

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation

2016 Annual Board Meeting Program

Creating Greater Sustainability and Economic Security for People

51st Anniversary



ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, August 4, 2016
Knights of Columbus Hall
Effingham, Illinois

Creating Greater Sustainability and Economic Security for People



Paul D. White, Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to the 51st C.E.F.S. Board of Directors annual board meeting where tonight we share and highlight our collective efforts and success stories. Tonight's activities highlight the real life examples of C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation's involvement in "Helping People and Changing Lives." Behind the statistics and reports are real people and families with real life stories. While you are at our annual meeting we will be sharing with you and the community, the spirit of hope, the faces of opportunity and accomplishments for the year – as we are proud of each success and we celebrate and take enormous pride in the individual, family and community achievements. We are never surprised, after all, when **helping people change their lives** is the cornerstone of the Community Action Promise.

In our Community Action Agency, we have a passion to create opportunities and to make a difference for people. We truly do whatever it takes – to fulfill the 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."

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation in the pursuit of a strong economic future for individuals and families has developed and implemented strategies centered on sustainability and economic opportunity for people to achieve self-sufficiency. Our strategies were designed by listening to people's needs and by responding proactively with realistic solutions. These sustainability and economic security strategies were designed and implemented to help the people achieve what they want – economic security and a piece of the American Dream. Our Community Action Agency made the transformation toward the economic security strategy to effectively achieve performance outcomes for people.

Our Community Action Agency has renewed our commitment of enabling people to **create greater sustainability and economic security** opportunities to become self-sufficient. The core strategy of economic security is to generate income and build assets for individuals and families. **Creating greater sustainability and economic security** has become our leading agency strategy and approach to help people achieve economic self-sufficiency and security.

Implementing and achieving sustainability is a social challenge and of course, our agency actively supports and helps to meet the basic needs of people to sustain themselves through energy assistance, rental assistance, housing counseling, case management, nutrition assistance and emergency food pantries, family hardship services, and other direct services that are focused on sustainability. Furthermore, our primary focus continues to be on our efforts of creating greater opportunities that enable people to achieve economic security. Our agency believes that education, training and employment programs are key cornerstones as effective strategies for people to achieve economic security. We continue to advocate and to develop effective strategies to promote adequate income and to prepare people for full participation in the economy and the achievement of economic security.

Our agency has created and implemented a variety of economic and asset development programs that are client centered and case managed which include: **financial literacy and education** to help people learn how to effectively manage their money and effectively use mainstream financial resources; credit counseling to help repair and manage their credit; **free federal and state income tax preparation** services through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to help the people collect tax refunds and make appropriate and wise choices about the use of the funds; education, training and work experience to increase the occupational skills, employment, retention, and earnings of people through the **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program** to locate career opportunities and full-time employment; **home ownership education** that introduces the prospective homebuyer to home ownership choices, the process of selecting a home, options for financing the purchase, and the responsibilities of ownership after

purchase; comprehensive pre-school educational and development services through the **Head Start 0-5 Program** that provides children ages zero to five with services to foster their long-term development and the **Homebuyer Program** that assists homebuyers secure financing, select the property, rehabilitate the property to required housing standards, assist with loan closing costs and loan closing procedures prior to taking home ownership possession.

Many of our agency sponsored programs and case managed services lay the critical foundation for our clients to effectively participate in the financial mainstream of the economy with the hopes of achieving the American Dream. Our economic security strategies have had positive implications for integrating our agency sponsored programming into the foundation of building skills, capacity and commitment of our case management staff to enable our clients to plan and act on opportunities to guide their own economic success and opportunities, with the ultimate goal to achieve personal economic security.

With the development and implementation of our agency sponsored programs and our ongoing business partner relationships, our agency has increasingly focused on individual education, training and asset building as a means to achieve the goal of economic opportunity and self-sufficiency. This economic security vision and approach allows our Community Action Agency to enable people to move beyond basic needs and sustainability to a measure of longer-term economic stability, economic security and self-sufficiency. Working to achieve economic security is a long-term strategic process – not a program. Our economic security process builds social assets one individual and one family at a time, by equipping people to access a wider range of opportunities and resources by ultimately empowering each individual and family to realize their own goals on their own terms to achieve economic security.

Our agency case management staff fully understand and truly appreciate our clients as the primary asset to be developed by letting the individual identify and define their personal strengths, skills and aspirations. These are the personal assets on which education, training, financial and knowledge based asset building plans are developed for each client. The individuals and families who are the most ready and capable of moving up the ladder of economic prosperity are most likely to realize successful long-term economic security.

Our Community Action Agency is truly an economic opportunity agency and we are expected to strategically create opportunities – one individual or family at a time. Our continuum of strategies, approaches and program services help define the agency's relationship with the client and their journey toward economic independence as measured by outcomes ranging from financial self-sufficiency to stability, sustainability and economic security. Our comprehensive holistic strategy of enabling people to achieve economic security is the primary focus and direction the agency must continue to pursue in order to transform the lives of families and to permanently move people to economic security and self-sufficiency.

Our dedication to **helping people help themselves** is being shared with you throughout our Annual Meeting in the 2016 Annual Report, the 2016 Award Recipient Booklet and in hearing the personal success testimonies.

The promise of Community Action is one that we have to constantly work at keeping. Tonight, we assure to you and the community at-large that we kept our promise to **create greater sustainability and economic security for people**. Please continue to join with us in our effort, as we do whatever it takes – to fulfill the promise, to improve our communities and to create opportunities to **help people and change lives**.

