

The latest from the New York State Community Action Association. Having trouble viewing this email?  
[Click here.](#)



## NYSCAA Newsletter - August 2019

From the CEO

Dear Friend,

Congratulations to the new NY CAA staff who have fulfilled all the requirements and are now Certified Community Action Professionals (CCAP)!! A job well done! Kudos to:



- Shawn Futch, Action for a Better Community
- Elise Martin, Schenectady Community Action Program
- Renee Tuggle, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency

Additionally, congratulations to the following CAA staff who have completed the requirements and now joining the group of Certified ROMA Implementers in NY:

- Patricia Gardner, Fulmont Community Action Agency
- Christina Brown, Tioga Opportunities
- Kenneth Porter-Hutton, Action for a Better Community
- Donna Robbins, Wayne County Action Program

It's wonderful to see so many NY CAA staff take on new challenges to increase their knowledge and skills to have a greater impact on their agency's work in helping families and communities.

At NYSCAA, it has been a busy and productive summer! We are excited about the upcoming events we have planned throughout the fall months.

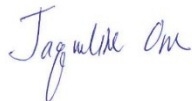
We have finalized the agenda for the [2019 RPIC Region II Finance, HR, and Leadership Conference](#) in Binghamton, NY scheduled for September 18th & 19th. The conference will focus on four topic areas: HR, Finance, Leadership, and Data, with multiple sessions running concurrently. [Registration](#) for the conference is available until September 9th.

The [2019 Executive Director's Seminar and New ED Orientation](#) will be held on November 13th - 15th, at the Radisson Hotel in Corning, NY. This year's orientation for new CAA Executive Directors will be held on November 13th, and the core seminar will take place on the 14th & 15th. A [preliminary agenda](#) is available. While the orientation is targeted to those ED/CEOs who have been in their positions for three years or less, anyone who would like to attend is most welcome!

We are excited to bring you five full day regional Introduction to ROMA Trainings throughout New York State beginning in October 2019. Various Community Action Agencies around the state will host the trainings. These trainings provide the opportunity for new CAA staff to learn about ROMA principles and practices and to connect with CAA staff from other agencies. The two October trainings are open for registration. The links are contained in the newsletter. Stay tuned for more information on the spring 2020 trainings.

We look forward to seeing you at our future events! It is our goal to always provide you an opportunity to connect, learn, and share with your Community Action colleagues.

Best,



[Jackie Orr](#), NCRT

---

## In this newsletter..

- [NYSCAA News](#)
- [Census 2020](#)
- [CSBG National Partner Resources](#)

- [Additional Resources](#)
- [Highlights from our Agencies](#)
- [National Professional Development Opportunities](#)

---

## August's Poverty Myth: "Low-Income Individuals Are More Likely to Break the Law" - False!

The U.S. prison population is primarily made up of the most disadvantaged individuals in the nation's population. Our prison surge is mostly due to the war on drugs. Since 1970, drug arrests have skyrocketed rising from 320,000 to close to 1.6 million according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice. Aggressive police practices – such as stop and frisk and broken window policies – disproportionately target minority and low-income neighborhoods.

Whether it is a vindictive federal prosecution of a rural Native American family using medical marijuana or state prosecution of an amount of marijuana that is legal within the city limits – mandatory minimum punishments for victimless crimes are disproportionately directed at people living in poverty. Such individuals are easy targets for overzealous prosecutors: unable to afford legal counsel, people experiencing poverty lack the tools to effectively fight back. When someone is imprisoned for years or decades because of a victimless crime, the entire community suffers from the loss of a parent, sibling, co-worker, or employee.

[Click here](#) to read more about the disproportionate incarceration of impoverished individuals and more poverty myths that have been "debunked".

---

## NYSCAA News

---

### ROMA Training Hosted by Ulster County Community Action

Staff members from Ulster County Community Action, Inc. and Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County gathered in

Kingston, New York, for a full day ROMA training. Nationally Certified ROMA Trainer (NCRT) Candidates Christine Shaver of Tioga Opportunities, Denise Chin of Westchester Community Opportunity Program, and Charles Barbay of NYSCAA led the day's training. NYSCAA would like to thank all those who attended and Ulster County Community Action for hosting the training!



The annual RPIC Region II Finance, HR, and Leadership Conference will be held September 18th & 19th, at the [DoubleTree by Hilton](#), in Binghamton, New York. The Conference will include tracks for HR, Finance, Leadership, and Data. The Conference Agenda has been posted and registration for the conference is now available! [Click here to register!](#) We hope to see you there.

