



# United CAP Community Newsletter Spring 2023



## A Head Start Journey with Chris Jones

In 1997, Chris Jones enrolled her 3 year old daughter, Olivia at Sapulpa Head Start. “Shortly after, I was asked to volunteer. I enjoyed helping out in the classrooms, getting to know all of the families and watching my daughter grow,” said Jones. The following year, Jones enrolled her son, Daniel. Soon thereafter, Jones was asked to sub for 60 days and ended up accepting a teaching position, which she held for 13 years.

For two years, Jones also held the position of MPA/Bus Coordinator before transferring to Sapulpa Early Head Start, where she has been the Center Director for the past nine years.

During her Head Start tenure, Jones rallied the community to support Christmas presents for the center children, assisted families with food and clothing as well as advocated for a new building to improve the experience for children.



Above: Chris Jones is pictured with grandchildren, from left: Brailey, Oakleigh and Jerra.



Chris Jones, Center Director at Sapulpa Head Start/Early Head Start is pictured standing outside the new building.

“The most rewarding thing is kids who were in my class years ago now want to bring their children to my center because I was able to positively impact their lives. I love being able to watch the kids I had years ago grow and become great parents,” said Jones. “I love spending time with family and friends, going to the lake, dance competitions and dirt bike races. The reason I stay with UCAP is I love what we do for children and families.”

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



*I hope you enjoy the highlights of people shown in the Spring 2023 United Community Action Program, Inc. Newsletter. United CAP centers around people, and the Spring newsletter highlights some of our own employees and Board of Directors making a difference. I appreciate all who dedicate time and energy to work for the good of our agency, and the contributions and impacts it creates.*

*People make the difference in all that we do; that's why we exist and what makes the difference in what we do. We're grateful to acknowledge throughout the year all that people do for our agency and for their community.*

*Johnny Bryant*

### Community Needs Assessment

At least every three years, United Community Action Program conducts a Community Needs Assessment to determine local needs as determined by participants. “We hope to reach a wide variety of people to help us know the resources that they would like to see in their communities in the areas of nutrition, employment, health, linkages, income management, education, housing, and other community needs,” stated Monica Sewell, Executive Assistant.

“Please help us get a view of all of the communities of our service area by taking part in this very important survey. What you see and need locally helps us work towards those needs!”

The survey is open April 19 through August 31, 2023. Here is the link <https://capaz6.capsystems.com/OKAMS//05/Ques.aspx?surID=5264c093-a156-4e59-9bba-181b65702512&Agy=18&Type=WEB-LINK> or contact UCAP for more information on how to find the survey!



**Regina Thompson, Beggs** Head Start Center Director, is proudly pictured with Bryce, her 6'6" grandson who played in 29 of OSU's 30 basketball games this year. GO POKES!

## Board Member Makes A Difference

For more than two decades, Bronson Grimes has served and continues to serve as a board member of United CAP, representing Creek County. Grimes, who was raised in the Sapulpa area, remains actively involved in service to the community through United CAP as well as through his building and construction career.



*Long time board member, Bronson Grimes remains dedicated to making a positive impact in the community.*



## Meet Rozanne Worden,

Child Care Food Program Director, who has served licensed home child care providers by assisting with reimbursement for the cost of serving nutritious meals for more than 23 years.

Worden administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture funded program for more than 50 DHS licensed providers in a 15-county area.

Pictured left: Worden is pictured second from right with four of her nine grandchildren. From left: Kaden, Cora, Scarlett (front) and Emory celebrate Cora's Graduation.

# New Single Family Rental

Located at 221 NE 6th, Perkins, UCAP is using a visitability design approach for the renovation of a rental home located in Perkins. The home is available for rent to an individual with a disability or a veteran. Modifications allow a visitor using a mobility device to access the home, living and kitchen areas as well as the master bathroom to utilize the shower and toilet. The rental includes a storm shelter, energy efficient HVAC system and tankless water heater.

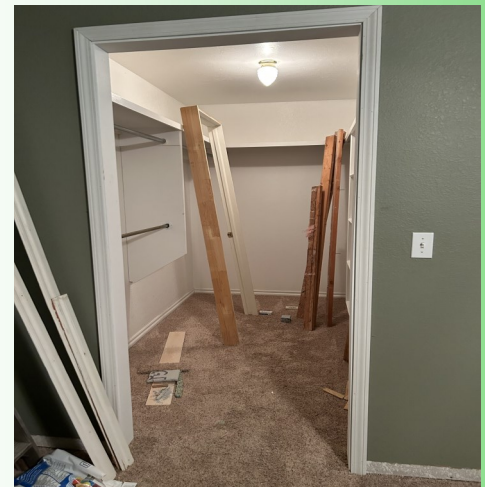
For more information about the housing program or available rentals, call 918-762-3041, Ext. 177.



**Pictured Above left: Back entry to 221 NE 6th.**

**Pictured top right: UCAP board member James Adams and UCAP Executive Director Johnny Bryant inspect the changes made to the home.**

**Pictured left: Gary Vance, Jr., Maintenance, stands outside the sliding door to the master bathroom.**



## Sun Eagle Retires



Lester SunEagle, a Cimarron Transit driver for more than 12 years, recently retired. SunEagle provided public transit to citizens in the Pawnee area. Pictured from left: Operations Manager Randy Heisler, SunEagle and Executive Director Johnny Bryant.

### UPCOMING

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

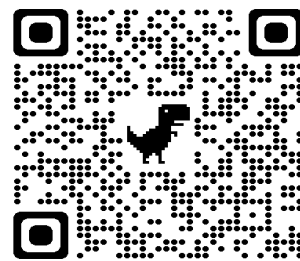
- May 29—Memorial Day
- July 4th—Independence
- September 4—Labor Day
- October 9—Columbus Day
- Nov. 10—Veterans' Day
- Nov. 23 & 24—Thanksgiving
- Dec. 25—Christmas
- Jan. 1—New Year's



## Reduced Internet Prices Through FCC

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

The Affordable Connectivity Program is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household. If you need to talk to someone about your eligibility or application status, call the ACP Support Center at (877) 384-2575.



**United Community Action Program  
Board of Directors**

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**Michelle Turner, Chief Financial Officer**  
**Harold Harris, Chair**  
**Susan Case, Vice Chair**  
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**Chris Burnett**  
**Bronson Grimes**  
**Billie Ponca**  
**Teresa Bates Rutherford**  
**Jo Beth Spears**  
**Rhonda Wallace**  
**Mike Waters**

**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

**Operation Blessings**, 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](http://www.ucapinc.org)  
Like us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/ucapincorg](http://www.facebook.com/ucapincorg)



## EMPLOYMENT WITH UCAP

All employment opportunities are posted on the website at [www.ucapinc.org](http://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](http://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



**United CAP 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.**