



# My Name is Coming News

MARCH 19, 2004

**Deadline** is the Friday before pay day; Contacts for articles are: Child Dev. -Farzana Siddiqui, F&CR – Beth Dasher, Morale & Wellness - Natalie Horne. All others – Winnie Althizer, Editor: Winnie Althizer.

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Jerralynn Ness  
Executive Director

This month, our board chair Dan Aberg and I attended our annual national legislative conference in Washington, DC. Many dignitaries spoke to our network about their views of poverty, our work and what is happening in our nation's capitol. Robert Dallek, a highly regarded historian and author, kept us well bound with his personal stories about President Lyndon B. Johnson. Charlie Cook, considered to be one of the most astute and impartial political analysts in Washington and a leading authority on US elections shared his fascinating views about the presidential candidates and the campaign. Congressman Curt Weldon, most senior Republican from Pennsylvania, helped found a local Community Action Agency and is passionate about our work. He describes CAPs as "Unparalleled in their flexibility and non-bureaucratic delivery of assistance to the poor." He had just returned from Libya where he had witnessed Kadafy announcing to his country the end of terrorism. Weldon challenged us to take the Community Action model international. The Reverend Jesse Jackson joined us on the last day with a mellowed out fiery speech saying "we must fight poverty with public policy, not just pity and prayers." Dan and I visited with our Oregon Congressional representatives, all of who remain very supportive of our work and continued federal funding. Quite a visit indeed!

## NEWS OF NOTE



From Energy Assistance.....  
As we all know the poor economy and growth in population here in Washington County has greatly increased the demand for our services. We're feeling it very strongly in Energy Assistance!! We've tried a variety of systems and procedures to try and meet the demands, including providing a way for people to leave us voice mail messages so that we can get back to them to screen for program eligibility. During the 3 days we were closed in January we received more than 700 messages, and the numbers are mounting. It's been very difficult to reach people in a timely manner, and finally we decided that we can no longer take messages for energy assistance. We are staffing the phone line at both the King City and Hillsboro sites on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri from 1-4:30. Callers will get a real person! (Wed. afternoons are our staff meetings and trainings) Hopefully this will reduced the number of people who can't get called back and make our service more timely and responsive. Wish us luck!

## CA STAR



Byline Joan Brown

Tiffany Jordan, a new member of the Opening Doors team, came to Community Action after completing her degree in Sociology at PSU. She is working as a Family Support Worker in the New Parent Network program. Tiffany specialized in working with at-risk clients while in school, most recently working with at-risk high school students in Northeast Portland.

Her (almost) 7-year-old son, Matthew, is in first grade and he apparently loves it based on the smile on his face in his first school picture! Tiffany and her partner purchased their first home in 2001 and have been busy remodeling, including the huge task of refinishing the hardwood floors. Tiffany says the work was worth it, they're beautiful now! Backwoods camping (no campgrounds for her!), and volleyball are interests, as is entertaining (she recently had a bash for 80 people!!) Oh my word . .

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

Safety Meeting	4-5-04
Board Meeting	4-15-04
Building Meeting	4-20-04
Head Start Policy Council	4-20-04
Community Spirit Dinner	4-22-04
Wellness Day	5-14-04

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES



### Next Ready To Rent in Hillsboro:

Hillsboro Family Resource Center  
Starting March 22nd until April 26th,  
every Monday 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Clients may call the shelter at 640-3263 to sign up.  
Class open to the general public. No childcare provided.