[2019 Executive Director Seminar](#)

The ED Seminar will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Corning, NY, November 14th -15th! A new Executive Director Orientation will be held on Tuesday, November 13th.

Registration for the 2019 Executive Director Seminar is now available! The [preliminary agenda](#) has been posted. We look forward to seeing all of our Executive Director's at the seminar!

---

## Save the Date: Regional Introduction to ROMA Trainings

Five regional Introduction to ROMA Trainings will be held around NY State. These trainings provide the opportunity for new CAA staff to learn about ROMA principles and practices and to connect with CAA staff from other agencies. Below you can find an up-to-date schedule of this year's regional Introduction to ROMA Trainings including the hosting CAA, date, and location. You will also find a link to register for Capital District and Central ROMA Trainings. Registration for the North Country, Western, and NYC-LI trainings will be available soon, stay tuned for additional details.

1. Central Region: Hosted by - Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, October 29th, Bath, NY

- 9:00am - 4:30pm, Bath Arc, One ARC Way, Bath, NY
- [Click here to register](#) for the Central region Introduction to ROMA Training!

2. Capital District: Hosted by - Schenectady Community Action Program, Inc., October 30th, Schenectady, NY

- 9:00am - 4:30pm, 913 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY
- [Click here to register](#) for the Capital District Introduction to ROMA Training!

3. NYC-LI: Hosted by - NYC Department of Youth & Community Development, 2 Lafayette Street, New York, NY

- Date and Time: TBD

4. Western Region: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., 17 W. Courtney Street, Dunkirk, NY

- Date and Time: TBD

---

## Census 2020

---

### U.S. Census Bureau Announces the Start of First Major Field Operation for 2020 Census

The U.S. Census Bureau briefed the media on the launch of address canvassing, the first major field operation of the 2020 Census. Address canvassing improves and refines the Census Bureau's address list of households nationwide, which is necessary to deliver invitations to respond to the census. The address list plays a vital role in ensuring a complete and accurate count of everyone living in the United States.

The Census Bureau created new software called the Block Assessment, Research and Classification Application (BARCA). It compares satellite images of the United States over time, allowing Census Bureau employees to spot new housing developments, changes in existing homes and other housing units that did not previously exist. Reviewers also use BARCA to compare the number of housing units in current imagery with the number of addresses on file for each block. [Click here](#) to read more from the 2020 Census Bureau.

---

### The Undercount of Young Children

The Census Bureau acknowledges the long-standing undercount of young children in decennial censuses and in Census Bureau surveys. Evaluations show that Census Bureau surveys like the American Community Survey, the Current Population Survey, and the Survey of Income and Program Participation also undercount young children, which can result in biased survey estimates. The differential undercount of this population across geography and demographics makes this a larger problem for some racial and ethnic groups and some parts of the country. However, this issue is not unique to the United States, as research has shown that many other countries have a high net undercount of young children in their censuses. [Click here](#) to read more on researching the attitudes of households with young children.

## Common situations where young children aren't counted



The **child splits time between two homes.**

The child lives or stays with **another family or with another relative such as a grandparent.**



The child lives in a **lower income household.**

---

# CSBG National Partner Resources

## DHS Issues Final Public Charge Rule

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a final public charge rule that would deny green cards and visas to significantly more immigrants who use federal, state, and local government benefits. The “public charge” rule, which was proposed in October 2018 and drew 266,077 comments (the vast majority of which, DHS acknowledged, opposed the rule), is expected to be published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 and will go into effect 60 days later.

The final rule changes how U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) determines that an immigrant is likely to become a public

charge, and thus deem that individual “inadmissible,” i.e., deny the person a green card or visa. Under the final rule, a person is inadmissible if that person is more likely than not at any time in the future to become a public charge, as determined by a totality of the circumstances test.

[CAPLAW](#) is continuing its analysis of the final public charge rule and will issue additional updates and resources for the Community Action network as necessary. For information about the proposed rule, see CAPLAW’s [Public Charge FAQs](#).



