



## NYSCAA Newsletter - September 2019

From the CEO



Dear Friend,

Thank you to all who attended the RPIC Region II Conference in Binghamton. It is always so nice to see the different representatives from our Region II network. I would also like to thank our Conference Sponsor, Community Software Group, and our Keynote Sponsor, Mutual of America, as well as all of the amazing vendors who exhibited. If you attended the conference and haven't done so already, please complete our [conference survey](#). We are always looking to improve our events for our guests; please let us know how we can do that!

Congratulations to the Emerging Leader Institute (EL) 2.0 group. They successfully completed two years of ELI and presented their projects at the final seminar this week. We wish them well as they continue their leadership journey and become ELI alumni! Congrats to:

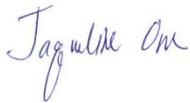
- Courtney Schanthal, Schenectady Community Action Program
- Samantha Kishun, Schenectady Community Action Program
- Denise Rogan, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency
- Kim Bowen, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency
- Melissa Lanphier, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency
- Natasa Joldic, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency
- Sally Ressue, ProAction of Steuben and Yates
- Wendy Harrison, ProAction of Steuben and Yates
- Anita Antonetty, Dept. of Youth & Community Development

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 below under "NYSCAA News". 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

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## In this newsletter..

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## September's Poverty Myth: "It's Cheap to be Poor" - False!

It seems reasonable to think that being poor means finding the least expensive way to navigate through life, and to a certain extent that's correct. However, to a very real degree, it's also terribly wrong.

For the poor, [life comes with a bundle of hidden expenses](#), fees, and costs that wealthier people almost never have to pay. Life without money or credit often leads people to overdraw their checking account, for example, forcing them to pay high overdraft fees for access to cash. Those who cannot afford a checking account rely on check cashing and payday loan industries; both of which are very expensive alternatives to a traditional bank.

Running late on bills adds fines, not being able to drive eats up hours, and basic goods often [cost more in low-income neighborhoods](#). Life in poverty is anything but cheap.

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## NYSCAA News

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**Thank You to All Who Attended the 2019 RPIC Region II Conference!**

## Keynote Presentation

Keynote Presenter, Ethan Chazin, addresses the body of conference attendees during his opening session, "Unleash Your People's Untapped Potential", on day one of the conference.



## Networking Reception



Ethan Chazin,  
MBA

## Networking Reception

Conference guests were invited to a Networking Reception, presented by Mutual of America, on night one of the conference.

For more photos from the conference check out our [Facebook page!](#)

## Emerging Leaders Institute 2.0 2019

Congratulations and thank you to all of our ELI 2.0 members for all of their hard work in completing their projects and preparing their presentations for the final event in Syracuse this week!



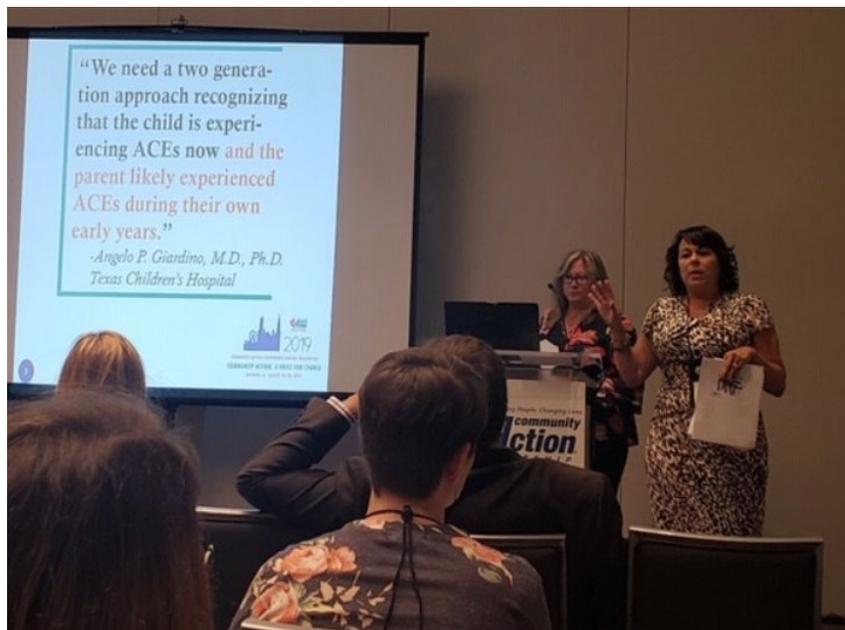
## New York State Community Action Professionals Attend CAP Convention

