

Region 7 CAP Workshop Descriptions
July 20, 2010 - Hilton KCI

TRACK I

Comprehensive Community, Agency and Family Assessment: Positioning yourself as an Expert on Poverty

Community Action Agencies have been key players in the war on poverty since their inception in the 1960's. We are uniquely qualified to examine the needs of a community and people in a state of transition or struggle because the agencies are on the front lines and can see the issues facing families and individuals first hand. As you know, gathering information to complete comprehensive needs assessment can be a time consuming task, but it is necessary to ensure we are offering the most appropriate programs in our communities. The Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Tool kit and Web Based tool make this process manageable. This session will discuss the toolkit and web-based tool as well the process for completing the comprehensive needs assessment process.

Presenters: Heather Lockard, MACA
Dianna Moore, CMCA
Heather Rohn, NMCAA

CAPWN Asset Building Choices Program/ Opportunity Center

Have you ever wondered if how or if IDA's work for your clients? In this session you will learn about an innovative asset development program that is designed to help low income families get off the financial tightrope, stabilize finances & accumulate savings. Additionally, information will be shared on how Nebraska is developing a statewide network focused on asset accumulation and financial education for low income Nebraskans.

Presenters: Misty Livingston-West, Margo Hartman

Show Me the Money: Dialogue & Discussion on Effective Financial Literacy and Individual Development Account (IDA) Programs

You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear from Iowa community action agencies, credit unions, and IDA savers on how the Individual Development Account program has worked for them! Iowa Community Action Association has been involved in outreach for this matched savings program for over a year and wants to share about the benefits and successes resulting from this program and the natural fit is has with CAA financial literacy programs. There will be time for Q & A with workshop participants.

Presenters: Tiffany Smith, Iowa Community Action Association
Marybeth Foster, Iowa Credit Union Foundation

TRACK II

Start Sooner, Stay Longer, Keep Learning

The Start Sooner, Stay Longer, Keep Learning project is a place based initiative designed to engage an entire neighborhood in the success of its children. This initiative began in the fall of 2006 as an effort to bring a diverse cross section of the community together to create solutions to reduce poverty in Marshalltown, Iowa. Today this anti-poverty strategy has evolved into an application for the Department of Education Promise Neighborhood grant and the creation of a cradle-through-college-to-career continuum of solutions to improve outcomes for neighborhood children.

This workshop will provide participants:

Presenter: Mid Iowa Community Action Agency

Child Development Credential – In-House Event

Completing a CDA within a year of hire has been a major challenge for Early Head Start childcare staff, and attending CDA classes offered by the regional Child Care Resource and Referral Agency can be difficult and costly due to travel distances for many rural Head Start Teacher Assistants in the Program. To provide more timely CDA attainment and to offer an option that is closer for many staff, Missouri Valley CAA began offering in-house CDA classes August.

Presenters: Joyce Begemann, MVCAA Child Development Manager
Linda Bilbruck, MVCAA Mental Health/Disabilities Manager

Dental Services-South Central Kansas

Low income Kansans has few oral health options in rural and frontier counties in Kansas. Mid Kansas CAP Inc. is dedicated to building dental coalitions and strengthening services in rural counties. Strong partnerships can increase access to dental solutions.

Presenter: Marion Nichols, Mid Kansas CAA Housing Director

Cultural Diversity

Presenter: Richard Jackson CEO of East Central Kansas Community Action

TRACK III

Assertive Communication 101: Being assertive is finding the middle ground between aggression and acquiescence. Your opinion doesn't have to be a weapon or a wet rag, so learn and discuss ways to make your point heard without making your reputation suffer.

Presenter: Jesyca Rodenberg, Kansas Assn of CAA Communicators Coordinator

Someone's In the Kitchen with CAA

The River Hills Restaurant & Commercial Kitchen, made possible by a Community Economic Development grant from the Office of Community Service, is a collaborative effort to create jobs, innovative products and new businesses in and around St. Francois, Washington and Iron Counties in Missouri. Created by East Missouri Action Agency, this business partners with the local vocational school to provide culinary arts training as well as Southeast Missouri State University to provide equipment for budding food related small businesses.

Presenters: Shanna Ashton, Public Relations & Communications Specialist
Keri McCrorey, Community Services Director

Media Interviewing Tips 101: It is human nature to ask questions. Learn why the ability to ask and answer questions well can change the course of every personal and professional relationship you develop. Develop your own modules for always getting your point across and discuss coping mechanisms for the stress that naturally comes with being put on the spot.

Presenter: Jesyca Rodenberg, Kansas Assn of CAA Communicators Coordinator

Developing New CAP Employees – On the Job Training

Tired of the revolving door of human services employees at your agency? Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska has developed a program that gives potential employees the chance to "try out" the job before "signing on." The On-the-Job Training Program has combined on-the-job experience with training workshops and more experienced mentor staff to provide an opportunity for potential employees to explore working for CAPWN. This mutually beneficial experience also gives CAPWN a chance to explore whether this candidate is a good fit for Human Service work.

Presenter: Vicki Lawton

TRACK IV

CCAP- Certified Community Action Professional

You've heard about the CCAP program but wondered what it can do for you? Come and listen to a panel of CAP employees who have received this certification and what it has meant to them professionally and as an individual.

Presenters: Region VII CCAP Committee, Ardith (Ardi) Hoins, Chair

Green Jobs For Missouri

This presentation will discuss how the Missouri Community Action Network is working on the development of sustainable green jobs through enhancing entrepreneurial opportunities within the broad spectrum of new industries in the renewable energy fields and in the greening of enterprises in the agriculture and forestry and recoverable waste streams arenas. It will provide an overview of the considerations pivotal to the process of winnowing the options and focusing on the challenges of developing responses that would provide opportunities for rural and urban communities to develop jobs that are themselves sustainable.

Presenters: Tim Michels & Ken Goldman with Energy Solutions, Inc.

Beyond Strategic Planning – Scenario Planning

A leader's ability to determine how today's conditions might become tomorrow's realities is vital and involves the art of anticipating what is to come next. Unfortunately, operational requirements and past performance issues often take precedence over consideration about the "preferred" future. Consequently, different methods of considering the future produce different results. While operating in a world of uncertain outcomes, scenario planning challenges the assumption of "business as usual" and provides a mechanism to help determine the best actions to take and which strategies to adopt.

Presenter: Dr. Virginia Richardson, President & CEO Healthcierto Blueprinting the FUTURE of Healthcare