



Agency Happenings

Congressman Jordan Visits with Ohio's District 4 Community Action Agencies

On Tuesday, September 27 Congressman Jim Jordan visited the Tri-County Community Action Commission's main office in Bellefontaine while touring other area businesses. The executive directors from four other community action agencies within District 4 joined Jordan on his visit. The CAAs represented, including Tri-County CAC were HHWP Community Action Commission, Lima Allen Council on Community Affairs, Ohio Heartland Community Action and SOURCES Community Network Services.

During his visit, the CAAs provided Congressman Jordan with a list of their programs and client service reports from 2010, showing that 276,000 individuals were served in his district last year. "The various community action agency representatives had the opportunity to briefly explain the programs that were operated by their organizations to the Congressman," explained Joe Devany, Executive Director for Ohio Heartland Community Action. "The Congressman was attentive and asked relevant questions for clarification. In our discussions we were all somewhat surprised by the magnitude of the persons being served in the district." Jordan showed an interest in the programs that encouraged job placement and self-reliance.

At the end of his visit, Congressman Jordan stated, "I appreciate all of the folks with the District 4 community action agencies for taking time out of their busy days to educate me on their provided services. It's absolutely vital for me to have these contacts and information at hand as I travel throughout the district and back and forth to Washington, D.C. We'll all need to continue to work together to find the most

effective and efficient ways to empower folks at the local level to provide direction, encouragement, accountability, and sustenance to our neighbors in need." He also said that he plans to visit again next year.

Dennis LaRocco, Executive Director of HHWP CAC commented, "I was pleased by Representative Jordan's willingness to take the time to learn more about what the Community Action Agencies in his district do. He seemed genuinely interested in the number of clients served and the types of issues that we deal with daily. He asked good questions and I was able to explain the importance of the Community Services Block Grant. I think it was also important that he saw how policies and decisions are determined at the local level."

The CAA's executive directors plan to continue to keep Congressman Jordan informed on their efforts to increase self-sufficiency and aid local communities and their residents through these tough economic times.

