

Working Together To End Poverty In CT

CT Poverty Facts:

• Greatest Number of Children Under 18 Below Federal Poverty Level

1. Hartford	41%
2. New Haven	33%
3. New Britain	25%
4. Bridgeport	25%
5. New London	24%
6. Waterbury	24%
7. Windham	24%

• Children Receiving Free & Reduced Price Meals 2006-2007

1. Bridgeport	94.9%
2. Waterbury	70.5%
3. Hartford	70.3%
4. New London	65.7%
5. Windham	64.8%
6. New Britain	62.7%

• Children Enrolled in Husky September 2008

1. Hartford	24,461
2. Bridgeport	21,875
3. New Haven	19,195
4. Waterbury	18,230
5. New Britain	10,892

*Source: CT Voices for Children

HOMELESS REACHES RECORD HIGH

8,737 Homeless in April-June 2008

For the first time, activists, advocates, religious leaders and social service providers joined together at the 'PROSPERING COMMUNITIES, THRIVING FAMILIES' conference as co-sponsors on September 22-23, 2008 at the Rocky Hill Marriott. The conference focused on sharing effective strategies to end poverty and to build communities, especially through local programs and statewide education and advocacy efforts.

Speakers came from around the country and the state to share



Model Leadership Panel

best practices from successful programs and policies.

Networking among the esti-

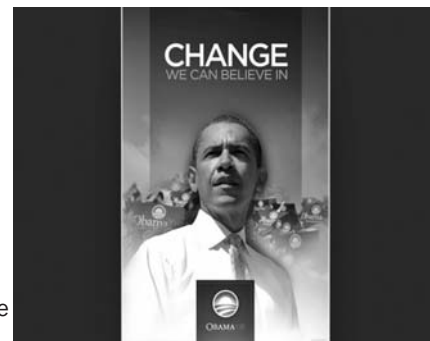
mated 400 attendees also gave participants many opportunities

continued on page 7

Yes We Can!

And, YES WE DID on November 4, 2008! In an historic, emotionally-charged election, the people of the United States elected the first African-American leader to be our President. Americans across the nation came out in record numbers to vote for real change and for hope.

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible; who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time; who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer." Excerpt from Obama's acceptance speech.



President-elect Barack Obama

As the celebrations subside, the real work begins. The following platform on poverty and economic development would be ambitious enough for any new administration, but this administration is inheriting a multitude of domestic and international crises that will demand immediate attention. Progressive policies such as these may be put on hold. We will need to hold onto our hope so that we can transform today's challenges into tomorrow's opportunities - to make our country a better place to live and work.

President-elect Obama's platform includes a number of asset-building proposals for which we can advocate, including the following*:

- Expand the Saver's Credit: Make the Saver's Credit refundable by providing a 50% match on the first \$1,000 saved in a retirement account; allow more households to qualify for the credit by increasing income eligibility to \$75,000 a year.

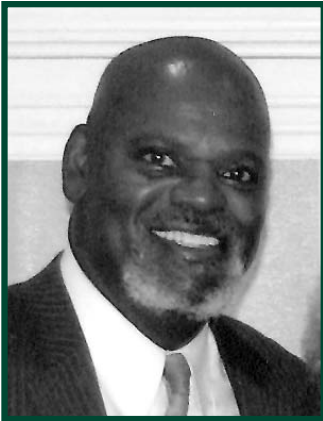
- Improve Retirement Security: Create an easy automatic pension which may be similar to the Auto IRA Act, legislation introduced in the 110th Congress that would require employers to use automatic payroll deduction to fund IRAs for employees.

Inside this issue:

Letter from the President2
 Introducing Congressman Jim Hines...3
 Deb Monahan Awarded4
 Agency News.....5
 New Leaders Elected to House6
 CRT's Bus7
 CAFCA Member Agencies8

Visit our web site to view past newsletters and to find useful information: www.cafca.org

Letter from the President



Many people are saying since the recent presidential election that hope won and we elected change. As an African-American and as someone who has been very impressed with President-elect Barack Obama, I do believe that hope has been restored! I think we have exchanged a prevailing pessimism with optimism. Together we stood up, we got out, we voted, we said "YES WE CAN". We chose change.

