

Our Community In Action

A Quarterly Publication of Green Hills Community Action Agency
Volume 5, Issue 1 - Winter 2010



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Cameron Women's Shelter Opens Doors

Green Hills Women's Shelters announces the opening of a Cameron shelter location, offering assistance and support to residents of Clinton and DeKalb counties. The shelter is the result of a two year long collaboration between Green Hills Community Action Agency and various city, county, and state agencies.



Sherri Kelsall

The community of Cameron graciously pulled together during the initial stages of the shelter to offer support, volunteers, and donations. The shelter is able to serve 15 victims of violence. The shelter will employ 2 full time employees, Sherri Kelsall and Amy Ellis, and they will also be assisted by 15 volunteers.



Amy Ellis

If you feel you need help dealing with an abusive situation, please call the hotline at 1-800-942-0649.

New Faces- Karla Garner



Karla Garner, has returned to GHCAA as the new Self-Sufficiency Coordinator. Garner has

worked for GHCAA in the past in Employment & Training's CAP (Career Assistance Program). Karla, who attended NCMC, has been a resident of Mercer for the past 16 years. She has 2 daughters, Melissa and Crystal, a son-in-law Justin, and two grandchildren, Kay-dee and Cobe.

New Faces- Kelsey Shiflett



Kelsey Shiflett joined the LI-HEAP team in October, working part time while attending

NCMC. Kelsey graduated from Meadville R-IV in 2008, and is currently working toward a degree in Business Technology.

Go Green with GHCAA Energy Projects

Green Hills is going green with a full docket of upcoming projects from the Energy Department. Not only are these projects enriching the local environment, they may just help the local economy as well. Several jobs will also be created with each project.



Just a few of the projects in the works are a Community Garden for residents of Harrison and Grundy counties, energy usage assessments which will examine home appliances and give clients specific data on how many kilowatts are being consumed by each appliance or other electrical devices, and a program that will help replace energy inefficient clothes dryers with economical clothes lines.

Persons interested in finding out more about these and other upcoming GHCAA projects, or to apply for an available opening, are encouraged to contact Amanda Swan at 660-359-3907 and request an application.

Memorial Funds Put to Use



GHCAA crewman, John Stanturf assembles the blower door.

Donations received through the **Kenneth Warren Memorial Fund** have recently been used to purchase a blower door for the agency.

Kenneth, a long time board member, was a staunch supporter of GHCAA's weatherization, housing, and employment and training programs. He made every effort to attend all board meetings, and took his position on the GHCAA board very seriously, even receiving perfect attendance on more than one occasion.

The purpose of a blower door is to not only find, but also measure air leaks within a home by tracking how often the air pressure changes within a home over the course of an hour. Air leaks account for countless wasted energy dollars every year.

During testing, all openings within a house are closed (exterior doors, windows, etc), and a powerful fan is sealed in an exterior door (pictured below) This fan pulls air from the house, and gauges then continually measure the difference between indoor and outdoor air pressure.

Using the blower door, air leaks can be detected and repaired much more efficiently, and sealing these air leaks within a home can help our customers cut down on their utility bills.



Assembled Blower Door

Many thanks to the family and friends of Kenneth Warren and to all those who gave in his honor.



NEW FACES Kimberly Wagner



Kimberly Wagner began her duties as a part time LIHEAP processor this past October. She fills many roles at Green Hills, and enjoys all of them.

"I came to Trenton in March '08. Due to the continued support of Cheryl and staff at Green Hills Women's Shelter and GHCAA, I was given the opportunity to volunteer for Debbie in the Grundy County Service Center and Terri in LIHEAP.

I am now weekend coverage at the women's shelter in Chillicothe and part time LIHEAP processor. I sincerely appreciate the opportunities GHCAA has given me, and the chance to give back.

For all you do, thank you everyone at Green Hills Community Action Agency,

~ Kimberly"

New E&T Director Joins GHCAA

Tyson Otto joined the agency in December 2009 as Employment and Training Director. He is originally from Newtown, Missouri and has lived in the Trenton area for over 7 years. He and his wife, Tiffany, have been married for over 9 years and have three young sons, Chase, Tucker, and Garrison.