Community Action professionals from New York were in attendance at the Community Action Partnership (CAP) Convention at the end of August. This year's Annual Convention offered a wide variety of breakout sessions designed to provide Community Action staff members from around the country with the tools and resources necessary to fight poverty and make America a better place to live for everyone.

The photo below was taken at the Awards Gala & Community Action 55th Anniversary Celebration on August 29, 2019. Staff members from NYSCAA, DYCD, Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Opportunities for Otsego, Ulster County Community Action, and Cortland County Community Action Program are represented in the photo. Thank you to the Community Action Partnership for all of their hard work and for a very memorable convention!



## New York State Community Action Agency Executive Directors Present at CAP Convention



Laura Rossman, CEO, Pro Action and Tina Zerbian, CEO, Cattaraugus Community Action present a session on Building Resilience: Preventing Intergenerational Transmission of Toxic Stress at the Community Action Partnership convention in August.

One person commented "By far the best session I've attended this year."

Way to go ladies for putting New York CAAs in the national spotlight!

## 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

5. North Country: Hosted by - Joint Council for Economic Opportunity of Clinton and Franklin Counties (JCEO), 54 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, NY

- Date and Time: TBD

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# Census 2020



## Counting Young Children in the 2020 Census

An estimated 5 percent of kids under the age of 5 weren't counted in the 2010 Census. That's about 1 million young children, the highest of any age group.

Everyone is needed to help close this gap in the 2020 Census. [Click here](#) to see what the research tells us about why young children are missed and what you can do to help make sure they are all counted.

***Counting everyone once, only once, and in the right place.***

Common situations  
where young children  
aren't counted



The child lives in a household that is **large, multigenerational, or includes extended or multiple families.**



The child lives in a household that **rents or recently moved.**

## Census Bureau Launches Updated Website

The U.S. Census Bureau recently launched a new version of [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov). The new website [adds features, resources, and materials](#) to help inform the public about the 2020 Census.

The site includes dozens of new "Statistics in Schools" materials, a new webpage to share facts about the 2020 Census, information on applying for jobs, and frequently asked questions (FAQs).

A "Fighting 2020 Census Rumors" page is designed to share the facts about the 2020 Census and fight misinformation. Users can report false information to [rumors@census.gov](mailto:rumors@census.gov) or visit the webpage to get 2020 Census facts.

Highlighted new features:

- Full site [translation into Spanish](#)
- Increase in mobile organization
- New information on [the count of young children](#)
- Updated resources and [information for census partners](#) that can be filtered by language

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## CSBG National Partner Resources

### Weatherization Day - October 30, 2019

Each year, communities across the country mark October 30th as National Weatherization Day. Weatherization Day is an opportunity to highlight the impact of the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) which saves energy, improves the health and safety of homes, and supports jobs and small businesses.

Weatherization Day 2019 is just a little over a month away! The [2019 Weatherization Day Toolkit](#) contains social media and other communication resources to help you plan your Weatherization Day activities. This includes pre-made Tweets and Facebook posts, communications and messaging tips, info graphics and more!

State and Local WAP agencies plan events and actions each year to showcase Weatherization Day such as community celebrations or WAP site visits with members of Congress. Many WAP programs are featured in the press and many

Governors officially issue a Weatherization Day Proclamation. Please share your Weatherization Day activities with us! You can send all news, photos, and events to NYSCAA to highlight within the network. Please email Charles Barbay at [cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org](mailto:cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org)!

## Weatherization Day October 30, 2019



### NASCSP Module 3 Resources

As the Network is considering community level work and how to report that work in Module 3, NASCSP wants to draw your attention to some useful and needed resources. Please check out the following:

1. ["Recording: Introduction to the Community Initiative Status Form Review Document"](#)

- This is a very brief introduction to the Community Initiative Status Form Review Document which is a checklist that walks users through the key elements that responses should contain for each question in the Community Initiative Status Form of Module 3.