Though hope alone will not solve our domestic and international problems, hope will keep us upbeat during such downbeat times. Hope will help us see our problems as challenges, as opportunities. Right now, our hope

is running high – not only did we elect the first African-American President; we chose new leaders whose values seem to be aligned with ours.

However to begin to address the severe problems facing our nation, there is much we must do as concerned and actively participating citizens.

Perhaps our first real challenge is to sustain our hope. We need to join together to keep connected to our neighbors and our communities. We need to share our success stories, share our best practices, and cheer each other on as we run the extra mile. When we focus on the positive, we nourish our hope and we better serve those in need.

In my last newsletter, I shared my worries over the price of gasoline, home loss through foreclosures, institutions declaring bankruptcy, retirement accounts eroding, businesses closing and laying off employees. Most of these fears remain, however, consider these recent changes:

- In July 2008, the price of gas averaged \$4.25 per gallon; in November 2008, the current CT average price* is \$2.224 per gallon for regular gas and is continuing to drop. This will make transportation loads much lighter for our poorer populations.

- In July 2008 oil and gas prices were skyrocketing. Our focus was on heating assistance. Since then, prices have dropped substantially, resulting in lower heating bills for our clients.

- The necessity to conserve our precious natural resources has launched a new world of "green jobs"; where training opportunities are just beginning.

Serious challenges remain, but these events offer us relief – and hope.

Often, we can effect the greatest change at the grassroots level, right in our own backyards. The stories in our current newsletter are testimony to this, and to the importance of working together to achieve our goals. As I read through the accomplishments right here, throughout our state, I am

heartened by the successes:

- The long list of sponsors and partners who joined together to sponsor this year's conference. The theme was sharing effective strategies to build communities and support families through local programs and statewide education and advocacy.

- The thousands of books given to city families when HRA and Tilcon, Inc. collaborated to "Make a Difference".

- CRT's retrofitted bus, literally going the extra mile, to help vulnerable families in the community without transportation.

- BCO's grant to make systemic changes in the current delivery system to assist the disabled with education, employment and transportation. The list of partners in this project is overwhelming, but we are confident that they will work together to make improvements and achieve the goals.

- The people in the 4th Congressional District elected Jim Himes – a man who left the world of high finance to pursue

business-oriented solutions to the problems of urban poverty.

Too many people are hurting and will continue to hurt for too long. Now more than ever, they need our hope. We need to maintain our hope so that we can continue to make changes in our own neighborhoods.

James H. Gatling
CAFCA President and
President/CEO
New Opportunities, Inc.

Source: AAA daily current averages for Nov. 17, 2008

HRA & TILCON BOOK GIVEAWAY IN NEW BRITAIN

Tilcon Connecticut, Inc., and the Human Resources Agency (HRA) joined together to "Make a Difference" on October 25, 2008 at the New Britain Public Library. The two organizations paid tribute to this day by giving away more than 4,000 children's books to city families. Organizers say about 300 families showed up to sort through the books and take as many as they wanted. Tilcon employees collected all the books and a number of employees were at the library to help out.

This is the second year that HRA and Tilcon have worked together on "Make a Difference Day" activities. Last year Tilcon collected more than a thousand sets of hats and mittens for low-income children in the city. Tilcon's collection of hats and mittens complemented the winter coats that another organization collected for needy youths. They are already working on next year's plan - a project that will help the New Britain Food Security Collaborative. The HRA is a city-run social services agency that runs 30 programs to help lower-income residents of New Britain. Tilcon is a construction contractor that has been headquartered in New Britain since 1923.

Jim Himes New Congressman for 4th Congressional District



Senator Jim Hines 4th District

For the first time in 40 years, a Democrat will represent CT's 4th Congressional District after defeating 21 year Republican incumbent Christopher Shays. Connecticut and the Community Action Network lost a long-time ally for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance, Community Services Block Grant funding, and services for the homeless with the loss of Shays. However, we gained an experienced professional in affordable housing and

community development. Jim Himes is a community leader, a businessman, an executive at a major non-profit organization, a husband and a father – and he understands the economy!

