

NCAP RPIC Updates - October 2025

2026 NCAP Events

Registration is open for the 2026 NCAP Management and Leadership Conference.

Early Bird Rates will be available through November 20, 2025.

Pre-Conference: January 26 – 27 Conference: January 28 – 30

Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista at Walt Disney World Resort

Save the dates for the 2026 NCAP Annual Convention in St. Louis, Missouri.

Pre-Convention: August 31 – September 1

Convention: September 2 – 4 Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arc

Promise Power Up

NCAP invites the entire Community Action Network to a series of 15-minute meetings aimed at connecting members while inspiring hope and the power of the Community Action Promise. The entire Network is invited to participate monthly.

Click date to register to join on any of these upcoming dates:

November 20th: 4:00pm ET / 3:00pm CT / 2:00pm MT / 1:00pm PT

December 11th: 4:00pm ET / 3:00pm CT / 2:00pm MT / 1:00pm PT

Collaborative on Economic Mobility

The Elevate & Innovate Toolkit: A Collaborative on Economic Mobility (CEM) Resource for State Associations

This toolkit is designed to make it easier than ever for State Associations to access and share resources from the Collaborative on Economic Mobility with local Community Action Agencies. For each resource, you will find sample text for sharing in newsletters and on social media, as well as a variety of ready-to-use graphic options. Join the Collaborative on Economic Mobility in amplifying emerging and promising practices to advance economic mobility by sharing these transformative resources with your local network!

Collaborative on Economic Mobility (CEM) Webpage

Check out the dedicated webpage for the Collaborative on Economic Mobility (CEM) on the NCAP website! You can find tools, resources, sign up for the Fresh Finds Newsletter, watch webinar recordings, and register for upcoming webinars.

CEM On the Road

Are you interested in NCAP presenting at your State or Regional Conference? The Collaborative is on the road and has a session for you! *Pathways to Prosperity: Tools and Resources to Advance Economic Mobility* is available upon request for upcoming conferences. This session highlights innovations CAAs can adapt and implement based on community needs. We invite you to submit a presentation request to CEM@communityactionpartnership.com

Energy Updates

NCAP looks forward to Energy Awareness Month coming in October, with Weatherization Day 2025 on October 30th. The NCAP Energy Awareness Month Toolkit has been updated to include a greater variety of talking points and graphic templates, tailored to local providers. There is also a new framework for local weatherization awards. Contact energy@communityactionpartnership.com with questions or to collaborate with NCAP on an Energy Awareness Month activity or event.

NCAP Solar Horizon is a new initiative funded by the Kresge Foundation. Print materials debuted at the NCAP Annual Convention, while research and outreach activities are beginning. Staff and consultants are eager to hear about any low-income solar news in your state, especially if your network is providing, participating in, or interested in learning about any aspects of any rollouts. A new solar-focused e-newsletter will be coming soon. Please send an email to energy@communityactionpartnership.com if you have any news to share or topics you'd like to ask us about! An individual member of our team will respond promptly.

Last month, NCAP, CAPLAW, and WIPFLI hosted more than 500 attendees for a webinar about the DOE Office of Financial Assistance Regulations' Financial Assistance Letter (FAL) limiting reimbursements for indirect and fringe, regardless of existing Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreements (NICRAs). National partners are watchful for any new developments in these uncertain times. The guidance in the webinar remains current until we know more. Please circulate this recording to your networks. Contact mharnos@communityactionpartnership.com with any questions.

Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) Updates

CCAP Group Enrollments for State Associations

Through October 15, NCAP is offering CCAP Group Enrollment packages to State Associations and CAAs providing enrolling groups of 2 or more in the CCAP program. Use the enrollment slots this year, and any unused slots are still good to use in next year's enrollment period! That's right - slots purchased for your Group Enrollment Package are valid for use in up to two consecutive annual enrollment periods. (This year's enrollment period AND next year's enrollment period.) Unused codes expire after October 31 of the year after the date of purchase. *Refunds are not available for expired or already redeemed codes*.

After your purchase and payment are recorded in the Member Portal, you will receive an email from the CCAP office with a unique GROUP ENROLLMENT DISCOUNT CODE and instructions to

share with the individuals that will be using the Code. It is the responsibility of the purchasing entity to distribute the Group Enrollment Discount Codes to applicants.

CCAP Study Groups

Please reach out to CCAP staff at ccap@communityactionpartnership.com if your State Association plans to host a CCAP Study Group.

