

# COMMUNITY ACTION OF ORLEANS AND GENESEE

## EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Our mission:

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

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Hello Team:

The holiday season is upon us and 2022 is coming to a close. We have accomplished so much, there would be no way to list all of it in a newsletter. Our Axis of Care program has been connecting people to services to take control of their health and we are in the beginning stages of FoodRx: Stone Soup Success, partnering with Cornell Cooperative Extension to help people gain the knowledge and tools to prepare healthy meals. In addition, we will have a new program called Exhale: Caregivers Revitalize – a partnership with the YMCA in providing respite care for those who care for others.

We have installed outdoor refrigerators at three locations to help people who need food during our off hours and an outdoor walk-in cooler at our Albion administration office to provide more storage for food distributions. This will be especially handy as we distribute holiday turkeys and food baskets as well as our large food pantry distribution program we do with the generous donation of produce provided by the Future Farmers of America. We have learned about NEAR and Resilience to help the youngest members of our community thrive and be resilient through difficult situations.

We have invested in technology to make work more efficient and in safety equipment such as air purifiers to ensure our staff and customers are protected.

You have all persevered with COVID still lingering, classroom closures, high gas prices, inflation, and a troubling economy. But each day you come in to assist our customers to become self-sufficient and to make our communities stronger. You greet people with a smile and offer a hand up. Please know that each and every one of you are valued and appreciated.

Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, Bodhi Day, Posadas Navidenas, or other special events, please take time to count blessings and enjoy family and friends.

In 2023, we will continue to build community partnerships and work together to strengthen our communities. We have many new things in store like implementing a new and more efficient fiscal system, a name change contest for the Main Street Store, and an employee of the month program. Stay tuned for exciting things ahead!

Thank you for everything you do. Happy Holidays!

Be Part of the Solution

Renée

# Look at all the good we do in our communities!

## Appreciation Letters We Received.....



**Genesee County Youth Bureau**  
Daniel Calkins  
Executive Director  
Daniel.Calkins@co.genesee.ny.us

2 Bank St.  
Batavia, NY 14020

(585) 344-3960  
Fax: (585) 345-3063

November 16, 2022

Dear David,

On behalf of Genesee County Youth Court, we would like to say thank you for your time and dedication in training our new members. Every year we look forward to training new youth in becoming members of our Youth Court program. The new members enjoyed your passion and dedication in making their training experience successful.

Your expertise makes the trainings very enjoyable and easy to learn. Again, we appreciate your commitment and hard work you put forward for our new members of Youth Court.

We look forward to our continued partnership.

Thank you again,

Class of 2023  
Youth Court Members  
*David A. P.*

Dear Friends,

I came into your business on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, about 3:15 pm. I was looking for 2 items for a grandmother, who was recently blessed with her 4 grandchildren, who had moved from Lockport, Albion + now Medina.

The family was in need of emergency food + clothing. Medina's Food Pantry and MAAC's Thrift Store were able to meet those needs.

There were 2 items we had not found: Backpack for 16yr. old and a vacuum cleaner for the grandmother (the ONLY item she requested)

How blessed I was to come into your store, when your staff was able to help me. One staff member gave me the backpack,



Nov. 12, 2022

Dear Friends at Main Street Store,  
Your kindness is greatly appreciated.  
Barb Hancock  
MAAC Volunteer

which the young man was very happy to receive and the staff also knew of a vacuum cleaner that maybe available. Another staff went + tested the vacuum cleaner and brought that to me. The grandmother was thrilled with the vacuum cleaner and it was also her favorite color! Amazing!  
Your staff also refused any payment for these items. It was such a wonderful thing to gift these people with your donations and I wanted to thank you all again for your generosity!

Sincerely,  
Barb Hancock  
MAAC Volunteer



11/10/22  
A woman named Rose called with a raving review on Derek Horton's exceptional customer service and kindness. She stated that she finds herself coming to the store more often because of the helpfulness and kindness of the staff. She also stated that she's not the only one that wanted to say how amazing their experience was because of Derek.



