



# Community IN ACTION

Newsletter December 19, 2007

Deadline is the second Friday of the month; Contacts for articles are: Child Dev. - Karne Murray, F&CR - Barb Dame, Morale & Wellness - Phyllis Johnpoll, Development - Lisa Brown, HR - Tina Amela, All others - Nancy Peters. Editor: Renee Bruce

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Jerralynn Ness  
Executive Director

It was so great to see everyone at our Fall All Staff this month and to have Donna Beegle join us and share her inspiring stories and journey. We don't often get to stop and reflect on what we are learning in our daily work.... about how poverty impacts people's lives. Many of you who work on the front lines came up to me afterwards and told me how moved you were or how affirming Donna's presentation was and/or that you felt she was our best speaker yet. Poverty stirs a lot of emotions and I have to assume that Donna's presentation also made some people uncomfortable. What's important is that we keep our minds and our hearts open, and commit to our belief that every single person has value and deserves to live a life with dignity and security. Our job is to help them navigate through in a way that is empowering and brings them hope and the opportunities for real change. Community Action does this so well because we have you, a staff committed to these core values, and because we operate a diverse set of programs, responding to the uniqueness of each family's situation. As we bring closure to 2007, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you do. And I know with certainty that 2008 will be a very good year at Community Action.



### Program Assistant's Corner

The Book Exchange Program is being discontinued. If you want any of the books that are on the shelves located in our Café, please help yourself before 12/31/07. Any books left will be donated after the New Year.

*Due to popular demand the Book Exchange Program will stay active*



## COMINGS & GOINGS

Welcome to :

Matt Helberg	Bus Driver
Kurt Cabrera	Bookkeeper
Vineeta Lower	T-II Sub
Chrystal Carlen	T-II Sub
Adelina Ruiz	T-II F/S

Goodbye to: Rachelle Mejia,  
Heather Thompson, Winnie  
Althizer, Heather Thompson and  
Laura Geraci



## UPCOMING

Board Meeting	12/20
Christmas Holiday	12/24 & 25
New Years Holiday	1/01
Safety Meeting	1/07

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**BIRTHDAYS**



Amina Abdirahman	1
Dany Chhy	1
Alisha Stoecklein	1
Claudia Gutierrez-Garcia	4
Martha Knapp	4
Susan Bartholmew	5
Carol Bump	6
Larry Hauth	7
Margarett Blaylock	8
Michael Connor	9
America Morales	9
Kathleen O'Neill	12
Juan Amaya	13
Vitalina Sidani	13
Barb Dame	17
Lucia Guerrero-Perez	18
Amber Luarie	18
Elizabeth McLeod	20
Lela White	21
Deborah Smith	22
Joan Brown	25
Catalina Solis	25
Greg Hedges	26
Tina Amela	31
Sonia Hurtado	31
Sally Stocker	31

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**ANNIVERSARIES**



	Years
Sonia Espinoza	7
Ruzica Djurdjevic	6
Miriam Pleitez	6
Jennifer Scheib	3
Maria Elena Solis-Tovar	3



**JANUARY IS:**

- Birth Defects Prevention Month
- Poverty in America Month
- Blood Donor Month
- Thyroid Disease Awareness Month
- Human Resource Month



In Wales, on New Years Eve, at the first toll of midnight, the back door is opened and then shut to release the old year and lock out all of its bad luck. Then at the twelfth stroke of the clock, the front door is opened and the New Year is welcomed with all of its luck.

An old Sicilian tradition says good luck will come to those who eat lasagna on New Year's Day, but woe if you dine on macaroni, for any other noodle will bring bad luck.

**Cranberry Salsa Spread**

- 2 cans whole cranberry sauce
- 4 green onions
- 2 jalapenos
- 6 serrano peppers
- 1 small white onion, peeled
- juice of 2 limes
- 2 blocks of cream cheese

Put cranberry sauce in a large bowl. In food processor, chop onions and peppers with onion. Add chopped vegetables to sauce and mix well, Juice the limes and add juice to cranberry mixture. Allow mixture to sit a few hours or overnight in refrigerator. Spoon over blocks of cream cheese and serve with crackers.



## WHAT'S DEVELOPING?

Happy Holidays from Resource Development and thank you to all Community Action staff that helped us throughout the year! Extra special thanks to the Hillsboro Child Development Center's kitchen staff, Vicki Ware and Terry Andersen, for their help with a project that may not be familiar to everyone. Streets of Tanasbourne donates all the coins tossed into their fountain. The bank requires that the coins be cleaned before they can be deposited and our kitchen staff allows us to use the dishwasher to wash and dry the coins. With the help of Vicki and Terry, the coins are clean and ready for Keith Byerly and fiscal staff to deposit. (Thanks Fiscal!) Without this great teamwork, coins tossed in the fountain with a wish would not make it to Opening Doors, where they help mothers bring healthy newborns into the world. To date, this project has raised \$1,820.



## CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Over the last few weeks the Head Start part day Pre-K classrooms have been hosting Open Houses in their schools. This has been a great way for the school personnel to meet our Head Start teachers and see just what Head Start has to offer.

In some of the classrooms the Head Start children made the invitations and even helped prepare the food. One classroom hosted their Open House in the morning and served coffee and pastry to the teachers while they looked through the curriculum and materials we use.

Many of the classrooms were able to make connections with other teachers in the schools. A music teacher even wanted to get involved, several Head Start class got older buddies, and a principal thought it was a great idea and should be done more often!

It is important for Head Start to be seen in such a positive welcoming manner in the schools and within the districts. The extra time and effort made now will benefit our program in the long run. Thanks to all the teachers who worked so hard to make their Open Houses successful.



## LOOKIN' FER WORK ... ...IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES

Job Openings may be viewed at  
Common/Agency Info/HR Resources/Job Postings

\*NOTE: Please check this address weekly for current information and details. We have many jobs in development that will be posted before the next publication and we will take applications as each job is posted.

# FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES



## LIGHTING

### To Do List!

- **TURN OFF LIGHTS WHEN YOU ARE NOT USING THEM.** One 100-watt bulb left on all night costs about \$25 over twelve months.
- **SWITCH FROM INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULBS TO COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS (CFLs).** With an incandescent bulb 90% of the energy used is wasted as heat - only 10% is converted to light. CFLs use about a fourth as much electricity and last ten times longer than incandescent bulbs, which can be especially useful in hard to reach fixtures. The EPA estimates that a typical household would save \$80 each year by switching to CFLs throughout the house.
- **PUT COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULBS IN HARD-TO-REACH FIXTURES.** You won't have to replace them for about 5 years!
- **REPLACE HALOGEN TORCHIERES WITH ENERGY STAR - LABELED COMPACT FLUORESCENT TORCHIERES.** They're cheaper to operate and safer to use.
- **KEEP BULBS CLEAN.** Dust can cut light output by as much as 25%.
- **CHECK SALES.** Especially during National Energy Month - in October - stores often have sale prices on fluorescent bulbs.



### REMINDER:

Please help fill our Family Shelter's Food Pantry.

Collection boxes are available for your non-perishable food items in the workrooms on the first & second floors and in the employee entrance at CAO main.

Thank You!

Director know. Thanks for your support during this change. We intend to use this change as an opportunity to build a very strong and responsive HR Department.  
Warmly, Jerralynn

