

The latest from the New York State Community Action Association. Having trouble viewing this email?  
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## NYSCAA Newsletter - October 2019

From the CEO

Dear Friend,

The summer is behind us and winter will be here before we know it. Thank you for another amazing summer and conference season here at NYSCAA. We appreciated being able to attend the energizing Meeting of the Minds organized by Pat Standish. It is always a pleasure to witness the [Community Action Angels](#) volunteer network and how their impact extends into communities all across New York State.



On November 13th-15th the [2019 Executive Director's Seminar and New ED Orientation](#) will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Corning, NY. This year's orientation for new CAA Executive Directors will be held on November 13th, and the core seminar will take place on the 14th & 15th. An [updated agenda](#) is available. Please note that we have identified several state agency representatives to speak on a panel at the seminar. We hope that all of our Executive Directors can join us for these highly valued discussions.

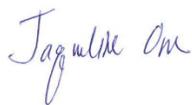
This month, the Best Practices Committee will be selecting applicants for our Communities of Practice. A Community of Practice is a group of people who share a common interest and learn how to do it better as they interact. These applicants will create the foundation of NYSCAA's Data Community of Practice and a Best/Evidence-Based Practices Community of Practice. Thank you to all who applied!

I would also like to extend congratulations to Christine Shaver, Director of the Family Services Department at Tioga Opportunities, on becoming a Nationally Certified ROMA Trainer. Christine completed the ROMA classroom session in May of 2019 and is the first of her cohort to become certified. She will become a new member of the [New York ROMA Alliance](#). Congratulations Christine!

Earlier this month, a federal district court judge in the Southern District of New York issued a nationwide preliminary injunction that [temporarily blocks implementation of the Public Charge rule](#) that was scheduled to take effect October 15, 2019. While this ruling does not rule out the chilling effect the rule could have on members of our communities accessing essential resources and services, it is a big step towards mitigating those effects and providing all community members with benefits.

We look forward to seeing you at our future events! It is our goal to always provide you an opportunity to connect, learn, and share with your Community Action colleagues.

Best,



[Jackie Orr](#), NCRT

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## October's Poverty Myth: "Most Poor People Spend Their Entire Lives In Poverty"- False!

Although poverty strikes a majority of the population, the length of time in poverty is relatively short. The standard image of the poor has been that of an entrenched underclass who are impoverished for years at a time. While this captures a small and important slice of poverty, it is also a highly misleading picture of the more widespread and dynamic nature of American poverty.

The typical pattern is that individuals experience poverty for a year or two, get above the poverty line for an extended period of time, and then perhaps encounter another spell at some later point. Events such as losing a job, having work hours cut back, families splitting up, or developing a serious medical problem all have the potential to throw households into poverty. The condition of poverty is one in which many Americans will move in and out of at least several times during their lives.

To find out more about this month's poverty myth and other commonly misunderstood poverty myths, [click here](#).

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## NYSCAA News

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### 2019 CEO/Executive Director Orientation & Seminar

The CEO/Executive Director Seminar will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Corning, NY, November 14th -15th! A New CEO/Executive Director Orientation will be held on Wednesday, November 13th.

[Registration](#) for the 2019 CEO/Executive Director Orientation & Seminar is still available! An [updated agenda](#) has been posted. We look forward to seeing all of our Executive Director's at the seminar!

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## Highlights from our Agencies

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### SHARE YOUR NEWS!



Have something you would like to share in our upcoming newsletter? Email [cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org](mailto:cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org)!

Pictures appreciated!

### *Pro Action of Steuben and Yates Featured in Head Start Blog*

Pro Action of Steuben and Yates was recognized in the Office of Head Start's latest blog entry for their Head Start program that operates a universal enrollment system helping to streamline the enrollment and placement process for the families they serve. [Click here](#) to watch the video!



Visit Pro Action of Steuben and Yates' [website](#) to see what other services are available to the community!

### *JCEO of Clinton and Franklin Counties - Mobile Farmer's Market*

[JCEO's Mobile Farmer's Market](#) travels Monday-Friday to towns across Franklin County, selling fresh produce and baked goods. The market itself is a mini-bus converted into a store, lined with bins for



fresh produce and a salad bar where customers can make their own mix of fresh-cut vegetables. Proceeds from the farmer's market go towards the purchase of seeds and equipment for the following year, creating a pattern of self-sufficiency. The farmer's market is a collaboration with community partners such as the Adirondack Health Institute and the North Country Healthy Heart Network.