Born in Lima, Peru in 1966 to American parents, Jim spent his first 10 years in Peru and Colombia where his father worked for the Ford Foundation and for UNICEF.

Jim grew up fluent in both Spanish and English and was raised with an awareness of the unique position of the United States in the world - a leader in civil liberties, democratic self-government, and a beacon of economic opportunity for all.

In 1976, Jim's mother returned to the United States with Jim and his two sisters. Jim grew up with a single working mom in a small town in which he worked just about every job - mowing lawns, painting houses, working in restaurants and retail.

As a Harvard undergraduate, Jim's academic and athletic accomplishments earned him the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. This enabled him to attend Oxford University in England where he continued his studies of Latin America.

After completing his studies, Jim took an entry level job at Goldman Sachs & Co. in Latin America, where he worked his way up to Vice President over the course of a 12 year career. He worked in corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, and high technology.

Jim left the world of high finance to pursue business-oriented solutions to the problems of urban poverty. He found an ideal role as Vice President of Enterprise Community Partners, where he has run their Northeast operations since 2004. Enterprise is a nationwide, nonprofit producer of affordable housing. Under Jim's leadership, Enterprise worked with private, public, and com-

munity organizations to address complex issues of urban poverty.

He developed an innovative, very low cost program to provide tax preparation assistance and financial services to low-income families. Jim led the way in financing the construction of thousands of affordable housing units in the greater New York and Northeast regions, often using new green technologies to achieve energy efficiency and reduce utility costs. His top priorities focus on restoring economic opportunity "for all Americans," by passing tax credits for education, first-time home buyers and households that save money. Another one of his top priorities is to end the war in Iraq. He has already begun working with Congresswoman DeLauro to protect social security from privatization and he will work with President-elect Obama to improve health care and education.

Deb Monahan Recieves Palmer-Davies Leadership Award



Deb Monahan, Executive Director of Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA)

United Community & Family Services (UCFS) recognized Deb Monahan as the 3rd Annual Palmer Davies Leadership Award Recipient at their Annual Meeting on October 23rd at the Coast Guard Academy. The award recognizes individuals in the community who

have fostered an environment of community spirit and understanding that reflects UCFS's mission and values.

Deb Monahan, Executive Director of Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA), has been devoted to the betterment of others for more than 35 years. Throughout her career, she has proven herself to be an exceptional leader and advocate and is highly respected by her colleagues. October 2008 was a particularly special month for Deb as she also celebrated her 10th anniversary as Executive Director of TVCCA.

Beginning her career at TVCCA as a case-worker with the agency's child care program, she then worked as a state and federal grant processor for TVCCA. Deb launched the first Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program for the area in 1976 and became its program director. Later, she joined the TVCCA administrative team as the Executive Assistant/Deputy Director. In 1982, she was promoted to Associate Executive Director and in 1998

was selected to be TVCCA's Executive Director. In this capacity she is responsible for the administration of all the agency's programs and operations and also directs the development of community resources. The agency has grown to over 400 employees under Deb's leadership.

The Palmer Davies Leadership Award is named after Mrs. Fannie Palmer and Mrs. Emily Davies, founders of the United Workers of Norwich, now known as United Community & Family Services. This agency is the result of their dream to develop an association that would relieve all forms of suffering. Two years ago, UCFS created an award to recognize individuals in the community who have fostered an environment of community spirit and understanding that reflects the mission and organization's values, much in the same way that Palmer and Davies first envisioned their idea more than a century ago.

Dodd Pledges Assistance During HRA Visit



Senator Don DeFronzo, Rocco Tricarico, U.S. Senator Dodd talk with customer

Democrat Chris Dodd, senior senator from Connecticut, heard directly from HRA clients on Monday, October 27, 2008 at the agency's Arch Street office. Agency executive director, Rocco Tricarico invited Senator Dodd to hear firsthand how HRA makes an impact on the community.

He promised to keep energy assistance "on the front burner" when he returned to Washington. Tricarico and Marlo Greponne, HRA's director of planning and programs, also described the agency's 30 programs and their impact on the lives of New Britain's 16,000 city residents.

