



Community "IN" ACTION

Newsletter April 24th, 2008

Deadline is the second Friday of the month; **Contacts for articles** are: Child Dev. - Farzana Siddiqui, F&CR & Layout - Barb Dame, Morale & Wellness - Phyllis Johnpoll, Development - Lisa Brown, All others - Nancy Peters. **Editor:** Renée Bruce

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Jerralynn Ness
Executive Director

Once again, our Staff Wellness Day Committee produced a wonderful event for our employees. Special **kudos to Barb Dame** for providing such fine leadership. A great big heartfelt thanks to our hard-working, fun-loving committee members: **Alejandra Lopez, Brent Wilson, Carla Chilton, Chris Kuran, Elaine Burrell, Katelyn Gressett, Leanna Woodall, Mary Davila, Nancy Peters, and Trish Omsen.**

Our morning keynote speaker delighted us with practical tips for transforming our lives using the "FISH! Philosophy". The original FISH! book describes four principles that make up this philosophy to help foster a great life. They include:

Play: Is not just an activity; it's a state of mind that brings new energy and sparks creativity.

Make Their Day: The world becomes a better place the moment you act on an intention to serve another.

Be There: You can multi-task with "stuff", but you need to "be there" for people.

Choose Your Attitude: The attitude you have right now is the one you are choosing. Is it the one you want?

"Living the philosophy results in a workplace where the quality of life is satisfying and meaningful, and the experience for customers, internal and external, is compelling." "The core message of the book.....is that a richer and more rewarding life may simply be a few choices away from where you are right now." Thanks to **Chris Kuran** for bringing this philosophy to Community Action's attention.....

Good stuff!

The day went by so fast with many fun activities to participate in. I always enjoy

Directors' Corner continued

bringing attention to our staff's accomplishments during our end of the day celebration. So many of you have stretched yourselves to gain greater skills and knowledge for your work. Congratulations to you and to all of you who had a milestone anniversary.

I was very touched by the thoughtful tribute that staff put together to commemorate my 35 years with Community Action. I never forget how fortunate I am to have had this as my life's work; indeed it was just by chance. But to be able to work with such a great staff and board, the community and the families we are here to serve has been the true reward.

Thank you for all of your kind words and your great support over these years. And a special thanks to **Renée Bruce** for making this happen and to **Leanna Woodell** for the wonderful scrapbook and to **Natalie Horne** for putting together the power point. I can only imagine how you had to scramble to bring this all together, especially since I boxed up all of my history and memorabilia!

Program Assistant's Corner

Thank you for your ongoing support of donating food, linens and personal products for our Shelter.

COMINGS & GOINGS

WELCOME:

Randall Marker, IS Systems
Sabrina Hernandez, Office Specialist 1
Konrad vonWalther, Family Support Worker

Goodbye to:

Jennifer Kenoyer, Becca Rasmussen,
Rafael Alcaraz, Robyn Gonzales,
Rukshana Hafez, LauraLinda Negri-Pool,
Veronica Rodriguez, Courtney Stark Blaisdell, Renae Baffo & Apolonia Diego-Sebastian

NEWS OF NOTE



Thank you to everyone who pitched in and helped with set up, clean up and all the other tasks needed to be done on Wellness Day. We appreciate you!

Sincerely,
The Wellness Day Committee

P.S.
Check out the pictures on the "transfer" drive under Wellness Day 2008.



UPCOMING

New Hire Orientation	4-25
Safety Meeting	5-5
Board Meeting	5-15
Building Meeting	5-20
Head Start Policy Council	5-20

May 2008

BIRTHDAYS



Judy Nagy	2
Skip Booth	4
Marlene Rodriguez	4
Angelica Molina-Alvarez	5
Bruce Horne	8
Carmen T-Miranda	8
April Barratt	9
Dolores McNee	9
Chrystal Carlen	10
Esther Arana-Olea	11
Lori Balch	11
Alexis McCulley	13
Adelina Ruiz	13
Bonnie Herrera	14
Desiree Clark	15
Saira Shafiuzzaman	18
Angela Vargas	20
Juana Meraz	21

(If you want your birthday acknowledged, be sure to complete an authorization form – contact HR)

May Birthdays continued

Dolores Rodriguez	21
Jimi Smith	21
Karla Trujillo	21
Susana Salgado	22
Alicia Perez	24
Jenifer O'Neil	27
Claudia Umanzor	28
Rebeca Aguila	29
Lorena Jimenez	30

May 2008

ANNIVERSARIES



We wish all of you that will have a Community Action anniversary this month ~ congratulations!

MAY IS



- National Bicycle Month
- Mental Health Awareness Month
- Teacher Appreciation Month
- National Military Appreciation Month

- May 1 is May Day
- May 3 is the Kentucky Derby this year
- May 4 is "Star Wars" Day (who knew?)
- May 5 is Cinco del Mayo
- May 6 is National Teachers' Day
- May 9 is National Provider Appreciation Day (recognizing Child Care providers)
- May 11 is Mothers' Day
- May 17 is Armed Forces Day
- May 26 is Memorial Day

