

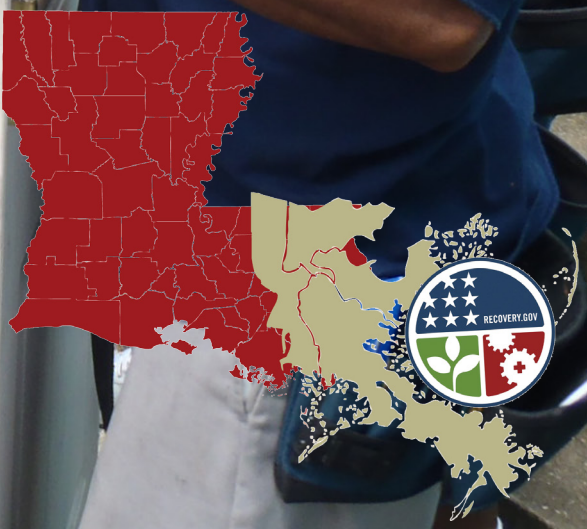
Total Community Action, Inc.

We are ARRA



HUTTIG
CHESTNUT PLYWOOD CORP
10594348-00 1 of 5

HUTTIG
BUILDING PRODUCTS
QUALITY ASSURANCE
CHECK LIST
STAR QUALITY STYLE & SIZE
EMBE LAYING
JAMB QUALITY STYLE & SIZE
HINGES
WEEDSPACE
BALL BEARING
LATCH STROKE
BALL LIFE & TRANSDOM
CADING ENVIRONMENT
PACKAGING
INSPECTOR INITIALS



A Letter from the President:



It is my pleasure to present the Total Community Action, Incorporated, 2010 Community Services Block Grant, American Recovery and Investment Act (ARRA) showcase journal “We Are ARRA.” I have been privileged to lead the TCA staff, through a ten month opportunity to improve: the results for the families we serve, our community and our agency. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was an unprecedented effort to jump start the nation’s economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long neglected challenges of our country. ARRA funds have provided the citizens of New Orleans, still recovering and rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina, and further challenged by the economic downturn and Deep Water Horizon oil spill, with emergency assistance, and stabilization resources. Within the pages of this journal, you will find evidence of the impact and opportunities realized by the individuals and families served through TCA’s

CSBG ARRA programs and services. You will realize our commitment to agency

development and accountability through our investments in community assessment, multimedia outreach and professional development and results oriented management. This journal also features the power of partnership, and highlights three ARRA supported partnerships that are working to address systemic issues and challenges facing our community: poverty, public education and better outcomes for children and families. Finally this journal pays tribute to thirty talented professionals that TCA had the opportunity to employ or retain through ARRA funding, who have truly enriched our service delivery and our agency.

We, the TCA family are committed to Promise of Community Action- *“Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.”* And we have valued the stimulus funds as significant resource in our commitment to *“Keep the Promise.”*

Sincerely yours,

Thelma Harris French

President/CEO

Our Deepest Gratitude

President Barack Obama,

President Obama funded the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). An act making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and other purposes.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude.

THANK YOU!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Mr. Victor Gordon, Vice Chairman, Co-Chair Program Committee

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Ms. Mary White-Johnson

Mr. Gerald V. Williams

Helping to connect low-income, unemployed and unde

TOTAL COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are private non-profit organizations that were established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's War on Poverty. Our status as a Community Action Agency is the result of an explicit designation by local or state government.

As a non profit Community Action Agency,

TCA has a tripartite board structure that is designed to promote the participation of the entire community in the reduction or elimination of poverty. Community Action Agencies seek to involve the community, including elected officials, private sector representatives,

and especially low-income residents, in assessing local needs and attacking the causes and conditions of poverty. Today, there are approximately 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the United States. Founded in 1964, TCA has, for four decades, attempted to ease the social and economic conditions that perpetuate poverty. Services provided by TCA address the needs of the poor and near-poor by providing direct assistance and the opportunity for people to better help themselves. Services include early childhood development, energy assistance, weatherization, job counseling and guidance, transportation for the elderly and disabled, commodity distribution, individual and family development accounts, homeless prevention, low income free tax preparation assistance (VITA), and youth work experience.

LEADERSHIP:

Thelma H. French, President/CEO

Pearlie H. Elloie, Director, Office of Children, Youth & Families

Carolyn G. Ford, Director of Operations

Fay Wooten, Director of Administration

Florence Hebert, Director of Human Resources

reemployed persons to family-supporting opportunities.

Total Community Action, Inc.

CSBG American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant

CSBG ARRA Allocation April 10, 2009 to September 30, 2010
\$3,182,457.00

TCA has assisted over 6113 unemployed and/or underemployed individuals and families in the path to self-sufficiency through CSBG ARRA services & programs listed below:

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS & SERVICES	NUMBERS SERVED
On-the-Job Training (OJT)	15
Youth Work Experience (Year Round & Summer)	353
Intensive Job Readiness/Work Experience (Adults)	30
Weatherization OJT	51
Occupational Skills Training- Certified Nursing Assistants	24
Employment Supports (transportation, uniforms, tools)	356

EDUCATION	NUMBERS SERVED
Adult Basic Education/GED Instruction	60
Basic Computer Instruction	204
After School Tutorial	25
Summer (Youth) Enrichment	158

INCOME MANAGEMENT/FINANCIAL FUTURES	NUMBERS SERVED
Financial Literacy	110



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	NUMBERS SERVED
Rental Assistance	651
Utilities: Energy & Water	2196
Emergency Food Assistance	1200
Medical & Personal Hygiene Supplies	464
Prescription Drug Assistance	473

TCA has strategically invested its CSBG ARRA program resources to build the agency capacity to achieve results.