Recently JCEO's Mobile Farmer's Market was highlighted on JCEO's local PBS station. [Click here](#) to view the video.

## *Tompkins Community Action - Governor Cuomo Announces Completion of Amici House*

New York [Governor Andrew Cuomo](#) announced the completion of an \$8.1 million supportive



**Tompkins Community Action**  
*an active community can produce powerful change*



housing project for young adults in Ithaca last week. The [Tompkins Community Action](#) Amici House project provides 23 units of permanent housing for adults ages 18 to 25, including those with children.

Services for substance abuse, mental health counseling, employment and education assistance, and legal aid are available. The housing project is part of the state's \$20 billion housing plan which aims to preserve more than 100,000 units of affordable housing and 6,000 units of supportive housing.

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# Census 2020

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## Join the National Peak Recruitment Campaign Kickoff

***How You Can Get Involved:***

Promote the recruiting drive on your social-medial channels, through your email lists, and on your website.

- Encourage people to apply at [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs).

Include a short article in your newsletter.

- Make sure to include an article in your next newsletter about what census job opportunities are available.

Use our recruitment toolkit to support your outreach.

- The [2020 Census Recruitment Toolkit](#) includes social media tips, sample posts, and sample email messages.

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## CSBG National Partner Resources

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### Weatherization Day - October 30, 2019

Need help planning your activities and communications efforts for Energy Awareness Month? There is a wealth of resources available to assist you, including the 2019 Weatherization Day Communications Toolkit, NASCSP's Site Demo Guide, the Weatherization Day Kick-off Webinar and more! Access the resources below:

- Weatherization Day Kick-off [Webinar Slides](#)
- [2019 Weatherization Day Communications Toolkit](#)
- [Site demo Guide, Storytelling Manual, and other resources](#)
- [Google Document](#) to log your 2019 Weatherization Day Activities
- [Past Weatherization Day Activities](#)



- [NCAF Guide for Local Agencies](#) - Hosting a WAP Site Visit for your member of the House of Representatives or U.S. Senate

Please share your Weatherization Day activities with us! You can send all news, photos, and events to NYSCAA to highlight within the network. Please email Charles Barbay at [cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org](mailto:cbarbay@nyscommunityaction.org)!

## Starting the Program Year Strong with Head Start

School has begun! Dr. Deborah Bergeron taps the new-year energy to encourage discovery of new resources on the [Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center \(ECLKC\)](#). She also highlights Home at Head Start efforts and ways to engage in successful K-12 collaborative efforts. Dr. B shares a love note about a Head Start grantee working with their community for a universal early childhood enrollment program. She is excited about the Bring Your Principals to Head Start Campaign that started this month! [Click here](#) to view the video by Dr. Bergeron!

Additional resources for Starting the Program Year Strong:

- [Head Start Professional Development and the CLASS® Webcast](#)
- [Supporting Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [Head Start and Receiving Elementary Schools: Transitions That Work](#)

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## Additional Resources

2018 ACS State and Local Data Released



The U.S. Census Bureau has released American Community Survey (ACS) data for 2018. The ACS is an ongoing survey that releases annual data on economic and social characteristics of the population by state, region, county, and town. Specifically, it looks at characteristics such as poverty, health insurance, SNAP, education, commuting trends, language spoken at home, and technology access. The release includes 2018 data as well as data averaging the last 5 years.

The data is divided into two main tables:

- [Table DP02 - Social Characteristics](#)
- [Table DP03 - Economic Characteristics](#)

The above links will direct you to tables of national data. You can also access these tables manually by going to the [U.S. Census Bureau Data Website](#), typing the name of a table (e.g., DP02, DP03, etc.) into the "I'm looking for..." search bar, and selecting the table when it pops up as an option.

## LIFE Webinar Series from NYSERDA

**Date:** Wednesday, November 13, 2019

**Time:** 1:30p.m. - 2:30p.m.

**Presenter:** Sara Jayanthi, NYSERDA

Across New York State, community solar is making clean solar energy available to more New Yorker's than ever before. Community solar allows eligible residents to go solar—no equipment required. Solar panels are installed at a site in a community rather than on individual rooftops.



Join this webinar to learn about **Solar for All**, a utility-bill assistance program administered by NYSERDA, that offers participants free

subscriptions to a local community solar project. Program participants receive monthly credits on their electricity bills—between \$5-\$15 a month—and there are no upfront costs, fees, or payments to participate.

