

WCCA VISION STATEMENT

Western Carolina Community Action (WCCA) will continue its leadership in providing life changing services. We build alliances that develop and support activities and services designed to increase human capacity. We promote an economically just, environmentally sustainable, and inclusive community where every resident can live in dignity with the opportunity to grow and contribute to a brighter future.

WCCA MISSION STATEMENT

Western Carolina Community Action (WCCA) assists low income and underserved people in Henderson and Transylvania Counties in achieving their full potential through quality services and advocacy that demonstrate compassion, respect and the belief that all people are worthy.

Director's Diatribe

Underserved

The recent WCCA strategic planning retreat gave the WCCA Board and staff an opportunity to change. It also allowed us to recognize the change that has already happened. Our new mission statement introduced us to a word we had not used before.. "underserved."

WCCA's focus has always been helping people living on low-incomes. At the same time, we have always stepped in to help others in the community when it made sense. We provide transportation to those who need the service regardless of income. The same is true of many of the services we provide for senior citizens. A senior citizen that needs a home delivered meal or a disabled person who cannot drive may have financial security, but may still be underserved. WCCA is already providing services that meet these needs.

Parents who need to work and have young children, but can't find high quality, affordable childcare are underserved. A senior citizen who would like to stay active, but has no place to go is underserved. WCCA is working on problems like these too. As I have said on more than one occasion, the services that make a community a good place for people living on low-incomes, make it a good place for everyone.

This change in direction means that WCCA will look to be more inclusive. I truly believe that everyone benefits when diverse people come together. The more we work with people who are different, the richer we all become. All ages, all colors, and certainly all pockets both deep and shallow ought to be welcome at the table.

David White, Executive Director



WCCA Staff and Board Members At Strategic Planning Retreat

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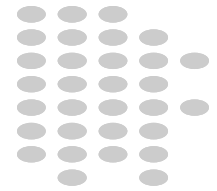
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Hats Off To The Senior Nutrition Program!

The participants for the Congregate Nutrition Programs at Silvermont and Quebec make reservations to come each day. This helps site managers and the van drivers to always know who is on the roster for the day.

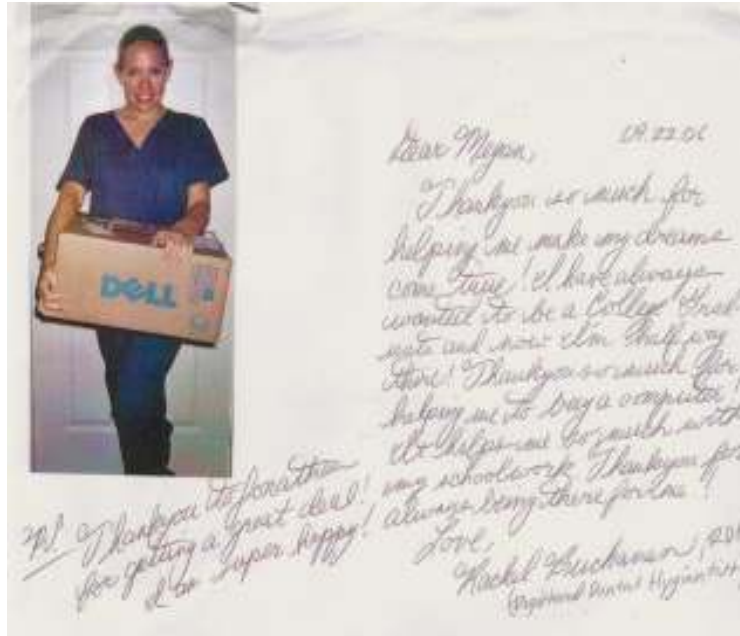
Recently, the Quebec Center driver, Revonda Wilson, from Transylvania County Transportation, pulled in a participant's drive and blew the horn to signal her arrival. Minutes passed and the person did not come out the door. The van driver went to the door and knocked but still no response. The door was locked, so she returned to her van, called Transylvania WCCA and asked Stephanie O'Shields to call a family member. The family member went to the house immediately and found the elderly lady lying on the floor. Apparently, she had been there for hours. EMS was called and the lady was transported to Transylvania Community Hospital and treated for a broken hip and wrist.

