



Department  
of State

Kathy Hochul, Governor  
Walter T. Mosley, Secretary of State

## Agency Spotlight: Community Action of Orleans and Genesee

The Orleans Chamber of Commerce honored Community Action of Orleans and Genesee with 2024 **Community Service Award!**

As reported in the community news site Orleanshub.com (accessed 10/7/24):



Renee Hungerford serves as Executive Director of Community Action of Orleans & Genesee.

“I feel privileged to lead an agency that makes such a positive difference for our community,” Hungerford said. “Our dedicated staff truly care about the people we assist and are focused on giving people the hope, support and services they need to become self-sufficient and overcome the ravages of poverty. We are grateful to the volunteers and donors who support our agency and make what we do possible. I am thrilled that our agency is being recognized by the Orleans Chamber of Commerce and has given us the opportunity to inform the community about the important work we do.”

### PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY ACTION OF ORLEANS & GENESEE INCLUDE:

• **ACT** (helping youth ACT responsibly) • **Child Care Resource and Referral** • **Credit Recovery Program** (for Albion seniors) • **Early Head Start and Head Start** • **Eastern Orleans Community Center**, which provides daily meals, a clothing depot and food giveaway. • **Emergency Services, holiday meals and gifts** • **Main Street Thrifts, Gifts and More** store • **Stone Soup Success/Food Rx** (educating to prepare healthy meals) • **Weatherization and Energy Services**

### DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR COMMUNITY ACTION SERVED 4,021 INDIVIDUALS:

• **1,541 individuals** utilized one of their three food pantries • **914 individuals** utilized a pop-up pantry distribution • **657 households** received holiday meals • **314 individuals** received 5,405 prepared meals • **311 individuals** received assistance to avoid eviction • **149 children** enrolled in Head Start • **129 individuals** received assistance to avoid utility shut-off. • **81 children** enrolled in Early Head Start.

## Agency Spotlight: Economic Opportunity Program, Inc.



### 1000<sup>th</sup> Health Screening!

The ACCEL Clinic, a healthcare facility located at the Economic Opportunity Program in Elmira, NY, serving Chemung County, has provided their 1000<sup>th</sup> health screening to members of the community!

*The ACCEL Clinic is a collaborative partnership between Excellus BCBS, Arnot Health, Chemung County Health Department, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), and the Economic Opportunity Program. The clinic provides free and accessible medical services to children and their families. Congratulations!*

**ACCEL Community Health Clinic**  
 Thursdays, 2-4 PM  
**Lead Screenings**  
 and now with  
**Blood Pressure Tests**  
**All Free!**  
 Ernie Davis Family Center  
 650 Baldwin Street, Elmira, NY 14901  
 (607) 734-6208 ext. 277  
 Underwritten by:  
 Excellus

Read an article about the vital work of the ACCEL clinic at [A Healthier Upstate](#)

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Check out the Elmira Economic Opportunity Program, Inc's Facebook Page!

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Thank you to EOP Director, and CSBG Advisory Council member, Andrea Ogunwumi for sharing this good news!

## **NYS Division of Consumer Protection: Consumer Protection Alert**

CONSUMER ALERT: The New York State Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection Warns New Yorkers of: [Charity scams in Aftermath of Hurricanes Helene and Milton!](#)

Follow the New York Department of State on [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [Instagram](#) for "Tuesday's Tips" – Practical Tips to Educate and Empower New York Consumers on a Variety of Topics

## Division of Community Services Staff Promotions

Program Analysts Katy Hanson and Syed Ahmed have been promoted to Supervising Analysts.



Katy Hanson recently accepted a promotion to the role of Community Services Program Analyst 2 with the Administrative Review Unit (ARU). In this new role, she will be responsible for reviewing and tracking contracts, assisting with drafting Requests For Applications (RFAs) and developing training related to contract development, and approving discretionary vouchers for processing among other tasks.

She has worked with the ARU in the Division of Community Services as a Community Services Program Analyst 1 since October 2020, and in the past four years has learned so much about Community Action and all the innovative methods being used to bring individuals and families out of poverty. Prior to working with the ARU Katy worked for a non-profit in Schenectady overseeing several programs working to end homelessness and increase independence for adults living with severe and persistent psychiatric disorders. She looks forward to the new challenges of this role and continuing her relationship with the Community Action Network.



Syed came to the Department of State as a Program Analyst with approximately 7 years of experience working within the social service department at several non-profit agencies in New York City.

Most recently he has worked as a Community Services Program Analyst 1 for the New York State Department of State for 3 years.

