

Quarterly Intra-news



communityaction
OF GREATER INDIANAPOLIS

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***Change is not change
until you change it.***

On the Horizon

CAGI is in the process of negotiations for leasing new office space and the sale of its current offices on Meridian Street. Space planning discussions are underway to accommodate staff on three floors of the proposed leased building. Except for Housing Counseling staff, there are no plans to relocate 46th Street staff to the new location. *Change is never easy, however change is not change until you change it.*

CAGI is will soon close on a 72 unit multi-family tax credit project with co-developer Herman & Kittle in Westfield, IN.

The Action Institute is closer to becoming a for-profit entity. Attorneys are diligently working through legal issues including trade mark and business structure. More to come about the purpose and what the Institute will do in the near future.

Message from the Executive Director

Several months ago, I was asked to chair a sub-committee on Affordable Housing of the Commission on Childhood Poverty. Led by Indiana University School of Social Work Dean Michael Patchner, the commission was created by the Indiana General Assembly and is charged with identifying and analyzing the occurrence and root causes of urban and rural poverty in Indiana as well as analyzing the long term effects of poverty on a child, the child's family and the child's community.

I was charged with assembling a team of professionals to research housing impediments on children in poverty. The sub-committee is made up representatives from Health Net, Department of Children Services, Housing and Urban Development, Indianapolis Housing Agency, Goodwill Industries, Archdiocese of Indianapolis and Marion County Health Department. The sub-committee has begun researching and gathering data that will be compiled and summarized for the Commission.

Upon the completion of our work, the conclusion of our findings will be shared with staff, CAGI partners and the public in general.

Employee News

Our apologies. Employee birthdays were missed being celebrated in April. We will plan to acknowledge and celebrate birthdays in August with our traditional employee pitch-in. Dates will be announced three weeks prior to the event by the Community Action Team (CAT).

Due to changes in staff, we are looking for energetic and creative staff to join the CAGI Activity Team (CAT). If interested in learning about CAT, please contact Cynthia Taylor at 396-1733. *Managers need not inquire.*

WELCOME TO CAGI

Brandi Beard

Lincoln Davis

Matthew Downey

Welcome Summer Interns

Madeline Kahn,
Emery University

Deja Montgomery,
Arlington Community School

Department News: Energy Assistance Restructures

Change is taking place throughout CAGI! Congratulations to EAP staff in their new positions:

Andrea Leadford , accepted the **Outreach Specialist** position in Family Development .

- Carrie Vaden and Martha Daniels , **Quality Control Specialists**
- Joyceann Overton, **Mail-in Supervisor**
- Janice Frye, **Site Supervisor**
- Linda Mendoza, and Ocie Williams , **Site Liaisons**
- Helene Campos-Espinoza, **Appointment Line Supervisor**
- Maria Bravo and Alexis Brown, **Administrative Assistants**

TiGre McNear transferred from Seasonal Intake Worker to **Housing Counseling Financial Literacy Intern**

Client Success Story My Angel in Disguise

I am a single mother of four children. In February 2010 I fell ill to severe headache and neck pain. I had no idea what was going on with me. My head hurt all the time, I lost feeling in my face and thought I was having a stroke. Soon after, my memory was affected and so was my speech. June 2010, I was taken off work by my doctor and placed on medical leave to further investigate what was going on with me. I was on medical leave for three and a half months. I was devastated. While on medical leave my income was cut 25%. This was a huge change in my household.

I was referred to the Community Action EAP program and Mrs. Diane Taylor for case management. Not only did I receive assistance for my utility bills but I also received encouragement and empowerment. The staff at CAGI is so wonderful and has a lot of knowledge to educate and help even me, the single mother of four.

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My Case Manager assisted me with finding food resources, helped my children with school issues, and encouraged me to keep moving. I was so ready to give up because I was ill and my income had been cut. I was offered this stepping stone for utility assistance but given a life changing experience. Mrs. Taylor also assisted me with locating other programs to help while off work even when Community Action had exhausted their funding I was referred to where I could still get help.

With the help provided I was given peace of mind, my healing began and my children even did better in school with the assistance and guidance provided by my Family Development Case Manager. I was also informed of ways to conserve energy and steps to help me save money in the event of getting sick and taking off work again.

This program is a great stepping stone for anyone who qualifies - this program was MY ANGEL IN DISGUISE!

Ms. S. G., CAGI client

Quarter Activities/Events/Community Outreach

JUNE

4th – Housing Counseling Homebuyer’s Clinic held at One Independence Center 1776 N. Meridian Street. Sponsored by PNC Bank

13th – Count Your Cash financial literacy camp for youth kickoff at Center for Leadership Development.