Tyson attended college at Missouri Western where he obtained a bachelors degree and has also completed his master's degree through Park University. His past experience includes work in accounting, career services, and higher education. Tyson enjoys spending time with his family, coaching summer baseball, reading, and keeping up with his favorite sports teams.



**Tyson Otto
Employment & Training Director**

~ Caldwell County in Action ~

Service Center

101 S. Frame
Hamilton, MO
816-583-2022



Paula McCoy
Coordinator

Program Spotlight: What is Section 8?

Section 8 Rental Assistance is available to the public in the nine-county Green Hills region. This program helps the elderly, the handicapped, and the families of low-wage earners to obtain housing they can afford.

Section 8 housing can include single-family rental housing, apartments, or mobile homes.

Eligible households must fall within HUD guidelines, which are based on the size of the family. Single persons, age 62 or older, and handicapped or disabled persons of any age, can also qualify, so long as they meet the income requirements.

Eligible families or individuals may also be able to pay less rent without mov-

ing, if the homes they are renting meet Housing Quality Standards, the rent limits set by HUD and their current landlord agrees to participate in the Section 8 Housing program.

If you are a landlord interested in participating in this program, please feel free to contact our office. Any owner of moderately priced, standard rental housing can participate. As the owner, you must be able to rent the property within the HUD established Fair Market Rents/Payments Standards and be rent-reasonable for this area.

If your family, or a family you know might benefit from this program, please contact our offices to find out more about the Section 8 program. If you are struggling, we can help!

STEP-UP TO LEADERSHIP Classes Begin Soon

Caldwell County will be offering Step-Up to Leadership classes starting this spring.

Step-Up to Leadership is a 12-session, hands-on learning program. Participants are encouraged to share their experiences so everyone can learn from one another.

The Step-Up program is offered free of charge to anyone who is interested in making a difference in their community and who is willing to commit to attending all 12 sessions.

Each session is 3 hours long and includes a light dinner. Contact the county office to enroll!



Community Empowerment Collaboration

As a result of the 1st Annual Missouri Poverty Summit, held in June 2009 by Missourians to End Poverty (MEP), Community Action Agencies across the state are making a return to grass roots efforts with the upcoming Community Empowerment Collaboration (CEC) project.

GHCAA, in partnership with the University of Missouri Extension, has organized Community Empowerment Collaborations in all nine of our served counties. Participants joining in the collaborations include business owners, civic organizations, faith-based groups, the low-income, social service groups, community activists, & others.

The collaborations encourage communities to take a stand against poverty, as well as work in conjunction with the Missourians To End Poverty Task Force.

The outcomes hoped to be seen from these meetings include developing a deeper understanding of the causes, as well as, the solutions for poverty, a sustainability plan for on-going community work to end poverty, increased benefits enrollment for eligible residents, and coordination with Missourians to End Poverty's statewide efforts.

Information on this project may be obtained by contacting Green Hills Community Action Agency at 660-359-3907 or online at www.communityaction.org

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS February - April

There will be several women's health clinics offered to area residents in the upcoming months.

February 18th, 2010
March 18th, 2010
April 22nd, 2010

Call 816-583-2022 to set up an appointment. All services are strictly confidential.

~ Daviess County in Action ~

Service Center

Clay & Jackson
Gallatin, MO
660-663-3211



Phyllis Heckenbach
Director



Janna Barton
Coordinator

Program Spotlight: What is Section 8?

Section 8 Rental Assistance is available to the public in the 9 county Green Hills region. This program helps the elderly, the handicapped, and the families of low-wage earners to obtain housing they can afford.

Section 8 housing can include single-family rental housing, apartments, or mobile homes.

Eligible households must fall within HUD guidelines, which are based on the size of the family. Single persons, age 62 or older, and handicapped or disabled persons of any age, can also qualify, so long as they meet the income requirements.

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If your family, or a family you know might benefit from this program, please contact our offices to find out more about the Section 8 program. If you are struggling, we can help!

