

**WCCA Client Receives Sargent Shriver National Community Action Award**

History repeats itself for WCCA. In 2002, Roy Hudson, former client of WCCA, received the highest honor bestowed on a Community Action client for his achievements and community involvement. This year the prestigious award was presented to Joelle Gunther. Joelle was a single mom with three kids and unemployed when she came to WCCA. She is now a hospice nurse and homeowner. Joelle has remarried, had a fourth child, and continues to be active in her community. The award will be given at the National Community Action Partnership Conference. Both recipients were enrolled in the Family Self Sufficiency Program at WCCA. Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) programs provide the necessary tools to help people to succeed in rising above the poverty level and to live independently.

*Gwen Hill, WCCA Public Outreach Coordinator*

**What's New At WCCA In Henderson County?**

**WCCA Moves To New Location**

On November 7th, the new WCCA Program Services Building will be open at 220 King Creek Boulevard in Hendersonville. Most of the WCCA staff located at the 526 7th Avenue Building will be moving to the new location. Apple Country Transportation, Weatherization, and Head Start Home Base staff will continue to operate their programs at the 7th Avenue location.

The new building in the Village At King Creek will offer a welcome friendly, efficient environment for staff and clients. An open house for the new facility will be announced in the near future.

*Gwen Hill, WCCA Public Outreach Coordinator*

**Weatherization Regional Training**



WCCA's Craig Burroughs, Weatherization Coordinator, hosted the NC far west region Community Action agencies in a weatherization training seminar. Weatherization crews from the other regions worked with Craig and his crew on a home in Hendersonville to restore energy efficiency for an elderly lady who wished to remain in her home, where she had lived many years. WCCA partnered with Housing Assistance Corporation to restore the older home to a comfortable, safe residence.

The Weatherization Program is designed to help low income families, the elderly, and disabled individuals. Repairs and insulation on older homes help stop air filtration. The major goal of the program is to save energy and money, reducing power bills and making homes more comfortable.

*Craig Burroughs, WCCA Weatherization Supervisor*

**Head Start/Early Head Start Program Opens New Centers in Henderson County**



WCCA's Head Start/Early Head Start opened two new centers this year. Harvest Outreach Center in Mills River opens its doors to eighteen 3 to 5-year-olds in the Harvest Outreach Church on August 25th on a limited 4 hour schedule until licensing is completed. This center is operated as a More At Four Center as well.

The Balfour Center also opened on the 25th on a limited schedule. This center is for teen-moms and was opened for the purpose of helping young moms continue their education while providing quality day care for their pre-school children.

The King Creek Early Head Start and Head Start Center is expected to open its doors in December. The new facility will be located across from the new WCCA Program Services Center in The Village At King Creek, located off of Spartanburg Highway in Hendersonville.

WCCA currently operates 7 centers in Henderson County and 2 in Transylvania County.

*Betty DePina, WCCA Head Start/Early Head Start Director*

**What's New At WCCA in Transylvania County?**

**Unexpected Mealsite Guest At Silvermont stirs Memories**



Meet "Fred", a rooster who decided to relocate at Silvermont Mansion. The regulars at the Senior Nutrition Site immediately "adopted" him and began feeding him. Each morning when they arrived, Fred would greet them. They particularly enjoyed listening to him crow. Many of them grew up on a farm, and the rooster has spurred many conversations of memories of their childhood. Although Site Manager Alice Taylor is unsure "Fred" met the age qualification of 60 to join her group at Silvermont, she is certain that he has provided much amusement and enjoyment to the group. The rooster stayed at Silvermont for almost three weeks before a kind lady in our community took him to live on her farm. Everyone at the Silvermont Senior program wishes Fred the best in his new home.

*Barbara Greene, Transylvania County WCCA Community Services Director*

**WCCA and MANNA Food Bank Bring Fresh Produce to Quebec Residents**

WCCA in Transylvania County is the lead agency for a new initiative with MANNA Food Bank. Each month, the mobile truck brings fresh produce to the Quebec Community Center where the WCCA Senior Nutrition Program is held. The produce distribution is open to the public, and is a great way for anyone on a fixed income to stretch their food budget. In August, 111 people were served. Recipes are available to encourage folks try a few food or suggest a different way to prepare the vegetables. Volunteers from Oak Grove Baptist Church in Quebec and Knights of Columbus help unload the food and hand vegetables out.