AGENCY DEVELOPMENT	NUMBERS SERVED
Comprehensive Community Assessment	1600
ROMA Training	232
Community Action Plan Development	45

TCA's commitment to partnership and linkages that support low income individuals and families has been supported and strengthened through its ARRA programs and new partner mobilization initiatives.

PARTNERSHIPS & LINKAGE DEVELOPMENT	NEW PARTNERS & LINKAGES
Poverty Reduction: Simulator, Poverty Summit, NO New Poverty Campaign	110
Orleans Public Education Network (OPEN): work groups, forums, One Step Campaign, Summit	50 (groups & organizations)
Promise Plus: Promise Zone Movement	75 (organizations)

Budget Summary

Administration	\$19,177.88
Program Activities	\$807,855.00
Direct Activities	\$3,182,457.00

**Community Services
Block Grant
American Recovery
and Reinvestment Act
Programs**



**Intensive Job Readiness
Summer Youth Works
Young Executive Summer
Prescription Drugs/Personal Hygiene
Weatherization/OJT
Homeless Prevention
Emergency Utility/Water Assistance
Certified Nurse Assistant/OJT
After School Tutoring Program
Financial Futures
Adult Basic Education
Computer Classes
Emergency Food Boxes**



ARRA EMPLOYEES WE SALUTE YOU

ALEXIS RICHARDSON
ANTHONY GABRIEL
ASHELY JONES
ASHLEY THOMAS
BRENDA BARROW
CHERITA HARRIS
CHESAREE MORRIS

ELLEN JACKSON COOPER
EVERETT JONES
JACQUELINE TURNER
JARROD WILLS
JAVONDA NIX
KEIONA WHITE
KIM L. BROOKS
KINYADA T. FOOTS
MICHAEL HICKERSON

SELTON JONES, JR.
SHEILA BUCKNER
SHERYL EAGLIN
SINNIDRA TAYLOR
TAMMY CRUMPTON
THERESA TURNER
WALI RAOOF, II
WILLIE AUTMAN
ZEBEDEE WEBB



Prescription Drug Assistance & Medical Personal Hygiene Care Program

The Prescription Drug Assistance Program provides a \$100.00 grant to eligible seniors and disabled customers 55 years of age and older. This allows these eligible customers to use a voucher to purchase prescription drugs at designated pharmacies in their communities. The Medical Personal Hygiene Care Program provides a \$200.00 grant for the same targeted group and has the same eligibility requirements and conditions. There has been a tremendous demand for hygiene vouchers throughout the program. The program has been a great value to seniors and the disabled population as well as the business community.

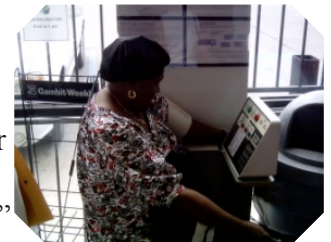
The ultimate goal of the program is to service 500 eligible seniors and disabled customers for the Prescription drug program and 250 clients for the Medical Personal Hygiene Care Program. Implementation of the program was manifested through the use of TCA's five neighborhood centers (Central City, St. Bernard, Algiers, Desire, and Lower Nine), its main office, and the New Orleans Council on Aging as certification sites for eligible customers. Potential customers accessed the program by responding to mailed information cards describing the program and calling a customer hot line referred to as the Go-Line. A TCA customer representative would then forward the customer to the appropriate TCA center in the customer's zip code for certification.

Many have said that youth is wasted on the young, but don't tell that to Ms. Hazel S. Thompson, 85 years old; Ms. Audrey Hewitt, 71 years old; and Ms. Betty Samuels, 69 years old. When these ladies are not talking to friends, volunteering, or just giving back to others, they are members of a dynamic group called "The Movers and Groovers of the Central City EOC. The group is known for their lively singing, acting, and dancing performances that celebrate and give voice to the wonders, challenges and pleasures of being seasoned citizens. These ladies are just three of the hundreds of seniors that have taken advantage of TCA's Prescription Drug and Medical Hygiene program.



Ms. Hazel S. Thompson, when asked about the program said, "Many seniors are in need and this type of help it's truly a blessing: being on a fixed income is hard, so this makes it a little easier." The 85 years young, Ms. Thompson says she has volunteered all her life and loves giving and helping others so spreading the word about the program was a pleasure.

Ms. Betty Samuels, 69, a lifelong resident of Central City, spends her time singing in the Central City Choir as well as being a member of the Movers and Groovers. "I just love being here at Central City; there's always something going on to keep seniors active and aware of what's going on" said Ms. Samuel. When asked about her participation in the Prescription Drug and Medical Personal Hygiene program, Ms. Samuels said, "Thank God for the prescription program;" "It really benefits everyone."



Ms. Audrey Hewitt, 71, the most outspoken of the partners in song and dance, said "I love to speak my mind, so what you see is what you get." When she's not dancing or skating Ms. Hewitt spends her time at the Central City Center talking to all her friends. In talking about the Prescription Drug Program, Ms. Hewitt stated, "I really like the way the program helps seniors, because a lot of them don't have the money to take care of their basic personal needs, so the vouchers are really a help to them. "I'm happy for all of us that get the help."

