

# Our Community In Action

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## GHCAA Welcomes New CEO

We are pleased to announce that Aaron Franklin, a resident of Princeton, Missouri, has been hired as the new Chief Executive Officer for Green Hills Community Action Agency. Franklin, who previously served as branch manager of the U.S. Bank of Princeton, began his duties on Monday, March 19, 2012.

When asked about his new position, Franklin shared the following: *"I am very happy to be back at GHCAA. My previous employment with the Agency was a great experience and instrumental in the successes I had in the jobs to follow. I know full well the struggles that the governing board and employees have faced over the last year and my goal and commitment is to put GHCAA back 'on the map' as a model agency like it once was. With the assistance and collaboration of the board, company staff, and all outside constituents, I truly believe that we'll be in that very position again one of these days. I thank all those that had the confidence to put me in a position to make the necessary positive changes to make the Agency a great place to work, and a viable source of assistance for those that need a hand up!"*

A graduate of Princeton High School, Franklin has a bachelor's degree in finance from Northwest Missouri State University at Maryville. He and his wife, Tisha, have two children.

## Surplus Auction - April 20th

The Green Hills Community Action Agency will hold a public auction of all Surplus Inventory located at 1506 Oklahoma Avenue in Trenton, Mo. For more information call Barb at 359-3907, extension 1067.

**Friday, April 20th, 10:00 a.m.**  
**1506 Oklahoma Ave**  
**Trenton, MO 64683**



## Community Garden Info

With spring just around the corner, area residents will have an opportunity to get free, healthy food if they participate in the Green Hills Community Action Agency's Community Garden Plus program, managed by Terri Henderson, Energy Services Director for GHCAA.

The key focus of the project is to help low-income families increase the nutritional value of the foods they eat. Eligible families from each of the nine counties GHCAA serves will be given free seeds so long as they fall beneath 125% of the federal poverty level.

Residents of Grundy County can also reserve a spot at the Grundy County Community Garden next to the First Christian Church in Trenton.

If you and your family are interested in learning if you qualify for free or reduced cost vegetable seeds through this program, please contact Kim by calling 855-290-8544!

# A Growing Partnership

Spring is here, and the Trenton 65 Center and RSVP volunteers have actively been working to package seeds for the Grundy County Community Garden which is sponsored by the Green Hills Community Action Agency. Bulk seed was ordered and packaged by a host of volunteers over the past few weeks.



Pictured above (from left to right): Betty Vandevender, Frina Price, Joanne Seward, and Donna Fair

Those helping in the effort include: Sonna Wiggins, Donna Fair, Helen

Pauley, Joanne Seward, Frina Prince, Betty Vandevender, Mary Holt, Mary Ireland, Lois Annibel Hagen, Laura Jane Brown, Donald Harris, Barbara Watkins, and Kim Brashear- Garden Site Manager.

Terri Henderson, Project Manager, is thrilled with the partnership among the Trenton 65 Center, GHCAA, and RSVP. Plans call for a garden dedicated to Grundy County senior citizens due to the funds for the project that were recently given to GHCAA by the Grundy County Senior Citizens Services Tax fund.

Seeds will be distributed to gardeners who have signed up in early April. Gardeners will be contacted by Kim Brashear for information regarding seed distribution. Persons with questions regarding the garden may contact GHCAA and ask for Kim at 660-359-3907.



Yes! I would like to help the Green Hills Community Action Agency! Please accept my donation & use it to further your mission.

\$50       \$25  
 \$10       \$1  
 Other Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Please apply my gift toward the following:

- Health Services
- Education/Employment
- Housing Programs
- Energy/Weatherization
- Most Needed Area

Please send your donations to:

GHCAA  
1506 Oklahoma Ave  
Trenton, MO 64683

**Thank You!**



# Career Exploration with GHCAA

The Green Hills Community Action Agency Youth Program recently wrapped up several Career Exploration classes at the Ridgeway and Newtown schools. The classes, led by Cathryn Campbell and Amanda Pottorff, started in January of this year, working with 7th, 8th, and 9th graders.