Clients like Alex Molina, who is out of work with a back injury, described how his family huddled together in one room around an electric heater - and how HRA was there to help. Hearing from clients like Alex Molina had a profound impact on Senator Dodd.

Dodd described the current economic crisis as "the worst since 1932" and maintained that he is committed to keeping families from "falling through the social cracks". In addition to energy assistance, Dodd promised to step up efforts to slow down the rate of home foreclosures. According to HRA, there are now 1,000 home foreclosures a month in Connecticut.

State Senator Don DeFronzo and state Representatives John Gerasiosian, Tim O'Brien and Peter Tercyak described the working poor of New Britain as hard-working families, struggling with the higher cost of living while their wages have remained the same.

DeFronzo told Dodd that city resi-

dents are paying property taxes on homes that are now worth less than their mortgages. Many homeowners are either earning less than they were when they bought their homes or they are not working at all.

The challenges and ripple effects are steep. Paying late on a heating bill can lead to a poor credit rating, which will then make it difficult to rent an apartment or land a job. It is also difficult to convince some clients that it is OK to accept help. Agreeing to the sense of urgency, Dodd told DeFronzo that the new administration must begin on November 5; it can't wait until January. "People need to know early on that we care and that we're already doing something."

Yes We Can!

continued from Page 1

- **Expand Small Business Opportunity:** Enact a \$500 Making Work Pay Tax Credit to support employment, including self-employment; invest \$250 million per year for a national network of business incubators; eliminate capital gains taxes for small start-up companies and support small business and micro-enterprise expansion for rural America.
- **Make Homeownership More Affordable:** Provide a 10% Universal Mortgage credit that will benefit homeowners who do not itemize their taxes. Increase the supply of affordable housing throughout metropolitan regions.
- **Provide More Opportunities to Save:** Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit and simplify the tax filing process.
- **Expand Community and Economic Development:** Provide additional resources to the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, the Small Business Administration and other agencies and create a White House Office of Urban and Regional Policy.

In addition to these asset-building proposals, the platform contains these related proposals:

- **Improve Workforce Development:** Increase the Federal Minimum Wage to \$9.50 per hour. Support job creation and improve access to jobs. Expand paid sick days.
- **Strengthen Educational System:** Support teachers in urban schools; expand early childhood education; expand high quality after school opportunities; reduce high school dropout rate; make college more affordable.
- **Eliminate Child Hunger by 2015:** Increase funding to Food Stamps/SNAP, school lunch and breakfast programs, summer food service program, WIC. Provide all poor children with a free school meal; simplify program rules in the National School lunch program. Provide nutrition assistance throughout the year; implement pilot program through SNAP. Increase support for community-based food providers and food banks.

"The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even one term, but America — I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there. I promise you — we as a people will get there."

Excerpt from Obama's acceptance speech

*Source: CFFD 2008 Election Summary

Agency News

TEAM Puts Poverty In Forefront



Thomas R. Brooks Director of Policy and Research Analysis for the Connecticut Commission on Children

Fighting poverty in the Valley was the focus of Training, Education

and Manpower Inc.'s annual meeting.

The event held on October 7, was attended by 130 people, from social service providers to educators and business leaders. The theme of the community action agency's 43rd annual meeting was: "It Takes a Village ... To End Poverty."

TEAM President and CEO Richard J. Knoll acknowledged that given the current economic climate, "the timing is bad," to kick off a three-year strategic plan to

reduce poverty.

But he said the community "can do a better job" in cutting poverty. "We don't have to go to government to do it."

Knoll said it's a time to think about those people "who are not sharing in our success." TEAM, of Derby, is joining the state and 11 other agencies in Connecticut in the initiative. Knoll also said the community needs to develop more creative ways to invest in its children. To that end, a community conversation will be held

early in 2009.

Thomas R. Brooks, director of policy and research analysis for the Connecticut Commission on Children, was guest speaker. "We're really on the brink of scary times," Brooks said, in terms of the economy in Connecticut. He said as more services are needed, more cuts are being made. He said the cost of poverty among children "is not just a social discussion," it also is an economic one. Brooks said society needs to "focus on the value of investment" in children.