Ladies of the Lower Algiers Community Center



(From right to left, Ms. Ferdie St. Cyr, Ms. Evelyn Waters, Ms. Jacqueline Riley, Ms. Natalie Bieniemy, Ms. Helen C. Jolla, Ms. Rose Randle, and Ms. Camille Duplessis)

The ladies of the Lower Algiers Community Center would all agree that the best bank is the Westbank. As part of the Algiers community, the center services seniors in the lower coast of New Orleans, sometimes known as the “Cut-Off.” According to center director, Ms. Evelyn Gastinell, the center got its start more than thirty years ago through the efforts of past TCA Executive Director, Dr. Peter Dangerfield Jr. Many of the center’s seniors are taking advantage of the Prescription Drug and Medical Personal Hygiene Program. Said Ms. Jacqueline Riley, “I first heard about the program from some of my friends and decided to take advantage of the assistance.” Ms. Ferdie St. Cyr said “it’s a good program and I really appreciate the help”

The Prescription Drug and Medical Hygiene Program filled an important void and gap for many seniors across the city of New Orleans and continues to be a much requested service here at TCA.



SUMMER YOUTH WORK

The Summer Youth Work Experience's target population included students of low-income families in Orleans Parish. For all purposes of this program, low-income families are those 200% below the poverty line. This program was designed to provide meaningful work experience that would assist participants in developing effective work habits and behaviors, and job readiness skills. Total Community Action partnered with 50 local businesses and organizations to provide students with the work experience related to their desired field of work. The program's objectives included providing youth with opportunities for career exploration, assisting youth in acquiring personal attributes, knowledge, and skills needed to obtain a job and advance in employment. The skills acquired include: career exploration and planning, job readiness trainings and personal asset development with an emphasis placed on developing the participants learning and execution capacities, knowledge, and positive behavior supports.

In order to inform the public about TCA's Summer Youth Experience, the Summer Work Experience Assistants distributed flyers to various neighborhood centers across New Orleans. Additionally, the TCA Outreach and Communications Team distributed flyers in the community.

The application process began in late May 2010 at 1422 South Jefferson Davis Parkway where participants met Youth Work Experience Assistant staff for an application. After the staff member verified that each participant met all criteria of the program, all accepted applicants were invited to an interview which took place on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 and Thursday, June 3, 2010. Next, the participants attended the Summer Youth Works Employer Expo where they were interviewed by potential



employers that partnered with TCA in providing work experience placements for the youth. Following the Expo, participants attended Orientation on Wednesday, June 9, 2010 and Thursday, June 10, 2010. At the closing of Orientation, each participant received their Summer Work

Experience placement.

Summer Youth Work Experience was financed with ARRA funds granted to Total Community Action. The funds were used to pay participants biweekly stipend at a rate of \$7.25 per hour, \$8.00, and \$10 per hour for high school students, college students, and the Leadership Team respectively. Each participant was expected to work (6) hours per day, (30) hours per week.

In addition to the Summer Youth Work Experience staff, TCA established a Leadership Team. Leadership

What A Workin

WORKS EXPERIENCE !

Team consisted of college students that interviewed well or were recommended by someone in the agency. Team Leaders also demonstrated good leadership skills, expressed enthusiasm toward the position, and was capable of bringing new and innovative ideas to the Youth Works experience.

This was the program's first year providing work experience to 352 students; TCA usually services up to 50

the youth about the importance of obtaining an education, having self-confidence and being true to one's self. Total Community Action also sponsored a closing exercise at the Audubon Zoo to celebrate a successful Summer Work Experience. Admission, food and beverages were provided free of charge.

TCA Summer Youth Works was led by Selton Jones (Summer Work Experience Coordinator) with the aid of



participants. It was a challenge to adjust to a group over 6x larger than normal. More staff persons were employed as a result. Thus, more persons were afforded the opportunity to have a work experience.

In addition to a work experience, on Thursday, July 1, 2010 the Summer Youth participants were given the opportunity to attend the Essence Youth Outreach Program. Sponsored by Coca Cola, the empowerment session provided motivational speakers such as Chris Paul of the New Orleans Hornets, Darren Sharper of the New Orleans Saints, and gospel duo Mary Mary who talked to

the Summer Youth Work Experience Assistants Everett Jones, Sinnidra Taylor, Keiona White and Javonda Nix. Ms. Leticia Wells and Ms. Carol Lofton served as Administrative Support, providing administrative and logistical support to the Youth Work Experience. Ms. Ellen Cooper (Job Development Assistant) was in charge of developing worksite placements, getting worksite agreements executed, and developing worksite "Thank yous".

g Experience !

It's Never Too Late To Accomplish Your Goal!!

Carl G., a man, 48 years of age, presently resides in an alternative living situation, has been through many personal adversities, such as a learning disability and dropping out of school at an early age. He is determined to accomplish his goal of obtaining a GED certification. As an enrollee in TCA's evening G.E.D. class, Carl G. is scheduled to be in class from 6-8 p.m. two days a week.

Carl G. was selected for this success story interview because, he struck me as a motivated student, who, has been through many adversities, yet, maintains a spirit of triumph. Carl is a model student; he always does in-class assignments, as well as, homework and is always prepared for class.

