

## **COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH'S - IMPACT WEDNESDAY**

The need for Community Action has never been greater. Neither has our resolve. We're challenged to create solutions that don't just help people stay afloat but build lives of stability, dignity, and, whenever possible, prosperity. - And we will rise to that challenge. #ImpactWednesday

<image><image>

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that only 48% of 5-year-olds from low-income families are schoolready? Community Action Agencies help thousands of pre-k children across the country each year. Last year, <u>#CAPofLakeCounty</u> served 462 kids in our Head Start-Early Childhood Education Program, preparing them for success in kindergarten and beyond.

Did you know that 44% of Americans cannot cover a \$400 unexpected expense? More than 900 CAAs are making an impact by helping people build assets and financial skills to encourage resilience and economic stability.

Did you know that nearly 50% of Americans across 22 states live in an area with a shortage of childcare options. <u>#CommunityAction</u> Agencies are making an impact by enrolling hundreds of thousands of children in before or after school programs.

Did you know <u>#CommunityAction</u> Agencies annual impact: 487,000 children obtained age-appropriate, immunizations, medical and dental care. CAP of Lake County outcomes: 88.7% of children with up-to-date physical exams and 84% of children with up-to-date dental exams.

Did you know <u>#HeadStart</u> has made a difference in the lives of more than 37 million children and families. In this current moment of stress and uncertainty, it continues to provide essential support to our communities.

Learn more: bit.ly/CAPImpactReport

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CAP of LC Communication Update: Impact Wednesday! Then & Now Success Stories; Impact of your Local & National Community Actio...

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Anayeil, Head Start parent email - May 2020: "I came across head start by my home visiting. She recommended the program. Also, she said some wonderful things about the program that helped me make my decision. It's the best decision I made. The teachers are wonderful, awesome and helpful. I would absolutely recommended ♥"

#MyHeadStartStory

Flashback: Community Action Partnership Newsletter - September 2014:

## Celebrating 50 years of Head Start 1964-2014

Head Start Success Story: I was in the first session of Head Start before it was under the umbrella of Community Action at Trinity AME Church on South Ave., Waukegan. A coworker called it the "Grass Root Pilot Program", so I feel like a seed that helped grow this amazing program we have today. My teachers name was Ms. Annie Squires. I remember her being a soft spoken woman with a very beautiful smile. I have the great honor of saying I am still in touch with her to this day. Some of my wonderful memories of our program are when I would go with my mother (a Head Start teacher at that time) and volunteer in her classroom starting at about the age of seven or eight. As I got older I wanted to become a Head Start teacher. I started working for the agency on February 2, 1982 as a tutor/assistant teacher at 574 McAlister in Waukegan (the greatest center ever :-). The late Ms. Lillie Greathouse-Burdine was my lead teacher. She and my mother gave me a very strong foundation when it came to caring for children. I became a lead teacher, later a Center Director and opened two sites, Smith Park Head Start located inside of the Boys and Girls Club on Genesee and 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Rose Hughey Head Start located inside of Sign of Dove Church on 10<sup>th</sup> and McAlister both in Waukegan. I then became part of administration in 1996.

Around 2000-2001 one of my students had grown up and came to the McAlister center to see me. She asked if I was still a teacher because she wanted her infant daughter to be in my classroom because I had been her favorite teacher during her school years. I am currently working as a Facilities Specialist in our Head Start program.

I have thousands of wonderful memories about this agency, from two great Head Start Directors, the late Ms. Thea Ramos and Ms. Joann McCarty and my CAP Agency Director of many years Ms. Barbara Gordon. But the greatest memories of all are of my mother, the late great Mary Ann Greenlee who worked for this agency for 43 years. My mother helped me understand that teaching children is not a job; it is a gift that God puts inside of people. She taught me that the rewards of teaching are not at the end of the school but years later when the children as grown-ups cross your path in life and they remember you and have good and loving things to say about how you helped them to become the person that they are and the love and kindness you showed them as a child in Head Start. This is now happening to me and it feels wonderfu!

I have been working with our agency for 32 years but I've really been here all my life. I love our program and pray for its success for the next 50 years.

Thank you Community Action Partnership Head Start for all of the wonderful years and I hope to have many more.

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Past Issues Karen "Denise" Greeniee, First Graduating Class of Head Start & Current Staff

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Head Start, A program of Community Action Partnership of Lake County
Pre-K Early Childhood Education, Child Development Program
In 1965, CAP of Lake County sponsored the HEAD START Program

Community Action Partnership of Lake County Head Start Centers provide quality comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition, disability, and parent involvement services at NO COST to families of income eligible children 3 to 5 years old. Enrichment activities prepare our preschoolers for kindergarten and give them a head start for success. <u>#NatlHeadStart</u>

#CommunityActionWorks #WeR1000Strong #CommunityActionMonth



Help Community Action Partnership of Lake County continue helping families in need of the valued resources during this pandemic. We truly appreciate your support at this time!

Donations will support low income Lake County, Illinois residents.

DONATE NOW

The Community Action Partnership of Lake County team is committed to helping families in Lake County during this pandemic. We will continue to provide resources to low-income families and provide daily COVID-19 communication updates through our newsletter, website, and social media to the community. In addition, we are providing resources for those individuals and families who have applied and waiting for unemployment insurance but these families need help now! Call us today at 847-249-4330!

We encourage YOU to share with your family and friends to Stay Home and Save Lives in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. <u>#StayHomeSaveLives</u>

Mary Lockhart White, Executive Director/CEO

## About Community Action Partnership of Lake County

Community Action Partnership of Lake County is one of 1,100 agencies across the United States established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's War on poverty. Community Action Partnership of Lake is one of the largest social service organizations in Lake County serving 24,000 individuals and families annually. Services are in program areas: Pre-K education through Head Start and other early childhood education programs that focus on kindergarten readiness; Youth and Family Services that include emergency assistance, self-sufficiency case management, employment and training, post-secondary scholarships, and a food pantry; affordable housing for low-income individuals, families, and honorably discharged homeless military veterans; home heating bill payment assistance; home weatherization; small business incubators and volunteer programs. For more information, visit https://caplakecounty.org/.

