

Kentucky and Iowa CAAs' Milestones Recognized at CCAP Ceremony in Boston

Jim Lopresti, Director of the Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) Program

A record number of Community Action leaders were formally enrolled as Certified Community Action Professionals at the Community Action Partnership's 2010 Annual Convention in Boston. Among the group of 49 new Certified Community Action Professionals were nine who came from KCEOC Community Action Partnership in Barbourville, KY. KCEOC joins 14 other

agencies nationwide that have at least five CCAPs on their leadership teams.

KCEOC chief executive Paul Dole, CCAP since 1994, said that the commitment to obtaining the designation for the CAA's management team was a part of the agency's response to participating in the Partnership's Pathways to Excellence program. Dole said that from his experience "the more Certified

The Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) program is a peer recognition certification program established in 1992 by the Community Action Partnership for current or emerging Community Action managers and leaders. In order to become a CCAP, candidates must demonstrate their mastery of a comprehensive Community Action body of knowledge covering history, vision, values, management, and leadership, as well as theories about the causes and remedies of poverty.

Community Action Agencies with Multiple Certified Community Action Professionals

AGENCY	CITY	STATE	CCAPs
Community Action Council	Lexington	KY	15
Missouri Valley Community Action Agency	Marshall	MO	14
Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation	Decorah	IA	11
West Central Missouri Community Action Agency	Appleton City	MO	10
KCEOC Community Action Partnership	Barbourville	KY	10
East Missouri Action Agency, Inc.	Park Hills	MO	10
Ki Bois Community Action Foundation	Stigler	OK	10
Missouri Ozarks Community Action, Inc.	Richland	MO	9
Tri-County Community Action Partnership	Bridgeton	NJ	8
Central Missouri Community Action	Columbia	MO	7
SW Oklahoma Community Action Group, Inc.	Altus	OK	5
Economic Security Corporation of the Southwest Area	Joplin	MO	5
Northeast Missouri Community Action Agency	Kirksville	MO	5
Community Action Partnership of Riverside County	Riverside	CA	5
Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph	St. Joseph	MO	5

Community Action Professionals an agency has, the better it performs."

Dole said that he already sees the difference in the level of ownership of the mission of the entire agency among his fellow CCAPs. They have assumed new levels of responsibility for identifying problems that the agency needs to address and are providing solutions for them.

According to Dole "a CEO who wants his agency to really be successful has got to get management staff into the Certified Community Action Professional program." He added, "they need to get on board with programs like Certified Community Action Professional, regional certifications, and Pathways to Excellence and show that they value education for their team."

Also among the new CCAPs acknowledged in Boston were two staff members from Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation in Decorah, IA. Their enrollment as CCAPs

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2010 KCEOC Community Action Partnership Certified Community Action Professionals are recognized at the Boston convention. They are (from left to right) seated, Tish Coldiron, Denise Caldwell; second row, Miles Estes, Marilyn Coffey, Mitzi Hubbard, DeLisa Lynn Estes, Jennifer Brooks-Smith, Melissa Canady-Alderton; third row, Robert Hall, CEO Paul Dole, and CCAP Commissioner Charles McCann. PHOTO BY DON WEST

The Partnership's New National Risk Mitigation and Quality Improvement Training and Technical Assistance Center

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Lil Dupree, Project Director, National RMQI T/TA Center, and Director of Training and Technical Assistance, Community Action Partnership, Washington DC

Last spring, the federal Office of Community Services in the Department of Health and Human Services requested proposals to create a National Risk Mitigation and Quality Improvement Training and Technical Assistance Center. The Partnership is very pleased to announce that we have been selected to create and operate the new Center, in partnership with the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP), and in coordination with Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW). This is an exciting project for the Community Action Network, coordinating resources, guidance and assistance that will support the needs and address the mandates of each of the members of the Network.

This project will establish a National Steering Committee consisting of members of the Network: Community Action Agencies and Community Service Block Grant-eligible entities, national partners, State CSBG Offices, and State Community

Action Associations. The Steering Committee will assist in developing a comprehensive National Needs Assessment of and for the Community Action Network that will assess Network strengths and weaknesses, the availability of T/TA resources, consultants available to the Network,

“The Center will support the Network members in their common mission of ameliorating the causes and effects of poverty in America and promoting economic security for all in America.”

and gaps in knowledge and resources. Watch for it! We'll want your input and best suggestions.

Advised by the Steering Committee, and using the data from the National Needs Assessment, the Partnership, together with the National Association

for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP), will launch the new T/TA Center, providing coordinated and comprehensive resources, guidance and assistance that will support the needs and address the mandates of each of the members of the Network. The Center will support the Network members in their common mission of ameliorating the causes and effects of poverty in America and promoting economic security for all in America.

Please stay tuned to our website and eNews for announcements on the Center. We soon will need your and the Network's assistance with the first phase of the project, the National Needs Assessment. This will start with a comprehensive survey to assess both the Network's needs and its resources, with targeted follow-up interviews, as well as listening sessions at both the Partnership's Management and Leadership Training Conference (January 5-7, 2011 in Miami) and NASCSPP's Mid-Winter Training Conference (March 2-4, 2011 in Bethesda). We look forward to your participation and input on all these levels! ❖

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means that every member of the agency's leadership team is now a CCAP.

Mary Ann Humpal, Executive Director, is proud of this accomplishment for her agency. When the Region VII CAA Association surveyed the agencies in its states about the impact of having multiple CCAPs on the management team, she said "it broke down the 'silo mentality.' Managers were no longer just focused on their own program. They now saw the common mission and vision of the agency and brought a new level of understanding and commitment to the work of Community Action." She added, "Now that the entire management team are Certified Community Action

Professionals, I no longer have to talk about mission and vision and values. They understand what this agency is trying to accomplish and now just naturally incorporate the Community Action Promise in their everyday activities. We have no turf issues since we all are striving for the greater good of the families we serve."

"We now are looking to the future," said Humpal. "We are working with mid-management staff to become Certified Community Action Professionals so, as retirements occur, we will be in a good position to leave this agency in secure hands that understand that Community Action is more than a set of programs—it is an opportunity to change people's lives." ❖

CORRECTION:

In the Winter (February) 2010 issue, Barbara Mooney's article "Nievas and Mendez Receive National ROMA Partnership Award" said that Luz Mendez "has been Puerto Rico's only Certified ROMA Trainer." While this was true before 2008, eight individuals have since become Certified ROMA Trainers.

Jolanda Velez Perez, Executive Director of INSEC, led the effort, becoming certified in May, 2008. She was followed by Iris Del Valle, Vanessa Gonzalez, Yolanda Gonzalez in September, 2008, and Luis Betancourt, Iris Cerezo, Elana Melendez and Pedro Ortiz in December, 2008.