NEW FACES

Janna Barton

Janna Barton assumed the role of Daviess County Coordinator in autumn of 2009.



Janna, who was born in California, and raised in Las Vegas, came to Missouri in 2005.

Janna and her husband Jerome have 7 children.

POVERTY SIMULATION

Scheduled for Spring

Daviess County will host a poverty simulation this spring. Participants in these simulations role-play the lives of low-income families over the course of four 15-minute "weeks", during which they must provide basic necessities on a limited budget.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS

February - April

There will be several women's health clinics offered to area residents in the upcoming months.

February 3rd, 2010
April 7th, 2010

Call 660-663-3211 to set up an appointment. All services are strictly confidential.

Community Empowerment Collaboration

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Information on this project may be obtained by contacting Green Hills Community Action Agency at 660-359-3907 or online at www.communityaction.org

~ Grundy County in Action ~

Service Center

1506 Oklahoma Ave
Trenton, MO
660-359-6863



Debbie Cribb
Director



Theresa Miller
Coordinator

Community Garden Project

The Energy Services Department is working on green initiatives and will be utilizing ARRA funds to kick start those efforts.

GHCAA's Energy Services Department, will soon implement a large scale community garden project in Grundy county.

The project will create 3 new jobs, including a paid garden site manager position and two support workers.

Each income eligible (up to 200% of federal poverty guidelines) household participating in the garden project will receive land, garden seeds, organic soil amendments, and garden tools. A tiller will be available for use by those par-

ticipating in the garden project as well.

Community members, organizations, and individuals who are not low income are also encouraged to participate as a gardener, sponsor a family, or mentor others regarding gardening techniques, canning techniques, and other helpful gardening tips.

All gardeners will be required to sign garden by-laws which will be created by the groups in each county. A fee of \$1/year membership will be collected to participate in the project.

Persons wishing to participate in the project are asked to call Terri Henderson at (660)359-3907 to sign up.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Workshop Hosted November '09



Grundy County hosted an educational energy workshop. Participants in the workshop learned money saving tips and received kits containing several energy efficient weatherization items.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS

February - April

There will be several women's health clinics offered to area residents in the upcoming months.

February 5th, 2010
February 17th, 2010
February 20th, 2010
February 23rd, 2010

March 5th, 2010
March 9th, 2010
March 20th, 2010
March 23rd, 2010

April 9th, 2010
April 21st, 2010
April 24th, 2010
April 27th, 2010

Call 660-359-2855 to set up an appointment.

Community Empowerment Collaboration

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Information on this project may be obtained by contacting Green Hills Community Action Agency at 660-359-3907 or online at www.communityaction.org

~ Harrison County in Action ~

Service Center

4114 Miller St.
Bethany., MO
660-425-3755



Danyal Coon
Coordinator



Ann Pettit
Coordinator

Community Garden is Planned

The Energy Services Department is working on green initiatives and will be utilizing ARRA funds to kick start those efforts.

GHCAA's Energy Services Department, will soon implement a large scale community garden project in Harrison county.

The project will create 3 new jobs, including a paid garden site manager position and two support workers. The City of Bethany has agreed to provide land at the corner of Beekman & 14th.

Each income eligible (200% of federal poverty guidelines) household participating in the garden project will receive land, garden seeds, organic soil

amendments, and garden tools. A tiller will be available for use by those participating in the garden project as well.

Community members, organizations, and individuals who are not low income are also encouraged to participate as a gardener, sponsor a family, or mentor others regarding gardening techniques, canning techniques, and other helpful gardening tips.

Persons wishing to participate in the project are asked to call Terri Henderson at (660)359-3907 to sign up. All gardeners will be required to sign garden by-laws which will be created by the groups in each county. A fee of \$1/year membership will be collected to participate in the project.

NEW FACES

Danyal Coon



Danyal Coon joined the agency in October 2009 as Harrison County Com-

munity Coordinator. A native of Rock Port Missouri, she has lived in the Trenton area for over 8 years.

