

NEWS RELEASE

Community Action Partnership holds Annual Meeting and Luncheon

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The Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area (CAP) recently held its Annual Meeting and Luncheon at Sinclair Community College. Approximately 150 people attended the event. The theme was “A Proud History. A Positive Presence.”

Don Mathis, National President and CEO of the Community Action Partnership, was the special guest speaker. He updated those in attendance on the growing number of Americans living in poverty. One in eight Americans are poor, and one in seven is in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Mathis referred to the “new poor, people who have not been poor for generation upon generation, but they’re finding themselves in that circumstance for the first time.”

He also discussed Community Action Partnership’s efforts to prevent cuts to the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).

“The demand for your services is greater now than it ever has been,” Mathis said. “In many, many rural counties and areas in this country, if the Community Action Agency closed down, there’s nothing there.”

The agency presented the Dr. Charles W. Peckham Award for Humanitarian Leadership to Larry Sergeant. The award is for an individual or organization that uses his or her position to advocate for the low-income community.

Sargeant recently retired after 38 years, 36 as executive director, of Warren County Community Services (WCCS). Under his leadership, WCCS built ten low-income senior housing developments and one family development. Low-income senior housing now exists in every Warren County community.

Sandra Neal, Case Manager for Community Action Partnership in Greene County, received the Award for Commitment to

Programmatic Excellence. Through her positions at the Harding Place homeless shelter, as a home delivered meals driver and a site manager, “she does a good job advocating for her customers,” said Joyce E. Price, Vice President and COO of the Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area.

“She knows how to ask for things,” Price added. “‘No’ is never an option.”

David Chase, an Intake Specialist in the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) in Montgomery County, received the agency’s Award for Exemplary Service. He helps eligible customers apply for and receive utility payment assistance available through several programs, sometimes by going to the customer’s home when they are unable to come to the CAP office. Chase also helps with security around the office and at agency events.

The Marion K. Stockham Award for Dedicated Service was presented to Mike Hartman, a volunteer in Darke County who helps two afternoons per week typing forms, manuscripts and other materials.

“He has always been punctual, cordial and friendly with a smile for everyone,” said Melissa Sparks, Assistant Director for Community Action Partnership in Darke County. “There’s never been a mistake in any of the typing he’s done for us and many of us at the office can’t believe how fast he completes his work.”

Highlights of agency programs and activities during 2010 were presented in the Agency’s Annual Report. Piano students from the Stivers School for the Arts—Jonathan Lynn, Katie Williams and Amanda Green, provided entertainment.

Tim Donnellan, President and CEO of the Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area, recognized Pat Jones and her son Jason Jones. Jason won a WROU radio contest and along with his prize, was asked to select an agency to receive a \$5,300 grant from Fifth Third Bank. The Joneses chose Community Action Partnership to receive the gift because persons they know have received help from the agency.

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EDITORS: Here is a cutline for the attached photo: Don Mathis, national President and CEO for the Community Action Partnership, spoke at the Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area.