*Barbara Greene, Transylvania County WCCA Community Services Director*

**Update on English Hills Apartments**

The English Hills Apartments will be a 40 unit apartment complex located in Brevard. The site for English Hills lies within the Brevard city limits and is adjacent to WCCA's Hillview Children's Center. It will be accessible to transportation and recreational opportunities. The apartments will provide much needed affordable housing and are within walking distance to downtown Brevard. Many of the units will have beautiful mountain views.

The infrastructure for the complex is already in place. Vertical construction will began in October, 2005. Occupancy is scheduled for late 2006.

*Sheryl Fortune, WCCA Housing Director*

**WCCA Fundraising Campaign**

Public Support for WCCA has been building up steam since last October, when David White, Executive Director, officially began the first fundraising campaign in the 39 year history of WCCA. Vendors, corporations, foundations, and private citizens have shown their support by contributing products, volunteer hours and monetary donations.

The newly formed Foundation Board, Friends of WCCA, began their plans for fundraisers for the upcoming year. On October 28th, they will host a wine tasting event to be held at Biltmore Estates. Sponsorship of this event allows businesses and individuals to donate to a worthwhile charity and receive public recognition for their kindness. This event will include a Pre-Social Hour to be held at the new WCCA location in The Village At King Creek and an after hours tour of the Biltmore Winery and Premium Wine Tasting.

WCCA would like to thank it's sponsors for this first fundraising occasion: First Citizens Bank & Trust, Century 21 Mountain Lifestyles, Earle Insurance Agency, Ken Gaylord Architects, Biltmore Estates, Copy-Works, and Harold & Lisa Johnson.

*Gwen Hill, WCCA Public Outreach Coordinator*

**Tips from Apple Country Transportation To Help Conserve Gasoline**

- Curtail non-essential travel
- Combine Trips
- Follow Posted Speed Limits
- Limit Idleing of Vehicle
- Avoid Jack Rabbit Starts
- Anticipate Stops-Decelerate
- Check Air Pressures Often
- Keep vehicles well maintained to improve efficiency



Remember, this is a national problem. Any small savings can make a difference on a large scale.

*Bill Crisp, WCCA Transportation Director*

### *The Director's Diatribe*

Nonprofit organizations cannot function without volunteers and WCCA is no exception. Our Board of Directors are volunteers. They make the decisions and provide the vision and planning that keep WCCA moving forward. The Head Start Policy Council and Transportation Advisory Committee are volunteer groups. They provide advice and make decisions on everything from how and where to provide preschool services, to fare prices for public transportation.

A new group of energetic and creative volunteers is the Friends of WCCA Foundation Board. They are coordinating fundraising events and working to raise the profile of the agency. This group formed this spring and already are hosting a major event on October 28th, A Behind The Scenes Biltmore Winery Tour and Tasting.

Transylvania County has always been out in front providing WCCA with volunteers. The Tiger Town Thrift Shop and Mobile Meals have dedicated cadres that provide thousands of hours of volunteer time. The meals that these volunteers provide help many older people stay independent and in their own homes.

Some volunteers that help WCCA also assist many other worthwhile causes. The General Electric ELFUN volunteers are installing the outdoor lighting at two new WCCA facilities. Their hard work and expertise will save WCCA tens of thousands of dollars. The Builders for Christ helped us put up a new shade structure at the Lincoln Circle Head Start Center and will be working on a new shade structure at Sugar Hill. The Hendersonville Rotary Club has provided books and reading to children at WCCA Head Start centers for ten years. The Hendersonville Kiwanis Club, Junior Women's Club, St. James Knitters, and Friends of the Library have also contributed much needed items to WCCA clients for many years.

Each Christmas, volunteers donate new clothing in the "Be A Star Clothing Drive" for Head Start children. This drive began with a few Head Start volunteers and has grown to include staff, board members, neighboring organizations, and supporters of WCCA.

All of these efforts make WCCA more effective. We can help more people and change more lives because there are more hands to help, more eyes to see the needs, and more minds working on solutions. Most importantly, there are more hearts sharing hope and love.

*David White, WCCA Executive Director*

*For more information about Western Carolina Community Action (WCCA) programs, please visit our website at [www.wcca.net](http://www.wcca.net).*