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Region II News

CAPLAW Is Seeking Two New Board Members!

The CAPLAW Board is seeking two new members! They're encouraging applications from Executive Directors/CEOs of Community Action Agencies (CAAs) that are members of CAPLAW who have: • A minimum of five years' experience as the Executive Director/CEO, or an equivalent position, of a CAA; • Used CAPLAW trainings and resources; • Been involved in Community Action associations at the state, regional or national level for at least three years; • The ability and willingness to travel throughout the U.S. to attend CAPLAW Board meetings and CAPLAW's annual national training conference; and • An understanding of the role the law plays in managing CAAs and advancing the interests of Community Action.

The CAPLAW Board strongly encourages applicants from federal Regions 2, 7, and 8. For a complete description of the position and how to apply, [download the application](#).

Application materials are due June 15, 2020.

Community Action Partnership of New Jersey

As May drew to a close, in New Jersey, the impact of COVID-19 continued to be the driving force for delivering services through the many CAA's. According to the NJ COVID-19 Information HUB (<https://covid19.nj.gov/>), there are now 155,764 Total Lab Confirmed Cases in New Jersey and 11,191 Total Lab Confirmed Deaths throughout the state. Below is a chart of the counties with the highest number of cases as of 5/27/2020.

County	Positive Test Results	Deaths
Hudson	18096	1143
Bergen	17963	1528
Essex	17255	1605
Passaic	15826	892
Middlesex	15499	959

In Hudson County, [Bayonne Economic Opportunity Foundation](#) (BEOF) has been providing services for residents and those impacted by COVID-19. Samantha Howard, the Executive Director, recently addressed residents during a video address with the Mayor of Bayonne, James Davis. A recent press release of this event is included [here](#).

BEOF Services During COVID-19

The BEOF currently offers Meals on Wheels, Head Start, senior residential maintenance, housing assistance, community outreach, senior transportation, cultural affairs, nutrition, and Say Yes to Literacy, among others.

Recently, the BEOF has also helped establish a food bank in the city in collaboration with City Council President Sharon Ashe-Nadrowski and Business Administrator Melissa Mathews.

Energy Assistance

Howard reminded residents that the BEOF continues to provide programs to help low-income residents pay their [energy bills](#) during the pandemic. Those programs include the [Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program](#) (LIHEAP), the [Universal Service Fund](#) (USF), the [Home Energy Assistance Program](#) (HEAP), and [Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric](#) (PAGE).

The BEOF asks Bayonne and other Hudson County residents who might qualify to pick up applications either at the front door of the BEOF office at 555 Kennedy Blvd, or visit beof.org and print out an application.

- Residents can submit their applications by mail to P.O. Box 1032, Bayonne NJ 07002, or place them in a secured drop box at the front door of the BEOF office.
- Residents can fax the application to 201-437-2220 or email it to information@beof.org. Applications will be processed immediately.

Head Start Enrollment Open

HeadStart enrollment is open for students for next year, providing institution learning as well virtual learning. “Whether providing much-needed financial assistance or much-needed meals, the BEOF remains committed to providing services to our wonderful community,” Howard said. “Our city is generous, and we are grateful to have each other.”

Other news around New Jersey continues to focus on populations that are impacted disproportionately around COVID-19. Long-term care facilities, Veteran’s Homes, Psychiatric hospitals and prisons also have seen devastatingly high number of deaths from COVID-19. Thanks to the Marshall Project who has been collecting data on [COVID-19 infections in state and federal prisons](#) with New Jersey information detailed below.



The long-term care information throughout New Jersey continues to be very troubling. According to NJCOVID-19, outbreaks throughout the state, as of May 27, 2020.

- Facilities with Outbreaks: 536
- Cases at Facilities: 20,927
- Deaths Reported-Residents: 5,684

Community Action Agencies Shine Light During Dark Times

As we all continue to work through the COVID-19 Pandemic and respond to community needs, we at NYSCAA would like to recognize the effort and hard work of Community Action Agencies across the state. We have compiled stories and accounts of the support Community Action Agencies are providing for their communities in these uncertain times. To read more about the work being done across the state, visit our [Community Action Agencies Shine Light During Dark Times](#) webpage.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources for Region II

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to provide you with resources for the ongoing efforts to assist the Community Action Network and stress protecting the health and safety of staff and customers. NYSCAA has compiled a number of [state and federal resources](#), as well as [tech resources](#) to support the increase in employees working remotely.

June's Poverty Myth

"Poverty does not have long lasting impact on children." - False

FACT: Childhood poverty negatively impacts academic achievement, physical and mental well-being.

