

May, 2023

Helping People. Changing Lives.
Serving Eastern Oklahoma Since 1968



KI BOIS NEWS



The year 2023 marks the 59th year since the Community Action Network was established to help American families and communities address the obstacles and conditions of poverty. KI BOIS Community Action is celebrating its 55th year in 2023.

"Each May, during Community Action Month, we reflect on the impact that KI BOIS has on families in our area," said Carroll Huggins, Executive Director/CEO. "We also want to celebrate our employees this year. The company picnic we had for our 50th was such a success, we knew we had to do it again."

The picnic will be a grand event taking place Thursday, May 25th, from 11am—1pm at Roye Park in Stigler. Festivities will include lunch, door prizes, entertainment and other fun activities.

Amanda Ewing, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Association of Community Action Agencies will be joining us and introducing herself to employees and Board Members.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- 11:00 Entertainment
- 11:30 Flag Salute
- Promise of Community Action Welcome
- Introduction of Board
- Introduction of Guests
- Prayer
- 11:45 Lunch Served

Door prize drawings throughout the event.
Employees **DO NOT** have to be present to win.

A poster for the "COMPANY PICNIC" event. It features a dark background with the text "GAMES DRAWINGS" and "FOOD FUN" in a stylized font. The KI BOIS Community Action logo is prominently displayed. The main text reads "COMPANY PICNIC" in large, bold letters. Below this, it says "CELEBRATING KI BOIS 55TH BIRTHDAY" and "THURSDAY MAY 25TH 2023 | 11AM". At the bottom, it lists the location: "KI BOIS TALENT SHOWCASE ROYE PARK 1215 N.W. 10TH STREET - STIGLER".

From the Desk of Executive Director / CEO

R. Carroll Huggins



May 2023 is National Community Action Month. Over 1,000 Community Action Agencies are celebrating the 59th Anniversary of Community Action. KI BOIS Community Action will be celebrating our 55th with a "Company" Picnic on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at Roye Park in Stigler, OK from 11:00AM-1:00PM. Door prizes, games, singing, talent show, food, and drinks for our Board and Staff.

We are following closely both the federal and state legislation that will determine the funding of our Community Action programs for the coming year. At this time it appears that our federal funding will remain flat until congress and the President can agree on a budget which will probably be in September 2023. We remain hopeful that our programs will receive increases in the new federal budget. Due to revenue increases in the State of Oklahoma we are also expecting an increase in our State Appropriated Funds.

Our KATS program is currently hiring drivers. We are also needing employees in our DD and SSVF programs.

SSVF continues to reach homeless veterans across Oklahoma. SSVF continues to make a difference with at risk veterans in Oklahoma.

Thank you for your support of the much needed social programs we operate! Have a great summer!

***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

- Gene Bass
- De'Anne Booth
- Jeremy Bullard
- Henry Burris
- Joyce Cleveland
- Rosalind Didlott
- Lyndon Emberton
- Roy Gordon, Jr.
- 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

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10 YEARS



**May
2013**

Seated, left to right, Evelyn Brown, Jewell Millsap and Janice Farris along with back row, Foster Grandparent Coordinator Shaunda Noah, KI BOIS Community Action Associate Director / COO Larry Hall and Foster Grandparent Assistant Coordinator Roseanne Stanley are all smiles at the State Volunteer Awards Ceremony.

Editor's Note: All three of these precious Foster Grandparents have passed on, but their legacy lives on.

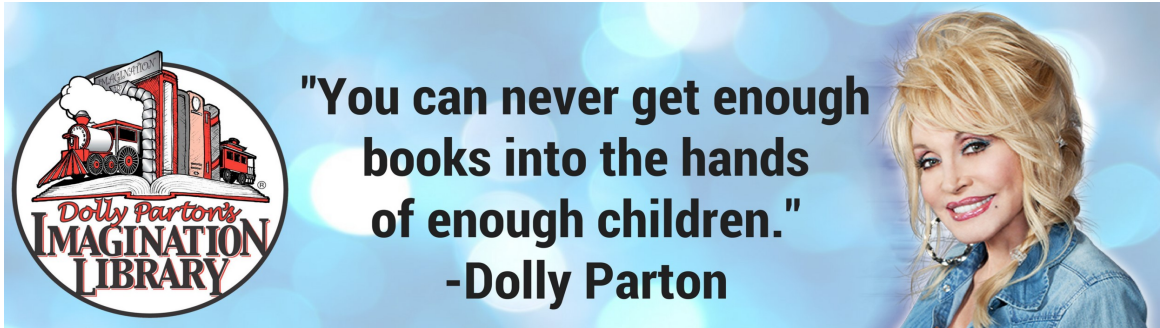
Calendar of Events



May is Community Action Awareness Month!

