August, 2023

Helping People. Changing Lives. Serving Eastern Oklahoma Since 1968



As one of over 1,000 Community Action Agencies in America, we work to empower low-income families, change people's lives for the better and improve the communities we serve. We are all dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



Foster Grandparent Program Sends Seniors Back To School

Students and staff are not the only ones returning to school this month. Foster Grandparent Program volunteers are also headed back to school as volunteer classroom grandparents. They are focused on improving the lives of the students by reading to children, doing math flash cards or any other classroom activity developed by the teacher they are assigned to. However, the most important thing the volunteers probably do is encourage confidence in the children they assist and help them grow and prosper during the school year.

Teachers never seem to have enough time or resources to meet all the demands placed on them and their students. The Covid-19 pandemic left many students behind in the curriculum, and that's where the Foster Grandparent Program volunteers really shine and help to catch the students up in areas where there's a struggle.

"To qualify to be a Foster Grandparent, the individual must be low-income, over 55 years of age and able to pass a background check," said Shaunda Noah, KI BOIS Foster Grandparent Program Director. "This is a win-win program. The students get the help they need, the teachers get extra help, and the volunteer stays active and engaged in the community. The students and faculty will love them

endlessly," Noah added.

Fosier Granparent Program
Senics Area

Delaware

Mayes

Delaware

Muskogee

Adair

Okmulgee

McIntosh

Haskell

Latimer

Le Flore

The Foster Grandparent Program, created by Congress in 1965, is now in its fiftieth decade of providing an inter-generational component. The volunteers are part of the AmeriCorps Seniors which utilizes life skill of seniors to meet community needs through volunteer services.

KI BOIS Community Action is proud administer this program in our service area. Volunteers are honored and recognized every March at a Recognition Banquet in Tahlequah.







Page 2 KI BOIS News

From the Desk of Executive Director / CEO R. Carroll Huggins

Summer break for students is over! Schools are starting back! Some schools start back on August 10th! Each of our County Coalitions are having back to school events with Backpacks of school supplies and other family activities. We will be handing out hundreds of Backpacks this month.



At both the State and Federal Level we continue to operate under current funding levels with some small increases. We still have unspent Covid funding that we are spending for emergency services. We have had monitoring and follow up visits coming up on most all of our programs and we had a one week pre-audit visit from our audit staff.

Some people say that problems are not problems, but rather, they are opportunities. In community action there are daily problems or opportunities depending on how you look at it.

That means the greatest of opportunities awaits us. The opportunity to impact lives. There are three kinds of work: First there is a *job*, where the goal is simple earning a living and supporting your family. Then there's the *career*, where you trace your progress through various appointments and achievements. Finally, there's the *calling*, the ideal blending of activity and character that makes work inseparable from life.

We are truly blessed to be called to work with disadvantaged families, to daily have the opportunity to impact their lives. Community Action, what a wonderful profession! What a wonderful opportunity!

Carroll Huggins, CCAP Executive Director / CEO



KI BOIS COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

Cecil Williams **Board Chairperson**

Joy Walker

1st Vice Chair

Frank Phillips

2nd Vice Chair

Jan Coplen

Secretary / Treasurer

Kodey Toney **Parliamentarian**

Members of the Board

De'Anne Booth Jeremy Bullard

Henry Burris

Rev. Rodger Cutler

Rosalind Didlott

Lyndon Emberton

Lindsey Holloway

John Jones

Chuck Regan

Charlie Rogers

Bud Smithson

Janice Williams

Jonathan Wynn

Executive Leadership

R. Carroll Huggins, CCAP Executive Director/CEO

Tom Marlatt, CCAP

Associate Director/CFO

Larry Hall, CCAP

Associate Director/COO

KI BOIS NEWS

is published monthly by KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc.