Staff completed career interest assessments with the students, and then went on to cover topics like Communication; Eye Contact and Hand Shakes; Dressing for Success; Why Study That; Applications; Resumes; and Interviews.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, or any of the programs conducted by the Youth department at GHCAA, please contact

Cathryn or Amanda by calling 855-290-8544 ext 1063.



## Emergency Funding

Are you in an emergency situation with your rent, utility deposits, medical needs, or transportation? Green Hills Community Action Agency may be able to help. GHCAA has limited emergency funds available for residents of Caldwell, Daviess, Grundy, Harrison, Linn, Livingston, Mercer, Putnam, and Sullivan counties.

Situations are handled on a case by case basis, so please, if you find yourself in need of help, give us a call, toll-free, at 855-290-8544 ext 1021 or ext 1023. In-person appointments are not always required to receive these emergency funds; however callers may be asked to submit verifying documentation via fax, mail, email, or phone.

GHCAA emergency funding does not discriminate based on age, gender, or race. Funding is limited. GHCAA does not guarantee all callers will qualify for receipt of emergency funds.



## Missouri Senior Tax Fund

Over age 60? Need help? Not sure who to contact? Green Hills Community Action Agency has access to limited funding through the Missouri Senior Tax Fund.

### Senior Tax Funds May Be Used For

- Deposits
- Utilities/Water
- Medical Expenses
  - Transportation
  - Prescriptions
- Certain Home or Vehicle Repairs
- Rent

The Senior Tax Fund is for anyone 60 or older & who resides in one of the following counties: Daviess, Grundy, Harrison, Mercer, or Putnam

Please contact Debbie by calling 855-290-8544 ext 1021, or stopping by 1506 Oklahoma Ave, Trenton Missouri 64683 where our office hours are 8am - 5pm (closed from noon - 1pm for lunch). GHCAA is Helping Seniors Live Healthier, Happier, Fuller Lives!

## Weatherization Program Still Offering Improvements



The GHCAA Weatherization program is still offering assistance to homes that need a little extra help.

All potential clients must fill out a weatherization application and provide our office with the appropriate information (proof of income, copy of utility bills, and proof of ownership or landlord information). After applications are received and approved in the Central Trenton Office, they are placed into onto a waiting list. Rental units may also be weatherized with the landlord paying a \$300 upfront fee to offset the cost of weatherizing the home. Weatherization is FREE to home owners.

Selected homes are then inspected by one of our energy auditors. The inspection covers many areas, including insulation, doors, windows, foundation condition, height & width of walls and the attic, & overall condition of the structure. This audit information is then entered into a computer program to determine the most

cost-effective measures of weatherization for the home.

Before any weatherization work can begin, testing of the heating system must also be done. These tests are performed to be sure the heating system is working in a safe and efficient manner. If any problems are discovered during the tests, a furnace contractor will repair, or in some cases, replace the heating system.

After work is completed, a final inspection of the home occurs to make sure all work was completed in a professional manner. Clients are also asked to complete a short customer satisfaction survey to let us know how we are doing.

Our weatherization work results in homeowners saving about 30% on air infiltration for the home. Our proven technology will save money each month both winter and summer. Some homeowners may even receive new refrigerators or new furnaces.

Call 855-290-8544 for your application! There's nothing to loose by applying, so contact us today and see what improvements we can make to YOUR home!

# Fire Your Clothes Dryer

Fire Your Clothes Dryer is a project that hopes to help ease high monthly electric bills. Each qualified applicant may receive one outdoor clothes line and one wooden indoor drying rack.

The life of the outdoor clothes lines and indoor drying racks is estimated to be 40 years. Using that time frame, estimated savings per family of 4 over the 40 year time

frame is \$23,040/household or \$3840 for single person households. Each family will be able to use available income that typically goes to pay for clothes drying for other purposes.

If you'd like to learn if you qualify for this program, please give Kim a call at 855-290-8544 and tell he you're interested in firing your clothes dryer!



Green Hills Community Action Agency works to build vibrant communities.

If you have particular programs that you would like to see highlighted in future issues, or if you know someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact:

[Green Hills Community Action Agency](#)  
1506 Oklahoma Ave. Trenton, MO 64683  
Phone: 855-290-8544 | Fax: 660-359-6619



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