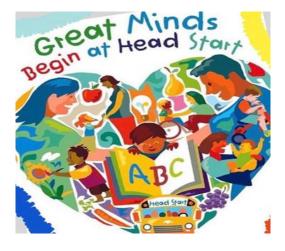
United CAP Community Newsletter

Fall 2022 First Edition





Pictured left: Ponca City Head Start children participated in the annual St. Jude's Trike-a-Thon, a service learning program that teaches trike and riding safety, while helping children of St. Jude.





In April, the new Early Head Start Building (pictured above) arrived in Sapulpa. The facility has four classrooms with the ability to serve 32 children.

October is Head Start Awareness Month

Celebrate and spread awareness about the program that benefits millions of families in the U.S. Head Start Programs assist children belonging to low-income families by providing a proven framework to meet social, emotional, psychological, health and nutritional needs. Children are given a boost until the age of five, thus easing pressure on families.



FROM THE DESK OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHNNY BRYANT



For more than 53
years, I have witnessed
the impact United Community Action programs have on lives

and communities.

United Community Action Program staff believe in the promise of Community Action and will continue the mission each day, knowing the difference a helping hand can make. It is our vision

that when families and communities work together to solve problems, all become stronger.

It is our hope that you will learn more about our agency, reach out when services are needed, make referrals to those who can benefit and share feedback to improve future outcomes.

Johnny Bryant, Executive Director

United Community Action Program, Inc. is one of 17 Oklahoma Community Action Agencies, established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's War on Poverty.



2022 Service Awards were presented by Johnny Bryant, Executive Director, at the recent OKACAA Fall Confer-

ence. Pictured from left: Bryant, Janet Thrasher, (40 years), Crystal Kirkham (20 years), Kim Rice (35 years) and Charmaine Benedict (15 years).

UNITED CAP CARES PROJECTS SUPPORT AREA COMMUNITIES

United CAP Coronavirus Aid,
Relief and Economic Security
Project (CARES) funds provided
two new freezer/refrigerators to
support services at the Morrison
Senior Center in Noble County.
Throughout the last 18 months,
CARES funds provided needed
food, transportation to COVID
vaccines, utility as well as rental
assistance and other support to
senior centers and low income
individuals in the five county



service area. CARES projects closed in September. Pictured from left, Gary Vance, coordinator for UCAP CARES Project, Roy Fleshman, of Morrison Senior Center and Johnny Bryant, Executive Director for UCAP.

BE A CASA VOLUNTEER!

EACH YEAR, CHILDREN ARE REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES DUE TO EVIDENCE OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT, UPROOTED FROM THE ONLY FAMILY THEY KNOW AND TAKEN OUT OF SCHOOL AND AWAY FROM FRIENDS. YOU CAN HELP!

Court Appointed Special Advocates, CASA, has an urgent need for volunteers in Pawnee and Osage Counties as well as Pawnee and Osage Nations. Volunteers are trained, dedicated adults at least 21 years of age or older, who advocate for a child's best interests in juvenile court. Volunteers receive a minimum of 30 hours of training to learn advocacy skills, interview techniques and courtroom procedures. Trainees will also learn about child development, special needs children, cultural issues and the juvenile court system. Good communication skills and common sense are important attributes for CASA volunteers. A CASA volunteer must pass a background check, confidential interview and successfully complete training. Volunteers visit child(ren) at least monthly to assess how well each is doing in the current placement.

For more information, contact Kristin Donnelly at 918-762-3776 or email kristind@pawneeosagecasa.org.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

October 10-Columbus Day

Nov. 11-Veterans' Day

Nov. 24 & 25—Thanksgiving

Dec. 26-Christmas

Jan. 2-New Year's

Jan. 16-MLK Day

Feb. 20-President's Day

Single Family Rentals

Pawnee Townhomes, located in Pawnee, has 2-bedroom and 3 bedroom apartments available for rent to eligible applicants.

