

# Community Action News

Community Action...helping people, changing lives.

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## Second Annual “Healthy Homes, Healthy Families”



On Saturday, October 6 more than 150 families attended Will County Center for Community Concern’s second annual “Healthy Homes / Healthy Families Expo” held at the Joliet Park District’s Memorial Stadium. In partnership with County Executive Larry Walsh’s office, WCCCC offered Will County residents information and products to help keep their families healthy and their homes safe.

A new addition to this year’s event was the Northern Illinois Food Bank’s Mobile Food Pantry. Over 150 families were able to “shop” the pantry for much-needed fresh meats, produce, and dry goods. Through the generosity of local contractors and vendors, WCCCC was able to distribute smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and socket sealers to help families keep their homes safe and improve energy efficiency.

WCCCC wishes to thank the many organizations and businesses who participated in our event, including Big Brothers/Big Sisters; the Will County Health Department, the National Hook-Up of Black Women, Crisis Line of Will County, and Senior Services Center of Will County. Many thanks to the Joliet Fire Department for manning the educational “Fire House” and the Joliet Police Department for conducting car seat inspections, and to Jody’s Hot Dogs for their participation.

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## WCCCC hosts “A Quarter Century of Caring” Open House



Board Member Elizabeth Franklin, R. Dale Evans, and Board Member Ruth Newell



Board Chair David Sullivan, Larry Walsh, Director Kris White



County Executive Larry Walsh and State Representative Larry Walsh Jr.



County Executive Larry Walsh and State Senator Pat McGuire



Tom Quillman, Russ Slinkard and IACAA CEO Dr. Dalitso Sulamoyo



Former Board Member Charlene Lockowitz, former employee Mary Gajcak and WCCCC's Jen Cox



Board Member Lloyd Collins and Nadine

Will County Center for Community Concerns hosted its “A Quarter Century of Caring” Open House on Wednesday, September 19th, 2012. The event was attended by more than 100 guests including community partners, elected officials, and donors, who enjoyed an evening of looking back on WCCCC’s history and growth over the last 25 years.

This year, WCCCC presented County Executive Larry Walsh with the 2012 “Community Service/Outstanding Leadership Award” for his efforts on behalf of the Agency. The award is presented to an individual who, through their leadership and dedication to WCCCC and the community, has made it possible to achieve our mission of helping people and changing lives. “Larry has the best interests of our Will County community at heart, and he is always supportive of our efforts to serve the neediest families in our area” said Director Kris White. “Our partnership with Will County government has enabled us to provide a myriad of programs that benefit our customers.”

WCCCC Board and Staff extend our thanks and congratulations to Larry Walsh, “Community Service/Outstanding Leadership Award” honoree.

## Friends of Community Action Awards



Amber Moore, Ecolab, Inc.



Mike Milam & Darren Van Dover,  
Harrahs/Ceasars Foundation



Charles Martinez, St. Margaret Mary Parish



Kristen Wyss & Angela Cabbay,  
Joliet Junior Women's Club

Seventeen foundations and individuals received special recognition for their ongoing support of our agency's programs. The "Friend of Community Action Award" was presented by Board Vice-Chair Linda Pote and Board Member Michele Batara.

Awards were presented to the Aileen S. Andrew Foundation; Caterpillar Foundation; D'Arcy Motors; Ecolab, Inc.; First Midwest Bank Charitable Foundation; Full Circle Foundation; Grainger Foundation; Caesar's Foundation; Joliet Jewish Welfare Chest; Joliet Junior Woman's Club; MB Financial; Old Plank Trail Community Bank; Ozinga Brothers, Inc.; St. Margaret Mary Parish; Weist Foundation; Wells Fargo; and Ed & Sheryl Jaquays.

We would like to thank each of our "Friends of Community Action" award recipients once again for their ongoing financial support. Your generous contributions have enabled us to provide much needed home repairs, housing counseling, and other services to many families in need.

### Many thanks to our event sponsors:

- B.B Construction, Food Sponsor
- Wermer, Rogers, Doran, & Ruzon, Food Sponsor
- CITGO Petroleum Corporation, Beverage Sponsor
- Citibank, Beverage Sponsor
- Block, Klukas, & Manzella, PC
- L.DeGeus & Associate, Inc.
- McKeown Law Firm



Martin Ozinga, Ozinga Brothers, Inc



October 23:  
*Community Resource Fair*  
R.C Hill Elementary School

October 29:  
*Community Resource Fair*  
Holiday Inn Joliet

November 1:  
*LIHEAP applications for all*  
*income-eligible*  
*households*

November 1:  
*Community Resource Fair*  
Levy Center  
(DuPage Township)

November 12:  
*Closed in observance of*  
*Veteran's Day*

November 22 & 23:  
*Closed in observance of*  
*Thanksgiving*

December 19:  
*Holiday Basket Distribution*

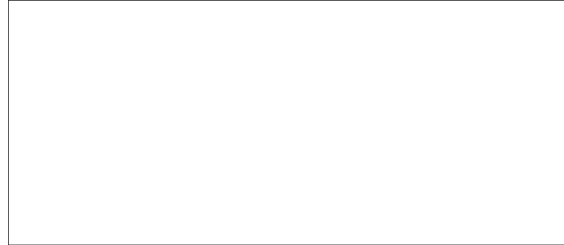
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The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and are dedicated to helping people help themselves...and each other.

## 2012 Holiday Food Baskets

Will County Center for Community Concerns will host our annual "Holiday Basket Program" on Wednesday, December 19. Each year 125 income-eligible families with children aged 16 or younger are invited to our agency to enjoy holiday refreshments and have an opportunity to tell their secret wishes to Santa. Every family will be given a generously filled food box, and each child will receive a new jacket, hat and mittens. We will also be accepting donations so that we can purchase an age-appropriate gift for each child.

If you would like to make a contribution to help make this a special Christmas for our families in need, please direct your donation to:

**Holiday Food Baskets**  
**Will County Center for Community Concerns**  
304 N Scott Street  
Joliet, IL 60432

