

## November 2024 - News from the NCCAA ❤️💛❤️



**From** Sharon Goodson, North Carolina Community Action Association <communications@nccaa.net>  
**To** <sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org>  
**Reply-To** <communications@nccaa.net>  
**Date** 2024-11-06 13:07



*Empowered Newsletter | November 2024 | Issue 11*



*Blue Ridge Community Action Executive Director Stephanie Ashley, Economic Improvement Council Executive Director Dr. Landon B. Mason Sr., NCCAA Executive Director Sharon Goodson and Bill Bradley of the Ballantyne Insurance Group pitch in at the recent Big Pop Up sponsored by Blue Ridge Community Action in Morganton*

Rallying for Hurricane Relief in Morganton  
**Big Pop Up at Blue Ridge Community Action**



On October 28, Blue Ridge Community Action organized a free product distribution event to assist families in its Hurricane Helene-devastated community. Turnout was tremendous, and families in need received new winter clothing, gloves, hats, tennis shoes, household items, baby, children, and office supplies, toys, bedding, baby cribs, cleaning supplies, appliances, and more.

In total, the following numbers were achieved:

- 520 Households served across 8 counties
- 2203 People served
- 35 Veterans served
- 156 Elderly (65+) people served
- 150 Disabled people served

BRCA has expressed thanks to partners who helped make the event possible: the Office of Economic Opportunity in the NC Department of Health and Human Services Community Action Partnership National Office Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies Southeastern Association of Community Action Agencies North Carolina Head Start Association and Samaritan's Feet International

### **Thank you to our Colleagues in the Buckeye State!**

We're deeply indebted to our colleagues at the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) for their support of Blue Ridge Community Action, its staff, and people in the surrounding community on October 28. Our thanks go out to Phil Cole, Executive Director of OACAA, Pickaway County Community Action Association Executive Director Becky Hammond, and all the many directors of sister agencies across the state of Ohio.

OACAA coordinated a large delivery of supplies to BRCA.



### **Successful Jones County Event Coastal Community Action Holds Pop Up**



**Coastal Community Action, Inc.** recently held a Pop-Up event to help provide for low-income families in their community. From the Jones County Civic Center, the agency handed out hygiene items, food produce boxes, laundry detergents, dryer sheets, and booster beads to low-income families.

With the help of **Jones County Community Hope Inc** the agency also handed out free COVID-19 tests. Also distributed were 100 food produce boxes from **Conetoe Family Life Center**. Coastal Community Action plans pop ups in other nearby counties soon.

## WCNT Report

Fundraising for Displaced Community Action Employees  
**Sometimes the Helpers Need Help Too**



Dear Colleagues - Western North Carolina has been devastated by the remnants of Hurricane Helene. Agency colleagues in the mountains are busy serving community members who have experienced deep loss in this disaster. We have learned over the last two days that at least four community action staff have lost their homes or experienced extreme damage. Let's help the helpers this time and ensure our colleagues have what they need.

Contribute if you can at this link: <https://gofund.me/c79dbf99>

Sharon Goodson, Executive Director  
**#CommunityAction**  
**#nccommunityactionassociation**  
**#CommunityActionWorks**  
**#hurricanehelenerelief**

[Read Press Release](#)





**Sheraton Raleigh Hotel and Raleigh Convention Center**

**Conference Dates: May 13 – 16, 2025**

**Pre-conference on Tuesday, May 13th Conference kicks off on Wednesday,  
May 14th**

**Board Summit Friday, May 16th through Saturday, May 17th**

**Sneaker Ball Gala on Thursday, May 15th**

[Learn More](#)

## **News From the NCCAA**

### **New Employee Welcome: Andrea Ajagbe, HEAL NC Success Coach**



Andrea Ajagbe is a Florida native with a diverse professional background centered on customer care, advocacy, and positive change. With a passion for empowering others, she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from both traditional and nonprofit sectors. Her most recent role was managing a domestic violence and sexual assault shelter at Wayne Uplift, where she demonstrated her commitment to supporting vulnerable communities.

Ajagbe holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from UNC Pembroke, along with Associate degrees in Accounting and General Studies. A natural communicator with lived experiences, she connects deeply with the families HEAL NC serves, providing compassionate and effective guidance as they work toward their goals.

Andrea's nurturing approach is rooted in her strong family values as a dedicated mother of five and proud grandmother. These values shape her work, ensuring that every individual she interacts with feels supported, safe, and valued. Her blend of analytical skills and sociological insight allows her to address complex challenges with both heart and intellect.

## Leadership Certificates

The NCCAA is happy to offer Executive Leadership Certificates, beginning this fall. They were once offered in conjunction with SEACAA, but we now offer these courses in a partnership with Southern University.

[More Information Soon!](#)

## Training & Technical Assistance Needs Survey

Please help us clarify the ways. we can help you!

