Did you know that Missouri’s college graduation rate is 54%?

ADVOCACY – A voice for low-income Missourians

Legislative Pre-Season
by Kurt Brewer, Executive Director, kbrewer@communityaction.org

All major sports have a pre-season that helps teams get ready for the upcoming season. At the risk of offending die-hard sports fans, our legislative session is far more important than our sports seasons, so doesn’t it deserve the same preparation? Here are the tools you need to stay informed throughout the upcoming session (and the rest of the year):

- Facebook: 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, hlucas@communityaction.org

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 Office of Community Services (OCS) requested feedback from the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Network on the proposed CSBG Annual Report, which is part of the ROMA Next Generation framework. The 60-day comment period began on June 16, 2016 and ended on August 15, 2016. A final 30-day comment period is still to come this fall. NASCSP will also post periodic updates and clarifications regarding ROMA Next Generation on the State of Poverty blog.
Onboarding Team Update
By Jayna Gray, Information Systems Manager, jgray@communityaction.org

The Onboarding Team met on August 16th to develop a Project Plan for migrating to Version 6 for Missouri’s statewide Management Information System (MIS).

The victory circle was developed by the team to answer the question:

On October 1, 2017, what does successful implementation of Version 6 look like?

The following teams were developed to implement the completed Project Plan meeting.

Project Lead:
Jayna Gray, Missouri CAN

Data Divas:
Pat Bulejski, CAASTLC, Team Lead
Mary Mulins, MOCA
Kenney Hutchison, WCMCAA
Cathy Rybolt, CSI
Heather Howell, FSD
Linda Haus, FSD
Terry Hiatt, CAPNEMO

V6 Trainers:
Marlena Schofler, ESC, Team Lead
Kathy Block, NECAC
Carl Thomas, OACAC
Tara Ruby, DAECC
Chasidy Boman, CAPNMC

Angie Berry, OAIA
Shanna Young, EMAA

Top down Approach:
David Miller, MOCA, Team Lead
Angela Hirsch, CMCA

Team Agency Admin:
Denise Faulkner, SCMCAA, Team Lead
Melissa Caastlc, MVCAA
Alex Phillips, CAPST.JOE
Jackie Hutchison, PCAC

The Be Happy Bugle:
The entire Onboarding team
Members of the Onboarding team met with Roland Gills, Executive Vice President Amanuel Berhane, Lead Developer from Adsystech on August 23rd & 24th at the Missouri CAN office. We went through each element of version 6 to discuss system flow for Missouri. Next steps were established for the project, including working with Family Support Division (FSD), Agency Staff and Onboarding Team members to development a new assessment. This assessment will be developed to better serve low income families statewide.

The next On Boarding team meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 21st from 10 am-4 pm.

**Family Development Credential Program Update**
*By Courtney Kohler, Program Director, ckohler@communityaction.org*

Missouri CAN will be hosting and facilitating a Family Development Credential (FDC) Instructor’s Institute on September 27-29, 2016, as well as an FDC Update meeting on September 13th. Please contact our Training Manager, Becky King at bking@communityaction.org if you or someone in your agency is interested in attending a Portfolio Advisor Orientation for FDC this fall.

**Nationally Certified ROMA Implementer (NCRI)**
*By Courtney Kohler, Program Director, ckohler@communityaction.org*

We have eight Missouri Community Action Network staff who are helping to pilot a new ROMA Certification this year – the Nationally Certified ROMA Implementer (NCRI). 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. The process will run through December 2016 and will include an e-course, a one-day ROMA training, development of a portfolio, and a certification exam.

**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.

**Safe at Home Application Assistant Training**
*By Becky King, Training Manager, bking@communityaction.org*

On October 6, Missouri CAN will be hosting a training for agencies interested in ramping up their services for victims of domestic violence. The Safe at Home address confidentiality program has helped survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, or stalking in their efforts to stay safe by providing a designated address to use when creating new public records. To sign up for the program, participants must meet with a certified Application Assistant. Missouri Community Action Agencies have found that organizations who offer this service are limited and the clientele is often already being served by Community Action. This three-hour session will provide the complete training and eligible attendees will have the option to become registered Application Assistants for Safe at Home. On-line registration is now available for this training on our website.

**Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP)**
*By Courtney Kohler, Program Director, ckohler@communityaction.org*

Three new CCAPs from the Missouri Community Action Network were recognized at the CAP Convention in Austin, TX:
- Evan Melkersman, CMCA
- Keith Robinson, CAASTLC
- Courtney Kohler, Missouri CAN

We were pleased to notice that Missouri is still a leading state with the total number of CCAPs. Ten of the top 28 agencies (with highest number of CCAPs) are from Missouri.
If you are interested in becoming a CCAP in the coming year, we’ll be having an informational meeting on September 23, 2016 at the Missouri CAN office. This will kick off the CCAP Preparatory Class cycle for the 2016-2017 year. Let us know if you are interested in expanding your knowledge of Community Action vision and values, history, management, 21st century leadership, and addressing the causes of poverty.

**Poverty Simulation Facilitator Training**  
*By Heidi Lucas, Outreach Manager, hluca@communityaction.org*

Missouri CAN is pleased to offer a Poverty Simulation Facilitator Training on November 14-15 in St. Louis at the Sheraton Clayton Plaza Hotel. The facilitator training will allow participants to become familiar with the components of the Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) kit, the facilitation process and tips for conducting an efficient and effective simulation. Participants will also experience the poverty simulation on the first day of training. Registration includes training and all materials, and lunch on the second day. Registration information is available on the Missouri CAN website. *Registration is free for Missouri Community Action Network staff members who register before October 21.*

**Missouri CAN At-Large Board Member Elections**  
*By Sharron Cook, Administrative Assistant, scook@communityaction.org*

By now, all full individual members (members who pay their dues through payroll deductions at their Missouri Community Action Agency) should have received a voting ballot by mail at their home address for the At-Large Board Member elections. One of the important privileges and responsibilities of your membership in Missouri CAN is voting for At-Large Board members. We mailed out ballots, along with a return envelope, to each full member’s home address on August 29. You are asked to choose your top ten choices for board members. You will have until September 15, 2016 to return your ballot to our office. As in the past, we encourage each agency to offer their members the opportunity to turn their sealed envelopes in to the agency with the agency returning them to our office in bulk. This should save everyone time and postage. We will announce the election results in October. The new board members will assume their new positions on the Missouri CAN Board at the November 10th meeting. Any vacancies that occur on the Board for At-Large members during the next two years will be filled by the two remaining candidates.

**Agency Visits**

Courtney Kohler and Becky King had the opportunity to visit the Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph (CAPSTJOE). They were able to provide information related to Missouri CAN’s strategic commitments, membership benefits, and organizational structure at CAPSTJOE’s all staff day. During the visit 23 individuals signed up as new Missouri CAN members!

Jayna Gray had the opportunity to visit West Central Missouri Community Action Agency (WCMCAA) Morgan County Outreach office on August 31st. This visit was to observe agency work flow to better help design elements of the new version for Missouri’s statewide Management Information System (MIS).

*Activity Calendar on following page*
ON THE CALENDAR

Missouri CAN Royals Game Day
September 17...Kansas City

Leadership Academy
September 21-22...Missouri CAN Office

CCAP Informational Meeting
September 23...Missouri CAN Office

FDC Missouri Instructors’ Institute
September 27-29...Missouri CAN Office

Introduction to ROMA Training
October 4...Missouri CAN Office

Information Technology Professional Alliance
October 5-6...Missouri CAN Office

Safe at Home Application Assistance Training
October 6...Missouri CAN Office

MCADA
October 12...Missouri CAN Office

Leadership Academy
October 13-14...Missouri CAN Office

Missouri CAN Run
October 15...Jefferson City

MIS Committee
October 19...Jefferson City

Energy and Housing Professional Alliance
October 24...Missouri CAN Office

Resource Development Professional Alliance
October 25...Missouri CAN Office

CCAP Preparation Class #1
October 25...Jefferson City

Missourians to End Poverty
October 26...Missouri CAN Office

Finance Professional Alliance
October 26-27...Jefferson City

Outreach Managers Professional Alliance
October 27-28...Missouri CAN Office

Internal Roma Consultants Professional Alliance
November 3...Missouri CAN Office

Election Day
November 8

MCADA Retreat
November 8-9...Old Kinderhook

Missouri CAN Board
November 10...Missouri CAN Office

Veterans Day
November 11...Office Closed

CAPS Facilitator Training
November 14-15...St. Louis

MIS Onboarding
November 16...Missouri CAN Office

Food Systems Summit
November 16...Missouri CAN Office

Outreach Personnel Professional Alliance
November 17...Missouri CAN Office

Thanksgiving Holiday
November 24-25...Office Closed

Leadership Academy
December 1-2...Missouri CAN Office

Human Resource Professional Alliance
December 7-8...Missouri CAN Office

Kurt Brewer, Missouri CAN Executive Director
September 12, 2016

For the most current list of events and for more information, check the calendar on our website at www.communityaction.org.