

Lynn Grogan

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Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2010 1:54 PM
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Subject: CalNeva Community Action News - Winter 2010



GREETINGS FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

This year has seen tremendous opportunity combined with great challenge. The role of the association has evolved to respond to the need presented by these opportunities. We all want to improve our responsiveness to the needs created by the economic recession. We also want to ensure that the innovation that has characterized community action is maintained. During the first part of the year the work of the Board and staff has focused on advocacy highlighting the good work of the network before state legislators. This effort will continue as our proposed local stimulus plans are implemented. We look forward to continuing to highlight the effective work of members and assisting you as needed. Thank you.

Thomas Tenorio, President

CAL/NEVA HOSTS SUCCESSFUL 2009 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE & BUSINESS ACADEMY

With the arrival of fall and the change in the season, it was time for local agencies to gather in Los Angeles and participate in the Leadership Institute and Business Academy. Those who attended were delighted with the valuable trainings and panel discussions, offering an array of interesting and informative topics.



The Leadership Institute (a day geared specifically for board members, executive directors and senior management staff, pertinent to CAA's and both CSBG/ENERGY networks) featured an engaging presentation, *CAA Governance & Board Training*, by Anita Lichtblau of CAPLAW. This presentation focused on ten key elements of being an effective board member, with particular emphasis on issues of legal compliance.



Marshall Howard's engaging presentation, *Developing Relationships to Implement a Partnership Council to Sustain ARRA Projects*, provided participants valuable tools, techniques and insights on how to sustain ARRA projects.



The next day's Business Academy welcomed agency leaders and their staff. Helga Lemke, who retired from CSD recently, was honored for her hard work and dedication.



Attendees were treated to a presentation focusing on practical tips on how to tell the story of their organization's ARRA impact through the new *Education and Outreach Project "Fulfilling The Promise."* Tim Reese presented along with panelists Mike James and Dell Smulowitz of Marshall Howard and Associates, Darick Simpson of Long Beach CAP and participating agencies. www.fulfillingthepromise.org

Yolanda Benson of Governmental Strategies Inc. and panelists Tom Tenorio and Tim Reese of Cal/Neva, Arleen Novotney of So. Cal Forum, Dennis Osmer of Central Coast Energy Services, Louise Perez of ACCES, held an engaging discussion on "our journey together since the May Revise and ABX3 33." This important conversation gave participants a better understanding of how the 'system' works and the tools necessary to be effective advocates.



Concurrent breakout topics included: An association public policy roundtable discussion to develop strategies to advocate for our own future; Davis-Bacon Act for those who administer HUD, energy/weatherization, CSBG, contracts; A facilitated CSBG/ENERGY dialogue - working together to develop an ARRA training & technical assistance plan for our network; OMB Circulars/Procurement.

The General Session featured Scott Graves of the CA Budget Project who spoke on the great recession and the state budget.

For more information on the presentations and copies of the PowerPoint slide shows, please click on the following link - www.calneva.camp7.org

Thank you for your valuable comments:

"I was impressed by the content, format, and information -- well designed. I would encourage the move to 'paperless' in future conferences. Good effort in this regard."

"Very happy with the content of the conference and it was nice to hear other agencies have the same issues and concerns."

The best part of the conference was -

"The round table, the networking was really valuable."

"The group activities and getting insights on various organizations. Topics were relevant and timely."

PATHWAYS COMING TO CALIFORNIA IN 2010

In cooperation with CSD, National Community Action Partnership "Pathways" training will come to California. This project will be introduced to the network at our Annual Conference in April. For advanced information, please go to http://www.communityactionpartnership.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=126

BE SURE TO DAVE THE DATE!

April 14–16, 2010

Cal/Neva & Region IX - 2010 Annual Conference and Poverty Summit
Argonaut Hotel, San Francisco -- www.argonauthotel.com

Would you like to be part of planning the conference? Join our Conference Planning team—contact Koleen Kclary@cal-neva.org for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS TIM!