CCAP Enrollment Is Open & 2026 Candidacy Guide is Available

Are you ready to elevate your career in Community Action? The CCAP credential recognizes experienced leaders who are committed to excellence, continuous learning, and the mission of Community Action. It's more than a title – it's a mark of distinction in Community Action. The newly released 2026 CCAP Candidacy Guide is your go-to resource for understanding the process, requirements, and key deadlines. Whether you're just starting your journey or preparing for submission, this guide will help you plan with confidence.

CCAP Presentations at Conferences

Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP): Elevating Excellence in Community Action – NCAP Staff is available to present at your regional or state conference about CCAP. If you are interested in having staff present, please reach out to let us know. If not for this year, keep us in mind for next year.

Please reach out to CCAP program staff at ccap@communityactionpartnership.com for more information.

Share Your State Association and RPIC Conference Information with NCAP

Please continue to share the dates and locations of your 2025 and 2026 events with us! Please let NCAP know if you are interested in having NCAP staff offer sessions at your conference. You can send all conference-related information and requests for proposals to Terry Bearden, Project Director – Organizational Capacity Building, at tbearden@communityactionpartnership.com.

Virtual Engagements: (Click on title to register)

NCAP Energy Partnership Webinar: Amplifying Impact - 2025 Energy Awareness Month & Weatherization Day

October 15 at 2 PM ET / 1 PM CT / 12 PM MT / 11 AM PT

Join us for a dynamic session to explore, learn, and celebrate WAP accomplishments, successes, and innovation this year. This exciting webinar will feature testimonial videos, local awards and more. From talking points and graphics from the Energy Awareness Month Toolkit agencies can highlight their hardworking WAP workforces, professional growth at training centers, and new approaches enabling projects in partnerships with your local weatherization providers and community partners. Our aim is to leave this webinar feeling inspired and equipped to host a robust Energy Awareness Month and Weatherization Day campaign.

Multifamily Weatherization: Planning & Launching Your First Project
October 16 at 2 PM ET / 1 PM Ct / 12 PM MT / 11 AM PT

Launching a multifamily weatherization project comes with a unique set of challenges and opportunities. This session guides attendees through the essential steps for successfully initiating and managing their first project — from intake and application through audit approval and DOE submittal. Participants will explore how to develop effective scopes of work, manage bids and timelines, and navigate key documents. Emphasis will be placed on maximizing client benefits, identifying potential risks, and resolving common on-site issues like resident access, unit conditions, and permitting challenges. Lessons learned and practical troubleshooting tips will prepare attendees to avoid common pitfalls and deliver lasting impact in multifamily settings.

Collaborative on Economic Mobility Listening Session

October 22 at 2 PM ET / 1 PM CT / 12 PM MT / 11 AM PT

We want to hear from you! Join the Collaborative on Economic Mobility (CEM) for an interactive listening session to share your needs and ideas and provide insight on tools and resources. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with peers across the Community Action network and gain insight into what is most needed to advance economic mobility, how current tools and resources are being applied to local initiatives, and what feedback can help improve and shape future resources moving forward. The key areas of focus will include Workforce Development, High-Quality Education, Community-Asset Building, Whole Family Approaches, and Innovative Community Programs and Organizations.

Peer Data Webinar Series: Automating What Matters

October 28 at 2:00 PM ET / 1 PM CT / 12 PM MT / 11 AM PT

Manual, repetitive tasks slow down service delivery and drain staff time. In this interactive session, learn how Wayne Metro uses low-code platforms like Tray.io and Power Automate, along with custom scripts, to automate the work that matters most. We'll walk through real examples—from pulling data across siloed systems to creating automated notifications and workflows—and share lessons learned along the way. Participants will leave with practical steps for identifying automation opportunities in their own agencies and tools to get started, no matter their technical background.

Building Stronger Systems, Stronger Families: WFA Webinar Series

Select dates when registering

This Whole Family Approach (WFA) webinar series aims to inspire, equip, and connect Community Action Agencies who are driving transformational changes through this approach. This 4-part webinar series will highlight real-world implementation strategies, celebrate the progression of several members of our Regional Advanced Community of Practice and foster a learning community rooted in continuous learning and shared purpose. Together, we'll explore what's possible when we center families, align systems, and commit to building pathways to economic mobility and well-being, one connection at a time, through a Whole Family Approach.