[Take the Survey](#)

## Hurricane Helene Relief Efforts Mountain Projects and Local Donors Help Displaced Families

Mountain Projects has had a trial by fire in flood relief over the past three years, dealing first with the destruction caused by Tropical Storm Fred in 2021, and recently by Hurricane Helene. As with all of our local agencies, networking is and local connections are key. This story about one family that lost its home in recent flooding is a fine example.



[Read More](#)

## Head Start Awareness Snapshots From a Few of Our Agency Head Starts



Sidewalk chalk at I-CARE



Leaf angels at YVEDDI



Face painting at Mountain Projects



Halloween at Four Square



Pre-service Training at Franklin Vance Warren

#### Success Story

### **Family Empowerment Self Sufficiency (FESS) Graduate at Southeastern Community Action Partnership**



Lauren Simmons of Robeson County completed SCAP's FESS program in the spring of this year. Her story highlights the impact of financial assistance and personal encouragement in achieving educational and professional goals.

Says Simmons: "This program has assisted me with alleviating so many financial burdens during my journey in obtaining my sonography degree. It is very challenging going back to school with two young children, especially in this economy, therefore this support offered by SCAP was very much appreciated. Not only did the financial support help me to obtain my degree, but the encouragement that was offered by Mr. Dee and knowing that he was only one phone call away was very helpful."

The staff at SCAP found Lauren's perseverance and dedication truly inspiring. Balancing education and family responsibilities is no small feat, and Simmons has done it with grace and strength. Her success is a beacon of hope for others in similar situations. Says SCAP: "Best of luck in your future endeavors as an Ultrasound Technician!"

#### Agency Spotlight **Dental Screenings at Northside Children's Learning Center**

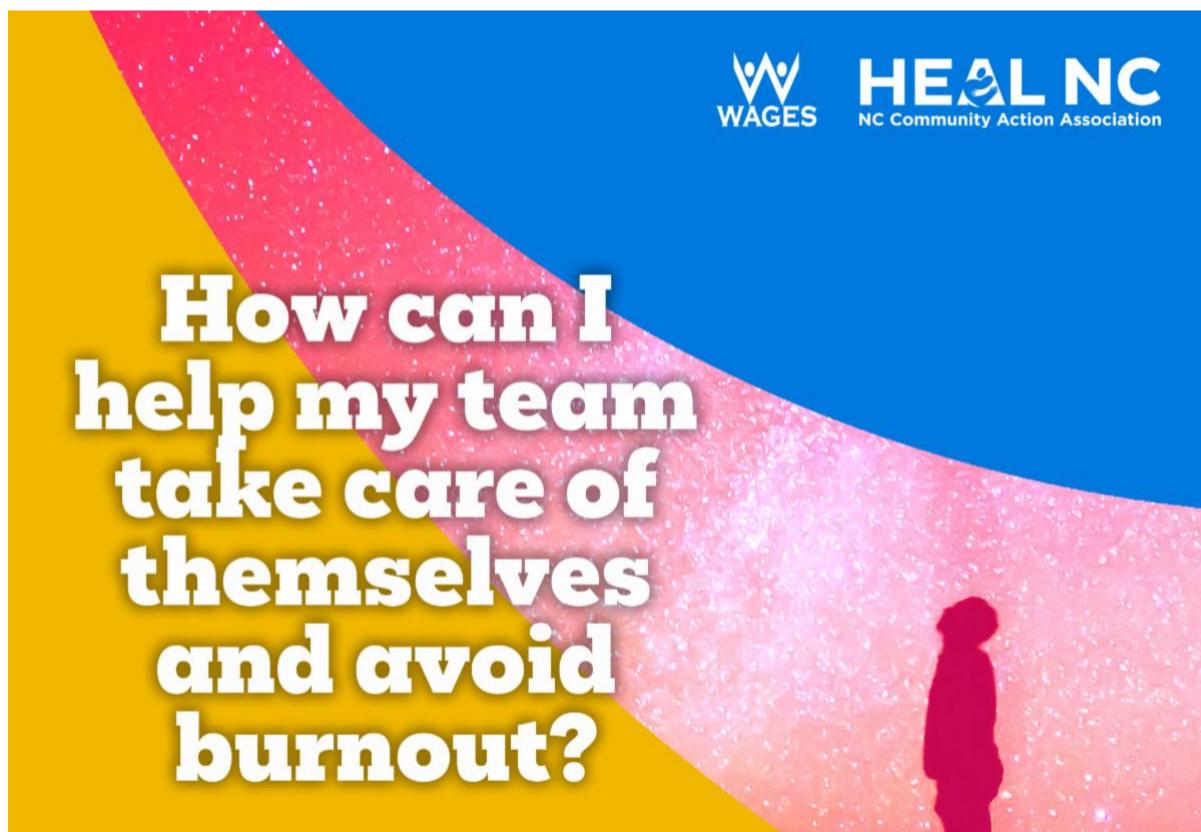


The Caldwell County Health Department conducted dental screenings for 68 Head Start students at Blue Ridge Community Action's Northside Learning Center recently. It's a great initiative to promote oral health among young children.

