

Michigan Community
ACTION
Helping People. Changing Lives.

WEEKLY UPDATE

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In This Issue...

Announcements

Upcoming Grants

Webinars/Trainings

COVID-19

Remote Work Resources

Upcoming Events

[MCA Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Legislative Priorities](#)

[CAAs in the News](#)

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and action alerts. Click on the
links below to follow MCA
today.*



MCA's Mission

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

Upcoming Events

Announcements



Virtual Summer Conference 2020 Registration is open!

Michigan Community Action's annual Summer Conference has gone virtual! The conference will be July 31 - Aug 14 2020.

We start things off with a virtual commencement for our 30 colleagues graduating as the 2019-2020 cohort of Leadership Development Institute Graduates on July 31 from 12:30 pm-2 pm. [Register here for LDI Graduation.](#)

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. We are excited to roll out the Peer Groups at this year's conference, where colleagues can share ideas, triumphs, and challenges to spark conversation and learn new ideas from each other. [Register here for the Summer Conference!](#)

New Program Director for Ottawa County Community Action

My name is Jennifer (or Jen) Brozowski and I am the new Program Director at the Ottawa County Community Action Agency. I have been in the social service field for the last 15 years. My experience has been in a variety of settings such as a residential treatment center for children with severe mental health and behavioral disorders, a day program for adults with developmental disabilities, psychiatric and detox inpatient units and, most recently, at Health Net of West Michigan (HNWM). At HNWM I supervised a group of case managers who helped clients navigate the complex resources in the areas of physical and mental health as well as various social determinants of health.

July 15 - Legislative Committee
10:30 AM EDT.

July 27 - Finance Committee
10:30 AM EDT

July 27 - Directors Council 1:00
PM EDT

July 27 - Board of Directors 3:00
PM EDT

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



On a personal note, I have two handsome boys-Hayden, 15 and Jakob, 5. My husband, Matt, works in the construction world as a project manager. When we aren't busy working, we enjoy going to our family cabin in Indiana on Lake Freeman in the summer months; In the winter months we like to go bowling and visit both of our extended families in Illinois where we both grew up.

Joining Ottawa County Community Action Agency has been an exciting, yet challenging, adventure for me thus far. I'm looking forward to understanding all there is

to know about Community Action and continue to play a role in serving the community.

PlaidWorks Micro-Internship Initiative

For the Summer of 2020, Alma College is offering students a PlaidWorks Grant up to \$500 when they complete a PlaidWorks Micro-Internship. A micro-internship is a short term (20-40 hour) professional project, similar to that which could be completed by an intern or entry-level employee, and which can be completed entirely remotely.

[Find out more.](#)

Webinars/Trainings

MCA Free Webinar: Fundraising in Tough Times with Laura Huth-Rhoades from do Good Consulting

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](#)



MCA Free Webinar: PosiPower Ways to Serve Diverse "Baby Boomers" and Elderly Customers with Jordana Shakoov with JYS Consultants

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. [Register](#)

Topical highlight are:

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](#).

- 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

Executive Director Academy, Hosted by the Nonprofit Network. Meets one time each month online Aug 2020-April 2021. Learn more about the ED Academy [here](#)

COVID-19

Quiz: Are you ready to audit these areas of heightened risk?

Many audit clients with 2020 year ends will have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic during the period under audit. Auditing these clients will present unique challenges and risks unlike what auditors have seen in prior years. Are you up to speed in these areas of heightened risk? Take this [quiz](#) to find out.

For guidance and resources, visit the AICPA's free COVID-19: Audit & Assurance resource center at aicpa.org/covidaudit. Visitors can access illustrative disclosures, FAQs, detailed reports addressing areas of heightened risk, and more. You can also access [COVID-19: Accounting & Reporting resources](#) for help with financial reporting considerations.

Paycheck Protection Program Loan Application Extended

The PPP Loan application has been extended to August 8th, 2020. Contact your bank or the small business administration to apply. [Read full article.](#)

Remote Work Resources

Professional networking during COVID-19

The unique nature of COVID-19 is such that networking in the traditional sense is rendered nearly impossible. In the wake of strict social-distancing measures, conferences have evaporated, luncheons have been canceled, and coffee houses have been shuttered. Here are some tips on how to continue expanding your professional network:

- Hone your expertise
- Use technology to your advantage
- Cast a wide net
- Social media is your friend

Read the [full article](#).

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.

Michigan Community Action
2173 Commons Parkway
Okemos, MI 48864
517.321.7500