



UNITED COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.



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Spring 2026

May is Community Action Month!



COMMUNITY ACTION



Above: Depew Senior Center workers and lifelong Depew residents Sue Craig and Thelma McQuain received a new printer with the help of UCAP and UCAP's I.T. Manager. See more inside.

Left: UCAP staff Crystal Kirkham (VITA Tax Prep Coordinator), Monica Sewell (Executive Assist), and Randy Heisler (CPTS Operations Manager) visit legislators at OK's State Capitol on Community Action Day.



From the Desk of Executive Director Johnny Bryant

Community Action Month in May is to highlight the work, economic impact, and support community actions provide to communities and people. UCAP does that through Transportation, Child Care reimbursements of USDA nutrition, Housing, VITA Tax Preparation, CASA, Head Start/Early Head Start, Family and Community Services, and Outreach. Each one of these programs is multi-faceted in its reach and accomplishments for people. Whatever your age, community actions are working alongside to address a need, whether it be education, housing, transportation, nutrition, and overall well-being. We are pleased to celebrate our role in helping people and changing lives!



Pawnee/Osage CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Receives Donation



Pawnee/Osage CASA gratefully acknowledges a generous donation from Energy Transfer. This contribution directly supports CASA's mission to advocate for abused and neglected children in Pawnee and Osage Counties, ensuring they have a voice and a brighter future.

Tax Preparation VITA Concludes Tax Season



The UCAP Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) prepares tax returns for free for incomes under \$75,000 for qualifying individuals. The program operates until April 15 in Pawnee, Noble, and some surrounding counties. In the picture above, United Community Action Program VITA Coordinator Crystal Kirkham (center) is shown with Cleveland Library Director Michelle Miller (left) and VITA quality control volunteer Amy Williams (right) of Hominy at the JC Byers Memorial Library in Cleveland, OK. Call Crystal Kirkham Pawnee County 918-762-3041 Ext. 116 or Lou Ann Hunt in Noble County 580-336-3313 for more information on the UCAP VITA Tax Preparation program for next year's tax time.

Below: Cushing Senior Center Director Debbie Brown in Cushing, OK with VITA Coordinator Crystal Kirkham



Above: Connie Adaire quality control volunteer for VITA with Crystal Kirkham and Lou Ann Hunt, both VITA preparers and employees of UCAP.

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Transportation is essential to daily needs. Above, one of 61 vans in UCAP's Cimarron Public Transit (CPTS) fleet provides transportation to The Laundry Place. To schedule similar transportation, call 1-800-789-7314 (Creek and Pawnee Co.), 1-580-718-0444 (Kay Co.), 1-918-396-4466 (Osage Co.), and 1-918-336-2233 (Bartlesville).

Head Start Managers Provide Training at UCAP Board Meeting



Heather Tennial, Beverly Jestes, Dahrenda Shaw, and Tabitha Barnes pictured at left provided Head Start/Early Head Start Training to the UCAP Board shown on the right. The Board Meeting happened to coincide with a special holiday. Can you guess which holiday? Answer on back.

UCAP & Cimarron Public Transit Visit State and U.S. Capitols



Oklahoma Delegation outside US Rep Frank Lucas's office after meeting. From left: Laura Corff UCAP/ CPTS Transit Director, Kendra McGeady, Cherokee Nation Council member, and Gilbert Nuncio, Red River Transit Director

Laura Corff (above) joined public transit colleagues from around the nation for the Community Transportation Association of America's Leadership Summit and Legislative Fly-In the week of March 4. Days were filled with transit trends, planning and the need for diversification and technology, policy, advocacy, funding, regulatory updates as well as meetings on The Hill.



UCAP's Crystal Kirkham, Monica Sewell, and Randy Heisler at the OK State Capitol during Community Action Day. In the painting behind them is something visitors can find in Pawhuska and Pawnee where 2 UCAP Head Starts are located. Answer on back.



Left: Community Transportation Association of America: Laura Corff UCAP/CPTS Transit Director and Gilbert Nuncio, Red River Transit Director.