Throughout his tenure, Syed was given the opportunity to monitor and assist agencies servicing low-income communities throughout downstate New York.

Syed earned a bachelor's degree in Recreational Therapy at Lehman College City University of New York, and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Metropolitan College of New York.

Syed's favorite activities are to spend time with family and friends.

Syed is excited to contribute towards the growth of the Division of Community Services in his new role as a Community Services Program Analyst 2.

## Department of State Office for New Americans

### Office for New Americans Webinar: Celebrating National Family Caregivers Month!

Each November, National Family Caregivers Month celebrates and recognizes the contributions of the millions of people in the United States who provide care for loved ones.

Join us for a free webinar on Tuesday, November 26, 1-2:30 PM to hear stories from new American caregivers and learn about the NYS Office for New Americans Ramirez June Initiative, a unique program that helps new Americans with developmental disabilities and their families.

Join the NYS Office for New Americans and the NYS Council on Developmental Disabilities for a webinar on the ONA Ramirez June Initiative

### Supporting New Americans with Developmental Disabilities in New York State

Tuesday, November 26, 2024 1-2:30 PM



Virtual Webinar. Free and Open to All.  
Register: <https://shorturl.at/pZB3K>



 Council on Developmental Disabilities
  Department of State Office for New Americans

## National spotlight: National Office of Community Services

### Diaper Distribution Demonstration and Research Pilot (DDDRP)

Continuing with our recognition of National Diaper Need Awareness Week (September 23-29, 2024), we would like to share some new materials that we have developed related to the Diaper Distribution Demonstration and Research Pilot (DDDRP).

The first is a [national infographic](#). This infographic provides a snapshot of how the DDDRPP is helping to address the root causes of diaper need by combining a consistent supply of diapers with wraparound support services to help families move toward economic self-sufficiency. The infographic details the scope of diaper need among participants prior to enrolling in the DDDRPP, outlines characteristics of families served by the program, shares key program outcomes, and provides more information on the kinds of wraparound support services that families are referred to through the DDDRPP.

The second are [access one-pagers](#) for the first three cohorts of the DDDRPP. The purpose of the access one-pagers is to help beneficiary families get connected to the nearest pilot program in their area. The access one-pagers include eligibility and enrollment information, service areas, and agency contact information.

These new resources are available on the [DDDRP website](#)! We encourage you to view them and share widely with your networks!



## Upcoming events

### **CAPLAW 2025 National Training Conference**

May 28-30, 2025 in Boston, MA

Registration opens in February 2025!

### **American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) Survey for CSBG Eligible Entities**

Eligible Entities will receive a link via email. DOS encourages all to complete the ACSI survey!

## Division of Community Services Updates and Reminders

### **Federal Fiscal Year 2024 has ended!**

- The fourth quarter of the federal fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.
- **MWBE Form F** were due Thursday, October 10, 2024.
- Fourth Quarter **Periodic Program Reports (PPR)** and **Attestations** are due Wednesday, October 30, 2024.

### **Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Year has begun!**

- October 1 began the first quarter of the Federal Fiscal Year 2025
- First Quarter Reporting Period: October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024
- **MWBE Form F** are due Friday, January 10, 2025.
- **Periodic Program Reports (PPR)** and **Attestations** are due Friday, January 31, 2025.

### **2024 SharePoint Documentation Pilot**

DCS has expanded our SharePoint Pilot to fourteen subrecipients. DCS will update the Network with what we learn and next steps.

### **Division of Community Services Online Resources**

The Department of State has a YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@nysdosvideos/playlists>

Check out the Division of Community Services' playlists: [CSBG Public Meetings](#) and [CSBG Training](#)

### **CSBG Eligibility Guidelines continues at 200% Federal Poverty Level**

The language in the current Continuing Resolution allows for the use of the 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) CSBG Eligibility Guidelines. [Click for the 2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines](#)

New York State Poverty Profile by County can be found in the 2024 [NYSCAA Annual Poverty Report](#)

**To be added to our newsletter distribution list or submit content:** please email [dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov](mailto:dos.sm.dcs@dos.ny.gov)

## Additional Resources for the New York State CSBG Network

**New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA) - [NYSCAA Learn](#)**

**National Community Action Partnership – [Tools and Resources](#)**

**Community Action Program Legal Services Inc (CAPLAW) - [Events & Trainings](#)**

**National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP) - [Annual Report Resources](#)**

**New York State Weatherization Directors Association - [Training Calendar](#)**

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