



OACAA News

Get Read for the 2012 Winter Legislative Conference

The 2012 Winter Legislative Conference is right around the corner and will be filled with opportunities to share ideas, attend educational workshops and meet with legislators. In order to make registration easier, this year we are offering online registration and accepting credit card payments.

There are many things to look forward to at the 2012 Winter Conference. Once again we will be hosting the Legislative Reception, giving you the opportunity to meet with your legislators and discuss issues important to you. There will also be the Women's event with an inspirational speaker and networking opportunities. You'll also want to hear the latest updates from OCA (formerly OCS). The Best Practice Awards are not only an opportunity to honor your fellow Community Action Agencies, but can offer innovative ideas and solutions for your organization.



At the 2012 Winter Conference there will also be a presentation from Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership on the Exemplary Practices program. Earlier this year OACAA received a federal grant from the Office of Community Services to have OU research exemplary practices within Community Action Agencies that contribute to community economic development. This project will demonstrate how Community Action Agencies strengthen local economies through job creation, workforce development and community economic development/infrastructure projects. The research has found that 40 percent of CAA funding is spent on community economic development programs.

OU has conducted interviews with a number of agencies and during the Winter Conference will share stories about the unique and innovative ways these funds are being used, and key strategies for CAAs to advocate for and implement their own community economic development programming. This is a session you won't want to miss!

Another highlight of the 2012 Winter Conference will be workshops specifically geared towards administrative assistants and intake workers.

These workshops have been scheduled to accommodate travel needs and eliminate the need for overnight stays, with one class before the provided lunch and one after for each group. For the cost of a one day registration, your administrative assistants and intake workers can attend classes designed specifically for them. The administrative assistant courses will be presented by

Trent Grooms and include "Effective Communication" and "Delegation and Supervision." The intake worker courses, presented by Jordana Y. Schakoor, include "Disarming Hardcore Customers with Positive Techniques" and "Diversity in the Workplace in the 21st Century." This is something we have not done before, but we believe it is important to build the capacity of everyone within our agencies and hope that you are able to take advantage of these new workshops.

To find out more about the 2012 Winter Legislative Conference or to register online click [here](#).