She has one son, Andrew, who is 15 and a freshman at Trenton R-9 high school. Danyal loves riding her two horses, Scooter and Tex, with friends while trail riding, team sorting or moving cattle. She also enjoys reading and visiting with family and friends. Danyal attends Hattan Chapel Church in Trenton.

Community Empowerment Collaboration

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Information on this project may be obtained by contacting Green Hills Community Action Agency at 660-359-3907 or online at www.communityaction.org

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS

February - April

There will be several women's health clinics offered to Harrison county area residents in the upcoming months.

February 4th, 2010
March 4th, 2010
April 8th, 2010

Call 660-425-3755 for more information or to set up an appointment.

All services are strictly confidential.



~ Linn County in Action ~

Service Center

105 W John
Brookfield, MO
660-258-2211



Debra Wade
Director



Dianne Patterson
Coordinator

Program Spotlight - What is Section 8?

Section 8 Rental Assistance is available to the public in the nine-county Green Hills region. This program helps the elderly, the handicapped, and the families of low-wage earners to obtain housing they can afford.

Section 8 housing can include single-family rental housing, apartments, or mobile homes.

Eligible households must fall within HUD guidelines, which are based on the size of the family. Single persons, age 62 or older, and handicapped or disabled persons of any age, can also qualify, so long as they meet the income requirements.

Eligible families or individuals may also be able to pay less rent without mov-

ing, if the homes they are renting meet Housing Quality Standards, the rent limits set by HUD and their current landlord agrees to participate in the Section 8 Housing program.

If you are a landlord interested in participating in this program, please feel free to contact our office. Any owner of moderately priced, standard rental housing can participate. As the owner, you must be able to rent the property within the HUD established Fair Market Rents/Payments Standards and be rent-reasonable for this area.

If your family, or a family you know might benefit from this program, please contact our offices to find out more about the Section 8 program. If you are struggling, we can help!

STEP-UP TO LEADERSHIP Classes Start Soon!

Linn County will be offering Step-Up to Leadership classes starting this spring.

Step-Up to Leadership is a 12-session, hands-on learning program. Participants are encouraged to share their experiences so everyone can learn from one another.

The Step-Up program is offered free of charge to anyone who is interested in making a difference in their community and who is willing to commit to attending all 12 sessions.

Each session is 3 hours long and includes a light dinner. Contact the county office to enroll!



Community Empowerment Collaboration

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The collaborations encourage communities to take a stand against poverty, as well as work in conjunction with the Missourians To End Poverty Task Force.

The outcomes hoped to be seen from these meetings include developing a deeper understanding of the causes, as well as, the solutions for poverty, a sustainability plan for on-going community work to end poverty, increased benefits enrollment for eligible residents, and coordination with Missourians to End Poverty's statewide efforts.

Information on this project may be obtained by contacting Green Hills Community Action Agency at 660-359-3907 or online at www.communityaction.org

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS February - April

There will be several women's health clinics offered to area residents in the upcoming months.

February 2nd, 2010
March 16th, 2010
March 30th, 2010
April 20th, 2010

Call 660-258-2211 to set up an appointment. All services are strictly confidential.

~ Livingston County in Action ~

Service Center

511 Elm St.
Chillicothe MO
660-646-3379



Sherrie Wohlgemuth
Director



Linda Allen
Coordinator



Rachele Taylor
Coordinator

Energy Conservation Workshop Helps Resident

Livingston County recently hosted two educational energy workshops, in which around 50 participants learned money saving weatherization tips and received kits containing several home weatherization items.

Charlotte Gunter, a workshop participant, was glad to receive the kit, making use of the caulking and foam insulation right away. She says these items made an immediate difference in cutting down on drafts in her home.

One of the things from the workshop that really made an impact on Charlotte was the hands-on learning and demonstrations of weatherization items. Seeing the items in use at the workshop gave her the confidence to put them to use in her own home.

As the days have gotten colder, Char-

lotte has been able to maintain a warmer temperature in her house even while she dials down her thermostat. Before she utilized the caulking and foam for cracks and spaces in her walls and floors, the thermostat generally stayed set at 71°. She says she can now keep it set around 65°, and her house feels warmer than it did before.