This same scenario happened recently with the Home-Delivered Meals program when WCCA Board Member/Delivery Volunteer Fred Tinsley found a lady injured when he delivered her meal.

Having someone to check on our elderly folks daily is a very vital part of our Senior Nutrition Program. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them if you know they have no visitors throughout the day.

Barbara Greene, Transylvania Co. Community Services Director

Money Smart Workshops Provide The Tools



WCCA's Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) assists low-income families and individuals with employment, budgeting, savings, credit repair, education, and asset building. Financial education is a key component of this program. If an individual does not possess financial skills, financial aid alone is not beneficial in promoting self-empowerment and breaking the cycle of poverty.

WCCA offers financial workshops at no cost to the public as well as WCCA participants enrolled in the Self-Sufficiency Programs. The workshops build financial skills and decision making so participants may use their limited funds more effectively. Workshop graduates have a much better success rate in achieving self-sufficiency. Learning to manage resources more efficiently improves the lives of not just the participant but of their family members as well.

To learn more about how you can participate in the workshops or become a mentor, contact Pat Malinak, Henderson County Community Service Director, at (828)693-1711. The 2007 Spring Money Smart Workshop schedule is posted on WCCA's website www.wcca.net.

DIME-A-Saurus teaches kids about money

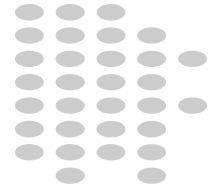


Never Too Young To Learn About Money

Thanks to a grant from Transylvania County United Way, WCCA is once again able to take the DIME-A-Saurus program into the school system. DIME-A-Saurus is a character from Consumer Credit Counseling who teaches children about money - how to save, how to spend wisely, and how to share. This particular program was done in September in conjunction with the United Way Day of Caring. Several members of the Pisgah Forest Rotary Club were on hand to volunteer with the kids as they did activities about money and counting. DIME-A-Saurus helps the children understand the difference between wants and needs - a concept that adults sometimes struggle with! DIME-A-Saurus visited the five first grades at Pisgah Forest Elementary School, and made his rounds to every first grade class in the county school system as well as Brevard Academy.

DIME-A-Saurus is the children's component to the WCCA Self-Sufficiency program. By teaching kids about money early in their lives, hopefully as adults they will have a better understanding of how important money management is and avoid financial disaster. To learn more about any part of Self-Sufficiency, call the Transylvania office at 884-3220 or the Hendersonville office at 1-866-670-9222.

Barbara Greene, Transylvania Co. Community Services Director



MANNA At WCCA

Five months ago, a MANNA Food representative sat with a handful of WCCA staff and volunteers to discuss the importance of their program. These volunteers and WCCA staff members took it to heart. Each month, volunteers come to WCCA's Community Room in the King Creek Children's Services Building, anxiously awaiting the MANNA delivery truck. Participants are greeted with welcoming smiles, recipes in English and Spanish, tasty food samples, produce, donated clothing, frozen meats, and a variety of other basic need items. The volunteer base has grown to 12 hard working members and serves over 200 people per event. Produce is also donated by local businesses such as The Corner Market in Etowah and Sky Top Orchard in Zirconia.



2007 MANNA FOOD DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE AT WCCA
11:00-12:30
January 10
February 7
March 7
April 4

For more information about how you can become a MANNA volunteer or donate to this program, contact Pegg Doody at 693-1711 ext. 153

WCCA Receives Duke Energy's Energy Efficiency Starter Kits For Distribution To Clients

Last October, WCCA was contacted by Duke Energy regarding a new program supporting energy efficiency in North Carolina. Energy Efficiency Kits (including compact fluorescent lights, weather stripping, a low-flow shower head, a low-flow faucet aerator, shrink wrap plastic for insulating a window and insulation panels for receptacles and light switches located on exterior walls) were shipped to WCCA for distribution to its clients. These kits were a welcome gift to WCCA clients and a wonderful accessory to the Weatherization Program.