Carl has been out of school since the age of 16. His highest grade level completed was 7th grade. The G.E.D. class is his first time being enrolled in an education program since the 7th grade. Carl decided to enroll in the class because, as Carl states" at sixty-two years of age my mother went back to school in a church where she received her high school diploma, and then took courses in her trade. My mother, who is now 65 years of age, continues to take continuing education courses for her trade which is Home Health care. In addition, my daughter who was born with Cerebral Palsy completed high school and graduated. I then said to myself if my daughter can do it with a disability and my mother can go back to school after many years, I can do it too!"

"I can do it too!"

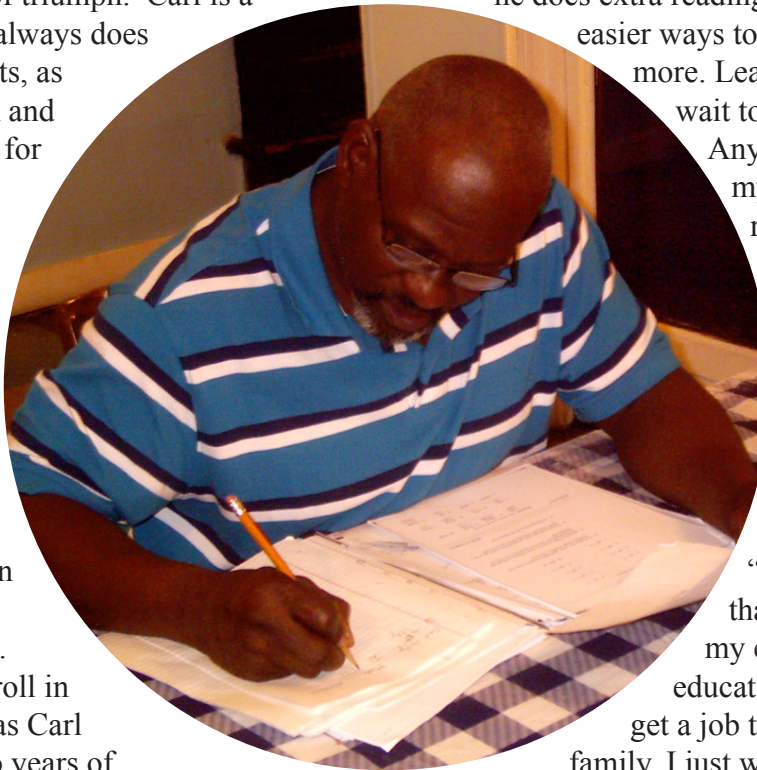
Once Carl completes the course and gets his G.E.D. certificate he would like to take a computer class to better himself. He realizes the importance of computers and the computer skills that are needed

to apply for, get and keep a job. Further, he would like to take up a trade such as, heavy equipment operator, become a sand blast foreman or get licensed to become a truck driver. "These are the goals that I would like to meet to better myself, my condition and support my family. Also, it might encourage my daughter to go back to school if she sees what I am doing." Carl states in a manner of conviction.

Since being enrolled in the G.E.D. class Carl reports his reading and comprehension skills are 100% better, he does extra reading in his spare time and has learned easier ways to do math. He enjoys learning more. Learning has become a skill. "I can't wait to get to class and start working.

Any spare time that I have I work on my subjects. I find that the work relaxes me, allows me to clear my mind and keeps me focused. Class makes me want to advance in my reading, spelling and math. Class makes me want to advance!" Carl says with enthusiasm.

Carl sincerely wanted to add "that I appreciate the opportunity that TCA has given me to forward my education. With times like these, education is going to be the only way to get a job to take care of yourself and your family. I just want to say this is my first time I am setting a goal and accomplishing it. I feel good about myself!"



56 students get hands on training in Weatherization



The Total Community Action, Inc. (TCA) Weatherization On-Job-Training (OJT) program is a combination of in-the-field and hands-on training with certified subcontractors in conjunction with related weatherization classroom instructions at Delgado Community College, in which participants learn the theoretical and practical application of a highly skilled occupation. The Weatherization OJT program is designed to provide participants with a wide range of weatherization techniques and energy conservation processes through on-hands real experience. The Weatherization OJT training consist of weatherization measures on eligible dwellings; Pre and Post inspections, attic insulation, sealing of air infiltration areas, inspecting HVAC ducts for cracks/leaks and repairing them, providing venting of natural gas/electrical appliances and equipment, making small repairs/cleaning heating and cooling systems, replacing incandescent lights with compact fluorescent lights (CFL), and wrapping hot water heaters and supply lines, as well as related weatherization classroom instructions at Delgado Community College, City Park Campus.

After the completion of a three month training cycle of the TCA Weatherization OJT training program, it is expected that the trainees will have acquired and refined weatherization/conservation skills that will lead to regular full-time employment by any of the participating subcontractors, or with job placement through Total Community Action, Inc's Job Placement Assistance Program.

The duration of the TCA Weatherization OJT training program started in April 2010 and ending in

September 2010. The program is designed to serve 56 Weatherization OJT Participants who are either unemployed or underemployed.

The 56 participants in this program were selected from the Dillard University's Deep South Center For Environmental Justice training program and the LA Green Corps Workforce Development program, because they have met certain criteria (unemployed or underemployed) along with basic weatherization and construction training; they must then satisfactorily pass the orientation and screening process of Total Community Action, Inc. in order to enroll in TCA's Weatherization OJT Program.

The president of the United States of America through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 provided funding opportunities to increase the workforce and in this instance at the same time help conserve energy.

