



# Network Connection

Mission: To advocate for low-income Missourians and strengthen the Community Action Network

Vision: A state where all people and communities thrive

## IN THIS ISSUE

### Advocacy

**p. 1-2**

- Legislative Pre-Season, Advocacy Day 2017, ROMA

### Network Capacity

**p. 2-3**

- MIS Onboarding Update, Organizational Standards, Training Plan, NCRI, Annual Conference, Community Service Award

### Missouri CAN Capacity

**p. 3-4**

- Board Election, Giving Tuesday, Agency Visits

### Calendar

**p. 5 and MissouriCAN.org**

*Did you know that low-income Missourians can spend nearly 14 percent of annual income on home energy costs?*

## ADVOCACY – A voice for low-income Missourians

### Advocacy Pre-Season (part III)

By: Kurt Brewer, Executive Director, [kbrewer@communityaction.org](mailto:kbrewer@communityaction.org)

Continuing our baseball parallel from recent editions, history is about to be made! The World Series title is about to be won for the first time in over a century for the Chicago Cubs (last title was in 1908), or nearly 70 years for the Cleveland Indians (1948). The legislative session is just around the corner, and we're about to know who all the new players will be. If you think the odds are against anything significant happening this year, I invite you to consider the baseball fans in Chicago and Cleveland. Many of them had a nonchalant approach to the season when it started.

**Don't forget  
to get out  
and VOTE on  
November  
8<sup>th</sup>!**

But instead of just watching the events play out on television, we each can play a part in the upcoming legislative session. Each vote counts, and each person that participates and shares information and encourages their friends and neighbors to get involved...that all adds up. We have had success in the past few years securing funding for key areas like early childhood education, Utilicare, and the transfer of funds from LIHEAP to Weatherization. We've also had success in preventing (or lessening) legislation that would have been harmful to low-income Missourians. There are no guarantees that we will achieve our goals this year, but I will guarantee you one thing: we won't be heard if we don't raise our voices!

Are you with us? Let us know what's going on in your area, and what questions/topics you'd like to see us cover. Make sure that your voice is heard, and bring your friends to the conversation as well. We are all part of the same team, working toward the same goal – a state where everyone can thrive! If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on social media:

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/MoCommunityAction](https://www.facebook.com/MoCommunityAction)

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/Missouri\\_CAN](https://twitter.com/Missouri_CAN)

**Blog:** [MissouriCAN.org/blog](https://MissouriCAN.org/blog).

## Save the Date! 2017 Advocacy Day at the Missouri Capitol

By: Heidi Lucas, Outreach Manager, [hucas@communityaction.org](mailto:hucas@communityaction.org)

Have you been thinking about the exhibit your agency will display at the Capitol? The 2017 Community Action Network Advocacy Day will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Please mark your calendars now. This is an important day for our network to show our legislators the true power of Community Action in the State of Missouri.

## Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) Next Generation

By: Courtney Kohler, Program Director, [ckohler@communityaction.org](mailto:ckohler@communityaction.org)

The Federal Office of Community Services has released the revised CSBG Annual Report (ROMA Next Generation) Package which will be in the [Federal Register](#) for a 30 day comment period through November 30th. The Dear Colleague Letter from 10/25/2016 can be found [here](#). This document includes a summary and explanation of the changes, as well as what remained the same. The complete package for review can be found [here](#).

During this comment period the feedback will be submitted directly to OMB. OMB will review for four to eight weeks and potentially approve for a 3 year period. There has been a lot of work at all levels that has gone into this draft CSBG Annual Report/ROMA Next Generation. Missouri CAN, as well as the national partners, will be reviewing and submitting feedback. We encourage the local agencies to do the same to ensure the best possible product for the Network.

## NETWORK CAPACITY – Helping you help others

### Onboarding Team Update

By: Jayna Gray, Information Systems Manager, [jgray@communityaction.org](mailto:jgray@communityaction.org)

The Onboarding Team met on October 19<sup>th</sup>. This gave each team the opportunity to develop a project plan for the migration to version 6. A full Onboarding report will be shared with the Missouri CAN's Board of Directors during the November board meeting. The report will also be shared with Onboarding team members to pass along to agency staff.