## Proposed Changes to the Designation Renewal System for Head Start Grantees (DRS)

The Office of Head Start (OHS) has recently issued a Federal Register Alert regarding the Head Start Designation Renewal System. OHS is proposing changes to two of the seven conditions of the Designation Renewal System for Head Start Grantees (DRS): The condition related to the Classroom Assessment Scoring System: Pre-K (CLASS) and the fiscal condition related to audit findings. For the CLASS condition, the proposal is to remove the lowest 10 percent criterion and set more rigorous minimum thresholds across all three domains that grantees must meet in order to avoid competition. For the fiscal condition, the proposal is to add a second criterion that would consider additional findings from annual audits. A grantee would be required to compete for continued funding if they met either criterion. In addition, technical changes are being proposed within part 1304 subpart B. For more information and the full text, [click here](#).



**OFFICE OF HEAD START**

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families



---

# Additional Resources

---

## Upcoming LIFE Webinars from NYSERDA

The Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE) is a unique statewide dialogue that brings together organizations and individuals committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities facing low-income New Yorkers as they seek safe, affordable and reliable energy. The LIFE dialogue encourages an interactive exchange of information and collaboration among the programs and resources that assist low-income energy consumers. LIFE has a host of webinars available for registration; please see the schedule below.

1. Connecting People to Services - Using [myBenefits.ny.gov](https://myBenefits.ny.gov) as a resource.

- Thursday, September 19, 2019, 1:30PM - 2:30PM EST
- Presenter: Jeremy Troskowski, Learning & Development Services (LEADS), Buffalo State College
- [Click here to register!](#)

2. HEAP Updates for 2019-2020 Heating Season

- Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 1:00PM - 3:00PM EST
- Presenter: HEAP Bureau, NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
- [Click here to register!](#)

---

**New York's stronger safety net will magnify  
Trump's new public charge rule**

In a city where nearly 40% of residents are foreign born, New York City officials say the Trump administration's recently announced revision of the "public charge" rule could affect hundreds of thousands of local immigrants. The new rule due to start Oct. 15 would expand the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's right to label someone a "public charge" and deny a green card if he or she receives Supplemental Security Income or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, penalizing applicants for using public programs such as Medicaid, food stamps and Section 8 Housing Assistance. [Click here](#) to read more.



## Dads Take Your Child To School Day - September 17, 2019

Dads Take Your Child to School (DTYCTS) is a campaign to promote father involvement by encouraging fathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, godfathers, and other significant male caregivers to take children they care for to school or Head Start - and now even to afterschool programs - in September and remain involved throughout the year.

Last year 831 schools and Head Start programs across the country, numerous afterschool partners, and thousands of dads participated in this event. Father involvement continues to grow across the country and now internationally, with Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands; now reporting they are taking part in the campaign. The goal is to register 1000 programs throughout the country. [Click here](#) to register for the annual event now!



---

## Unsheltered and Uncounted: Rural America's Hidden Homeless

Homelessness is often considered an urban phenomenon. But those who work on homeless issues in Kentucky, say rural homelessness is a growing problem, too. That's true across the state and across the country. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, NPR, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health reported in May that one in three rural Americans say homelessness is a problem in their communities.

And in many rural places around the country, the ongoing addiction epidemic strains the social safety net, which advocates say puts more rural people at risk of becoming homeless. But the scattered and hidden nature of homelessness in rural places makes it an especially hard problem to measure and address. For the full article [click here](#).

---

## Using GIS to Respond to the Homeless Crisis: Mapping the Intersection of Hunger and Student Homelessness Across America

How do homelessness and poor nutrition affect children in your community? Poor nutrition has a harmful effect on the physical and cognitive development of children. Unfortunately, it is too often a reality for homeless children. No parent should have to worry about their children going hungry nor be unable to provide them with a diet

that promotes their health and well-being. Through interactive maps, ICPH explores the overlap between child homelessness and low access to nutritious food.

[Click here](#) to download the presentation.

---

## Highlights from our Agencies

### *SHARE YOUR NEWS!*

Have something you would like to share in our upcoming newsletter? Email [cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org](mailto:cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org)!



Pictures appreciated!

### *Foundation starts Madison County Poverty Initiative with Homelessness Grant*

The [Community Action Partnership of Madison County](#) has received a \$20,000 grant from the Central New York Community Foundation to bolster its help for families without a home or at risk of becoming homeless. The grant is the first under a new initiative of the Syracuse-based two-county Community Foundation to tackle poverty in Madison County.

The foundation estimates that 11% of the population was living below the federal poverty line as of 2017, slightly lower than Oneida and Onondaga counties. But in a mostly rural place, with fewer support organizations creates its own challenges for poor

people. [Click here](#) for the full article.

