

Michigan Community
ACTION
Helping People. Changing Lives.
WEEKLY UPDATE

Volume 4, Issue 20

July 20, 2020

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MCA's Mission

***To strengthen and inspire
Community Action Agencies to
champion solutions to poverty
and to promote economic
opportunity.***

Upcoming Events

**July 27 - Finance Committee
10:30 AM EDT**

Announcements

Community Action mourns the passing of John Lewis



Congressman Lewis started his life of service as a young civil rights activist in the 1960s advocating for the rights of poor and black Americans. He encouraged multi-racial cooperation and understanding among those who would fight for social justice. We collectively mourn his passing. However, the passing of John Lewis can be a time to renew or make a

commitment to carry on his legacy through our work to support Community Action, work that is just as important now than ever was.

From the New York Times: "Representative John Lewis, a son of sharecroppers and an apostle of nonviolence who was bloodied at Selma and across the Jim Crow South in the historic struggle for racial equality, and who then carried a mantle of moral authority into Congress, died on Friday. He was 80." Read more [here](#).

Registration is open!

MI COMMUNITY ACTION

VIRTUAL SUMMER

CONFERENCE

July 31 - August 14

Check out the full session schedule with descriptions for the Virtual Summer Conference!

July 27 - Directors Council 1:00 PM EDT

July 27 - Board of Directors 3:00 PM EDT

July 31-Aug 14 - MCA's Virtual Summer Conference

For a full list of events, visit [MCA's calendar](#).

The Michigan Community Action Update is a new, weekly round-up of important information for members of Michigan Community Action. We may send more frequent updates when important information breaks that impacts the Community Action network. We welcome your input and feedback.

Please send your comments and ideas [here](#).

MCA Officers/Board Members 2019-2021

Jill Sutton
President
Mid Michigan CAA

Michelle Williamson
Vice President
Community Action

Kerri Duff
Secretary Treasurer
Gogebic Ontonagon CAA

Toby Berry
Urban Officer
Community Action Agency

Michelle LaJoie
Upper Peninsula Officer
Community Action Alger-Marquette

Lisa Evans
Lower Peninsula Rural Officer
Community Action of Allegan County

Melinda Johnson
At-Large Officer
Blue Water Community Action

Access the full conference agenda with times, days and session descriptions [here!](#)

In addition to the live virtual experience, when the conference has concluded, recordings of all of the trainings, presentation slide decks, session transcripts, and handouts will be accessible to conference attendees electronically to watch and re-watch at their leisure for at least one year through our new MCA Learning Management System!

[Click here to register your team today!](#)

Hear from speakers and trainers with the **W.K. Kellogg Foundation, George Washington University, Michigan State University, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, and Michigan League for Public Policy**, to just name a few!

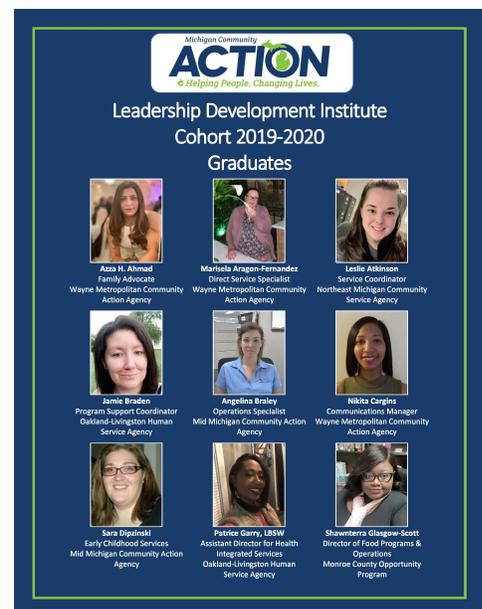
All of this training – 18 sessions, networking opportunities, inspiration, wellness, and a LOT of learning is available to you for just \$199 per person.

When you register for the MCA Virtual Summer Conference, you, your staff, board members, and volunteers get access to training from some of the **top experts** in wellness, trauma-informed program design and service delivery, social determinants of health, management and diversity, equity and inclusion best practices, super-charged Board Development, and much, much more.

On **Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the weeks of August 3rd and August 10th from 11AM - 2PM**, there will be a morning speaker and two breakout sessions. There will also be daily breaks when attendees can visit the virtual marketplace to learn more about our vendors and sponsors.

You Are Cordially Invited: Celebrate our Leadership Development Institute Graduates at a Virtual Commencement

MCA's Virtual Summer Conference will start on Friday, July 31 at 12:30PM with an online commencement event for thirty special Community Action colleagues: our 2019-2020 cohort of Leadership Development Institute **Graduates**]. Graduates and guests will be addressed by Dr. Joyce Marter, renowned clinical psychologist, author, and motivational speaker and other special guest speakers. Support our LDI graduates and register [here](#) for this special event! (this registration is free and open to all those who want to attend, but you must pre-register.). Also be sure to keep a lookout for updated information on how to join the 2020/2021 LDI Cohort!