To the Members of Community Action of Genesee + Orleans  
We would like to thank you for your generous donation! Your support will help with the purchase of academic supplies!  
Thank you so much!  
Batavia City School District  
My Brother's Keeper

## Albion Holiday Services

*Sign up now!*

Albion Emergency Services  
**Holiday Program**  
Holiday Dinner Baskets \* Holiday Toy Giveaway

To Register, call (585)589-5605

Eligibility Guidelines

Family Size	Monthly Income	Annual Income
1	\$ 2,265	\$ 27,180
2	\$ 3,052	\$ 36,620
3	\$ 3,838	\$ 46,060
4	\$ 4,625	\$ 55,500
5	\$ 5,412	\$ 64,940
6	\$ 6,198	\$ 74,380
7	\$ 6,985	\$ 83,820
8	\$ 7,772	\$ 93,260

ID and Income verification are required  
Register before Friday 12/2/22



## Holley Holiday Services

**Free Children's Breakfast**  
With Special Guest : Santa  
December 17, 2022  
10:00am - 12:00pm

Community Action of Orleans & Genesee's  
Eastern Orleans Community Center

75 Public Sq  
Holley, NY 14470  
585-638-6395

Pancakes  
Sausage  
Juice  
Milk

Sponsored by :  
Clarendon Lions Club



## Batavia Holiday Services

### Holiday Food Box

Given to income-eligible participants. To sign up email David Dodge at- [ddodge@caoginc.org](mailto:ddodge@caoginc.org)

### Holiday Gifts

May be provided on an as needed basis if the Salvation Army is not able to provide gifts. To sign up please email - David Dodge [ddodge@caoginc.org](mailto:ddodge@caoginc.org)





## Future Farmers of America Event

The staff at Community Action of Orleans & Genesee are working with the Future Farmers of America (FFA), who have an annual donation to Community Action of Orleans & Genesee. The FFA donates thousands of pounds of food, grown, harvested, and collected by Albion High School staff and students participating in the FFA. Each year, Community Action partners with local churches, and various nonprofits; working together to distribute this food across Orleans County. This year the event will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.





**DONATIONS ACCEPTED**



**COATS - SCARVES - GLOVES - HATS**

**Coats must be in good condition. No stains, broken buttons, broken zippers or tears.**

5073 Clinton Street Road,  
BATAVIA, NY 10420  
585-343-7798  
Ddodge@caoginc.org



DECEMBER 2022



# WORLD AIDS DAY

DECEMBER 01, 2022



THE BEST PREVENTION IS USING PROPER  
PROTECTION  
(LATEX, POLYISOPRENE, OR POLYURETHANE CONDOMS)

GET TESTED REGULARLY, IF SEXUALLY ACTIVE

LEARN ABOUT **PrEP** AND **PEP** !