The Draft Assessment was reviewed by the Outreach Managers Professional Alliance meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The assessment group will meet in early November to discuss suggestions made by the group.

### Organizational Standards

By: Courtney Kohler, Program Director, [ckohler@communityaction.org](mailto:ckohler@communityaction.org)

Just a reminder that Organizational Standards are due to the state office through submission in MIS December 30, 2016. Jayna and I presented on the submission process and resources available during the Outreach Managers Professional Alliance meeting on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Further guidance and documentation will be shared with the network by November 17<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, as you prepare for submission, a self-assessment check-list, a webinar on expectations, and over 90 resources are located in the [Organizational Standards Resource Bank](#). Email me for the password to access the Drop Box or with any questions.

### Annual Training Plan

by Courtney Kohler, Program Director, [ckohler@communityaction.org](mailto:ckohler@communityaction.org)

Thank you to all those who filled out the annual training survey! We received over 200 responses and lots of great feedback. We are compiling this information now to help influence the coming year's training plan. Stay tuned for an outline of the trainings to come. Topics include ROMA Next Generation, training/facilitation, community needs assessment, project management, and MIS Version 6 for statewide trainings. A variety of topics will also be included in e-course format in Moodle, the online learning management system.

## Nationally Certified ROMA Implementer (NCRI)

By: Courtney Kohler, Program Director, [ckohler@communityaction.org](mailto:ckohler@communityaction.org)

We currently have 11 progressing through the NCRI pilot in Missouri. In October, NCRI candidates attended the one-day ROMA training where they compared ROMA concepts to their agency processes and documents. Portfolio development and web-based study circles are occurring through January 9, 2017. Nationally Certified ROMA Trainers (NCRT) are welcome to participate in the study circles to learn the implementation pieces that are being assessed within each part of the ROMA cycle. We will also need volunteer NCRTs to help provide feedback on the portfolios throughout. Please contact me if interested in either opportunity. Once candidates complete their portfolios, they will take an online exam and their portfolios will be reviewed by a Master ROMA Trainer. ROMA expertise continues to grow in-state as we prepare for ROMA Next Generation and this certification will be important in bridging the gap between the concepts and the application of ROMA.

## 2017 Missouri CAN Annual Conference

By: Becky King, Training Manager, [bking@communityaction.org](mailto:bking@communityaction.org)

Professional development workshops, panel discussions, keynote addresses, and lively entertainment will be found at the 2017 Missouri CAN Annual Conference. Join us in "Becoming One Community Action" on April 4-6, 2017 in Springfield! In addition to the keynote speaker Mia Birdsong, a family activist, we will also hear from the Springfield City Manager, Greg Burris. Greg will highlight the Springfield Impacting Poverty Commission and the work their community is doing to combat poverty locally.



## Outstanding Community Service Award Nominations

by Courtney Kohler, Program Director, [ckohler@communityaction.org](mailto:ckohler@communityaction.org)

Who will your agency nominate this year? Once again we will be honoring those outstanding community partners throughout the state that help to achieve our vision as a state where all people and communities thrive. Be thinking about that partner in your community that has helped to further your agency mission. Award nomination forms will be sent out with conference registration.

Missouri CAN CAPACITY – Helping us help you

## Missouri CAN At-Large Board Election

By: Kurt Brewer, Executive Director, [kbrewer@communityaction.org](mailto:kbrewer@communityaction.org)

Thank you to everyone who cast their vote in our recent board election. We received more than 220 votes, and are pleased to announce the following list of At-Large Board Members, who will be seated at the November 10, 2016 Board Meeting:

Kim Brashear, CAPNCM  
Terry Hiatt, CAPNEMO  
Jill Ruckdeschel, CAPSTJOE  
Angela Hirsch, CMCA\*

