engaging and nurturing learning experiences.



FLOAT TEACHER

Provide classroom support across multiple sites while helping maintain high-quality learning environments.



SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Flexible opportunities available! Help support children and classrooms when staff are absent.

WHY JOIN WOCAP?



Competitive Pay



Paid Holidays



Health Insurance Benefits



Retirement Plan



Professional Development Opportunities



Supportive Team Environment



Opportunity to Make a Lasting Impact



WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- ✓ Passion for working with young children
- ✓ Reliable and dependable team players
- ✓ Positive attitude and willingness to learn
- ✓ Experience in Early Childhood Education preferred



APPLY TODAY!



*Your Next
Classroom
Is Waiting.
Join the
WOCAP Family
Today!*
♥



419-227-2586



www.wocap.org



@WOCAPOhio



WOCAP
WEST OHIO COMMUNITY
ACTION PARTNERSHIP

Head Start & Early Head Start

*Building Stronger Families.
Stronger Communities.
Stronger Futures.*



Celebrating Fatherhood



Family Engagement



Program Success

Celebrating Strong Fathers, Strong Families

Our Fatherhood Initiative participants recently completed the nationally recognized 24/7 Dad® A.M. curriculum, a 12-session program designed to strengthen fathers, families, and communities.

Throughout the program, fathers participated in group discussions and activities focused on communication, healthy relationships, parenting, self-awareness, employment, financial responsibility, and other important life skills. The program provided a supportive environment where fathers could learn from one another, share experiences, and build stronger foundations for themselves and their families.

To recognize their hard work and commitment, graduates and their families were invited to a special Family Bowling & Graduation Celebration at Westgate Entertainment Center. Fathers had the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments alongside their children and loved ones while creating positive memories and enjoying quality family time together.

We are proud of each father who completed the program and look forward to seeing the continued positive impact they will have on their families and our community.

Fatherhood Initiative Program

This program is designed to help you grow, connect, and succeed in your role as a parent. Join Our Fatherhood Initiative Program in partnership with the Ohio Department of Children and Youth.



STRONGER FATHERS. STRONGER FAMILIES.

Who Can Join?

- Fathers with children under the age of 18
- Fathers facing barriers such as:
employment challenges, housing instability,
or limited parenting support

What You'll Learn

- Parenting and co-parenting skills
- Communication and relationship building
- Financial management and goal setting
- Personal growth and leadership

Grow As A Father. Gain Support. Earn Rewards.

Once you complete all 12 classes, you are eligible to receive financial support in the form of assistance that can be used toward purchasing essential daily needs

The program is flexible & can be completed through various options

Offered Individually, in Group
Settings, In-Person, or Online

Classes Starting Now!

Each Session Includes 12
Classes & 90 Days of Follow-Up

Ready To Become The Best Dad You Can Be?

If you are a father who
wants to build a stronger
future for your family, we
encourage you to join us.
Our team is here to support
you every step of the way



BUILD CONFIDENCE. STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS. SHOW UP AS YOUR BEST SELF.

Vance Cuthrell, Program Manager
419-227-2586 x 156

Shelby Ashenfelter, Mentor Coach
419-227-2586 x 105

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. The children listed below each attended school 100% in each of the months.

March Excellent Attendance

- Paul L.
- Waylyn L.
- Za'kius B.
- Hayden L.
- Willow T.
- A'King W.
- Robert W.
- Josephvoni B.
- James K.
- Ariyhnia M.
- Harley P.
- Zhy'Aire S.
- Ilona V.
- Isabella W.
- Isaiah B.
- Da'miri S.
- Ja'sai S.
- Alexandria C.
- Amalia U.
- Phoenix S.
- Wyatt F.
- Kane H.
- Nalani J.
- Haven S.
- Darius F.
- Leighton W.
- Del'quan W.
- Delonni W.
- Myari W.
- Teagan E.
- Malayah S.
- Quayvion W.
- Wooldensley D.
- Rubensley D.
- Kashton B.
- William S.
- A'Layah G.
- Genesis O.
- Khari J.
- Emmett L.
- Patience O.
- Ruth V-V.
- Jenesis A-J.
- Abel M.
- Randall O.
- Lyric H.
- Glenn D.

April Excellent Attendance

- Cooper T.
- Emma T.
- Za'kius B.
- Ky'mir T.
- A'King W.
- Robert W.
- Scarlet Y.
- Josephvoni B.
- James K.
- Ariyhnia M.
- Harley P.
- Ilona V.
- Isabella W.
- Josiah A.
- Elijah N.
- A'laiya C.
- Asher L.
- Wyatt F.
- Kane H.
- Madaline S.
- Camilla C.
- Myla W.
- Cameliana A.
- Denver C.
- Amiri D.
- Karius F.
- Kahlani G.
- Nalaya G.
- Arayah J.
- Isabel P.
- Luna P.
- Myles S.
- Josiah H.
- Jordyn B.
- Karliah B.
- Anastasia B.
- Chanze B.
- Cyrus D.
- Teagan E.
- Kayden G.
- Julius L.
- Rudramadevi P.
- Kairo B.
- Wooldensley D.
- Cooper E.
- Kellum I.
- Amelia L.
- Artist T.
- Bubensley D.
- Kae'Lon F.
- La'Mira T.
- ZaHava W.
- Daan A.
- Kashton B.
- Aveonn D.
- Jai E.
- Addisyn H.