Doug McFadden
CAA Governing Board Officer
EightCAP

Matt Purcell
Directors Council Chair
GCCARD

Mary Ann Neopolitan
CAA Governing Board Officer
Monroe County Opportunity
Program

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

Was this e-newsletter forwarded to you? Sign up for email updates from Michigan Community Action, your statewide network of anti-poverty agencies [here](#).

Community Action Partnership Award Nomination Deadline extended to July 24, 2020

Nominate outstanding volunteers or staff colleagues for these prestigious awards for their contributions to the Community Action Movement before the July 24th deadline. Nominate yourself or others for scholarships to attend the CAP National Conference in August, too! Nomination forms can be downloaded [here](#).

Upcoming Grants

Call for Grant Applications: Full and matching branding service grants available for non-profit, government and educational organizations! Application deadline is July 31, 2020

Call for grant applications for full and matching grants for branding, creative services and web site design. Recent awards have ranged in value from \$500 – \$40,000. Please consider applying if your organization could benefit from brand service support.

Causality works with organizations to help build your brand with sustainable creative tools and empower you to use them—elevating your brand and enhancing your ability to serve. All grant projects are performed by our staff of dedicated professionals.

These service grants are open to #nonprofits, #government agencies, #nationalservice and #education.

Projects available for pro bono/partial pro bono:

- identity design/brand development
- creative and design services (brochures, annual reports, campaigns, event branding)
- WordPress web site design/build
- infographics, illustration, presentations

Full and matching grants are available!

We offer both full (pro bono) and matching (partial, funding requirement of 50%) service grants to help nonprofits and good causes access our services at no or low cost. The application deadline is July 31, 2020.

Apply online at www.causalitybrandgrant.com/apply

Questions, call Terri Gaines, President and Grant Administrator at 888-999-5592 or email terri@thinkcausality.com.

Taking Steps to Fulfill the Promise of Community Action

Michigan Community Action is working with the MI Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity to form a new work group, the **Social and Racial Justice Team**, chaired by **FiveCAP Executive Director Mary Trucks**. Over the next several months, members will study and ultimately make a set of recommendations for policy, business practice and legislative

changes connected with the poverty, social and racial justice. Please contact MCA Executive Director, [Chong-Anna Canfora](#) to get involved or learn more.

Webinars/Trainings

Spots Still Available for Two Upcoming Tuesday Trainings – FREE TO MCA MEMBERS

As a part of your membership benefits, Michigan Community Action is offering two free training webinars this July for members. Register today to reserve your spot, space is limited!

Tuesday July 21st 12:00 to 1:30 (90 minutes)

Fundraising During Tough Times with Laura Huth-Rhoades, do Good Consulting

This webinar is appropriate for Board Members, volunteers, fund development staff, and agency staff interested in growing and updating their fund development skills in this challenging fundraising environment. Description: In crisis, it's hard to know if, how, or when to ask donors for their support. But as client needs and demands grow, raising money is imperative to provide services and keep doors open. In this webinar, participants will learn what the best strategies are during tough times for maintaining – and even growing – donor support. Attendees will also come away with a Top 10 list to help them guide efforts moving forward. Session includes breakout room time for discussion with groups looking for more specific advice (e.g., special event fundraising, major gifts, online giving, annual appeals, etc.)

[Register](#)

Tuesday July 28th 12:00-1:30 (90 minutes)

PosiPower Ways to Serve Diverse "Baby-Boomers" and Elderly Customers with Jordana Shakoor, JYS Consultants

This webinar is appropriate for program managers, front-line staff and all volunteers and staff members who engage in client services and program processes. You will probably need to look no further than your own face in the mirror or perhaps your parent's face to find a "baby-boomer". "Baby-boomers" are all around us, and we have a lot to say, and for the most part we have some power over our lives. This course will begin with us "baby-boomers" our needs and concerns. But, there is a growing population that is becoming elderly, and there is an effort to put some safe guards in place, because economic, social and health instability in the later stages of life is an increasing concern of public and private service agencies. In this course, service providers will learn best practice in customer service, and how to become aware of diversity that may be spiritual, cultural, and ethnic when working with "baby-boomers" and elderly customers.

Topical highlights are:

- Why be positive about aging yourself
- What do "Baby-boomers" want and demand today
- The elder customers - an aging population at-risk and how we can best serve them
- Diversity is spiritual, cultural, ethnic and enduring
- Aging customer rights to dignity, self-determination and respect
- 12 PosiPower Tips – Best customer service practice for "Baby-boomer" customers

- 12 PosiPower Tips – Best customer service practice for elderly customers

[Register](#)

We're here for you: We've made a number of changes at MCA so that we can continue to serve you and the network, including closing the physical MCA office and making arrangements for MCA staff to work remotely since March 16, 2020. All direct phone lines, as well as the general line have been forwarded to mobile phones and staff are all accessible by email as well.

Thank you. Be well and stay safe, everyone.

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