Paula Kinchen, DAEOC  
Heather Shortell, MOCA  
Angie Stoll, MVCAA

Todd Steinmann, OACAC\*  
Terry Sanders, OAI\*  
Kristina Klass, WCMCAA  
\* = incumbents re-elected to the Board

On behalf of Missouri CAN, I would like to express our appreciation and welcome our new Board Members! We'd also like to recognize and thank the following individuals for their past service on the Board:

Melinda Smith, MOCA

Mary Lou Schussler, WCMCAA

Paulette Hensley, JFCAC



## Missouri CAN: Giving Tuesday 11/29

By: Kerri Voyles, Strategic Communication Manager, [kvoyles@communityaction.org](mailto:kvoyles@communityaction.org)

Black Friday. Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday. The holidays are right around the corner, which means it's almost time for Giving Tuesday, a global giving event on November 29, 2016. This year, Missouri CAN will be promoting Missouri CAN Supporter memberships (\$25+) and other donations to the Network on Giving Tuesday. We will be building up to the digital event through social media and our blog. Donors will be able to give via the following link: <https://missourican.webconnex.com/CAN>, and they can give directly to local agencies if they wish. If your agency is interested promoting this event, please contact [kvoyles@communityaction.org](mailto:kvoyles@communityaction.org).

### Agency Visits

- Courtney Kohler had the opportunity to visit South Central Missouri Community Action Agency (SCMCAA) to deliver a Board Member Roles & Responsibilities Training on October 18<sup>th</sup>. On the following day, the training *Customer Service in Action* was conducted at the beautiful Echo Bluff State Park for over 30 SCMCAA staff.
- Jayna Gray and Courtney Kohler had the opportunity to conduct MIS/Case Management training in St. Louis for People's Community Action Corporation (PCAC) on October 25-26<sup>th</sup>.

**Activity calendar on the following page**

## ON THE CALENDAR

### **Election Day**

November 8

### **MCADA Retreat**

November 8-9...Old Kinderhook

### **Missouri CAN Board**

November 10...Missouri CAN Office

### **Veterans Day**

November 11...Missouri CAN Office Closed

### **CAPS - Poverty Simulation Facilitator Training**

November 14-15...St. Louis

### **IRCPA - Internal ROMA Consultant Professional Alliance**

November 15...Missouri CAN Office

### **ITPA - Information Technology Professional Alliance**

November 17...Missouri CAN Office

### **OPPA - Outreach Personnel Professional Alliance**

November 17...Missouri CAN Office

### **MEP - Missourians to End Poverty**

November 22...Missouri CAN Office

### **Thanksgiving Holiday**

November 24-25...Missouri CAN Office Closed

### **RDPA - Resource & Development Professional Alliance - Webinar**

November 29...Missouri CAN Office

### **FDC - Family Development Credential Portfolio Advisor's Orientation**

November 30...Missouri CAN Office

### **Leadership Academy**

December 1-2...Missouri CAN Office

### **Human Resource Professional Alliance**

December 7...Missouri CAN Office

### **MCADA**

December 14...Missouri CAN Office

### **Christmas Holiday**

December 23-26...Missouri CAN Office Closed

### **New Year's Holiday**

January 2...Missouri CAN Office Closed

### **CCAP - Certified Community Action Partnership**

January 4...Jefferson City

### **ITPA - Information Technology Professional Alliance**

January 4-5...Missouri CAN Office

### **MCADA**

January 11...Missouri CAN Office

### **Missouri CAN Board**

January 12...Missouri CAN Office

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

January 16...Missouri CAN Office

### **EHPA - Energy and Housing Professional Alliance**

January 18...Missouri CAN Office

### **MEP - Missourians to End Poverty**

January 26...Missouri CAN Office

### **RDPA - Resource & Development Professional Alliance**

January 31...Missouri CAN Office

**View additional details and register for events on the Activity Calendar at [MissouriCAN.org](http://MissouriCAN.org) under the "For Members" tab.**



**Kurt Brewer, Missouri CAN Executive Director  
November 4, 2016**