2. [Module 3 Community Initiative Status Form Review Document](#)

- This is the checklist referenced above that guides users through each question in the Module 3 Community Initiative Status Form.

### 3. [Module 3 Instruction Manual](#)

- This is the OCS approved instruction manual for completing Module 3.

### 4. [Module 3 CNPI Examples](#)

- This is the OCS approved compendium of examples of the types of work that could be reported out through the Community National Performance Indicators.

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## Additional Resources

### Upcoming LIFE Webinars from NYSERDA

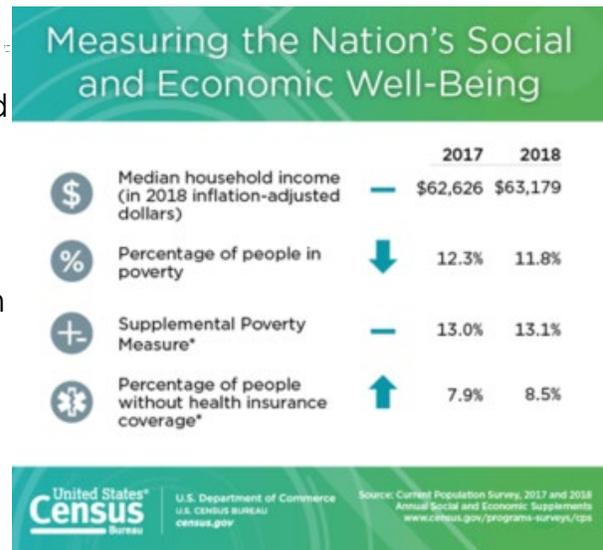
The Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE) is a unique statewide dialogue that brings together organizations and individuals committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities facing low-income New Yorkers as they seek safe, affordable and reliable energy. The LIFE dialogue encourages an interactive exchange of information and collaboration among the programs and resources that assist low-income energy consumers. Please see information below about the final LIFE webinar in the series.

#### 1. 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!](#)

## 2018 Census Poverty & Health Insurance Data Released!

On September 10th, the U.S. Census Bureau released its latest data on income, earnings, income inequality, and poverty. The report finds that median household income, controlling for inflation, increased by .9 percent in the past year, while the official poverty rate has dropped 0.5 percentage points, from 12.3 to 11.8 percent, which is statistically significant. However, the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) -- which factors in tax credits, government assistance programs, and expenses -- indicates no statistical difference in the amount of Americans living in poverty from 2017 to 2018, nearly half of which are living below 50 percent of the poverty threshold, otherwise known as "deep poverty." Moreover, the poverty rate among both African-Americans and Hispanics remained more than twice the rate among non-Hispanic whites, which was 8.1 percent.



[Click here](#) to read the U.S. Census Bureau's press release. Also, please visit the [Income and Poverty Page](#) for more reports and links to applicable data.

## Website Connecting Crime Victims with Civil Legal Services Now Available

Empire Justice Center is excited to partner with Pro Bono Net, NYS Office of Victim Services and the Center for Human Services at the University at Albany to announce that a website connecting crime victims with civil legal services is now available statewide outside of New York City. The website [New York Crime Victims Legal Help](#) was piloted in several counties in the Spring and is now expanding to serve crime victims statewide.

Spread the word to your customers by sharing the [Crime Victims Legal Help Infographic](#) or [Crime Victims Legal Help Flyer](#) today!

## Income Gap Between Rich and Poor Continues to Grow, with Deadly Effects

The expanding gap between rich and poor is widening the gulf in incomes and wealth in America. It is helping the rich lead longer lives, while cutting short the lives of those who are struggling, according to [a study released this week](#) by the Government Accountability Office.

Almost three-quarters of rich Americans who were in their 50s and 60s in 1992 were still alive in 2014. Conversely, over half of poor Americans in their 50s and 60s in 1992 made it to 2014. To read the full article, [click here](#).



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## 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!