The Weatherization Assistance Program provides home repairs to low income homeowners that make homes more comfortable in the winter and help cut energy costs.

Applications for these services are taken at the WCCA Program Services Building in the Village At King Creek. For more information, call Rhonda Maybin at 693-1711.

RECEIVED JAN 10 2007

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WESTERN CAROLINA COMMUNITY ACTION

December 26, 2006

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

Steve Neely and the Weatherization Dept. at Western Carolina Community Action, Inc. would like to thank you for allowing us to serve you by helping make your home a more energy efficient and pleasant place to live.

Your feedback is very important to us. Please complete and return the signed forms and questions shown below in the enclosed self addressed envelope at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,
[Signature]
Steve Neely, Weatherization Coordinator

Date of Service: 12/15/2006 Type of Repairs/Improvements: Monitor heater, air sealing, doors

Is the temperature in your home more comfortable since the repairs? yes no

How would you rate the quality of the work done? excellent average poor

Was the work done in a timely manner? yes no

Was the weatherization crew courteous? yes no

Were you pleased with the end results? yes no

Please tell us about your overall experience with us:

I am so grateful to the wcca weatherization program. Every one I have come in contact with have been so courteous and helpful with the installation of the back door and storm door there is no longer cold air coming around the door. Also, I feel more secure because the door did not close and lock properly. The monitor heater kept the house more comfortable. Due to the arrangement layout of the house I still need to run the baseboard heat in two rooms but I can keep them on low. Thank you so much,

Signature: [REDACTED] Date: 1-8-07

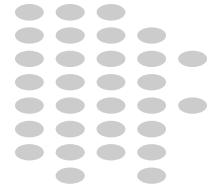
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Thank You For Helping Us Celebrate

On September 29, 2006, WCCA Celebrated 40 Years of Service. Over 200 people attended the event at the WCCA buildings located in the Village At King Creek. Barbecue and Blue Grass were enjoyed in the Community Room of the Children's Services Building. A trip down memory lane was displayed in the Conference Room of the Program Services Building. Along with community partners and residents, many of the WCCA Staff and Volunteers from the past 40 years, including John Leatherwood, WCCA Executive Director 1968-1998, were there to share memories of the early days of community services.

WCCA Staff and Volunteers truly appreciate the generosity of the event sponsors (alpha order):

- Autoworx**
- Ballantyne Ins. Group**
- Carolina First,**
- City Tire Service**
- Earle Insurance**
- Henderson Oil Co.**
- SunTrust Mortgage Wa-**
- chovia Bank**
- WTZQ AM 1600**
- 310 South Main**



WCCA Employee Participates in HonorAir

Emory Shepherd, recently retired Apple Country Transportation Driver, was among the Hendersonville veterans that went to the Washington to see the World War II Veterans Memorial. He served in the army during the years of 1943-1945 as an Army Sgt. Squad Leader in the 88th Infantry, Division 358 Regimental K Company. He was wounded in the chest by machine gun fire, spent three months in the hospital and returned to duty. Emory lost a son (21 yr. old helicopter pilot) in the Viet Nam conflict.

When asked about his experience in Washington, Emory replied that he built friendships that will continue throughout his life.

Emory retired after 12 years of driving an Apple Country Van. He said he enjoyed his time with WCCA and helping the community. He knew that his passengers appreciated more than the transportation services. They valued the kindness and friendship of the drivers and staff of Apple Country.

Emory will be missed by WCCA staff and clients. His dedication to his country and community is truly appreciated.

English Hills Apartments Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

On November 13, 2006, WCCA held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the English Hills Apartments. Special guests included Trudi Walend, NC House Representative and Rodney Locks, City Councilman and WCCA Board member. This project was the result of the efforts of a housing partnership with The Affordable Housing Group to provide quality affordable housing. The event sponsor was Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP.