### The new look of ...

Community Action's website has a new look! And FIND has been updated to fit the look and feel of the new Community Action website. It has it's own menu bar on the right side of the screen which will take you to the various parts of FIND... the News Page, links to useful online resources, info about networking tools such as the I&R Networking Breakfast meetings, the caofind listserv for Washington County service providers, and of course, the FIND database of human service resources available to people in Washington County. Come check us out at

<http://www.communityaction4u.org/find.php>

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center in Beaverton opened earlier this month. The clinic is located at 2935 SW Cedar Hills Blvd (near Winco Foods). Phone number is (503) 352-6000. Office hours are: Monday & Friday—8am to 5 pm; Tuesday & Thursday—10 am to 7 pm; Wednesday—10 am to 5 pm. They accept OHP—Care Oregon or Providence Health Plan. They will also accept a minimum number of low-income uninsured individuals on a day-by-day basis. Uninsured families should plan to call the Beaverton clinic as soon as it opens in the morning to determine if they can be seen for medical (non-emergency) services. Assistance is available in the following languages: Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Chinese, and English and will make arrangement for other interpreter services as needed. If patients who are already established at other Virginia Garcia clinics (Hillsboro, Cornelius) wish to transfer to the Beaverton clinic, they must contact the clinic where they are assigned and asked to be put on a waiting list. After June 2004, transfers will be allowed.

Jan Ostby, Head Start Health & Nutrition Coordinator.

**Spring Break Schedule:** All Pre-K, Part-Day programs will be closed during Spring Break from March 22-26, returning on Monday, March 29. All Child Development Centers will operate as usual. A Kids Domain site at Cornelius will provide full day services from 6:00am to 6:00pm during Spring Break.



### Topics – It's not about "luck"

St. Patrick's day commemorates the death of an Englishman. He was kidnapped in his youth and taken to Ireland where he lived and worked as a slave for several years. Eventually he escaped and made his way back home. Amazingly, Patrick decided to go back to Ireland to teach what he had learned about forgiveness. Today we celebrate with shamrocks and leprechauns... but it's about love, not luck.



### Tips

Minds are like parachutes – they only function when open.....Thomas DeWar

Treat your friends as you do your pictures, and place them in the best light.....Jennie Jerome Churchill (1854-1921) & mother of Winston Churchill.

The average human heart beats 100,000 times a day – make those beats count. ...Unknown

### Recipes

Folks work hard to put the newsletter together and we get very little feedback or contributions for the Wellness section. It would be nice if you could share a recipe, or some health tip you have found useful, etc. It's hard for one person to think of all the things 240 people might be interested in. So, if you have something please send it to Natalie Horne – it would be nice to have so many that we have an inventory of good stuff to make us feel positive.

## WHAT'S DEVELOPING?

### Publications made simple...

Development is seeking to improve the process for designing and ordering publications. Coming soon, programs will be able to order brochures, flyers, and other publications online at the HELP DESK. This can include design and text support in creating a new brochure, or requests for old publications needed for speaking or tabling events.

### Play It Again Update

Resource Development is preparing for some potential changes in our clothing closet, Play It Again. Unfortunately, Community Action can no longer sustain the service as we currently run it. We are seeking a new location for the program and perhaps another organization to oversee the service.

As many of you know, Play It Again has been an important service for many residents living in Washington County needing clothing. Because of this, we are seeking community input and possible creative solutions to either continuing Play It Again, or dismantling the clothing closet with minimal impact on the low-income community. Please invite your community partners to this important meeting.

**When:** March, 30<sup>th</sup> 12:00-1:30pm

Lunch will be provided

**Where:** Beaverton City Hall  
4755 SW Griffith Dr.

For more information call Jodi Davis at 503.693.3254

## USTOUS – SALES, SERVICES, NEEDS

For Sale: Jr. size pool table \$100 – need to sell before spring break or during spring break...negotiate?  
Contact: Christy Curtis 9503) 520-9582

## Tending the Lawn....

"The grass is not, in fact, always greener on the other side of the fence. Fences have nothing to do with it. The grass is greenest where it is watered. When crossing over fences, carry water with you and tend the grass wherever you may be." Robert Fulghum

## CHECKS & BALANCES

**Fiscal** – If you are requesting medical prem. reimbursement for coverage paid by your spouse on his/her company's plan, please send those requests directly to Fiscal.