The Total Community Action, Inc. (TCA) Weatherization On-Job-Training (OJT) program has enabled fifty six youths (18 and Older) the opportunity to develop weatherization and energy conservation skills under this Act. The TCA weatherization On-The-Job training provides the necessary experience in a field where there will be sustainable future employment.



Of the fifty six (56) participants enrolled in this program from April 2010 to September 2010, twenty nine (29) or 52 percent of them have completed the course as of August 31, 2010, with another twenty one (21) or 38 percent expected to complete the necessary training by September 30, 2010. Overall, the TCA Weatherization OJT program will have successfully trained and prepared ninety (90) percent of the enrolled participants with highly technical skills to get and maintain regular full-time employment in the workforce.

Young Executives Enrichment Program Summer 2010

Young Executives Enrichment Program provided students with the opportunity to explore their career options through a two week educational experience, beginning July 26th and ending August 6th. The students are informed about various careers that are currently in demand.

Additionally, students were provided with the necessary skills required to intermingle with business professionals. In addition to networking skills, students received training in dining etiquette. To maximize their potential, professional dress was a requirement throughout the program. Students were left with a vast amount of skills to enhance their professionalism and marketability. Students completed the state's required five year educational plan with the assistance of team members and were referred to Louisiana Workforce Commission's website for additional assistance in researching other career options.

TCA's Summer Youth Work Experience Outreach and Communications Team assisted the participants in creating business cards for the purpose of networking



Fire Department, Dooky Chase Restaurant, New Orleans Emergency Medical Services, Victory Sports, The College of Aspiring Artists, Camp Delta, the Gary Johnson Campaign, Liberty Bank, St. Bernard NORD Center, and many others.

Young Executives was funded with ARRA funds granted to Total Community Action. The funds were utilized to provide nourishing lunches in cooperation

with Michelle Obama's healthy lifestyle initiative. Additionally, operational materials were purchased to support the curriculum. Lastly, students were provided with school supplies, messenger bags, and school uniforms if needed. Transportation fare was also covered for commuting students.

YE's Pilot was led by Everett Jones and Sinnidra Taylor with the assistance of two support staff members, Leticia Wells and Carol Lofton, and three student leaders. YE was created to accommodate up to 50 students. However, we have found that 15-20 students would allow for more individualized attention and detail given the limited amount of staff members. The program serviced students aged 12-15 years of age from



with presenters and others on business ventures (fieldtrips). We have worked in connection with Criminal Court Judge Robin Pittman, New Orleans



the New Orleans Metro Area who currently live 200% below the poverty line.

26 Determined students get an opportunity at becoming a CNA



The TCA ARRA Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) occupational skill training program was the product of an exemplary collaborative of New Orleans workforce partners, Job 1 Career and Business Solutions, Total Community Action and Dryades YMCA School of Commerce. Participant outreach and recruitment was conducted by all three partners; JOB 1 facilitated the participants screening, educational and occupational assessments, TCA facilitated the CSBG eligibility, supportive service assessment and program enrollment, and Dryades YMCA School of Commerce facilitated the occupational training and clinical placements.

Twenty-six (26) candidates were enrolled in the occupational skill training, and twenty-two have completed 400 hours of instruction and 80 hours of



clinical application, at a skilled nursing facility and have passed the certification test.

The Certified Nursing Assistant Program has provided an immeasurable opportunity for the twenty-two participants. For a forty-four (44) year old single, black female who has a history of dropping out of both high school and another CNA program in 1991 is determined to accomplish her goal of obtaining her CNA certification. As an enrollee in the CNA program, she is scheduled to be in class from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p. m. four days a week. She lives on the West Bank and has to travel to and from class by public transit. She has to make sure she has completed her class work and be at the bus stop by a certain time to catch the last bus that crosses the river at night. Most nights she arrives home about midnight. One night recently while waiting for the bus on Canal St., she was robbed at gun point. The next day in recalling the incident, she expressed her fears and concerns, but vowed not to let that detour her from



her goal. She is steadfast and committed to improving her living conditions and providing a better life for her terminally ill sister and an eight year old nephew whom she cares for. Her enthusiasm and excitement about being a CNA and caring for the elderly and disable is remarkable. She has shown resilience and a tenacious spirit that will carry her through to fulfilling her goals.

Where designs happen



Total Community Action Youth Works provided over 300 jobs to Orleans parish youth over the summer. Six students were chosen to work with TCA's Outreach and Communications Team. This program provided students with the opportunity to explore and work first hand as Graphic Designers. Their primary responsibilities were to brainstorm, layout and design marketing materials for Total Community Action. During the beginning stages of their work experience students learned how to work in Adobe Creative Suites CS5, one of the top design programs for graphic designers. Their creativeness has ranged from creating flyers, postcards, magnets, brochures, logos to signs for the agency. They have also created a marketing campaign for OPEN's New Orleans Public Education Day; which included marketing materials, logos, and a one minute video to draw attention to their First Annual Public Education Day in New Orleans.

Additionally, students had an opportunity to visit some of New Orleans Finest printing companies. The skills that these students have acquired were: career exploration, organization, time management and the fundamentals of a graphic designer.

Before entering this program most of the team had little to no experience in graphic design. After finishing this program they can work every aspect of the most complex programs in the design industry, Adobe Design Creative Suite. They have learned the importance of color, layout, and the use of images. This experience has been labeled as priceless. They can go on to become a graphic designer, freelance designer, or even business owners.

