



Network Connection

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

Vision: A state where all people and communities thrive

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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

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
8th!**

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

Blog: MissouriCAN.org/blog.

Save the Date! 2017 Advocacy Day at the Missouri Capitol

By: Heidi Lucas, Outreach Manager, 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

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

The Onboarding Team met on October 19th. 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 28th. 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

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 28th. Further guidance and documentation will be shared with the network by November 17th. 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

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

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

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 Burriss. 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

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

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

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.

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 18th. 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 25-26th.

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 under the "For Members" tab.



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