Richard O. Belden Dental Clinic Dedicated



Lt. Governor Michael Fedele, State Comptroller Nancy Wyman, Richard Knoll of TEAM, Inc., and others unveiled a new plaque for the Dental Clinic.

The Hill Health Corporation Richard O. Belden Dental Clinic was formally dedicated on June 10, 2008 at a ceremony featuring remarks by Lieutenant Governor Michael Fedele, State Comptroller Nancy Wyman and others who praised the spirit and dedication of the late State Representative whose efforts made the clinic possible. Team, Inc. CEO Richard Knoll served as master of ceremonies for the event and other speakers included Gary Spinner, CFO of the Hill Health Corporation which will run the clinic; Dr. Alexandra Chan, Director of Hill Health Dental Services, and State Representative Themis Klarides who spoke for the Valley's legislative delegation who presented a special proclamation from the legislature.

Shelton Mayor Mark Lauretti spoke on behalf of the Valley council of Governments and Dr. Ron Linden of the Valley Dental Coalition also spoke. At the end of the program a plaque that will be displayed at the clinic was unveiled by Mrs. Bertha Belden, widow of Rep. Belden. Those in attendance were then invited for tours of the state of the art clinic which features 6 dental suites which will serve the underserved of the Valley.

The clinic is located on 30 Elizabeth Street in Derby

BCO Awarded \$200,000 Grant Bristol/Plymouth Connectivity Project



Senator Christopher Dodd & Tom Morrow

Tom Morrow, Executive Director at the Bristol Community Organization (BCO) recently announced the receipt of a \$200,000 grant from the CT Department of Social Services, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services. BCO

is one of ten non profits in the State to earn the award and - the only community action agency to do so.

The grant to BCO is a part of a multi-million dollar grant, funded through December 2009, to the State of Connecticut from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Office. The goals for this initiative are to:

- Improve the transition

process for disabled young adults moving from public school to higher education or employment.

- Increase career expectations for individuals with disabilities.
- Increase the recruitment, hiring, and promotion of individuals with disabilities in the Bristol/Plymouth area.
- Increase access to transportation including a (person-centered) voucher system.

The community partners working with Bristol Community Organization on this project include:

The Greater Bristol Chamber of Commerce; the Bristol Board of Education; the Bristol Adult Resource Center; the Community Works Resources; United Way of West Central Connecticut; the Plymouth Board of Education; the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce; parents of children with disabilities, the Central Connecticut Regional

Planning Agency; the Bristol Disabilities Commission; and the Connecticut Department of Social Services Bureau of Rehabilitative Services.

Tom introduced the grant to local employers at the Greater Bristol Chamber of Commerce Issues and Eggs breakfast to enlist their support. In addition, several other initiatives to increase transportation in Plymouth and to increase parental participation, are already underway.

James H. Gatling Receives Malcolm Baldrige Leadership Award



Joe Mann & Dr. James Gatling

September 18, 2008, marked the first time that the Waterbury Regional Chamber presented the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Leadership Award to a leader in a nonprofit agency. James H. Gatling, Ph.D, received the honor during the Fourteenth Annual Waterbury Chamber Awards Evening at the Aqua Turf in Southington. Dr. Gatling is President and CEO of New Opportunities, Inc., a community action agency serving Waterbury, Meriden and

Torrington.

From an agency of 150 employees with an annual budget of \$6 million to an organization of 500 employees with an annual budget of over \$35million, New Opportunities, Inc. has grown exponentially under Dr. Gatling's leadership. He has led the agency's transition from a management control system of operations to

a strategic management system and he has effectively promoted a performance-based culture.

Dr. Gatling has a long list of accomplishments, the most significant include:

- Successfully opening the Greene-Gutridge Terance Project for the housing of disabled individuals after more than ten years of negotiations.

- Obtaining funding for Waterbury's first charter school, Ancestors Community Charter School, by working collaboratively with city school officials and community leaders. The school is for students who have been unable to succeed in a traditional school setting.