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Depew Senior Center Receives Printer



UCAP employees Gary Vance, Jr., and Adam Wheeler unpack and install the printer donated to Depew Senior Center. Afterwards Adam discussed with Thelma McQuain the various features and remote printing options. Depew Senior Center is located in Depew, OK and serves meals to between 25-50 senior citizens a day. In what county is Depew, OK? Answer on back.

Exciting Learning and Family/Community Engagement with UCAP Head Start/Early Head Start



Like all UCAP Head Start centers, Guthrie and Cushing Head Start/Early Head Starts (shown here) offer child and family/community learning everyday and throughout the year. Top left: Guthrie HS/EHS enjoyed a fun day of activities with a visit from Dr. Michelle Malone's Creative Activities Class from Langston University. Top right picture shows Delta Dental's Captain Supertooth teaching about dental hygiene in Guthrie. Pictures at bottom show the mobile dairy visiting Cushing Head Start/Early Head Start. For more information about Guthrie Head Start, call 1-405-282-1257. For Cushing Head Start, call 1-918-225-0909. For other UCAP Head Starts in the area, call 1-918-762-3041.



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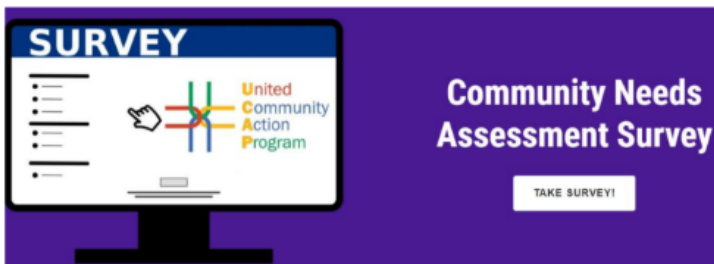
Community Needs Assessment Survey Open Now

Please help United Community Action Program, Inc., identify needs in your communities!

2026

Use the QR code below, or go to

www.ucapinc.org, find the image and click Take Survey!



QR Code:



Or go to this link and you will find the survey!
<https://capaz6.capsystems.com/OKAMS//05/Ques.aspx?surlID=5264c093-a156-4e59-9bba-181b65702512&Agy=18&Type=WEB-LINK>

Thank you!

UCAP PROGRAMS

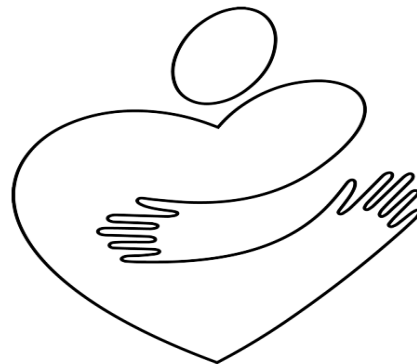
- CACFP- CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM
- CASA-Court Appointed Special Advocates
- CIMARRON PUBLIC TRANSIT
- HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START
- HOUSING
- VITA- VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE
- FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES- Outreach at

Associated Charities, 212 E. Bridge Ave, Blackwell, OK 580-363-1290, **Operation Blessing**, 803 Market Street, Perry, OK 580-336-3313, **UCAP Headquarters**, 501 6th Street, Pawnee, OK , 918 762-3041

UCAP CAREER JOB OPENINGS are posted on UCAP's website at www.ucapinc.org under the tab

CURRENT CAREER OPENINGS

UCAP is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



HELPING PEOPLE CHANGING LIVES

Color the Community Action Huggie Heart and send it to Monica Sewell at msewell@ucapinc.org for possible appearance in the next newsletter. Answers from inside: St. Patrick's Day page 4, bison or buffalo page 5, Creek County page 6. Also, can you name the Star Wars character to the left that is promoting May the 4th be with you in United Community Action Program's newsletter?

UCAP Mission: To improve people's lives, embody the spirit of hope, and in partnership with communities, help low-income people lift themselves out of poverty by providing services and opportunities for increased self sufficiency and greater participation in the community.