### DYCD Partners with Google for Intern & Earn Professional Developments Workshops

The New York City Department of Youth and Community Development's (DYCD) Intern & Earn Program participants attended Professional Development workshops presented by Google. Interns worked with Google staff members to learn about developing a professional resume, tips for online job searching, and the importance of maintaining a professional social media identity.

Intern & Earn is a 14-week paid internship program with employment, education and advanced training placement services. Program supports youth through work readiness training, financial literacy education, and healthy living activities.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Intern & Earn program and other programming options available through DYCD.

*Photo credit: Molly Stromoski / NYC Department of Youth and Community Development*



**SCAP Hosts Press Conference with NYS Representatives to Discuss the 2020 Census Complete Count**

Schenectady Community Action Program held a meeting-of-the-minds to discuss the 2020 Census Complete Count. Congressman Paul Tonko and Assemblyman Phil Steck were in attendance to discuss how important the 2020 Census Complete Count is to meeting future education needs in the Capital Region and around all of New York State. Community Action Agencies are leading the fight to ensure every man, woman, and child is counted during the 2020 Census. To see how you can get involved and do your part to ensure a complete count for the upcoming census, [click here](#).



### **SCAP \$4 Million Federal Grant for Mental Health Resources**

Schenectady Community Action Program (SCAP) received a \$4 Million, 5 year federal grant to provide mental health resources to low-income children. The program, called Project LAUNCH, serves children from birth to age 8.

SCAP was just one of 15 organizations in the United States awarded a Project LAUNCH grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The goal of the program is to address trauma that occurs at a young age, with an eye toward preventing behavioral issues and other problems in later years. Project LAUNCH will provide mental health screenings to children and also train medical providers to administer such screenings.

To access the full article, [click here](#).

## ACCORD Expands Homelessness and After School Programming in Allegany County

ACCORD was awarded a New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) Solutions to End Homelessness Program (STEHP) grant in August 2019. The proposed program will assist up to 50 individuals per year who are at risk of homelessness in Allegany County, New York.



ACCORD was also awarded two Advantage After School Program grants by the New York State Office for Children and Family Services. These funds will reestablish the Cuba-Rushford Elementary Advantage After School Program for 80 K-5 students, and add two new after school programs at Whitesville Elementary and Bolivar-Richburg Elementary, serving 40 K-5 children at each location. Advantage After School Programs provide an engaging, fun experience for youth during their after school hours for three hours daily, and include daily snack, recreation, youth development and academic enrichment time, and homework help.

For more information about these programs and others from ACCORD, [click here](#).

## Living with Dignity and the Crisis of Poverty in Otsego and Delaware Counties

A public forum moderated by Jeri Wachter, the Executive Producer of the "Faces of Rural Poverty" documentary, will take place Saturday October 5th from 2:00PM - 5:00PM. The forum will take place at the Foothills Performing Arts Center located at 24 Market Street, Oneonta, NY. Dan Maskin, CEO of

Opportunities for Otsego, will be one of the panelist at the forum. For tickets and to register for the event, please [click here](#).



US Congressman NY-19  
Antonio Delgado

**Saturday, October 5th 2:00-5:00pm**

Gary Herzig  
Mayor, City of Oneonta

Dan Maskin  
Opportunities for Otsego

Karen Joest  
Child & Family Studies  
SUNY Oneonta

Joyce St. George  
Delaware Co.  
Community Action

Rev. Cynthia Walton-Leavitt  
Oneonta First United  
Presbyterian Church

JoAnne Bragonier  
Catholic Charities  
Housing

Tim Peters  
Otsego Rural  
Housing Assistance

Wayne Mellor  
Agricultural Development  
Consultant

w/ Special Guests

**Foothills Performing Arts Center  
24 Market Street, Oneonta, NY**

**Free Admission-Audience discussion  
For tickets: [livingwdignity.eventbrite.com](http://livingwdignity.eventbrite.com)  
or call 607.226.4181**

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**Free Job Listings for members**

Below is a listing current openings. Click on an item



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

**Community Action Partnership**  
**2019 Annual Training Conference**  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

January 8th-10th, 2020

[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)

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