The Essential

Shelter - Water - Heat - Gas - Electricity

Total Community Energy Co.
STILL HERE ... STILL WORKING

HOW-TO

4518 Thalia Street, New Orleans
Phone: (504) 218- 5282 | www.tca-nola.org

Delivering energy efficiency solutions to low-income households

Weatherization Voucher



Important Numbers:

SPCA
(504) 368-5191
www.la-spca.org

FEMA 1-800-621-3362
www.fema.org

Red Cross
1-800-GET-INFO

Emergencies Only
911

New Orleans Information Line
311

Register Now

City Assisted Evacuation Plan (CAEP)
311
1-877-286-6431
1-800-981-NOLA (TTY)
www.nolaready.com

A SENIOR CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO HURRICANE SEASON

NEW ORLEANS POVERTY SUMMIT

AUGUST 18, 2010

ERNEST N. MOYER CONVENTION CENTER

8:00am - 4:00pm

ATHERING GOOD

COMMUNITY GATHERING

NO! NEW POVERTY

ERNEST N. MOYER CONVENTION CENTER

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE YOUNG EXECUTIVES CLOSING CEREMONY

Thursday, August 5, 2010
1500 Lafreniere St. @ St. Bernard Center Gym
12pm - 2pm

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE YOUNG EXECUTIVES CLOSING CEREMONY

Thursday, August 5, 2010
1500 Lafreniere St. @ St. Bernard Center Gym
12pm - 2pm

FACES OF ARRA

ARRA Emergency Food Distribution

As a participant in TCA's Emergency Food Distribution Program, you are eligible to receive ARRA Emergency Food.

Thursday, September 2, 2010

This is not a Commodity Program. This program is conducted on a first-come, first-serve basis and is only good for the above distribution.

Please bring this card with you to one of our Total Community Action, Inc. Main Office - 4518 Thailier St. or your Neighborhood Centers (See back for list)

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

FAMILY DISASTER PLAN DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

- DISCUSS THE TYPE OF HAZARDS THAT COULD AFFECT YOUR FAMILY.
- KNOW YOUR HOME'S VULNERABILITY TO STORM SURGE, FLOODING, AND WIND.
- HAVE AN OUT OF STATE FRIEND AS A FAMILY CONTACT SO ALL YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT.
- POST EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS BY YOUR PHONE.
- STOCK NON-PERISHABLE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES AND A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT.
- TAKE FIRST AID, CPR, AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CLASSES.
- USE A NOAA WEATHER RADIO & REPLACE ITS BATTERIES EVERY 6 MONTHS.

- WATER - AT LEAST ONE GALLON DAILY PER PERSON FOR 3-7 DAYS.
- FOOD - ENOUGH FOR 3-7 DAYS.
- BLANKETS, PILLOWS
- SEASONAL CLOTHING
- FIRST AID KIT/MEDICATION PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
- TOILETRIES
- FLASHLIGHT & BATTERIES
- CELL PHONE & CHARGING CABLE
- CASH [SMALL BILLS] CREDIT CARDS
- KEYS
- IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS WATERPROOF CONTACT INFORMATION
- MEDICAL RECORDS SECURITY CARDS, EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES, ETC.

Financial Futures



Financial Futures, TCA's signature income management and asset development services provides low income, unemployed and underemployed individuals with training and assistance in budgeting, building and maintaining good credit, and asset development. The Financial Futures team wishes to salute Mr. D'Angelo C. McSwain, a Weatherization OJT Cohort #3 participant, whose enthusiasm and self-motivation to financial fitness are exemplary.

D'Angelo attended the Financial Management training, Build a Budget and To Your Credit on August 5th and August 6th. Mr. McSwain's desire to begin tracking his finances was just the motivation he needed to jump start his savings plans. After enrolling in the Weatherization Program he stated, "I realized that not only did I need to be more responsible with my finances, I needed to focus on becoming a better budgeter with all of my income." The Build a Budget and To Your Credit workshops were icing on the cake for sparking the budget bug for D'Angelo. He has developed a budget and is currently tracking his income and expenses and would like to enroll in the TCA IDA Program so he can start his own Weatherization Green Company.

D'Angelo McSwain was selected as the Financial Futures featured participant because of his commitment to saving, development of a budget and his keen interest in the workshops presented in August.



KNOCKING DOWN BARRIERS FOR A BETTER FUTURE IN THE WORKFORCE



Total Community Action (TCA) has designed an Intense Job Readiness (IJR) initiative that targets participants with multiple barriers to employment. The Intense Job Readiness Program is a comprehensive pre-employment training designed to enhance the specific employment skills of individuals with multiple barriers to employment with work experience or on-the-job training; the employer based placement segment for the program is September 7th to September 30. Total Community Action, Inc. IJR program sought places of employment that correlated to the member's interests with the goal that members will have permanent positions by the end of the program.

IJR members started the program with a three day retreat designed to allow members a chance to address their own barriers and to get to know other members in the program with barriers similar to theirs. Following the retreat members started a two week workshop in which we attacked all barriers head on. Work and Life Readiness workshops included many sessions. Some of the curriculum for these sessions involve resume writing, interviewing skills, how to conduct yourself on the job, how to tear down your barriers to unemployment, conflict resolution, time management, and financial futures.

The participants have obtained various trainings by

participating in the IJR program. The trainings include First Aid/CPR, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and participants interested in industrial, manufacturing, transportation, and maritime industries completed Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard (HAZWOPER) prior to the workplace experience to supplement their current skills. IJR program offered members computer training and an opportunity to obtain their GED.

