



The “Community” in Community Action

In Tom Wolfe’s 1989 Forward to *The Bonfire of the Vanities*, he references the urban uprising in the 60s and the federal government’s inception of the War on Poverty “at the heart of which were not alms for the poor but setups called CAPs: Community Action Programs”. Rural community activists soon began to follow suit.

The Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD) was formed forty-two years ago by seventeen rural community action agencies aligning with the goal of working together to ameliorate the burden of poverty for the residents of Appalachian Ohio. In 2013, we continue that mission despite economic challenges, fluctuations in state and federal funding and an ever-changing landscape.

The theme of this year’s conference is: The “Community” in Community Action. It is imperative that we do not allow ourselves to become marginalized, leaving a critical demographic of our society and culture underrepresented. It is also important to remember that we are a community in and of ourselves. COAD staff, member agency staff, partners, funders and legislators: we work together daily, in our respective fields, united by a passion to help those in need.

We hope you will join us for our 42nd annual conference to not only gain knowledge from the workshops and speakers, but to celebrate our own community as well as our collective accomplishments in our commitment to providing services to our constituents as we march forward in the War on Poverty.



Featured Plenary Speakers:

David Bradley

Executive Director, National Community Action Foundation (NCAF)

Jeffery Diver

Executive Director, Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families (SELF)

Donald Mathis

President & CEO, Community Action Partnership (CAP)

Agenda Overview:

The sessions offered this year focus on both current and emerging issues we face in our community-based nonprofit endeavors as well as developing new skills and exploring new methods in dealing with these issues. In addition to the sessions, there will be social events to encourage us to renew and foster old friendships as well as to cultivate new ones.

Thursday, August 15th: 8:00 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Breakfast

Plenary Speaker: Jeffery Diver

“Bridges out of Poverty”

Thursday, August 15th: 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

HWAP Regional Meeting

Energy Coordinators and Executive Directors will have the opportunity to discuss current issues that impact energy conservation services.

Facilitated by: David Locke, COAD Community Development Division Director

Regional Safety and Wellness Meeting

Managing threats in the workplace, de-escalation and an introduction to office wellness.

Presented by: Mike Beaver, Personnel Plus

Appalachia from an Insider's Perspective: Celebrating People and Place

Celebrating People and Place" takes a snapshot view through a wide angle lens to better understand the region and its people. Tribe frames the presentation in the broad context of Appalachia and its connections to America's and Ohio's history, people and place. The picture includes realities and images of the culture, definitions of Appalachia and perspectives of Appalachian identity, values and everyday living aspects of the culture and heritage, some challenges and issues facing Ohio Appalachia, concluding with some suggestions for more effectively working with Appalachian people and communities.

Presented by: Deanna L. Tribe, OSU Associate Professor Emerita

Introduction to Grant Writing

An introduction to the complexities of writing grants for community action and other nonprofit organizations.

Presented by: Gary Goosman, COAD Senior Programs Division Director

Thursday, August 15th: 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Luncheon

Plenary Speaker: Donald Mathis

Community Action Partnership: Standards and Guidelines

Thursday, August 15th: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

EPP/Utility Programs Updates

Facilitated by: David Locke, COAD Community Development Division Director

Fiscal Officers' Roundtable

Join your peers for a roundtable discussion regarding the current challenges that Community Action agencies are facing financially.

Facilitated by: Mona Craig, COAD Finance Director

Report on Children's Issues

A presentation on the annual Kids Count Report with an emphasis on the Appalachian region and Community Action Early Care and Education Programs. George Goddard, COAD Early Care and Education Division Assistant Director, will supplement the report with his own presentation.

Presented by: Renuka Mayadev, Executive Director, Children's Defense Fund

Thursday, August 15th: 3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Office of Community Assistance Community Services Block Grant (CSBG): Today and Tomorrow

Come and get it! CSBG news you can use on the 2014-2015 CSBG State planning process and how you can participate, and learn about developments at the federal and state levels pertaining to Community Action Agency performance.

Presented by: Melissa Stanford and Steve Wheeler, Ohio Office of Community Assistance

Team Building, Conflict Resolution and Working in Groups

Learn how to effectively resolve workplace conflicts and how to work productively in teams.

Presented by: Rita Rizzo, Principal, Rizzo & Associates

Affordable Care Act: Benefits and Requirements

A roundtable discussion on the Affordable Care Act, its benefits and requirements and how it will affect our organizations.

Presented by: Jeff Cashman, Account Executive, Wichert Insurance and Mark Schwendeman, President, Schwendeman Agency, Inc.

Employment Law

A refresher on common employment law issues such as FMLA, contract employees, overtime and a discussion on social media in the workplace from a legal perspective.

Presented by: Anjali Chavan, Associate, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

Thursday, August 15th: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

COAD Reception

Thursday, August 15th: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

COAD Awards Banquet

Friday, August 16th: 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Breakfast

Plenary Speaker: David Bradley, NCAF

Community Action: Updates from Washington D.C.

Friday, August 16th: 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

COAD Meeting, Board of Directors

Election of Officers 2013-2014