



**Ohio Association of
Community Action Agencies**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE
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OACAA adamantly opposes US Department of Agriculture's SNAP rules

COLUMBUS — The U.S. Department of Agriculture's new rules, set to go into effect on April 1, 2020, will impact nearly 700,000 adults between ages 18 and 49. Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) adamantly opposes this new rule believing many will suffer from the change.

“The U.S. Department of Agriculture is making the assumption that poor people need encouragement to work when most are already working or are seeking work to support their families,” said Philip E. Cole, executive director of OACAA. “Instead of imperiling the health of the least among us financially, we should work together to find solutions to poverty.”

The new rule will make it more difficult for adults without children to receive food assistance if they don't meet the work requirement imposed.

“Nearly half of all Ohioans don't have the assets necessary to stay out of poverty for three months, yet this new rule would allow only that time to stabilize themselves after a job loss or other temporary loss of income,” said Cole. “We need to help people, not punish them.”

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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. Community Action Agencies work to alleviate poverty and empower low-income families in their communities. The Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies represents 47 agencies around the state serving the needs of low-income people in all of Ohio's 88 counties. CAAs provide education and training, emergency services, and other assistance programs to nearly 600,000 Ohioans annually.