

Spotlight on Community Action Agencies



Congratulations to Santo Grande!

Governor Larry Hogan held a Mid-Shore Cabinet Meeting at American Legion Dorchester Post 91 in Cambridge, MD on July 17, 2018.

This day-long visit, which included over 100 stops by the governor, Lt. Governor, cabinet secretaries, and administration officials, brought together elected officials, senior county leadership, local business owners, community leaders, and public service personnel to discuss county specific issues and ensure direct engagement and communication with Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot County constituents.

During the governor's cabinet meeting, Delmarva Community Services, Inc's CEO Santo Grande received a Governor's citation for exemplary service to the community.

Harford Community Action Agency Finds Success With New Pantry Program

Harford Community Action Agency has implemented a new software program for digital ordering and inventory management of its food pantry.

SmartChoice, a food pantry software, provides easy-to-use touch screen ordering for clients while also maintaining real time inventory management. Harford Community Action Agency is the first food pantry in Maryland to use SmartChoice.



Prior to the installation of SmartChoice, clients who came to Harford Community Action

Agency's food pantry were allowed one visit per month and received pre-packaged food without any feedback from the recipient on likes, dislikes or allergies.

Now when a client arrives at Harford Community Action Agency, he/she goes to one of the SmartChoice kiosks in lobby and signs in. Clients receive a number of points to spend each month (depending upon the size of the family) and now have the ability to pick what they like and will use, rather than someone else making assumptions about what they may or may not like or use.

The software encourages clients to make choices based on the food pyramid. More nutritious foods, like fresh vegetables and not canned, cost less points. If clients have points left after a visit, they are welcome to come back within the month to use them to purchase other food.

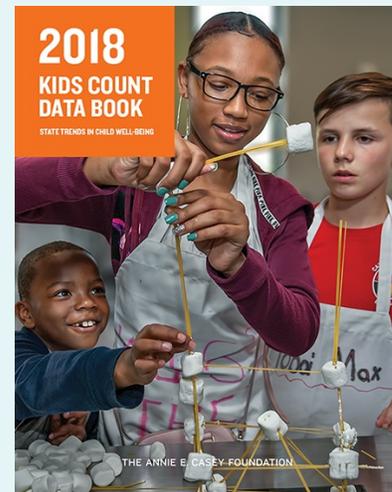
Read more [here](#)



The Casey Foundation's 2018 KIDS COUNT®

The Annie E. Casey Foundation has released its 2018 KIDS COUNT Data Book, with its signature state rankings in overall child well-being.

The book warns that challenges facing the 2020 Census could shortchange the official count and put hundreds of millions of federal dollars at risk, underfunding programs that are critical to family stability and opportunity



Download the [Data Book](#) that also looks at trends in child well-being during a period that saw continued improvement in economic well-being but mixed results in the areas of health, education and family and community factors.

You can also visit the [KIDS COUNT Data Center](#) to review your state's data and see how your city, county or congressional district is performing on the KIDS COUNT Index and create powerful visualizations.

Community Needs Assessment Online Data Tool New Hub is Live!

As of July 2018, the hub for the CNA Online Data Tool which was formerly located on Community Commons now resides in

the CARES Engagement Network.

What you need to know

- The new hub is: <https://cap.engagementnetwork.org/>
- The hub still has the same report and mapping features, just with a new look and some enhanced functionality for your secondary data collection.
- View the [user guide](#) to get familiar with the new look and features.
- You can register for the [webinar](#) on for an online tour.



The new hub can also be accessed through the Community Action Partnership website: https://communityactionpartnership.com/online_tools/community-needs-assessment-tool/

How Does Your Community Fare? A Guide to Using Our New Scorecard Data and Tools

Prosperity Now is releasing new local Scorecard outcomes measuring the financial stability and health of residents of cities, counties and metro area. In addition to updating the data for these areas, they have also expanded the Scorecard to include Congressional Districts and tribal areas (i.e., American Indian reservations).

How does your community fare? The answer to this question may seem obvious when you look at commonly cited data points - we have x percent homeownership and y percent unemployment. But those figures alone don't tell the whole story. To really understand what they mean for your community you need to know how they connect to other important markers of financial health.

Review the video for a A How-To Guide for Finding Local Data on the Prosperity Now Scorecard Website.



Visit scorecard.prosperitynow.org to view the new data and download our interactive reports!

UPCOMING

Mark Your Calendars

EVENTS



Time is running out to register
for MCAP Roundtable on Storytelling!

Maryland Community Action Partnership
**THE POWER OF
STORYTELLING**

CREATIVE BRAND CONTENT MARKETING COMMUNICATION VISUAL EMOTION SHARE

Amp Up Your Fundraising Through Multi-Channel Storytelling.
Learn about multi-channel marketing efforts built around effective storytelling and receive tips and tools to improve campaigns/organizational awareness, achieve goals and improve fundraising efforts.

JOIN US FOR A ROUNDTABLE ON STORYTELLING
Facilitator: Alizah Epstein, Epstein Creative Group
Award winning professional in the area of storytelling

Wednesday, August 22, 2018
11:00am—3:00pm
Odenton Regional Library
1325 Annapolis Road
Odenton, MD 21113

Register at www.maryland-cap.org

Join us on August 22nd to learn why storytelling matters.
As Community Action Agencies we collect and combine all kinds of data, the next
elusive step is to extract value from it. Don't simply show
data, tell a story with it!

Register [here](#) to attend. Deadline to register August 15th.

Community Action Partnership Webinars



Evaluating Collective Impact

August 15, 2018-2:00PM

[Register](#)

Whole Family Approach Building Blocks

August 22, 2018-2:00PM



**UNDERSTANDING
THE MINIMUM WAGE**
Implications for workers,
employers, and communities
SSRC Webinar
August 9, 2018 @ 2 pm EDT

The webinar will focus on how changes in the minimum wage affect individuals, families, employers, and the economy. Today, the U.S. economy continues to grow, and the unemployment rate remains low. Wage growth, however, remains slow for much of the labor force.

The federal minimum wage has remained at \$7.25 an hour since 2009. The combination of job growth and wage stagnation has led many localities to increase their minimum wage. In this webinar, a moderated discussion with economists and research experts will shed light on what we know about minimum wage increases and their effects on workers, low-income families, employers, and state/local economies.

[Register Here](#)

Unemployment & HR Risk Management with UST

August 22, 2018
12:00PM

Nonprofit executives, finance directors, and HR staff should register to learn about:

- Reducing unemployment tax liability as a 501(c)(3)
- Self-funded reserves and insurance options
- Ensuring compliance with state and federal law
- Efficiently managing unemployment claims, protests, and hearings
- Avoiding costly HR mistakes
- Importance of onboarding and professional training
- Enhancing goodwill by utilizing outplacement services

Whether your primary focus is to protect your assets, ensure compliance, reduce unemployment costs or to simply allocate more time and money to your mission-driven initiatives, this webinar can provide invaluable insight and resources that can address many of your ongoing pain points - helping you to refocus your funding and employee bandwidth on the communities you serve.

[Register Here](#)



covering OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements Circulars & Planning for the EHS/HS 5-year Grant Cycle

November 6-8, 2018

8:00am-5:00pm

Location: Washington D.C.

Hosted by United Planning Organization & Wipfli LLC

Your Resource & Referral Bank for T&TA



Training available by request

WHAT'S
**YOUR
STORY?**

Please send newsletter submissions by email to kholder@maryland-cap.org using the submission form located [here](#).