This program was funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which pave the way for the Intense Job Readiness members to complete their various trainings which lead to 12 members being employed full time and the remaining members got the opportunity to receive meaningful work experiences. Seven members of the IJR program received Child Development Certification.



TCA HERO: Judge Robin Pittman



Judge Robin Pittman TCA's ARRA Heroine, youth program cheerleader and volunteer. Judge Pittman was elected to Section F, Orleans Parish Criminal District Court on November 4, 2008. She earned her undergraduate degree from Loyola University New Orleans in 1991 and her J.D. from Loyola School of Law in 1996.

After receiving her law degree, Robin Pittman was hired as an associate with the firm of Millard Collins and Associates. In 1997, she was hired as an Assistant DA. In the trenches of the DA's office, Pittman gained her most valuable experiences as senior attorney for 106 felony and misdemeanor trials and was also responsible for trial work in the Child Support, Juvenile, Magistrate and Trial Divisions; and she served as a Narcotics, Homicide and Sex Offense Screener.

In 2000, Pittman took a deputy position with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. There, she investigated and prosecuted Louisiana attorneys for violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct. In 2006, Pittman was hired as an associate with the firm of Baldwin Haspel Burke & Mayer, where she would remain until her term as judge began on January 1, 2009.

Judge Pittman has shown tremendous support for TCA's summer youth programs. She volunteered many times for TCA ARRA summer youth programs through facilitation, technical assistance and advocacy for both our participants and programs. Judge Pittman was a volunteer facilitator at the Summer Youth Works summer

employment program empowerment session entitled "Survival Skills." Judge Pittman provided not only legal advice and counseling, she also shared her business cards with all participants and offered to personally assist any of the participants who followed up with her. Within less than two weeks, Judge Pittman invited the participants in TCA ARRA YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM "Young Executives" to participate in a CSI workshop and Mock Court that was being held for another group of youth in town for a national convention. Judge Pittman personally greeted all of the TCA summer program male participants as they participated in the (national) Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. ENBODI conference held at the Sheraton Hotel and Dillard University. But the most notable of Judge Pittman's activities has been the sincere and supportive nature of her interaction with every participant and staff member.

TCA STARS **KEEPER OF THE PROMISE**



TCA salutes the New Orleans Recreation Department, NORD as ARRA Program STAR partner and supporter. NORD partnered with TCA to provide a location for the “Young Executives” summer (youth) enrichment program in July; and then provided the ARRA Intensive Job Readiness Program with job readiness classroom space in August. Hats off to NORD Director Victor Richards, Sabrina Mays-Montana, and Jahanna Brightman.

The New Orleans Council on Aging has been a fixture in the New Orleans Community for 35 years and continues to be a vital link in the efforts to service the elderly. The Mission of NOCOA is founded in the principles of protecting the rights, promoting the well being and enhancing the self-esteem of the elderly by generating opportunities for self-reliance and independence. It was this philosophy that drew TCA to the doors of NOCOA to develop a partnership that would impact the lives of seniors across the New Orleans area.



TCA salutes the Orleans Parish School Board’s Superintendent Darryl Kilbert, its administrative staff and media department, under the leadership of Dennis Joseph , as an ARRA STAR partner. OPSB and TCA partnered to develop a work and learn component of the summer youth work experience program, which provided over sixty students with career exploration, work experience and academic enrichment. In addition to the SYWE, our partnership included resourcing sharing in community outreach and media activities. Several of the TCA ARRA programs have been posted on the OPSB television bulletin

board, and have been captured in video by the district media department. TCA thanks the Orleans Parish School Board for its outstanding partnership

DRYADES YMCA

TCA and Dryades YMCA have shared many years partnership in community engagement and service, and therefore it is no surprise that TCA salutes the Dryades YMCA, School of Commerce for its outstanding partnership in support of our ARRA programs and services, and most particularly the occupational skill training, Nursing Certified Assistant program. Dryades YMCA, School of Commerce not only provided the training and field placements for the twenty-six participants, but the Dryades School of Commerce team worked with TCA to address the educational support needs of each candidate, from childcare to uniform assistance.

JAMES KELLEY TERRY, AICP

James Kelley Terry, AICP and President and Principal Planner, KL&M Company of New Orleans Mr. Terry has served as principal consultant for planning, research and development at TCA for thirteen plus years. Kelley Terry’s tenacity and commitment to community engagement and policy advocacy have been invaluable assets to TCA in poverty reduction research and strategy development. TCA salutes James Kelley Terry for perseverance and leadership in the NO NEW POVERTY Summit, as our ARRA “Keeper of the Promise STAR.”

TCA salutes Ashe Cultural Arts Center for their participation in Total Community Action Summer Youth Works Experience Program. Ashe Cultural Arts Center provided work experience for 20 summer youth participants where the youth helped Ashe with various community service and outreach projects as well as helping with Ashes’ youth summer camp. Ashe Cultural Arts motivated and inspired our youth participants and help them to excel in there various talents and abilities. TCA thanks Ashe Cultural Arts Center and we salute you.



ARRA PARTNERSHIP

Throughout Total Community Action's forty plus years, TCA has been an active participant and partner in numerous community-wide initiatives and interagency collaboratives. The TCA staff are involved in many external activities to enhance the agency's position as leaders in human service and community engagement; and in promotion of the community awareness around the needs of citizens living in poverty with diverse groups within the community. In support of the President's vision that ARRA funds would serve as a down payment to addressing the long neglected challenges of our nation, TCA leveraged a portion of its ARRA resources to support the work of three innovative collaborative partnerships.