To be eligible participants must:

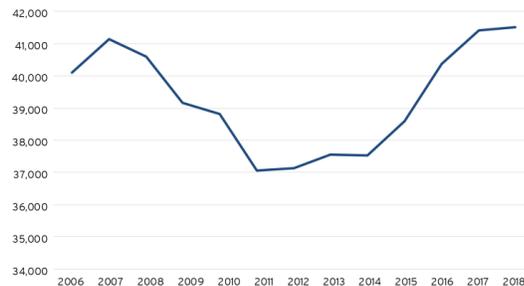
- Live in New York State, regardless of ownership or rental status.
- Pay their own electric bill.
- Have a household income below 60% of the State median income.
- Receive electricity from Central Hudson Gas & Electric, Con Edison, National Grid, NYSEG, Orange and Rockland, or Rochester Gas & Electric.

## Black Household Income is Rising Throughout the United States

The release of new Census Bureau data spotlighted a continued rise in income inequality. The Gini index—a statistical measure of income inequality—rose to its highest recorded level in 50 years, signaling that the distribution of income in the United States is the most uneven it's been since the Bureau began tracking it in 1967.

FIGURE 1

**Black incomes exceed their pre-recession high**  
Black median household income, 2007-2018 (\$2018)



Source: Brookings analysis of American Community Survey data

**B** Metropolitan Policy Program  
at BROOKINGS

The data highlighted the promising, geographically widespread, [increase in incomes Black households experienced](#). Of the 50 metropolitan areas with the largest Black populations, 18 registered a statistically significant increase in median income for those households between 2013 and 2018.

## "Stalling Dreams: How Student Debt is Disrupting Life Chances and Widening the Racial Wealth Gap"

The [Institute on Assets and Social Policy \(IASP\)](#) at Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University released powerful findings on the destructive long-term impacts of holding student loans, especially for first generation students and students of color.

[“Stalling Dreams: How Student Debt is Disrupting Life Chances and Widening the Racial Wealth Gap”](#) reveals how student loans widen the racial wealth gap and threaten long-term economic security for those who cannot count on family wealth to support their educational ambitions.

The authors emphasize that a public commitment to supporting students in higher education is needed, helping current student loan holders as well as future generations.

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## Free Job Listings for Members

Below is a listing current openings. Click on an item to view the job details.



Do you need to get the word out about a job opportunity at your agency? [Click here to view CA job listings and add your own!](#)

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# National Professional Development Opportunities

**Community Action Partnership  
2020 Annual Training Conference**  
January 8th-10th, 2020 - San Juan, Puerto Rico  
[Click here](#) for more information.

**National Community Action Foundation  
2020 Annual Conference**  
March 17th-20th, 2020

Stay tuned for more information.

## 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 we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*



## Our Agencies

Click on Name of Agency to Visit Website: [Action for a Better Community, Inc.](#) \* [Adirondack Community Action Programs, Inc.](#) \* [Albany Community Action Partnership](#) \* [ACCORD Corporation](#) \* [CAPC of Jefferson County](#) \* [Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.](#) [Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency,](#)

Inc. \* Chautauqua Opportunities Inc. \* Columbia Opportunities, Inc. \* Commission on Economic Opportunity for the Capital District Region, Inc. \* Community Action Organization of Erie County, Inc. \* Community Action of Greene County, Inc. Community Action of Orleans & Genesee \* Community Action Partnership for Madison County, Inc. Cortland Community Action Program, Inc. (CAPCO)\* Delaware Opportunities \* Dutchess County Community Action Agency, Inc. \* Economic Opportunity Program Inc. of Chemung County EOC of Nassau County - Hempstead \* EOC of Suffolk - Patchogue \* Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc. \* JCEO of Clinton & Franklin Counties \* Lewis County Opportunities, Inc. \* Livingston County Planning Department \* Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. \* NYC Department of Youth and Community Development \* Niagara Community Action Program, Inc. \* Opportunities for Broome, Inc. \* Opportunities for Chenango, Inc. \* Opportunities for Otsego, Inc. \* Oswego County Opportunities, Inc. \* Path Stone PEACE, Inc. \* Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc. \* RECAP \* Saratoga County EOC, Inc. Schenectady Community Action, Inc. \* Schoharie County Community Action Program, Inc. \* St. Lawrence County Community Development Program, Inc. \* Tioga Opportunities, Inc. \* Tompkins Community Action, Inc. \* Ulster County Community Action Committee, Inc. \* Warren/Hamilton Counties ACEO, Inc. \* L.E.A.P. \* WestCOP \* Wayne County Community Action Program, Inc. \* Wyoming County Community Action, Inc. \* Yonkers Community Action Program, Inc.

New York State Community Action Association, Inc.

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