



OACAA News

Winter Legislative Conference a Success



Attendees networking between workshops

This year's Winter Legislative Conference, held February 1-3 at the Sheraton on Capitol Square in downtown Columbus, proved to be another success! Preliminary survey results show that attendees found the workshops both informative and relevant.

One attendee commented, "The workshops that I attended were informative and applicable to the work that I do at our agency."

The first day of the conference was highlighted by presentations from the Office of Community Assistance (OCA) giving updates on CSBG, Weatherization, Energy Assistance programs and more. An addition to this year's conference was the inclusion of special tracks for intake workers and administrative staff on Wednesday. A special treat during Wednesday's lunch included comedian Jan McInnis. Many of us can agree with Jan's new use of the CSBG acronym, Cash that Should Be Given. Now if we can only get the president to agree with that.

Along with the opportunity to meet with many vendors exhibiting at the conference (listed on second page), Wednesday also provided an opportunity to meet with legislators during the evening's Legislative Reception. An array of topics were covered during Thursday's workshops and an opportunity was given to acknowledge the work of eight Community Action Agencies during the Best Practice Awards luncheon (see related article for more information on the winners).



Participants talk to their representatives at the Legislative Reception

The Women's Leadership Event was also held on Thursday featuring speaker Denise Taylor sharing her inspirational *We Get To* program, born of what Denise and her daughter learned through the teens three year bout with leukemia. It was a highlight of the conference receiving much praise. One attendee said, "I enjoyed the Women's Leadership Event very much this year. I have attended three and this one was the best!" Another attendee commented, "I love the ladies networking event. It gets better every year!"



Denise Taylor delivers her heartfelt message at the Women's Event



The ladies enjoy the Women's Leadership Event

The silent auction was also a success, with several members donating baskets and a record \$1,480 was raised for the Ohio Coalition for Community Action PAC. The conference concluded with two more early morning workshops and a brunch with a legislative update from David Bradley.

Thank you to everyone who attended for making this a great conference and thank you to all of our vendors for your support! We hope that you enjoyed the conference. If you would like to provide your feedback on the conference, please click [here](#) to complete the conference survey.



David Bradley speaks at the closing brunch

Thank you to our vendors for your support

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