NO NEW POVERTY COMMUNITY GATHERING AND SUMMIT

The NO NEW POVERTY Community Gathering and Summit were designed as the launch to the development of a New Orleans Poverty Reduction Action Plan. The summit activities began with a "Community Gathering" where the grass roots and root top community gathered to voice their ideas and recommendations to reducing poverty in New Orleans. The Summit, which began by providing participants an opportunity to better understand the realities of poverty through the Community Action Poverty Simulation, featured presentations and insights by national, state and local leaders on poverty reduction. The Summit raised the community's awareness of poverty in New Orleans, and served as the launch to the development of a comprehensive campaign and action plan that will create change necessary to reduce and eliminate poverty in New Orleans.

The No New Poverty team is led by Total Community Action, Inc. and includes City Council President Arnold Fielkow, Total Community Action President & CEO, Thelma French; Children's Defense Fund, Louisiana Director Mary Joseph; Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation President & CEO, Flozell Daniels; Orleans Public Education Network Director, Deirdre Johnson-Burrell, Louisiana Justice Institute President & CEO, Tracie Washington; and Ellen Lee, Vice President of Programs of the Greater New Orleans Foundation.



IPS AND LINKAGES

ORLEANS PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK (OPEN)

The mission of the Orleans Public Education Network (OPEN) is to bring the full New Orleans community together for a respectful and informed dialogue about the future of public education in the city. The purpose of OPEN is to convene a citywide conversation on the future of public education in New Orleans. OPEN's values and operating principles:

- Every child has the capacity to learn and succeed
- The purpose of all education is to make students life ready, fully capable of realizing continuing education and/or career choices, and prepared to be productive, engaged citizens
- A well-educated citizenry is a requirement for, and will lead to, a happy and prosperous city.
- Community support and ongoing engagement is necessary to sustain excellence and equity in public education
- There is tremendous amount of wisdom contained within the New Orleans community.
- Civic engagement can transform the performance of public systems.
- A successful process includes working positively with, though not under the control of, the existing education and political establishments.

The OPEN campaign to build a Community Vision for Quality Public Education: The Master Plan for Quality Schools is rooted in affinity working groups (school base, teachers, neighborhood based). The process began in late June with one pre-summit meeting and with the official campaign launch in September 2010. The OPEN Leadership consists of Bill Rouselle, Bright Moments, Inc., Flozell Daniels, Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation, Frank Williams, Greater New Orleans Education Foundation, Bob Reily, Standard Coffee Company and Greater New Orleans Foundation, Tracie Washington, Louisiana Justice Institute, Keith Twitchell, Committee for a Better New Orleans, Cristel Sias, Urban League of Greater New Orleans, Lloyd dennis, Silverback Society, Mary Joseph, Children's Defense Fund of Louisiana, Thelma H. French, Total Community Action, Timolynn Sams, Neighborhood Partnership Network, Angela Dalliet, Save Our Schools NOLA, James Callier, Patrick Taylor Foundation, Rosalind Hale, Xavier University, and Caroline Roemer Shirley, Louisiana Public Charter School Association.

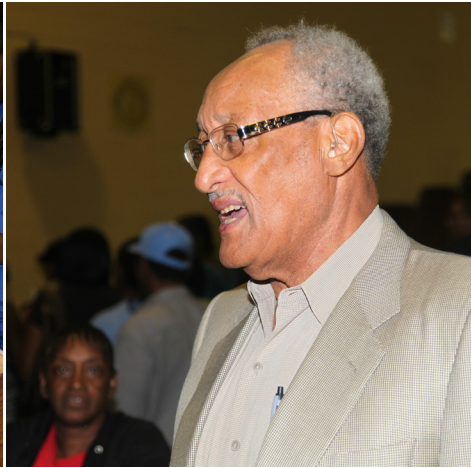
CENTRAL CITY PROMISE PLUS

The Central City Promise Plus Initiative is a partnership of community stakeholder groups and residents of Central City to launch a Promise Neighborhood, which will build on the community vision and momentum. The initiative is designed to transform the lives of Central City children and youth by: (1) addressing barriers to child wellbeing and success; (2) providing high-quality, holistic, coordinated services, and (3) developing a seamless prenatal-to-college-and-career continuum of solutions for all children. Through strategic collaboration and aggressive planning, this initiative has already begun developing catalytic community projects and assets that are instrumental to transforming the central City community. Led by seven trustee organizations, the partners have concomitant visions and theories of change to improve the quality of life for the children and youth of Central City through the coordination of a continuum of services that will produce the following results:

- The children of Central City enter school ready to learn.
- The children and youth of Central City achieve academic success.
- The children and youth of Central City are healthy.
- The children and youth of Central City are safe.
- The youth of Central City are leaders.
- The families of Central City create intergenerational wealth.
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The Central City Promise Plus trustees are Central City Renaissance Alliance, our convener; Operation REACH, our fiduciary agent; Afterschool Partnership; Dryades YMCA, Children's Defense Fund of Louisiana; Total Community Action, and Early Childhood and Family Foundation. Central City Promise Plus membership includes an additional twenty-seven (27) organizations.

WE ARRRA



WORKING!



TOTAL COMMUNITY ACTION, Inc.

Helping to connect low-income, unemployed and underemployed persons to family-supporting opportunities.