**Facilities** - Nick has left the country! Just kidd'n, he's on vacation in Mexico for a few days. Keep using the facilities help desk as we have back up to meet your needs.

## LOOKIN' FER WORK ... ... IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES

See this info \* at:

Common CAO MainCAOInfo/HR ResourcesCurrent Job Descriptions.

### Administration

### Child Development

Teacher II (Sub 2pos) Bvtn CDC	\$8.79 – \$10.68
Teacher III (Sub) Coffee Creek	\$10.55 - \$13.46
Teacher III (Sub 2 pos)	\$10.55 - \$13.46
Teacher III (Sub 1pos) Bvtn CDC	\$10.55 - \$13.46
Teacher III- Gaston	\$10.55- \$13.46
Bus Driver	\$8.79- \$10.68

### Development Advancement

### Family & Community Resources

Office Specialist II- CAEast	\$10.42-12.83
SAFAH Family Advocate – (Temp. 3mo. Assignment)	\$11.21-13.62
Community Resource Advocate (1 FT pos. & 1 temp. pos.)	\$11.10-\$13.48

\*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.

## HR - Ask Winnie Benefits, Diversity...



There are many challenges for an organization to create a family friendly environment for staff. Sometimes it is laws that were written 30 to 70 yrs. ago when the approach to work was much different than it is today. Sometimes it is staff not understanding how to use family friendly benefits. Community Action has a very good paid sick time & vacation benefit available to staff who are scheduled to work 20 or more hrs. per week. Some people see these benefits as a "must take or lose it" situation and others have figured out how to save them & use them responsibly. If a person sees sick hours as something they need to use each pay period, how will they deal with an extended illness? Those who save sick days can accumulate 100's of hours over the years – and if they have to deal with unexpected events like a terminally ill spouse/child, or parental leave, or illness of self, those hrs. pay their salary at 100%. Not a bad short term disability concept (the insurance you buy pays only 60% of salary). Did you know that when someone is out sick in Child Development or the Shelter, the Agency pays double? Both the person who is taking sick time is paid (if it is available to them) and a substitute is paid. In this time of economical stress it is important to make every dollar count, and you can do something to help. We provide the paid sick time for when you are really sick we want you to stay home & get well. And then there are days when we just want to stay in bed & pull the covers over our heads. If we use our sick & vacation paid time responsibly, we can maximize the benefits to us and to the Agency.

## SAFETY

**WATCH YOUR STEP!** In the past couple of months we've experienced a number of slips, trips & falls at various locations. Be sure the place you work is free of things that might cause you to be injured (or children). Wipe up water, etc. from the floor immediately; pick up items that might cause a trip immediately; if there has been a heavy dew or rainfall, make sure your feet are on solid footing inside or outside. The Safety committee has made the suggestion that certain areas should have non-slip tape on them and Nick will be doing that over the next month or so.



## MARCH 2004 BIRTHDAYS

- 3/21 HARRY WEIERS JR
- 3/24 MICHELE WALKER
- 3/25 TERRI SMITH
- 3/26 ALDINA ORELLANA
- 3/29 CHARLOTTE SALGADO-ZERBER

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



## MARCH 2004 ANNIVERSARIES

DORIS HARRIS	3YRS	3/20
DONNA BENNINGTON	23YRS	3/23
ROCINA HERNANDEZ	6YRS	3/24
CYNDY VON OFENHEIM	2YRS	3/25
KEITH BYERLY	6YRS	3/31
ELISA GURROLA	3YRS	3/31

## COMINGS & GOINGS

Welcome to Community Action !!  
Christina Jun is our new Teacher II Sub at Bvtn. CDC. Katrina Kerper is our new Teacher II at Bvtn. CDC. Ester Reyes is joining us as our new Teacher II Sub at JBT.

We are saying good bye this month to Josie Kuhn, Caronna Garcia, Theresa Williams, and Gema Hernandez. While we regret they must leave us, we wish them the very best future possible.