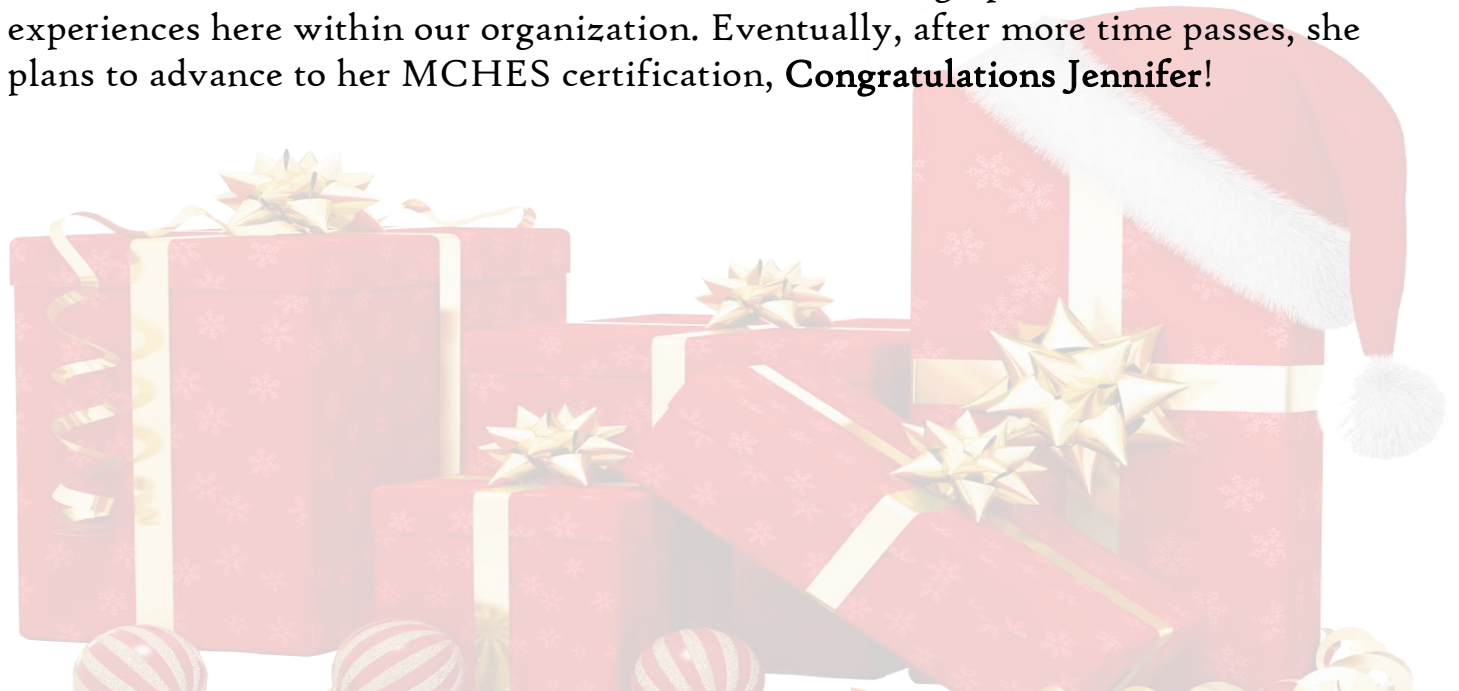


# Congratulations!

We here at ACT office are proud to acknowledge our team member, **Jennifer Benz**, who has acquired her CHES credentials after a passing completion of the examination held in October of 2022. The average passing rate for the exam is 60-64% on average.

“The Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®) examination is a competency-based tool used to measure the possession, application, and interpretation of knowledge in the Eight Areas of Responsibility for Health Education Specialists delineated by the most current U.S.-based practice analysis study.” (NCHES.org, 2022) Areas of Responsibility for Health Education Specialists include: Assessment of Needs and Capacity, Planning, Implementation, Evaluation and Research, Advocacy, Communication, Leadership and Management, and Ethics and Professionalism.

Jennifer will be required to complete continuing education credits in order to maintain her CHES credentials and looks forward to building upon her health educator experiences here within our organization. Eventually, after more time passes, she plans to advance to her MCHES certification, **Congratulations Jennifer!**





## CALLING ALL CREATIVE MINDS!

With great power comes great responsibility, right? Well, we are giving YOU (yes, you) the power to help us in our effort to update our store.

### WHY DO WE NEED YOU?

Simple really, We need help coming up with some new ideas for our

**NEW and UPDATED NAME!**

### So here's the deal:

From (enter date) to (enter end date) we are holding a contest for the community and all of the amazing and creative ideas you have.

Enter the contest by submitting your idea for our Store name, with a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate at our store (If you have ever stopped in, you know that can get you some pretty awesome stuff).

Not to mention the bragging rights.



### SOCIAL MEDIA:

If you see our posts on FACEBOOK, you have another opportunity to win. Like and share our post (and comment directly on OUR post stating you have done so) to be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate.