

# The Community Crusader

A quarterly publication of Community Action of Southern Kentucky

## Communities Join Community Action in Local Fight Against Poverty – Helping More Children, Seniors, Individuals & Families

Communities Fight Poverty	1
Live United	2
Success Corner: Commodities	2
GO bg milestone	3
Step Up to Leadership	3
May Event Results	4
RSVP 9-11 Project	5
Spotlight Foster Grandparents	5
Supper and Auction	5
Program Contacts/Calendar	6



This spring and summer have brought together individuals, organizations and businesses in the spirit of building stronger communities and helping our fellow citizens be self-reliant. Community Action staff and leadership would like to thank the many people who donated funds and participated in the Community Big Shot and 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic to help the multitude of programs at Community Action meet basic human needs of children, seniors, individuals and families in our 10 county area. continued on page 4.....

Photos from left to right: 1) Action shot from the first ever Community Big Shot. 2) Community Action representatives and Hart County Judge Executive Terry Martin accept donation from the Dart Foundation. 3) Community Action Board member Garry Robbin's team lines up their putt in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic.

**Want to help in the War Against Poverty?  
DONATE NOW at [www.casoky.org](http://www.casoky.org)**

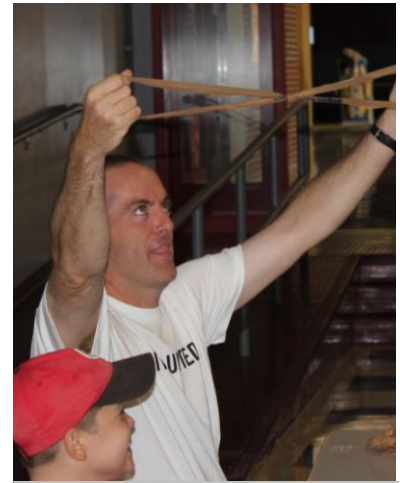


## LIVE UNITED



Community Action Staff Susan Simmons and Angela Roy volunteer at the Kelly Autism Program at WKU.

Community Action hosted four United Way Day of Caring Projects and staff also volunteered in projects! The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program held a “Plarn” fest at WKU for volunteers to help with the homeless sleeping mats recycling project. Representatives from Barren River Area Safe Space gave a presentation to Foster Grandparents about budgeting. Logan County Head Start had volunteers from Jesus Community Church painting bathrooms and beautifying front flower beds. Community Action staff also helped out at WKU Kelly Autism Program making folder games for children in the program.



United Way Volunteers learn how to make plarn.

## Success Corner: A Different Way to Distribute Commodities

### *Simpson County Community Action...Taking Action*

By Sherry Griffin, Simpson County Community Services Coordinator

Each month before the beginning of commodity distribution in Simpson County a few minutes are set aside for “Community Connection”. Community Connection allows community agencies to share ideas and interact with commodity distribution participants.

The idea for Community Connection came about during a brainstorming session between Community Action Community Services and Simpson County Community Education. In the past participants would arrive for distribution 2 ½ - 3 hours before distribution, producing a group of bored and restless people, creating a perfect opportunity to educate.

Community Connection began in January 2011 **with RSVP presenting information on radon awareness for Radon Awareness Month**. Subsequent months had guests in attendance from the Medical Center of Franklin, Habitat for Humanity, Adult Education, Simpson County Extension Office, American Red Cross, Health Department, and Family Resource Center.

When distribution begins they are registered for commodities in groups of 20, giving participants time to talk with presenters and ask questions. Informal surveys of the groups asking if they liked the Community Connection and whether they would like to see it continued typically produce the response: “Yes, we like this!”.

The overwhelming success of this program is the result of an incredible spirit of collaboration among community partners in Simpson County, brought together by Community Action’s Community Services.

**Together we grow!**

**GO bg Transit** celebrates the 100,000<sup>th</sup> passenger in a single year for the first time ever!  
*Jonnie Lovinger received \$100 in GO passes!*



Pictured above from left to right: Community Action Transportation Director Donna Tooley, Driver Hattie Gardner, 100,000<sup>th</sup> Passenger Jonnie Lovinger and Public Transit Coordinator Ken Merideth.



## Community Action Staff and Volunteer Step Up to Leadership!



Community Action of Southern Kentucky had nine staff members and a volunteer “Step Up to Leadership!” Participants committed to a 12 week class to gain skills to be a force of leadership in our communities. At the graduation ceremony each participant shared their passion in a presentation to the invited guests. Pictured above from left to right are class facilitator Ellie Harbaugh, Jasmine Mayfield, Marilyn Miller, Crystal Dubert, Cindy Houchins, Andrea Willis, Sandi Knight, Terri Vincent, April Owens, Kristal Wells and Amy Webb. Congratulations Graduates! Go out and change the world!

continued from Page 1...