19th – FGP Yard Sale: 2626 East 46th Street

24th – Housing Counseling presents *The Mobile eBus* in collaboration with Fifth Third Bank and Living Water Fellowship Church from 11 am to 4 pm. Volunteers welcomed.

MAY

3rd – Key Bank presented check to CAGI for Count Your Cash Program.

4th – Resource Center hosted IHEDA’s regional Client Track Training.

5th – Staff celebrated Cinco de Mayo with authentic Mexican fiesta foods prepared and arranged by CAGI’s own Hispanic and Latino staff.

18th – FGP attended Congressman Andre’ Carson’s Health Care Forum at the Southeast Community Service Center. More than forty grandparents attended prepared with questions and concerns regarding changes to Medicare.

20th – FGP’s attended Martin University’s NASA SEMMA Program Graduation – Grandparent’s who mentored students through this program attended.

25th – The kickoff for the Guiding Coalition for the Circles program was held at the Julian Center.

27th – CAGI launched its new Website. Check it out at www.cagi-in.org

APRIL

5th – FGP Director, Coordinator and intern (Samantha Taylor) volunteered at St. Vincent DePauw, food Pantry passing out food.

14th – CAGI Executive Director met with Kids at the Table/BME contractor) and City Securities regarding possible future project collaborations.

23rd – Home Buyers Overview for First Time Homebuyers held at CAGI and sponsored by PNC Bank.

30th – FGP initiated ground breaking for Gardening Project located at 2538 Columbia Avenue.

FGP GARDENING



NASA SEMMA Spring 2011 Graduation



KeyBank Presents Check to CAGI



Cinco De Mayo



Quarterly Birthdays and Anniversaries

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JUNE

3rd – Charlotte Reed
 14th – Dawn Roberts
 17th - Ocie Williams

MAY

2nd – Daniel Smith
 3rd – Maria Bravo
 17th – Alice Mitchell
 17th – Ayesha Hawthorne
 17th – Tamara Staten
 22nd – Diane Taylor
 25th – Patricia Martin
 28th – Tenise Chandler

APRIL

1st – Ida Spells
 5th – Patricia Mays
 7th – Corrie Ramirez
 9th – Ed Tipton
 11th – Danetta Driver
 15th – Cynthia Taylor
 18th – Karen Crow
 22nd – Pinkie Waters
 23rd – Kenneth Starks

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

JUNE

1st - Kenny Starks 7 yrs

MAY

11th – Patricia Mays 13yrs

APRIL

1st - Mike Morris* 30yrs
 9th - Rose Demoss 10yrs
 9th - Ed Tipton 4yrs
 9th - Tonya Hollingsworth 4yrs
 11th - Stanley Bibbs 5yrs
 21st - Maria Rodriguez 2yrs

Milestone Anniversary



Michael Morris

Thank you for your service and commitment

CA Code of Ethics

COMMUNITY ACTION CODE OF ETHICS

We, as Community Action Professionals, dedicate ourselves to eliminating poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation by opening to everyone the opportunity for education and training; the opportunity for work; and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity; and with respect for cultural diversity, commit ourselves to:

- ☛ Recognize that the chief function of the Community Action movement at all times is to serve the best interests of the poor, thereby serving the best interests of all people.
- ☛ Accept as a personal duty the responsibility to keep up to date on emerging issues and to conduct ourselves with professional competence, fairness, impartiality, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- ☛ Respect the structure and responsibilities of the board of directors, provide them with facts and advice as a basis for their making policy decisions, and uphold and implement policies adopted by the board of directors.
- ☛ Keep the community informed about issues affecting the poor; facilitate communication by the poor with locally elected public officials and the private sector.
- ☛ Conduct our organizational and operational duties with positive leadership exemplified by open communication, creativity, dedication, and compassion.
- ☛ Exercise whatever discretionary authority we have under the law to promote the interests of the poor.
- ☛ Lead the Community Action movement with respect, concern, courtesy, and responsiveness, recognizing that service to the poor is beyond service to oneself.
- ☛ Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness, honesty, and fortitude in all our Community Action activities in order to inspire confidence and trust in the Community Action movement.
- ☛ Serve in such a way that we do not realize undue personal gain from the performance of our professional duties.
- ☛ Avoid any interest or activity that is in conflict with the conduct of official duties.
- ☛ Respect and protect privileged information to which we have access in the course of official duties.
- ☛ Strive for professional excellence and encourage the professional development of our associates, including those seeking to become certified Community Action professionals.

CAGI MISSION

To seek in concert with our partners to empower and provide those we serve with a network of services that enables self-sufficiency and self-reliance.