Royce Alverson, CCAP - Editor 918-967-3325, Ext. 134 Royce.Alverson@kibois.org



August 28th September 4th

KI BOIS Executive Board Meeting Labor Day Holiday

KI BOIS NEWS Page 3









Top Left: VFW Auxiliary volunteers Gwen, Carolyn and Polly assisted Claudia Jeffrey with an OBI Mobile Blood Drive on August 10th in Wilburton.

Top Right: #WellnessWednesday is a new thing at KI BOIS Central Office. On August 16th, Linda Love and Brandie Risenhoover demonstrated the phone app "Yuka", that deciphers product labels and analyzes the health impact of food products and cosmetics.

Bottom Left: Claudia Jeffrey and Royce Alverson marketed incoming students at Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton on August 18th.

Helping People. Changing Lives.



Brad Stewart

March 18, 1952 - July 24, 2023

Brad was a longtime member of our KI BOIS family and he will be missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.



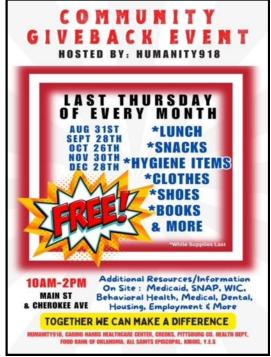
July 24, 1943 - July 30, 2023

Connie was a receptionist at the Poteau office for many years. She was so fun and loved KI BOIS.

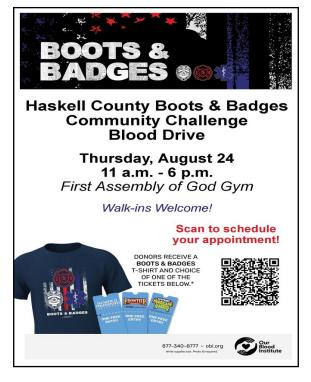
Page 4 KI BOIS NEWS











Page 5 KI BOIS NEWS

ACTION LITHER KING JR. COMMU



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CENTER DREAM TEAM

MUSKOGEE

July 27, 2023

KI BOIS is proud to partner with the MLK, Jr. Community Center in Muskogee -- THE DREAM TEAM -- to provide backpacks full of school supplies to their kiddos enrolled during the summer. A big thank you goes out to Laura Hazen from Neighbors Building Neighborhoods and Derrick Reed, director of the program.









The Haskell County Coalition Back to School Roundup 2023 was the first in-person event since 2019. The committee was led by Taylor Wingo with Homebased Services. Taylor and volunteers packed and delivered 250 backpacks full of school supplies to the Kiamichi Technology Center in Tulsa for the event on July 24th.

This is a long-time project of the Coalition and is funded through grants from Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. Operation Round-up and Walmart Foundation.

These backpacks will hopefully alleviate the sometimes stressful time of getting the kiddos off to a great start for the school year.

In addition to the supplies, area service agencies had resource booths and local stylists provided free haircuts. It was a great evening.

Page 6 KI BOIS NEWS

1 Action





SEQUOYAH COUNTY
AUGUST 5, 2023
SALLISAW RODEO ARENA



AUGUST 8, 2022
WILBURTON
GARY ROSEBURE PARK





Page 7 KI BOIS NEWS

1 Action













LEFLORE COUNTY
AUGUST 1, 2023
REYNOLDS CENTER POTEAU







Page 8 KI BOIS News





All employment opportunities are posted on our website, www.kibois.org. <u>These positions are open to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation Staff as well as to the public.</u> (ALL POSITIONS SUBJECT TO CONTINUED PROJECT FUNDING.) Deadline for all openings: Until Filled. Current employees – please submit a letter of interest to Human Resources.

Applications may be picked up at any KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. office or printed from the website, <u>www.kibois.org</u>. Applications should be returned to:

KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. P. O. Box 727, Stigler, OK 74462 Attention: Human Resources



The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc.

Mission Statement

KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. is a community-based organization dedicated to eliminating the causes of poverty and bettering the economic, mental, physical and social well-being of all people - most importantly the disadvantaged - by utilizing effective coordination and administration of available resources and information.