UCAP is using a visitability design approach for the renovation of a rental home located in Perkins. When complete, the home will available for rent to a disabled veteran. Modifications will allow a visitor using a mobility device to enter the home, pass through interior doorways, as well as, enter the bathroom and utilize the toilet. The agency will also lower the kitchen sink. The rental comes with a storm shelter, energy efficient HVAC system and tankless water heater.

For more information about the housing program or available rentals, contact 918-762-3041, Ext. 162 or 177.

PICK OFFERS AFTER HOURS & SATURDAY TRANSIT SERVICE

Cimarron Transit coordinated with Pelivan,
JAMM and KIBOIS Area Transit programs to pilot
the on demand public transit service, which is
available 5pm to 10pm weekdays and 10am to 2pm
on Saturdays. The service is available in
Bartlesville, Ponca City, Sapulpa and Skiatook for
a \$3 fare each one-way trip.

Book trips through the UBER APP or schedule rides by phoning the Call Center at 855-735-4826.

At this time, PICK trips must be scheduled within operating hours, not in advance.



Scan Cimarron Transit's QR Code above to stay connected.



CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS 2022

The Customer Satisfaction Survey is one tool used by UCAP to receive comments and feedback from clients. During 2022, 438 participants from Creek, Kay, Lincoln, Noble, Pawnee, Okmulgee, Osage, Tulsa and Washington counties shared their experience. Clients weighed in on Head Start(29.91%), Early Head Start (21.46%), housing (1.83%), child care food program (10.05%), tax preparation (15.07%), utility assistance (4.11%), rental assistance (1.37%) and transportation (12.33%) services.

The majority of respondents (99.07%) reported they would recommend UCAP to friends and family. Most clients communicate with UCAP in person or via telephone. UCAP helps improve the condition in which low-income people live, according to 91.41% of respondents.

All but 3 respondents reported staff was courteous, respectful and helpful to their needs.

The need or reason for visits was met for 94%. Thirty-four percent of participants reported UCAP was unable to meet needs, however, were referred to other providers. When asked for an overall rating, 342 or 78.80%, reported outstanding service.

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

If you have received services through UCAP, please take time to share your feedback by participating in the Customer Satisfaction Survey. The following is a link to the survey, which is open through June 30, 2023. All information provided will be used to assess current programs and anticipate future needs for the communities, individuals and families in the agency service area.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DFTGS3C

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Family and Community Services

Associated Charities, 212 E. Bridge Avenue, Blackwell, OK 580-363-1290

Food bank and General Assistance, when funding available Days and hours of operation Tues. 3pm-5pm
Wed. 9am-11:30am and 3pm-5pm

<u>Operation Blessings</u>, 803 Market Street, Perry, 580-336-3313 General assistance, food pantry and emergency needs.

Days and hours of operations- Mon. through Fri. 9am-4pm
Clothing— 1st and 3rd Wed/Thurs of month from 9am to noon
Donations can be made Mon.Thurs .9am to noon

United Community Action Program, Inc. 501 Sixth Street, Pawnee, OK 74058 918-762-3041 Visit us at www.ucapinc.org

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ucapincorg



EMPLOYMENT WITH UCAP



All employment opportunities are posted on the website at www.ucapinc.org. UCAP is an equal opportunity employer (EOE). Positions are open to the public as well as UCAP staff.

Applications can be completed on the website, at www.ucapinc.org. Go to Career Openings, scroll through the list of openings. Click on the 'Apply Now' button located at the top of the web page to download the application.

UCAP is committed to a workplace that acts upon daily responsibility to treat all applicants and employees with dignity and respect, as well as equitably under the guidelines of the EEO Plan.

Call 918-762-3041 if you would like an application mailed to you. Applications can be returned to UCAP, 501 Sixth Street, Pawnee, OK 74058, Attention: HR











Mission: To improve people's lives, embody the spirit of hope, improve communities and make the State of Oklahoma a better place to live. To help people lift themselves out of poverty by creating opportunities for increased self-sufficiency and greater participation in their community.