Since the workshop, Charlotte has begun tackling drafty windows at home, one-by-one. She encourages everyone



to take a moment to assess the problem spots in their own homes, and learn more about the inexpensive weatherization options available - such as the foam insulation and caulking. they really can and DO make a difference!

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS Open House Event

GHCAA Livingston County Service Center, in collaboration with the Chillicothe Chamber of Commerce, will host a Business After Hours in March.

Further information, such as exact date and time will be made available soon!

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS February - April

There will be several women's health clinics offered to area residents in the upcoming months.

February 1st, 2010

March 8th, 2010
March 22nd, 2010

April 5th, 2010
April 19th, 2010

Call 660-646-3379 to set up an appointment. All services are strictly confidential.

Program Spotlight: What is Section 8?

Section 8 Rental Assistance is available to the public in the 9 county Green Hills region. This program helps the elderly, the handicapped, and the families of low-wage earners to obtain housing they can afford.

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Eligible households must fall within HUD guidelines, which are based on the size of the family. Single persons, age 62 or older, and handicapped or disabled persons of any age, can also

qualify, so long as they meet the income requirements.

Eligible families or individuals may also be able to pay less rent without moving, if the homes they are renting meet Housing Quality Standards, the rent limits set by HUD and their current landlord agrees to participate in the Section 8 Housing program.

If your family, or a family you know might benefit from this program, please contact our offices to find out more about the Section 8 program. If you are struggling, we can help!



~ Mercer County in Action ~

Service Center

606 W Main St
Princeton MO
660-748-3565



Sharon Claycomb
Coordinator

Energy Conservation Workshop

An Energy Conservation workshop was held in Mercer county this past November. The workshop covered topics like weatherization, cutting down your energy usage, and where your energy dollars go.

A kit, which contained several handy items such as foam insulation, caulking, outlet gaskets, power strips, and energy efficient bulbs was handed out to all those in attendance.

GHCAA has weatherized more than 5,000 homes within our service area.



Jim Crawford from the University of Missouri Extension & Sharon Claycomb, Mercer County Coordinator



TAX TIME IS COMING Green Hills Can Help!

Did you know that GHCAA can help you file your Missouri Property Tax Credit this year?

If you paid rent or property taxes in 2009, are at or below poverty level, and if you are 60 or older or disabled, Green Hills Community Action Agency can help you in filing this tax credit for free.

Persons have up to three years from the original due date to file a claim.

If you are interested in learning more about this service, please contact the office BEFORE April, 2010 by calling 660-748-3565, and we'll be more than happy to help.

Don't let tax time sneak up on you this year! Let GHCAA help!

Community Empowerment Collaboration

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GHCAA, in partnership with the University of Missouri Extension, has organized Community Empowerment Collaborations in all nine of our served counties. Participants joining in the collaborations include business owners, civic organizations, faith-based groups, the low-income, social service groups, community activists, & others.

The collaborations encourage communities to take a stand against poverty, as well as work in conjunction with the Missourians To End Poverty Task Force.

The outcomes hoped to be seen from these meetings include developing a deeper understanding of the causes, as well as, the solutions for poverty, a sustainability plan for on-going community work to end poverty, increased benefits enrollment for eligible residents, and coordination with Missourians to End Poverty's statewide efforts.

Information on this project may be obtained by contacting Green Hills Community Action Agency at 660-359-3907 or online at www.communityaction.org



~ Putnam County in Action ~

Service Center

117 S 16th St
Unionville MO
660-947-2471



Margaret Salisbury
Community Services
Manager



Dianne Hendee
Coordinator

Energy Conservation Workshop

Putnam County hosted an educational energy workshop earlier this winter. Participants in the workshop learned money saving tips and each received kits containing several energy efficient weatherization items.

The workshop covered numerous topics, like how to save on your monthly utility bills, home weatherization tips, and a bit about where energy dollars actually go.

The Green Hills Community Action Agency Weatherization Department's main goal is to help our clients cut their heating costs in the winter and cooling costs in the summer.



more about this service.