For his participation on the ACF Assets for Independence Workshop Team:

David A. Hansell, Acting Assistant Secretary for Children and Families wrote,

"It is my pleasure to extend to you my sincere congratulations upon your selection to receive the Assistant Secretary's 2009 Partnering for HHS Excellence Award. Your accomplishments have been recognized by your colleagues, Office Director, the ACF Honor Awards Committee, and me.

We are fortunate to have employees and partners of your caliber in ACF and know we can count on you to continue to perform your duties and responsibilities in an exemplary manner. Again, congratulations on your selection to receive this prestigious award."

FULFILLING THE PROMISE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROJECT GAINS MOMENTUM - 25 AGENCIES PARTICIPATING

Thanks to the leadership of Tim Reese and Biz Steinberg, Cal/Neva's "first of its kind" education and outreach campaign, to show how Community Action Agencies are fulfilling the promise of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), is flourishing.

Tim saw the importance of telling the American public how Community Action is using ARRA funds to help people back to work, help those low-income and vulnerable people, and help families and children cope with and survive during our economic downturn. Cal/Neva, in partnership with colleagues at Marshall Howard and Associates, specifically Mike James MHA's Vice President of Program Development, has produced numerous video spots showing ARRA dollars at work, providing jobs, training, and essential services. See the *Fulfilling The Promise* work to date by visiting www.fulfillingthepromise-us.org



More than 20 Cal/Neva agencies currently participate in the exciting *Fulfilling the Promise Educational and Outreach Project*. As part of the participation package, at all three levels, the logo, depicting a butterfly representing hope, transformation and renewal, created under the direction of Trevor Barker of T-Dogg Studios, www.tdoggstudios.com is available for use.



Last September, Tim Reese, Mike James, Marshall Howard, and Richard Lemire presented an overview of the "Fulfilling The Promise" project at the Philadelphia National CAP Conference, garnering significant interest and enthusiasm at a national level.

Do not wait. To participate in this incredible educational and outreach campaign, contact Lynn Grogan lynn@cal-neva.org

CNP3 / SKILLS BANK– GOIN' STRONG

The Community Action Network is a great resource center! Cal/Neva's CNP3, Peer-to-Peer training project is an innovative tool for agencies to learn best practices and productive strategies from their peers throughout California. Three levels of training are available:

- Regular 1 to 1 (1 day)
- Extended (more than 1 day)
- Enhanced (group training)

Peer trainers are available in the following subject areas: Governance/Program Administration, Community Outreach, Fiscal, Evaluation, Human Resources, History & Purpose, Strategic Planning, Program Development, ROMA, other. For more information or to sign up - www.cal-neva.org

CITIBANK SUPPORTS CAP ASSET DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Citibank, the state Community Services and Development Department ARRA funded Asset Development/EITC Projects, and Cal/Neva's state-wide EITC Community Action Sharing Hope (CASH) Campaign, is a working collaboration of activities, developed with the goal of increasing the capacity of Community Action Agencies to begin or expand EITC and other asset development actions.

A learning cluster design of technical assistance, training, resource exchange and peer learning approach is used. This exchange of resources and peer learning within the network will support a leadership role for Community Action Agencies in their regions in EITC and Asset Development.

BENEFITS OF CAL/NEVA MEMBERSHIP

Cal/Neva offers a variety of support services to assist our member agencies in providing innovative programs and services to low-income individuals and families in the midst of a constantly changing political, social and economic environment. Membership benefits include:

- Training and technical assistance workshops
- Cal/Neva serves as liaison and coalition builder with allied statewide and national organizations
- Educating Federal, State and Local representatives about the Community Action Network
- Informing the network about funding opportunities and other important information via newsletters, emails and e-news updates
- Resource development
- Discounts at Meetings and Conferences
- Opportunities to network and build skills
- CAPLAW membership - a significant savings and value to members

Become a member today! Go to: <http://www.cal-neva.org/join/becomeMember.cfm>

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