October 29

WFA Practitioner's Roundtable Centered on Data

November 5

Scaling WFA & Measuring What Matters

December 17

Reimagining Possibility: What WFA Can Become

<u>2025 Weatherization Day Innovations in Action Webinar - Out of the Box Thinking with a Box</u> Store Service Strategy: Michigan's Rural Service Hubs

October 30 at 2 PM ET / 1 PM CT / 12 PM MT / 11 AM PT

If you build it, they will come, so why not dream big? Join us to learn about an innovative approach developed by the Michigan Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity (BCEAO) that is reclaiming empty store fronts to serve rural families and communities. Vacant outlet and strip mall spaces are being repurposed to deliver and coordinate community resources including Weatherization and LIHEAP assistance, emergency services, food and nutrition support, and other CSBG funded programs while building trust and strengthening local connections.

Partners on these pilot projects include laundry services, home goods retailers, and human service providers, but it isn't hard to imagine a future where local farmers and grocers, barbers and hair cutting businesses, and other skilled tradespeople could be added to the mix. Where might a place like this be possible in your hometown? How would you engage community to explore development strategies? What resources and partners do you need at the table? Come and challenge yourself to think outside of the box and serve your communities in non-traditional ways.

Fresh Finds Newsletter

<u>Fresh Finds Newsletter Sign-Up</u> – The Fresh Finds Newsletter is released quarterly through the Collaborative on Economic Mobility and features a variety of different resources for CAAs, State Associations, State Offices, Tribes and Tribal Organizations in the CSBG Network to learn from the experiences of other community leaders, expand organizational capacity, and implement innovative programs and services that improve outcomes for individuals, families, and communities. The newsletter will spotlight tools, resources, and initiatives that address key areas that advance economic mobility, such as workforce development, high-quality education, community-asset building, and whole family approaches.

Connecting with the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility Technical Assistance Center (CCAM-TAC)

CCAM-TAC is a Federal Transit Administration (FTA)-funded resource that supports efforts to improve transportation access through cross-sector coordination. Its mission is to promote and facilitate human services transportation, public transit, and non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) coordination that advances people's access to everyday destinations. NCAP is proud to join this project by serving on the CCAM-TAC Content Partner Roundtable. Learn more on CCAM-TAC's website: https://www.ccam-tac.org/

CCAM-TAC's newsletter, *The Coordinating Chronicles on Access and Mobility*, includes resources on mobility coordination, upcoming webinars and events, grant opportunities, and updates on CCAM-TAC activities. Subscribe to the newsletter here: https://www.ccam-tac.org/sign-up/

NCAP also wants to hear about your transportation solutions or coordination efforts! Share your work with us at: transportation@communityactionpartnership.com.

Timely Toolkits

When Your CAA's Upcoming Fiscal Year is Uncertain: A Guide for CAA Boards – This guide helps CAA boards lead effectively through new federal fiscal year funding uncertainty. It centers on four priorities: prepare for strategic action, understand the landscape, plan for multiple scenarios, and elevate Community Action. It provides practical guidance to support timely, informed decision-making.

<u>Community Action Network Scenario Planning Toolkit</u> – This toolkit helps CAAs and State Associations navigate uncertainty by offering tools to assess key impact areas, explore possible futures, and set priorities. Drawing from multiple sources, it supports agencies in choosing the approach that best fits their context – helping them prepare responses to changing needs.

<u>Community Action Board Discussion Guide for Uncertain Financial Times</u> – Financial uncertainty can challenge an organization's ability to sustain its mission. Boards play a key role in guiding the agency through these challenges by overseeing financial strategy and ensuring long-term sustainability. This guide equips CAA boards with a structured approach to assess financial health, ask critical questions, and navigate tough decisions.

2025 Talking Points & Social Media Tools for CSBG, LIHEAP, WAP & Head Start – NCAF's *Talking Points & Social Media Tools* provides talking points, graphics, and social media messages that address the impact and necessity of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and Head Start. The toolkit also contains guidance on how to add your agency's logo to the graphic design templates provided. Developed with design assistance from NCAP.

<u>Community Action Messaging Kit</u> – The NCAF 2025 Community Action Messaging Toolkit provides a collection of network talking points for communicating the critical importance of Community Action Agencies to local communities across the country. The toolkit also includes sample graphics and social media posts, along with guidance on how to quickly and easily add your agency's logo to the templates provided. Developed with design assistance from NCAP.