Sincerely,



Paul D. White
Chief Executive Officer



C.E.F.S. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CORPORATION

2016 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

Thursday, August 4, 2016

5:30 p.m. ~Registration

6:00 p.m. ~Welcome

~Introduction of Head Table

~C.E.F.S. Board of Directors Annual Business Meeting

~Banquet Invocation – Chuck Buchanan

6:15 p.m. ~Meal

* Menu *

Fried Chicken and Roast Beef

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Noodles with Beef

Green Beans and Gourmet Carrots

Cole Slaw

Rolls and Butter

Assorted Homemade Cobblers with Ice Cream

Coffee, Iced Tea and Lemonade

7:30 p.m. ~State of the Agency

➤ Introductions

➤ 2016 Annual Report/Comments

~Board of Directors Recognition

Clay County

Janice Brooks

Chuck Buchanan

Aaron Leonard

Effingham County

Karen Luchtefeld

Adam Steppe

Gina Hardiek

Fayette County

John Blythe

Jean Finley

Christopher DuPlayee

Shelby County

Ken Barr

Joel Clark

Ethel Wagner

Moultrie County

Arlene Aschermann

Tracy Siegman

Vickie Bowers

Christian County

Mike McClure

Greg Hager

Montgomery County

Earlene Robinson

Linda Johnston

7:45 p.m. ~2016 Family of Distinction Award

➤ The Tammy Merrell Family – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

~2016 Personal Achievement Awards

➤ Samantha Brown – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

➤ Wesley Burgess – Golden Circle Nutrition Program

➤ Jenna Carmichael – Head Start 0-5 Program

➤ Betty Carroll – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

➤ Tom Ferrari – Golden Circle Nutrition Program

➤ Garret Godwin – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

➤ Ruth Hathaway – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

➤ Bonnie Haynes – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

➤ Choi and Dixie Krutsinger – Outreach Program

➤ Catharine Lindsay – Head Start 0-5 Program

➤ Kristina Lindsey – Outreach Program

➤ Matthew Lowery – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program

➤ Tabitha and Christopher Mars – Outreach Program

~2016 Personal Achievement Awards (Continued)

- Alisa McGrew – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program
- Clarice Miller – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Stanley Millsap – Outreach Program
- Jaimie Morrison – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program
- Ashley Morton – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program
- Brittany Murray – Outreach Program
- Adeline Probst – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Tina Stinde – Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program
- Hany Tawdros and Nermine Wassef – Literacy Program
- Tommy Woolard – Outreach Program

~2016 Outstanding Volunteer Awards

- Mike and Shirley Bily – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Sharon Bludworth – Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
- Frank Carroll – Outreach Program
- Betty Ann Clark – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Kathy Goldsborough – Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
- Monica Hankins – Outreach Program
- Cynthia Harrison – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Suzie Hopper – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Gerald Walk – Outreach and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Programs
- Rick Weatherford – Golden Circle Nutrition Program

~2016 Community Service Excellence Awards

- Ameren Illinois – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Butler Heating & Air – Home Weatherization Assistance Program and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Catholic Charities – Outreach and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Programs
- Evans Public Library – Outreach Program
- HSHS St. Francis Hospital – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- Heritage Woods of Flora – Golden Circle Nutrition Program
- News Progress – Outreach Program
- Schram City Baptist Church – Outreach Program
- Shelby County Community Services – Central Illinois Public Transit Program
- The Job Center – Outreach Program
- Wright's Furniture and Flooring – Golden Circle Nutrition Program

~2016 Scholarship Awards and Recognition

In 2016, C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation is awarding \$8,000 in Community Services Block Grant Program educational scholarships funds to enhance the opportunities for eligible recipients to attend post-secondary educational opportunities.

Shelby County

Cruzita Amill

Maria Amill

Fayette County

Roni Jo Layton

Moultrie County

Lynette Green

Jennifer Penberthy

Christian County

Kaysi Vice

Effingham County

Bethany Cluster

Amanda Poe

Montgomery County

Jessie Theriac

8:30 p.m. ~Adjournment

~Photographs of Scholarship Award Recipients and C.E.F.S. Board Members

51 Years of Community Action

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation

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Service Area: Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Shelby, Moultrie, Christian and Montgomery Counties

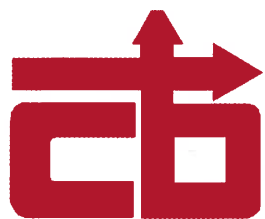
People Served:	15,991
Unduplicated Families Served:	7,244
Employees:	241
Volunteers:	3,094
Volunteer Hours:	140,192
Partnership Agreements:	326

Workforce Service Area: Clay, Clark, Crawford, Cumberland, Coles, Douglas, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Moultrie, and Richland Counties

Central Illinois Public Transit Service Area: Clay, Christian, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Moultrie and Shelby Counties

Programs

Adult Volunteer Literacy Program, Central Illinois Public Transit Program, Community Services Block Grant Program, Comprehensive Housing Counseling Program, Emergency Food and Shelter Program, Emergency and Transitional Housing Program, Emergency Solutions Grant Program, Family Literacy Program, Golden Circle Nutrition Program, Head Start 0-5 Program, Home Weatherization Assistance Program, Homebuyer Assistance Program, Homeless Prevention Program, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Permanent Supportive Housing Program, Rental Housing Support Program, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Single Family Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program, Supportive Services Only Program, Transitional Housing Program and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program



Crossroads Bank

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