

January 2022

COMMUNITY ACTION OF ORLEANS AND GENESEE

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



Our mission:

To provide services, with dignity and respect, that help people become self-sufficient

Happy New Year!!!

It is a time for new beginnings! A new year can bring a fresh start and new perspectives. I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and are looking forward to the new year. There are many things to be excited about.

First, please join me in welcoming Jackie Gardner as our new Director of Operations. Jackie comes to us from M&T bank and before that, CRFS. She is deeply rooted in the communities that we serve. She is a board member for both the United Way and GCASA. In 2022 we will be realigning our agency to improve efficiency and continuity. This will take place over time as Jackie becomes more familiar with her role. I will communicate more when things start to unfold.

As we move into 2022, I ask that everyone take some time to reflect upon our own blessings. We exist to help others and sometimes it helps to step back and look at things with a fresh perspective. Take our mission statement:

To provide services, with dignity and respect, that help people become self-sufficient

Emergency services is an important part of what we provide but it is important that we differentiate between emergency services and when we need to provide case management. Case management and family advocacy goes beyond the immediate need. It is truly the heart of helping people become self-sufficient and providing whole person, family, and community care. Last year I read an excellent book, "Toxic Charity, by Robert Lupton. The author created the Oath for Compassionate Service which is derived from the Hippocratic Oath that is taken by physicians. This oath provides an excellent guideline to help differentiate when we should provide emergency services or move to case management. You can read the oath here: <https://catholiccharitiesnwo.org/the-oath-for-compassionate-service-2/>. Our agency must work as a team, along with partners, to help people to become self-sufficient. This means taking the time to do a proper intake, identifying needs, working with the customer to set goals, referring to internal and external servicers to achieve goals, and evaluating outcomes. Our new system ImPowr is designed to help us do this. If you have not already been set up and trained on this system, you will soon. Going into 2022, I am asking everyone to keep the idea of helping people become self-sufficient in mind with all that we do. Building strong and resilient communities is how we can truly make a difference. Thank you! It takes special people to commit to this type of work. I feel blessed to be a part of this agency. Happy New Year!!!

Be well...

And be Part of the Solution!!

Renee

Employee news

November

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Julie Bailey
 Virgie Brooks
 Kristin Buchholz
 Guy Burke
 Katrina Chaffee
 Gabrianna Christopher
 Lisa Church
 Katie Clark
 Jackie DeMarco
 Melissa DeRose
 Kaitlyn Dodge
 Willie Drisdorn
 Cassandra Eagle
 Gary Elich
 Helen Engelhardt
 Michelle Figueroa
 Janet Foppes
 Stacie Graton
 Ernest Gurslin
 Renee Hungerford
 Teri Lester
 Lynda Litchhult
 Bonnie Malakie
 Brenda Mault
 Taryn Moyle
 Carol Pietrzykowski
 Cameron Richardson
 Mary Beth Robinson
 Freddie Stewart
 Sharon Wright
 Danielle Wyder

January ANNIVERSARIES

Atwell, Jeffrey R.	1/29/1991
Englehardt, Helen	1/8/2020
George, Michele A.	1/29/2001
Litchhult, Lynda S.	1/30/2012
Albanese, Janet A.	1/1/1996
Malaniak, Marc	1/8/2020
Meacham, Madelynn	1/8/2020
Wasnock, Holly	1/7/2021
Worsech, Daniel	1/6/2021
Worsley, Jeanette	1/6/2021

December NEW HIRES

Beth Longhini
 HS Substitute
 12/2/2021

 Jennifer Puls
 HS Family Advocate
 12/10/2021

 Randi Watts
 HS Family Advocate
 12/1/2021

January BIRTHDAYS

Rachael Escobar	17-Jan
Susan Jessmer	22-Jan
Cassandra Kinne	9-Jan
Karyn Papponetti	30-Jan
Ricky Standish	11-Jan
Pam Wadhams	31-Jan
Katie Clark	11-Jan
Courtney Crandall	28-Jan

FEBEUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Fri, January 21st SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: mfigueroa@caoginc.org

January 2022

Congratulations Brooke Kiefer

Graduated in December from Paul Smith's College.

She Graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences.



David Laraby's Retirement



What can we say about David? He has been in the Weatherization program for 21 ½ years, since May 5th, 2000! He has been through a lot of changes with this program throughout the years. Some good, some not so good, but he came in & gave everyday his best shot! He earned the nickname “Gravy Davey”. I am honestly not sure why... HA HA That just seemed to stick over the years.

David will be missed for his go to it attitude, his expertise with electric issues & for being the one to fit into the smallest crawl spaces or attics! But mostly, he will be missed for his comedic relief!! He tried to bring a sense of humor to the day, it wasn't always easy but it was definitely welcome! When he started talking about his retirement I had to say to him... “God wouldn't like that Davey”! That saying came up many times over the years & I will miss saying that to him. We are happy for him to be able to retire but we are sad to see him go. He will be missed & we wish him well!! Take care, our Gravy Davey!

8 things to remember when going through tough times.

1. Everything can - and will - change.
2. You've overcome challenges before.
3. It's a learning experience.
4. Not getting what you want can be a blessing.
5. Allow yourself to have some fun.
6. Being kind to yourself is the best medicine.
7. Other people's negativity isn't worth worrying about.
8. And there is always, always, always, something to be thankful for.

ACT Program
ACTprogram.org

INCOME TAX SEASON IS APPROACHING



The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program will be offering free tax preparation services for low to moderate-income individuals again this tax season beginning in February.

It is planned that the service will be offered in Batavia at the Senior Center (585-343-1161) and Community Action of Orleans & Genesee (585-343-7798), and in LeRoy at St Ann's Community at the Greens (585-768-2740).

You do not need to be an AARP member and there is no age requirement to have taxes prepared by IRS-Certified Tax-Aide volunteers. Appointments are required, and COVID protocols will be followed.

Appointments can be made beginning in late January 2022. To make an appointment, call the location you would like to attend. More detailed information and instructions will be provided when you call.



Orleans
Digital Literacy
Initiative



Sign Up for Free Tech Help!

Community Action is offering 1 on 1 help with any tech need: safe online shopping, troubleshooting, using public Wi-Fi, tech security, emails...

We have tech you can practice on. You can also bring your own laptop or cellphone that you'd like help with.

To schedule an appointment:

Michelle Figueroa 585-589-5605 ext. 105

Jeanette Worsley 585-589-5605 ext. 126



The Orleans Digital Literacy Initiative is funded by the United of Orleans County.

January 2022

Winter Clothing Blow Out Sale

Winter Coats, Jackets, Vests, Sweaters, Boots, Scarves, Gloves, Hats, all

Main Street Thrift Store

Store Hours

131 South Main Street

Wednesday-Saturday 10:30– 5:00

Albion NY 14411

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		40%	40%	40%	40%	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		60%	60%	60%	60%	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		80%	80%	80%	80%	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Pop-Up Food Distribution

Where: Community Action's

Main Street Thrift Store's Parking Lot,
131 S. Main Street, Albion

When: January 24th, 2022

8:30am until gone (first come, first served)

This is a vehicle drive-thru event

Please make sure your trunk is open

before entering the parking lot.



Michelle's

R
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c
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Corner



Submitted by Michelle Figueroa



8 oz cream cheese
2 Tbsp green onions
1/4 tsp garlic powder
24 wonton wrappers
1 large egg
vegetable oil, for frying