Asparagus & Mushroom Quesadillas

Serves 4



- 1 teaspoon Cumin Seed
- 4 slices bacon
- 1 tablespoon butter or margarine
- 1 bunch asparagus, ends trimmed and cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 cups sliced mushrooms
- 3/4 teaspoon Garlic Salt
- 4 (6 inch) flour tortillas
- 2 green onions, sliced
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Lightly toast cumin seeds in a large skillet over medium heat, shaking pan frequently, about 3 minutes. Set aside. Cook bacon in same skillet over medium-high heat until crisp. Remove to paper towels to drain. Crumble when cool. Discard drippings.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Melt butter in same skillet over medium heat; add asparagus and cook 2-3 minutes. Add mushrooms and garlic salt; cook until asparagus is crisp-tender, about 2 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Place tortillas on large baking sheet. Top with vegetable mixture; sprinkle with green onions, cheese, bacon and cumin. Bake 10 minutes or until cheese is melted and tortillas are lightly toasted. Cut into wedges and serve immediately.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Kindergarten Round-ups

Kindergarten Round-ups are held in April and May. The round-ups are an orientation program for pre-kindergarteners and their parents. The events bring families to school to see classrooms, meet teachers, and experience a kindergarten day. It gives parents an idea of what to expect when their children leave Pre-K for kindergarten. Round-ups connect families to schools early. The sooner the transition process can start, the better it is for everyone. Attending round-ups help children and parents feel much less anxious about the upcoming Kindergarten year.

What is Head Start's role in the Kindergarten Round-Up?

First of all, our teachers inform parents when the round-ups are and encourage them to attend with their children. We also have teachers available during the enrollment capacity to find families with younger siblings who may need the services Head Start provides. Head Start teachers make connections with the kindergarten teachers in their schools and arrange for classroom visits. This not only benefits the children, but works to strengthen the relationship between Head Start and the public school.

Friday, May 9th is Child Care Provider Appreciation Day



Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski is calling for the recognition of the vital role child care providers play in the social, emotional and cognitive development of more than 165,000 children in child care state-wide.

Child Care Resource & Referral staff would like to invite those of you who use child care to recognize your child care providers by helping children make Thank You cards, bringing fresh flowers from your garden, organizing a luck, or by bringing cookies or a snack to your child care on that day. Show your child care provider how important s/he is in your child's life.



CHECKS & BALANCES

Fiscal –

Contact Information

Accounts Payable:

Phyllis Johnpoll 503-693-3256 or
Kurt Cabrera 503-693-3283

Payroll: Javier Peña 503-693-3285

Accounts Receivable:

Ann Hering 503-693-3243

For help from any Fiscal department, please use the Wiki ticket system found at <http://helpdesk.caowash.org> and click on Wiki and Fiscal Helpdesk

WHAT'S DEVELOPING?

Community Action will hold the 10th anniversary Celebration of Community Spirit Awards Banquet at the Oregon Zoo on May 14th. The Celebration of Community Spirit Awards Banquet brings public recognition to local corporations and business leaders who have contributed time and resources to create positive change for Washington County residents. The event also raises vital funds to support Community Action programs. This year's award recipients are Nike, Outstanding Corporate Partner; Kari Stanley of Legacy Health Systems, Outstanding Business Leader; and Westco Emergency Fund, Outstanding Community Partner. SOLV founder Jack McGowan will be the keynote speaker. Staff interested in attending or volunteering should contact Leanna Woodall at x252.



April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. Resource Development sends Thank You cards to all Community Action community volunteers. If you work with a volunteer who you think has earned special merit, please let us know. Call Scott at x 254.

HR ~ from Jerralynn



Our Interview Committee charged with identifying 2-4 finalists for our HR Director position has almost completed their work. I will be holding interviews with these finalists on April 30th and am feeling confident that we will find a good match for Community Action. If all goes as planned, the position could be filled as early as May!



Play

LOOKIN' FER WORK IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES

Job Openings may be viewed at
Common/Agency Info/HR Resources/Job Postings

*NOTE: Please check this address weekly for current information and details. We have many jobs in development that will be posted before the next publication and we will take applications as each job is posted.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES



During the last week of January 2008, the entire county came together with Community Action's Housing and Homeless Services program, in an effort to account for every person in Washington County who is experiencing homelessness, or is receiving services related to a recent experience of homelessness. Collecting accurate information on the number, characteristics, and service needs of homeless people is a critical component of local homeless planning and program development.

Data collected on homeless people is assisting service providers to justify requests for additional resources, understand changes in trends among homeless populations, and it also helps allocate resources to service providers, or programs that serve specific subgroups of homeless people.

In all, there were about 15 agencies that participated in the 2008 effort. Each of the participating organizations comprises Washington County's Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN). Other members of the HSSN also volunteered to make this year's count possible:

Project Homeless Connect - The event took place on Wednesday of that week. At that event alone 209 homeless individuals were accounted for and connected with relevant resources.

Meal Sites - Homeless persons were able to access meals and be counted at the "daytime labor" organizations throughout the county, as well as the Tualatin Food Pantry, the Faith Café-United Methodist Church in Beaverton, Open Door Counseling Center in Cornelius, and NAMI's Comfort Zone.

Volunteers went out to freeway on ramps, bottle returns, camps, libraries, and all other congregating locations. Weather was below freezing that week, and the Severe Weather Plan was in effect throughout the week. All churches that opened their doors in order to keep people warm, also participated in the count.

As of March 7, 2008, the final numbers have not been completely tabulated. We spent the month of February retrieving all of the data collection sheets that were filled out at each agency and venue. During that period of time, we also checked every individual sheet for data quality. Having done so, we are forwarding all of that information to Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) for the official tabulation. The data count from OHCS is usually available near the end of April. Community Action will also be tabulating the documents internally, and should have preliminary information by the end of this quarter.

Thanks to all who have taken part in this year's effort!

Pat Rogers
Housing & Homeless Services Manager