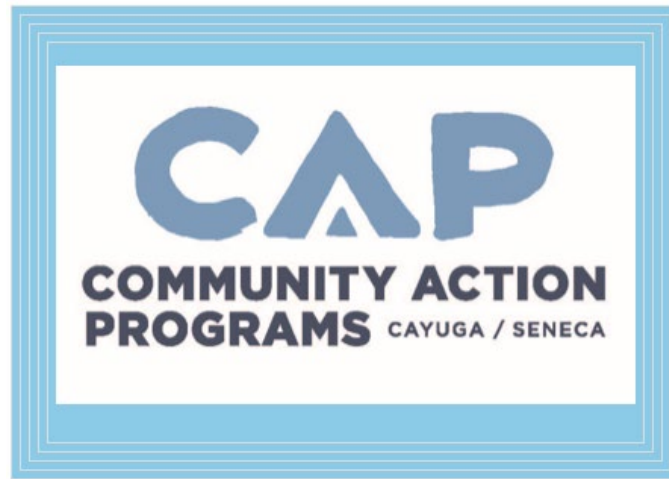
---

### *Community Action Programs Cayuga/Seneca: Wayne CAP New Partner in Weatherization Program*

In May of this year, Community Action Programs Cayuga/Seneca entered into an exciting new partnership with Wayne County Action Program to deliver the Weatherization Assistance Program in Cayuga County. Management and contract oversight of the program was transferred to Wayne CAP. Administrative support is being provided at Community Action Programs Cayuga/Seneca county residents seeking assistance with lowering their energy burdens through energy

efficiency upgrades and improvements.

CAP has offered weatherization assistance to low-income residents of Cayuga County since 1976, and through this partnership with Wayne CAP, eligible residents will continue to receive state-of-the-art energy conservation and health and safety services. [Click here](#) for more information and the full article.



---

## Free Job Listings for members

Below is a listing current openings. Click on an item to view the job details.



Do you need to get the word out about a job opportunity at your agency? [Click here to view CA job listings and add your own!](#)

# National Professional Development Opportunities

**NASCSP**  
**2019 Annual Training Conference**  
Little Rock, Arkansas

September 23 - 24: Pre-conference Training  
September 25 - 27: Annual Training

[Click here](#) for more information.

## The Promise of Community Action

*Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope improves communities and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*



## Our Agencies

Click on Name of Agency to Visit Website: [Action for a Better Community, Inc.](#) \* [Adirondack Community Action Programs, Inc.](#) \* [Albany Community Action Partnership](#) \* [ACCORD Corporation](#) \* [CAPC of Jefferson County](#) \* [Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.](#) [Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency, Inc.](#) \* [Chautauqua Opportunities Inc.](#) \* [Columbia Opportunities, Inc.](#) \* [Commission on Economic Opportunity for the Capital District Region, Inc.](#) \* [Community Action Organization of Erie County, Inc.](#) \* [Community Action of Greene County, Inc.](#) [Community Action of Orleans & Genesee](#) \* [Community Action Partnership for Madison County, Inc.](#) [Cortland Community Action Program, Inc. \(CAPCO\)](#)\* [Delaware Opportunities](#) \* [Dutchess County Community Action Agency,](#)

Inc. \* Economic Opportunity Program Inc. of Chemung County EOC of Nassau County - Hempstead \* EOC of Suffolk - Patchogue \* Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. \* JCEO of Clinton & Franklin Counties \* Lewis County Opportunities, Inc. \* Livingston County Planning Department \* Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. \* NYC Department of Youth and Community Development \* Niagara Community Action Program, Inc. \* Opportunities for Broome, Inc. \* Opportunities for Chenango, Inc. \* Opportunities for Otsego, Inc. \* Oswego County Opportunities, Inc. \* Path Stone PEACE, Inc. \* Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc. \* RECAP \* Saratoga County EOC, Inc. Schenectady Community Action, Inc. \* Schoharie County Community Action Program, Inc. \* St. Lawrence County Community Development Program, Inc. \* Tioga Opportunities, Inc. \* Tompkins Community Action, Inc. \* Ulster County Community Action Committee, Inc. \* Warren/Hamilton Counties ACEO, Inc. \* L.E.A.P. \* WestCOP \* Wayne County Community Action Program, Inc. \* Wyoming County Community Action, Inc. \* Yonkers Community Action Program, Inc.

New York State Community Action Association, Inc.

[www.nyscommunityaction.org](http://www.nyscommunityaction.org)

phone: (518) 690-0491, fax: (518) 690-0498  
Address: 2 Charles Blvd, Guilderland NY 12084