English Hills is a 40-unit, multi-family, rental development comprised of one and two-story apartments for families. A number of ground floor dwelling units and the community facilities are handicapped accessible. On-site amenities include a community room and an on-site management office.



Community Room

WCCA's Hillview Children's Center is located on adjacent property. This facility provides high quality childcare services for infants, toddlers and preschool children. The Family Place and Smart Start offices are also located in this building. A small park with a playground is located on WCCA property at the entrance to the complex. Children from English Hills will be actively recruited to enroll in WCCA operated childcare programs at the Hillview Children's Center.



WCCA is making available a supportive service package geared toward economic self-sufficiency and homeownership to the residents of the community. Families will be assisted in preparing a plan designed to achieve economic independence. Examples of such activities will

include, but not be limited to: credit counseling, credit repair, budgeting, pre-purchase counseling, predatory lending education, mortgage shopping, home shopping and post-ownership counseling.

Computers are available that will provide on-site ability for residents to access educational and employment opportunities.



Emory Shepherd in front of World War II Memorial in Washington, DC (see article in left column)



HELP!!!!!!

Please come to our rescue!! Tiger Town, WCCA's very own thrift store, needs your help! We constantly have folks come to our shop who desperately need furniture—bed frames, couches, dining sets, chest of drawers, chairs, desks, etc. If you personally have any of these items that are “gently” used or know of someone who is re-decorating, remodeling, moving, or downsizing, please ask them to donate to Tiger Town. There is also a need for clothes dryers, washers, and small appliances. Besides clothes, we sell everything from electrical appliances and paint to china and linens.

Whether you shop at Tiger Town or donate merchandise, you are helping support services for the elderly in Transylvania County. Please help us as we provide services to help our elderly population manage in their own homes as long as possible.

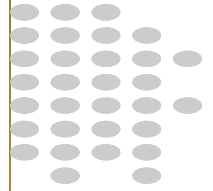
For information on how you can help as a volunteer or with donations, please contact Alice Taylor at 884-9222



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Fall/Winter 07



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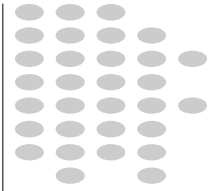
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Fall/Winter 07



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Congratulations WCCA on 40 years of service!

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in our approach, which is to respect, value
and listen to our customers."

Debbie Wilkinson, Hendersonville/Brevard
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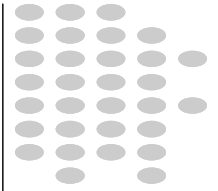
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WESTERN CAROLINA
COMMUNITY ACTION

Fall/Winter 07



I would like additional information on:

- Section 8 Rental Assistance
- Public Transportation
- Senior Services
- Head Start & Early Head Start
- Self Sufficiency
- Weatherization



*

I would like to support WCCA efforts by making a tax-deductible contribution in the amount of

_____.

In honor of:

In memory of:

Designated for:

I would like to volunteer. Please contact me

*

I would like to be added to the WCCA mailing list:

I prefer to have my newsletter emailed rather than mailed to me.

I would like to be taken off the WCCA mailing list:.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you are interested in making a difference in your community and giving a helping hand to those who need it most, please consider joining the WCCA Team of Volunteers. Community support helps WCCA stretch its resources further to provide quality services and help people to help themselves. Contact Gwen Hill, Public Resource Coordinator for more information at (828)693-1711 ext. 111.

Volunteer Opportunities



- Head Start and Early Head Start Assistants**
- Friends of WCCA Volunteers**
- Weatherization Crew Assistants**
- Financial Mentors**
- Bilingual Interpreters**
- Clerical Assistants**
- Tiger Town Thrift Shop Volunteers**
- Maintenance Volunteers**
- Transylvania County Mealsite Volunteers**