The nation's economic crisis has deeply affected the lives of millions of Americans. Skyrocketing foreclosures and job layoffs have pulled the rug out from under many families, particularly those living in low-income communities. Deepening poverty is inextricably linked with rising levels of homelessness and food insecurity/hunger for many Americans and children are particularly affected by these conditions.



Poverty is linked with negative conditions such as substandard housing, homelessness, inadequate nutrition and food insecurity, inadequate child care, lack of access to health care, unsafe neighborhoods, and under-resourced schools which adversely impact our nation's children.

Poorer children and teens are also at greater risk for several negative outcomes such as poor academic achievement, school dropout, abuse and neglect, behavioral and socio-emotional problems, physical health problems, and developmental delays.

[Click here](#) to read more about commonly misrepresented poverty myths.

Census 2020

2020 Census Response Rate Map

The U.S Census Bureau's [online map](#) shows the 2020 Census Response Rate Challenge — where state, local, and community leaders work together to promote a complete and accurate count by increasing the self-response rate in their community. The map currently displays 2010 Census self-response rates as a reference point for states, counties, cities, and census tracts around the country. Users will be able to use the map to track their community's progress in responding to the 2020 Census.

As people respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone or by mail, the Census Bureau will update the map daily to reflect the percentage of households that self-respond online, by phone or by mail after being invited to do so. (The rate will be provided for the three modes combined and for online alone.)

The New Jersey and New York 2020 self-response rates as of June 2, 2020:

Self-Response by County



This map features self-response rates from households that responded to the 2020 Census online, by mail, or by phone. Rates can be viewed in [rankings here](#).

New Jersey
Self-Response
62.6%

Atlantic
Self-Response
54.5%



© 2020 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Atlantic, New Jersey Self-Response Rate



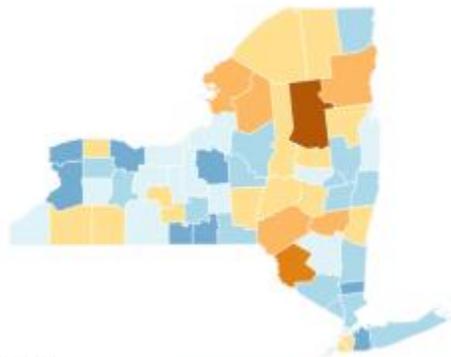
Self-Response by County



This map features self-response rates from households that responded to the 2020 Census online, by mail, or by phone. Rates can be viewed in [rankings here](#).

New York
Self-Response
55.6%

Albany
Self-Response
60.2%



© 2020 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Albany, New York Self-Response Rate



Census Bureau to Resume Some 2020 Census Field Operations in Select Locations

MAY 4, 2020 — The U.S. Census Bureau, in coordination with Federal, State and local health officials, will begin a phased restart of some 2020 Census field operations in [select geographic areas](#).



Updates on the operations resuming by location are available at [2020census.gov](https://www.census.gov/2020census.gov). This webpage will be updated weekly as 2020 Census operations resume across the United States.

May 27, 2020 through August 14, 2020: Census takers will interview homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19:

The 2020 Census is underway and more households across America are responding every day. Over 70 million households have responded to date, representing over 48% of all households in America. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau is adjusting [2020 Census operations](#) in order to:

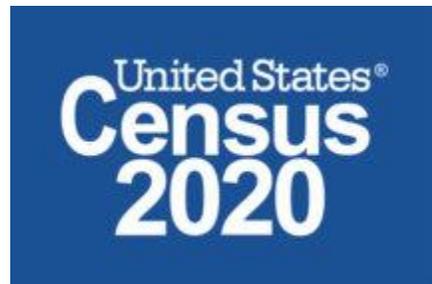
- Protect the health and safety of the American Public and Census Bureau Employees.
- Implement guidance from federal, state, and local authorities.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count for all communities.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Take the 2020 Census Now!

Everyone in your community can still complete the Census [online, by phone, or by mail](#) during the coronavirus pandemic!

To help reduce the coronavirus risk, the Census Bureau is providing resources and guidance for your local census efforts. [Click here](#) to learn how to promote Census engagement while managing risks related to the coronavirus.



Your response matters! The Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states, and your response can shape many different aspects of your community. [See how your answers can shape the future!](#)

Community Action Counts

Make sure to visit the [Community Action Partnership's \(CAP\) Census 2020 webpage](#) to stay up-to-date on the latest news and information about the upcoming 2020 Census. This once in a decade event is critical for Community Action and the families and communities we serve across the country, and it is essential that all people are counted.