- Being credited with enabling New Opportunities, Inc to be selected as the pilot site in New England for the nationally trademarked "CIRCLESTM Initiative", a program designed to help low-income families find paths out of poverty by joining them with community mentors.

His leadership is also evident by his participation in numerous professional and civic associations. Dr. Gatling currently serves as President of the Connecticut Association for Community Action and has served as Past-President of New England's Community Action Association. In addition, he

is active on a number of boards including Waterbury Hospital's Board of Trustees, the Board of Governors of the State of Connecticut Department of Higher Education, and the Boards of the Waterbury Development Corporation and the Waterbury Regional Chamber where he serves as Vice Chairman of Economic Development.

The Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce award recognizes those who have demonstrated exceptional vision and leadership in the area of economic development and growth for the Waterbury community. This local award is fashioned after the national Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award which promotes and recognizes quality in manufacturing, service, small business, education, health care and nonprofit organizations. Beginning in 1987, it is now America's highest honor for performance excellence.

CT House of Representatives Elects New Leaders



Speaker-elect Chris Donovan and President-elect Barack Obama-two great community organizers!

CT House Democrats elected new leadership last month by choosing Representative Christopher Donovan, D. Meriden as Speaker of the House of Representatives and Denise Merrill, D. Mansfield, as majority leader. Representative Donovan, who previously held the position of majority leader, was selected by the 114 member, veto-proof, House Democratic caucus on November 6th. He is expected to be formally elected by the full 151 members of the CT House of Representatives when the General Assembly convenes for the 2009-2010 session in early January.

Representative Merrill will be leaving her position as House Chair of the Appropriations Committee when she assumes the majority leader role in January. Both newly elected leaders have been very good friends to the Community Action network and we wish them well in their new roles.

Donald Williams, D. Brooklyn, will return as Senate President Pro Tempore, and Martin Looney, D. New Haven, will remain in the role of Senate majority leader.

Human services providers understand the difficulties facing our leaders during these very difficult economic times. However, we hope the programs that provide a safety net of critical services for our most needy and vulnerable residents won't be further weakened and tattered by additional cuts to these essential services that help people survive. We should be working together to develop policies and services that will not only help our residents survive but will forge 'prospering communities and thriving families'.

CRT'S "ASK US HOW WE CAN HELP" BUS

Lena Rodriguez, President & CEO of Community Renewal Team, Inc., (CRT) is excited about their new office. This is not a traditional office building – CRT's new office is mobile and it will bring staff to meet people where they live, work and shop. The new office is a donated retrofitted school bus which will perform most of the functions of CRT's Family Service Centers.

By bringing case managers and outreach workers directly into the community, CRT will be able to help many vulnerable families who lack transportation. The bus will allow staff to meet with people before problems escalate. CRT staff will travel to public schools, neighborhood centers and special events to assist with tax preparation, preschool enrollment and pre-applications for Energy Assistance and Eviction/Foreclosure Prevention.

Aptly named, CRT's mobile office will bring client service to a new level and will offer another vehicle for staff to meet the agency's dedication to helping people help themselves and each other. Look for the small white bus with the slogan "Ask Us How We Can Help" on city streets in the greater Hartford region.

End Poverty Conference

continued from page 1

to learn from each other through time spent sharing experiences, expertise and different approaches.

Dr. Manuel Pastor, Professor of Geography and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, delivered the keynote address. Hour Exchange Portland, a nationally recognized service exchange program in Maine, was one of the featured workshops. Numerous other workshops followed, on

topics including prisoner re-entry to the community; state & national asset building initiatives; faiths in action; local, state and national data; farm to city; workforce development, career advancement, community colleges; healthcare; SMART growth; immigrant rights; organizing for change at the grassroots level; and model leadership training.

We want to thank our community of supporters

who helped us make this year's conference a prosperous event for all.

ORGANIZING SPONSORS: Campaign for a Working Connecticut, CT Alliance for Basic Human Needs, CT Association for Human Services, Conference of Churches, CT Voices for Children, CT Women's Education and Legal Fund and End Hunger Connecticut.