#### Agency Spotlight **Charlotte Area Fund Highway Construction Class**



## WAGES and HEAL NC Plan Workshops to Help Team Members Avoid Burnout



WAGES and HEAL NC are offering workshops in Wayne County based in the Community Resiliency Model (CRM), which teaches participants to re-set the natural balance of the nervous system with easy-to-understand concepts that bring reliable relief. CRM helps people help themselves and others. Beneficial to small teams and the general public, CRM helps navigate life's difficult situations.

**More Information**  
Christina Watts  
WAGES Community Engagement Coordinator  
Email: [cwatts@wagesnc.org](mailto:cwatts@wagesnc.org)  
Phone: 919-734-1178 ext. 212

## Careers with the NCCAA Network



**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

**The NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOCIATION**

**Job Listing**  
**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Liaison**  
*North Carolina Community Action Association*

**Job Summary:**  
The CSBG Liaison will provide training/technical assistance and support CSBG-eligible entities and partners to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations. This role focuses on enhancing the effectiveness and performance of local agencies in delivering services to low-income individuals and families, assisting them in achieving self-sufficiency. The Liaison will work closely with state officials, local agencies, and other stakeholders to strengthen CSBG programs across the state. This position will report to the NCCAA Deputy Director.

**How to Apply**  
Interested professionals should provide their resume and cover letter by email only to [Annette.Bryant@nccaa.net](mailto:Annette.Bryant@nccaa.net). Application Deadline: Friday, November 8, 2024



**Job Listing**  
**STAFF ACCOUNTANT BOOKKEEPER**

The Staff Accountant/Bookkeeper will be responsible for maintaining accurate financial records, ensuring compliance with accounting standards, and supporting the financial operations of the organization.

This role involves a variety of accounting tasks, including bookkeeping, financial reporting, budgeting, and assisting with audits. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in accounting, excellent organizational skills, and a passion for nonprofit work.

*Competitive pay and excellent benefits.*

**How to Apply:** Interested professionals should provide their resume and salary expectations by email only to [Jerome.Harper@nccaa.net](mailto:Jerome.Harper@nccaa.net).

The position will remain open until filled.

#### Links to Career Pages in the NCCAA Network

(Link goes to home page when career page isn't offered)

**Far West**

Blue Ridge Community Action, Morganton  
Blue Ridge Opportunity Commission Inc., N. Wilkesboro  
Catawba County, Hickory  
Community Action Opportunities, Asheville  
Four Square Community Action, Inc., Murphy  
Macon Program for Progress, Franklin  
Mountain Projects, Waynesville  
WAMY, Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey Counties

**West**

Charlotte Area Fund, Inc., Charlotte  
Davidson County Community Action, Lexington  
Experiments in Self-Reliance, Inc., Winston-Salem  
Gaston Community Action, Inc., Gastonia  
I-Care, Inc., Statesville  
Salisbury-Rowan Community Action, Salisbury  
Sandhills Community Action Program, Southern Pines  
Union County Community Action, Monroe  
Yadkin Co. Economic Development District, Boonville

**Central**

Alamance Co. Community Services Agency, Burlington  
Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Inc., Henderson  
Johnston Lee Harnett Community Action, Inc., Smithfield  
Passage Home, Wake Co.  
Southeastern Community Action Partnership, Lumberton  
Telamon, Raleigh  
Welfare Reform Liaison Project, Greensboro

**East**

Action Pathways, Fayetteville  
Choanoke Area Development Assoc., Rich Square  
Coastal Community Action, Newport  
Economic Improvement Council, Edenton  
Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency, Jacksonville  
Greene Lamp, Inc., Kinston  
**NEW Community Action, Rocky Mount (info@newcainc.org)**  
Wayne Action Group for Economic Solvency (WAGES), Inc., Goldsboro

*Share your community action career opportunities on our web page and have them distributed to 7000+ emails through the NCCAA newsletter! Send your job listings to [communications@nccaa.net](mailto:communications@nccaa.net).*

**We Want Your Stories!****Working together to share the impact of Community Action**

Does your Community Action Agency have impactful content to share? Let's collaborate. The NCCAA develops creative content year-round to celebrate, educate and inform. Let's amplify the voices of organizations in our network! Let's share the impactful work of community action and tell the stories of our clients! Reach out for collaboration: [communications@nccaa.net](mailto:communications@nccaa.net).

**Share Community Action News with a Friend**

As a member of the NCCAA community, we work to empower low-income families, change people's lives for the better and improve the communities we serve. We are all dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other. Please take a moment and forward this news to a co-worker and grow the community of professionals dedicated to this important work.

[Click to Sign Up](#)

Follow the NCCAA:



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US

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