[Click here](#) for additional Census resources from the Community Action Partnership.



National Partner Information

National Partner Resources on Covid-19

In light of increasing concerns about a broader coronavirus outbreak and the impacts on normal business operations, the national partners have compiled resources that are available to the Community Action network.

- [CDC's COVID-19 Site](#)
- [CAP's Coronavirus Resource Page](#)
- [CAPLAW's Coronavirus Resource Page](#)
- [NASCSP's Coronavirus Resource Page](#)

Community Action Partnership Releases Customizable Commercial for Television Broadcast & Social Media

The [National Community Action Partnership](#) is pleased to announce that we have produced a customizable commercial that Community Action Agencies can use to raise visibility within their local communities during the COVID-19 national health crisis, so that customers and other community members know your agency is open and providing services. We have a 15-second and 30-second version of the video in both English and Spanish. Each version includes a subtitled cut of the video and one without subtitles. We have intentionally left space at the end for you to include the name of your agency, its contact information, and/or logo – it is completely up to you. [Click here](#) to access the videos.



These videos can be broadcast on local television stations or promoted via social media. If you decide to promote via social media, we encourage you to upload your video directly to

Facebook or Twitter, rather than sharing a YouTube or Vimeo link, as it will draw much more engagement.

New Resource from CAPLAW Helps CAAs Plan for Reopening

As organizations across the Community Action network begin to reopen their doors to resume operations and services disrupted by the COVID-19 outbreak, it is critical to thoughtfully consider issues that are likely to arise and plan carefully to adjust to the new normal. The concerns that each Community Action Agency (CAA) faces will depend in large part on the issues specific to its community, including any local and state guidance for reopening, and are likely to evolve over time.



CAPLAW has developed this "Building Readiness: Reopening Our Doors Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)" resource in an attempt to anticipate and address many of the questions on the forefront of CAA planning efforts.

[Click here](#) to learn more and access the resource.

CAPLAW - Policies in Practice Webinar Series

Effectively governed Community Action Agencies (CAAs) have policies and systems in place that encourage accountability, transparency and efficiency of operations. The Policies in Practice Webinar Series is intended for Executive Directors, management staff, board members, and attorneys of CAAs. [Click here](#) to access all previous webinar recordings and materials. Use the link below to register for the final webinar in the series.



1. [Record Retention Policy](#) - Thursday, June 4, 2020

Additional Resources

Community Commons - Coronavirus Response: Peer-to-Peer Resource Sharing Library

Community Commons gratefully acknowledges the work that continues across the country and the world to control the spread of Coronavirus. With your help, The Commons has been gathering resources into their [Coronavirus Response: Peer-to Peer Resource Sharing library](#) to help your community continue this work and, as always, their [Community of Support](#) is available for you to share your hopes, fears, and experiences with others throughout this pandemic.



Additional Resources from Community Commons:

- [Coping and Staying Emotionally Well During COVID-19-Related School Closures](#)
- [Health Leads Roadmap](#)
- [The Intersection Between Poverty and Health Care: A Resource Collection](#)
- [New! - Commons Good Podcast with Monte Roulier](#)

21st Annual Wipfli National Training Conference and NEW Virtual Training Experience

October 11-16 | Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino | Las Vegas, NV
July 14 - October 13 | NEW Virtual Training Experience.

You have the option to attend The Wipfli National Training Conference at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino, joining your peers for a week of outstanding learning, or learn from our best trainers in a virtual setting. Both options amplify your impact by getting the training experience and networking you need to serve your community.

[The 21st annual Wipfli National Training Conference](#) includes several detailed, yet, easy to understand sessions that you can apply now to help navigate today's unique challenges such as:

- Hiring and retaining top talent
- increasing your efficiency
- Streamlining your expenses
- Building a strong technology foundation
- Managing change
- strategic planning
- And many so much more!

The Virtual Training Experience includes access to 40 sessions over three months, delivered live online, but also available on-demand if you are not able to attend the scheduled session. Those who register to attend the National Training Conference in Las Vegas will also have access to the full Virtual Training Experience, in addition to the sessions they attend in person.

The [21st annual Wipfli National Training Conference sessions](#) are online and ready for you to select your top picks!

National Professional Development Opportunities

National Community Action Partnership (NCAP)

2020 Annual Convention

August 26th-28th, 2020 - Seattle, Washington

www.communityactionpartnership.com

National Community Action Foundation (NCAF)

2020 Annual Conference

November 15, 2020 - Washington D.C.



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