SUPPORTING SPONSORS: The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Bank

of America and Office of State Treasurer

SUPPORTING PARTNERS: Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Access Community Action Agency, African American Affairs Commission, Career Resources, Community Action Committee of Danbury, Inc., Community Renewal Team, Inc., CT Coalition to End Homelessness, CT Legal Services, Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Human Resources Agency of New

Britain, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, New Opportunities, Inc., Norwalk Economic Opportunity, Inc., Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc., The Commission on Children, The CT Council of Family Service Agencies, The Diaper Bank, The Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford and United Way of Central and Northeastern CT.

Community Action Calendar of Events



Management & Leadership Training Conference

January 7-9, 2009

JW Marriott Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

NCAF 2009 Annual Legislative Conference

March 3-6, 2009

Hyatt Regency Washington On Capitol Hill
Washington, DC

www.ncif.org

The History and Philosophy of the War on Poverty Seminar

May 11-14, 2009

Renaissance Vinoy Hotel
St. Petersburg, FL
www.ncif.org

2009 Community Action Partnership Convention

September 2-5, 2009

Philadelphia Marriott
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA) is a network of Community Action Agencies that builds communities, promotes public policy and develops leaders to end poverty in Connecticut.

Connecticut Association For Community Action, 144 Clinton Street, New Britain, CT 06053

Edith Pollock Karsky, Executive Director

Telephone: (860) 832-9438 ♥ FAX: (860) 832-9494 ♥ Email: edith@cafca.org ♥ Web site: www.cafca.org

Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc. (ABCD)

Charles Tisdale, Executive Director
1070 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
(203) 366-8241 x9
carol.reid@abcd.org

The ACCESS Community Action Agency (ACCESS)

Peter Debiase, Executive Director
1315 Main Street
Willimantic, CT 06226
(860) 450-7449
execdir@accessagency.org

Bristol Community Organization (BCO)

Thomas Morrow, Executive Director
55 South Street
Bristol, CT 06010
(860) 584-2725
bco@bcoinc.org

Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAA-NH)

Amos Smith, President/CEO
781 Whalley Avenue
New Haven, CT 06515
(203) 387-7700
asmith@caanh.net

Community Action Committee of Danbury, Inc. (CACD)

Bobby Poole, Executive Director
66 North Street
Danbury, CT 06810
(203) 744-4700
pooleb@cacd-caa.org

Community Renewal Team, Inc. (CRT)

Lena Rodriguez, President/CEO
555 Windsor Street
Hartford, CT 06120
(860) 560-5602
lenar@crtct.org

CTE, Inc.

E. Phillip McKain, President/CEO
34 Woodland Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 327-3260
pmckain@ctecap.org

Human Resources Agency of New Britain (HRA-NB)

Rocco Tricarico, Executive Director
180 Clinton Street
New Britain, CT 06053
(860) 225-8601
roccot@hranbct.org

Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now, Inc. (NEON)

Joseph Mann, Executive Director
98 South Main Street
South Norwalk, CT 06854
(203) 899-2420
jmann@neon-norwalk.org

New Opportunities, Inc.

James H. Gatling, President/CEO
232 North Elm Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
(203) 575-9799
info@newopportunitiesinc.org

Training, Education, And Manpower, Inc. (TEAM)

Richard Knoll, Executive Director
30 Elizabeth Street
Derby, CT 06418
(203) 736-5420
rknoll@teamcaa.org

Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA)

Deborah Monahan, Executive Director
One Sylvandale Road
Jewett City, CT 06351
(860) 889-1365
exec@tvcca.org

**CT CAPs
Connecticut Community
Action Profiles**

Executive Editor

Edith Pollock Karsky

Contributing Writers

Caren Dickman, Nancy Pappas
and Edith Karsky

Graphics: Maurice A. Evans

Connecticut Community Action Profiles is published by

the Connecticut Association
for Community Action, Inc.

All rights reserved.

Your comments are welcomed:

We are interested in your
feedback. To submit comments
or story ideas, or add someone
to the mailing list, please contact
Edith Karsky at (860) 832-9438
or by email at edith@cafca.org.

We look forward to
hearing from you!



CT Association for Community Action, Inc.
144 Clinton Street, New Britain CT 06053

CAFCA, Inc.