·Raghavendrai P.

- Ellys S.
- Ariel T.
- Mi'Yonna D.
- Yahaira E.
- Jordan S.
- Levi V.
- Gianna A.
- Zora D.
- A'Layah G.
- Kahmora H.
- Da'Riyah M.
- Genesis O.
- Zoey T.
- Giovanni A.
- Elliot L.
- Emmett L.
- Ruth VV.
- Jenesis A-J.
- Emberly K.
- Kenya T.
- Mariah W.
- Eleicia M.
- King M.
- Elena W.
- Adriana A-E.
- Darionte L.
- Maxton N.
- Weston N.
- Kah'Zylah P.

May Excellent Attendance

- Joshua S.
- Aazyla T.
- Emma T.
- Za'kius B.
- Willow T.
- A'King W.
- Robert W.
- Josephvoni B.
- Kiara, J.-B.
- James K.
- Ariyhnia M.
- Ilona V.
- ZaKari L.
- Da'miri S.
- Ja'sai S.
- Josiah A.
- Elijah N.
- Jayce S.
- Princeton J.
- Kane H.
- Camilla C.
- Haven S.
- Myles S.
- Josiah H.
- Leighton W.
- Delonni W.
- Myari W.
- Jordyn B.
- Wooldensley D.
- Jordan D.
- Kellum I.
- Ameilia L.
- Ashlyn S.
- Rubensley D.
- Daan A.
- Ava J-D.
- Ariel T.
- Kai'Onni D.
- Jordan S.
- Konnor C-A.
- Genesis O.
- James W.
- Zarian G. Jr.
- Khari J.
- Elliot L.
- Patience O.
- Jaylen W.
- Daniel B.
- Stephanie B.
- Kenya T.
- Mariah W.
- King M.
- Arriyah M.
- Adriana A-E.
- Damarious B.
- Darionte L.
- Zenleigh M.
- Maxton N.
- Weston N.



**BUS
STOP**

“Baby on Board” is a program started August 2025 through Allen Co. RTA and receives technical assistance from Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission. It is grant-funded through Ohio Department of Transportation’s OTP2 allocation.



Lima/Allen County
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION



For more details and resources
about “BABY ON BOARD,” please
visit: www.lacrpc.com

BABY ON BOARD

FREE BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR FAMILIES!

ALLEN COUNTY RTA IS OFFERING FREE FIXED ROUTE BUS SERVICE TO PREGNANT WOMEN OR PARENTS WHO HAVE A CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 2 (EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE FOR FAMILIES WITH A CHILD UP TO AGE 5). GET YOUR FREE MONTHLY PASS BY CONTACTING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PARTNER AGENCIES LISTED BELOW.

GET A FREE “BABY ON BOARD” BUS PASS HERE:



Heartbeat of Lima
421 S. Cable Rd.

Lima, Ohio 45805 419-222-7945



Lima Memorial Health System
1001 Bellefontaine Ave.

Lima, Ohio 45804 419-228-3335



Mercy Health - St. Rita's Medical
Center 730 W. Market St.
Lima, Ohio 45801 419-227-3361



West Ohio Community Action Partnership
540 S. Central Ave.
Lima, Ohio 45804 419-227-2586



Helping Hands

Parent & Guardian Classroom Support Sign-Up

We Need Your Help!

Lend a helping hand in our classrooms!

We are currently experiencing staffing needs, and your support helps ensure classrooms remain safe, consistent, and fully supported.

Why Volunteer?

- ✓ Support your child's classroom
- ✓ Help maintain a safe environment
- ✓ Be part of the learning experience
- ✓ Make a difference for all children



Volunteer Times

Morning & Afternoon Support Needed

Flexible Hours

Sign Up Today!

Scan the QR Code to Sign Up



Or Visit:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rch6f4qWZj>

Thank You!

Your time and support make a difference.
We appreciate our Head Start families!



WEST OHIO COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2026

LOW-INCOME REPRESENTATIVE

Homer Burnett
C.A.L.L. Food Pantry

Brianna Dysert
Policy Council
Representative

Hellen Douglas
Family Promise

Patti Hamilton
AGAPE Ministries - Auglaize

Shannon Tyler
MET Housing - Allen

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE

Linda Chartrand (VP)
Retired

Warner Roach
City of Lima

**Josh Unterbrink
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Lima Chamber of
Commerce

Ryan Knodel
Benchmark Human
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Rachael Staley
Allen Co. Board of DD

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Amy Freymuth
Auglaize Co. Commissioner
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Adam Haunhorst
City of Delphos Appointee

Ann Miles
Lima City Schools

Mayor Sharetta Smith
City of Lima

Beth Guggenbiller
Mercer Co. Commissioner
Appointee



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Auglaize - 38 E. Auglaize St., Wapakoneta

Mercer - 441 E. Market St., Celina