

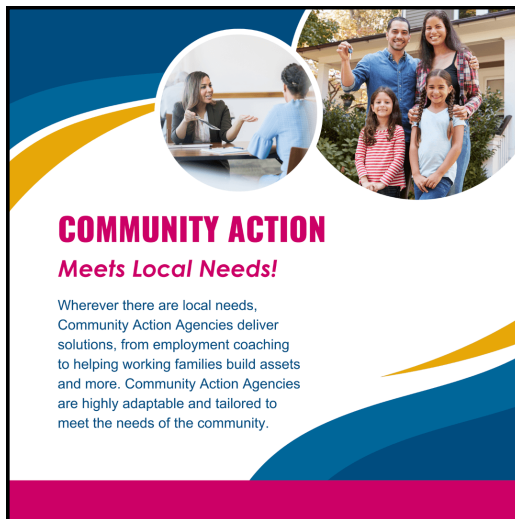
March, 2025

Helping People. Changing Lives.
Serving Eastern Oklahoma Since 1968



KI BOIS NEWS

COMMUNITY ACTION MESSAGE WE MEET LOCAL NEEDS!



COMMUNITY ACTION
Meets Local Needs!

Wherever there are local needs, Community Action Agencies deliver solutions, from employment coaching to helping working families build assets and more. Community Action Agencies are highly adaptable and tailored to meet the needs of the community.

KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. (KI BOIS) is the major social service agency in Southeastern Oklahoma, with programs that touch and assist those in need in our area of operation. From children’s services to senior programs; from public transportation and developmental disabilities, case management, and Veteran services, KI BOIS has and continues to be the leader in community development and the delivery of social services programs since 1968.

KI BOIS continues to increase services provided by our various programs. Through new and expanded partnerships, the demand for these services are met. The variety of services offered are driven by a Community Needs Survey that is collected every three years.

We have a proven track record that is built on innovative, responsive, and efficient programs that are uniquely tailored to meet local needs. By leveraging our partnerships and collaborations, KI BOIS enhances local impact and strengthens families.

The KI BOIS Board of Directors ensures that we are being effective in our response to local needs. They are engaged community residents, local elected officials, or representatives from the private or public sector.

The heart and soul of the programs are KI BOIS employees. These men and women are working in programs that are both necessary and popular, delivering effective, high-quality assistance that strengthens community resilience and fosters local prosperity. They, along with our volunteers, are trusted pillars of the community and use their expertise to advance local progress.

We have a story to tell. We are here to help our local, hardworking families succeed.




COMMUNITY ACTION
Is a Trusted Pillar in Communities!

We take pride in engaging with local residents who volunteer their time and expertise to help us advance local progress, support working families, and contribute to lasting community success.

From the Desk of Executive Director / CEO

R. Carroll Huggins



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!

*R. Carroll Huggins, CCAP
Executive Director / CEO*

KI BOIS COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

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Board Chairperson

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1st Vice Chair

Frank Phillips
2nd Vice Chair

Jan Coplen
Secretary / Treasurer

Kodey Toney
Parliamentarian

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- 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

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**WORK READY OKLAHOMA - POTEAU
GETS A NEW SIGN**



Work Ready Oklahoma - Poteau is continuing to make a difference in the lives of those they serve. They begin their new contract year this month with a goal of assisting at least 150 participants land living wage jobs in the LeFlore County area. The program began monthly workshops in September, 2024 and served 75 participants as of the end of February, 2025. This new sign will help folks locate their office in Poteau.



- March 17, 2025
- March 27, 2025
- March 28, 2025



St. Patrick's Day
KI BOIS Board Meeting
Foster Grandparent Program
Recognition Banquet



OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU MAKES A DONATION



Claudia Jeffrey, KI BOIS Community Action, is shown, accepting a donation from Latt Jeffrey, Vice President of the Latimer County Oklahoma Farm Bureau chapter to support the KI BOIS Food Pantry. "We appreciate our community partners as we continue to assist those individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity," said Mrs. Jeffrey.

On a side note... Latt also happens to be Claudia's son.

CLAUDIA JEFFREY READS DR. SEUSS AT ADVENTURE HEAD START



In Memoriam



CHRIS DARNELL

May 2, 1953—March 6, 2025

Chris was a driver at the KATS office in Poteau. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones.



March 17th - March 21st



FYI FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SCAM ALERT

Watch out! Scammers target everyone.



Recognize scammers. They may:

- **PRETEND** to be from an agency or organization you know.
- Say there's a **PROBLEM** or promise a prize.
- **PRESSURE** you to act immediately.
- Tell you to **PAY** in a specific way.



Do not give scammers money or personal information – Ignore them!

How to avoid a scam:

- **Remain calm.** Talk to someone you trust.
- **Hang up or ignore** the message. **DO NOT** click on links or attachments.
- **Protect your money.** Criminals will insist that you pay in a hard-to-trace manner, such as with a gift card, prepaid debit card, cryptocurrency, wire transfer, money transfer, or by mailing cash.
- **Protect your personal information.** Be skeptical of a contact you didn't initiate.
- **Spread the word.** Share your knowledge of Social Security-related scams. Post on social media using the hashtag #SlamtheScam to share your experience and warn others. Visit ssa.gov/scam for more information. Please also share with your friends and family.

Social Security Administration
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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION ISSUES SCAM ALERT

Help protect your loved ones and people in your community this Slam the Scam Day by:

- Learning about the latest scams. Information can empower you to quickly recognize a scam. Signs of a scam include:
 - An unexpected problem or offer of a prize or benefit increase,
 - Pressure to act immediately, and
 - A request for an unusual payment like cryptocurrency, gift cards, gold bars, and wire transfers, even with the promise of keeping your money "safe."
- Reporting scams as soon as possible. Victims shouldn't be embarrassed if they shared personal information or suffered a financial loss. We are all vulnerable.
- Sharing our Scam Alert fact sheet and helping educate others about how to protect themselves.

Report Social Security-related scams to the Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General (OIG).



Our Employees Are The Stars Of The Show

Employee Appreciation Day was March 7th. KI BOIS Community Action Board & Executive Staff wishes to thank you and honor you for your hard work, dedication, and positive attitude being the driving forces behind our success.

We celebrate you and all the wonderful contributions you make to our team. Thank you for being such an integral part of KI BOIS Community Action!

CHEESE!



CAUGHT IN *Action*



McAlester DD Celebrates Valentine's Day With A Party



WORK READY OKLAHOMA - POTEAU DEALERS OF HOPE

The Work Ready Oklahoma - Poteau team participated in the LeFlore County Youth Services annual Chili Cookoff fundraiser at the Reynolds Center in Poteau on February 28th. Their team, DEALERS OF HOPE won BEST TABLE DECORATIONS at the event. Pictured L-R are: Aaron Goad, Jarrod Ridenour, Lyndsay Wann and Andy Kates. Congratulations!

WE ARE HIRING! A career with KI BOIS is a career with a future! ✓



- Operating Since 1968** ✓
- On-The-Job Training**
- Follow us on: facebook.com/kibois**
- MATCHING RETIREMENT** ✓
- ARE YOU OUR MISSING PIECE?**
- Medical/Dental Life** ✓
- Service Awards**
- Paid Vacation** ✓
- Competitive Pay**

KI BOIS Community Action is the largest employer in S.E. Oklahoma. We provide growth opportunities and a great place to work! www.kibois.org

All employment opportunities are posted on our website, www.kibois.org. *These positions are open to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation Staff as well as to the public.* (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, www.kibois.org. 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.