Photos from left to right: 1) Rick Smith and Angela Stockton from Citizens First Bank present over \$200 in proceeds from an employee dress down campaign for Community Action. 2) Adam Smedberg from the Bowling Green Hot Rods present \$575 from half of ticket sales by Community Action staff! 3) Kay Coomes from ATMOS Energy presented Community Action a check for over \$2,600 from the Sharing the Warmth program.

## You Can Help!

Planning your annual giving? Although Community Action receives Federal, State and Local Government funding, private contributions are more vital than ever to help us provide high quality services for the most vulnerable families, individuals, seniors and children.

Are you interested in ways your business or organization can give back to our communities, while promoting your business?

**Contact Charity Parrish at 270-782-3162 to get involved today!!**



Modern Woodmen's Marlene Young matched \$2,500 of funds raised from the May 2011 Community Action Charity Golf Classic!



Photos from left to right: 1) Community Action held the first ever Community Big Shot Sporting Clays tournament in May 2011. Pictured above is Associate Director Ellie Harbaugh, presenting the top prize to the winning team captain, Larry Dale Williams, whose team was sponsored by Farmers National Bank. 2) Also in May, the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Action of Southern Kentucky Charity Golf Classic was held at Crosswinds Golf Course in Bowling Green. The winning team pictured here is Eddie Miller, Hugh Evans, Butch Childers and Danny Blanchard, all from Butler County.

For more winners and photos from these May 2011 events, please visit

[www.casoky.org/media!](http://www.casoky.org/media!)



Foster Grandparent Betty Justice helps a student in elementary school.

## Program Spotlight: Foster Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program matches older adults with children who have special or exceptional needs in schools, Head Start Programs and other approved facilities. **Every year, about 100 Foster Grandparents in the 10 county area provide mentorship and assistance to 300 children.**

A tax free stipend, transportation assistance, and monthly trainings are provided for volunteers who qualify. The program receives an annual grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service. In-kind contributions, fundraising activities, and United Way of Southern Kentucky also provide vital support for the program. For more information, visit [www.casoky.org](http://www.casoky.org) and or contact [rchinn@casoky.org](mailto:rchinn@casoky.org) or 270-782-3162.



## 9-11 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Remembrance & RSVP's 40<sup>th</sup>!



Community Action's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is remembering the tragedy of 9-11 in a special way. RSVP is collecting items to provide at least 100 at-risk seniors with disaster preparedness kits. Drop these items at any Community Action facility or other designated locations within the ten county service region and our volunteers will build the disaster kits to distribute on 9-11 weekend. For more information or a list of items needed, go to [www.casoky.org](http://www.casoky.org) or contact RSVP at 782-3162 or [mhall@casoky.org](mailto:mhall@casoky.org).

## OLD STYLE SUPPER & AUCTION

benefitting the Foster Grandparent Program  
a program of Community Action of Southern Kentucky

**Friday, August 12, 2011**  
Warren East High School  
6867 Louisville Rd., Bowling Green KY.

Doors open at 5:00 pm  
Auction begins at 6:00 pm



Plus, a Chance to win  
**Cash Door Prizes!**

ADULT TICKETS - \$5.00  
(no charge for children 5 & under)



## Agency Program Contacts

Cheryl Allen, CEO/Executive Director  
 Jenni Basham, Family Preservation  
 Magan Belt & Kacey Cole, Food Services  
 Robert Chinn, Foster Grandparents  
 Brandon Fowler, IT Administrator  
 Tracy Haddix, Children's Services  
 Michael Hall, RSVP  
 Ellie Harbaugh, Associate Director  
 Kathy Hunt, Weatherization  
 Sandi Knight, Senior Services  
 Pam McElhiney, Family Nurturing  
 Ken Merideth, Public Transit  
 Charity Parrish, Public Information  
 Angela Roy, Human Resources  
 Susan Simmons, Finance  
 Leslie Talley, Community Services  
 Donna Tooley, Transportation

## Calendar of Events

August 12 – Old Style Supper and Auction to benefit the Foster Grandparent Program 5pm

August 17 – First Day of Head Start

August 23 – Dance and Potluck at Education & Human Svcs Building 6pm to 9pm

August 25 – Big Red Blitz “Plarn” Fest 10:30am to 2:30pm

September 1 – Deadline for donation of disaster kit items

September 20 - Dance and Potluck at Education & Human Svcs Building 6pm to 9pm

To receive future newsletters in full color by email, please send your email address to [cparrish@casoky.org](mailto:cparrish@casoky.org) or call Charity Parrish at 270-782-3162.

*Community Action of Southern Kentucky: Serving Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, and Warren Counties.*



**Community Action of Southern Kentucky**  
 921 Beauty Avenue  
 PO Box 90014  
 Bowling Green, KY 42102-9014  
 (270) 782-3162  
[www.casoky.org](http://www.casoky.org)