To date, GHCAA has weatherized more than 5,000 homes in our service area! Contact the office to learn

PROJECT SANTA CLAUS Making Christmas Bright

51 Putnam County families (and over 100 children) had a merrier Christmas this year with help from some local Santas.

Project Santa Claus is a holiday program in which businesses, organizations, churches, and individuals can adopt a child or a family to buy gifts for at Christmas time.

In addition to the "adoptions", donations are taken in order to help provide a happier holiday for even more families.

An "Angel Tree" is also placed at Pamida, with children's names and what they'd like to receive from Santa.



Heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who participated in this program in 2009!

Step-Up to Leadership Classes

Putnam County will be offering Step-Up to Leadership classes starting this spring.

Step-Up to Leadership is a 12-session, hands-on learning program where participants are encouraged to share their real-life experiences so everyone can learn from one another.

The Step-Up program is offered free of

charge to anyone who is interested in making a difference in their community and who is willing to commit to attending all 12 sessions. Each session is 3 hours long and includes a light dinner.

If you are interested in enrolling, or just learning more, contact the county office by calling 660-947-2471!

Putnam Service Center Gets Facelift

The Putnam County Service Center building received a make-over recently. Improvements included new windows, a new door, and some brand new vinyl siding.



Higher than average rainfall in the area this year had resulted in leaks around the old fixtures, prompting the need for replacements.



Dianne Hendee shows off the new Putnam County Service Center renovations.

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS February - April

There will be several women's health clinics coming up.

February 10th, 2010
March 10th, 2010

Call 660-947-2471 to set up an appointment.

~ Sullivan County in Action ~

Service Center

101 E. Second St
Milan MO
660-265-4510



Margaret Salisbury
Director



Andrea Luper
Coordinator

Energy Conservation Workshop

Sullivan County hosted an educational energy workshop. Participants in the workshop learned money saving tips and received kits containing several energy efficient weatherization items.

The workshop covered numerous topics, like how to save on your monthly utility bills, home weatherization tips, and a bit about where energy dollars actually go.

The Green Hills Community Action Agency Weatherization Department's main goal is to help our clients cut their heating costs in the winter and cooling costs in the summer.



GHCAA Board Member, Sara Andrew & John Stanturf, BPI Certified Home Energy Auditor, demonstrate how to apply caulking.

To date, GHCAA has weatherized more than 5,000 homes in our service area! Contact the office to learn more about this service.

PROJECT SANTA CLAUS Making Christmas Bright

Some residents of Sullivan County had a merrier Christmas this year with a little help from local Santas.

Project Santa Claus is a holiday program in which businesses, organizations, churches, and individuals can adopt a child or a family to buy gifts for at Christmas time.

In addition to the "adoptions", donations are taken in order to help provide a happier holiday for even more families.

An "Angel Tree" is also placed at Pamida, with the names children and what they'd like to receive from Santa.

2009 was a wonderful year for the program, with a great response from the community. Heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who participated in this program in 2009!



Community Empowerment Collaboration

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Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage
PAID
Trenton, MO 64683
Permit No. 227

Green Hills Community Action Agency
1506 Oklahoma Ave.
P.O. BOX 278
Trenton, MO 64683

Green Hills Community Action
1506 Oklahoma Ave.
Trenton, MO 64683
www.ghcaa.org

Scott Long
Executive Director
longs@ghcaa.org

Tammy Taylor
Community Services Director
taylort@ghcaa.org

Deena Smith
Director of Communications
& Resource Development
smithd@ghcaa.org

Phone: 660-359-3907
Fax: 660-359-6619

If you have information about projects or efforts that you would like to see highlighted in future issues, or if you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list, please contact:

Deena Smith, Director of Communications & Resource Development
Green Hills Community Action Agency
1506 Oklahoma Ave.
Trenton, MO 64683
660-359-3907, ext. 133

Our Promise

Green Hills Community Action Agency positively impacts people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities and makes our region a better place to live. We care about the community, and are dedicated to empowering people to help themselves and each other.