- May 14 Mother's Day
- May 25 Company Picnic / KI BOIS Board Meeting
- May 29 Memorial Day Holiday

#kibois #BeCommunityAction #CommunityActionWorks #HelpingPeopleChangingLives



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Is Coming To Haskell County

The opportunity to work with the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become a reality for the Haskell County Coalition. Through a collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Education and local fundraising efforts, this program will launch this summer to children in Haskell County.

The Program is already offered in LeFlore, Pittsburg, Muskogee and Latimer Counties, and the groundwork has been established to offer it in Sequoyah County. The addition of Haskell County will mean that children in the six-county KI BOIS service area, aged 0-5 years, will be provided a book a month for free. KI BOIS Community Action serves as the fiscal agent for the Haskell County Coalition on this project.

Imagination Library is Dolly Parton's organization established in 1995 that brings reading right to the mailbox of the child registered. "We are currently fundraising for years one and two, which is approximately \$5,000.00. When this goal is reached, we will open registration," said Royce Alverson, Chair of the Haskell County Coalition. "The Oklahoma Department of Education covers half the cost of each book and our organization is responsible for the other half. The benefits will be unmeasurable. Each book is high quality and age appropriate," Alverson said.

Marketing, fundraising and enrollment committees have been established and meetings are being held to put in place the final pieces to start accepting registrations. So stay tuned to KI BOIS NEWS and social media for announcements.

For more information about the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, visit <https://imaginationlibrary.com/> or OSDE's site at <https://sde.ok.gov/imagination-library>



In Memoriam



Lois May Craft

February 21, 1931 - April 19, 2023

Lois is the mother of KATS Director Charla Sloan.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.



FYI FOR YOUR INFORMATION

CDBG-CV Funding Extended





CITY OF MCALESTER
COVID-19 HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Has the COVID-19 Pandemic affected your household stability by loss of income or employment?

Are you behind on paying your rent, mortgage or utilities?

The City of McAlester has funds to pay for up to six (6) months in arrears of your rent, mortgage or utilities if you qualify.

You may qualify for rental assistance if the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted your ability to pay your rent, mortgage or utilities and:

- * Experienced a loss or reduction in income;
- * Reside within the City of McAlester;
- * Household income is 80% or below Area Median Income (AMI)


Applicant must provide the following documents:

- * State Identification
- * Copy of Lease
- * Proof of Income reduction/Unemployment

Funded by the CDBG-CV Program

CALL 918-426-1355 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION: SAMANTHA.ROBERTSON@KIBOIS.ORG




Affordable Connectivity Program
Helping Households Connect

Free Mobile Internet

WHAT IS IT?
The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC program that helps connect families and households struggling to afford Internet service.

The benefit provides:

- Subscribers might be eligible for an Android Tablet
- Plus Free monthly mobile broadband data




WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Participates in any of the following assistance programs: SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline
- Participates in any of the following Tribal specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or Tribal Head Start (income based)
- Participates in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year

\$11.00
One-time copy for an Android Tablet

SWACONNECT | 1-877-333-6120 | www.swaconnect.com

2023 KEDDO SENIOR CITIZEN DAY AND WELLNESS FAIR


HEALTHY, HAPPY, YOU!

Be Healthy
Be Happy

Friday, May 19, 2023
Southeast Expo Center
McAlester, Okla.
9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
1-800-722-8180 (call to reserve meal)

Some of the events included:
Picnic, Bingo, Games, Coloring Contest, Themed Decorative Hat Contest, and Health Fair

Fun Day is in honor of southeastern Oklahoma's Senior Citizens.
Hosted by the KEDDO Area Agency on Aging - 1-800-722-8180
Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, Pittsburg, Choctaw, McCurtain & Pushmataha Counties.



May is Older Americans Month!

“When Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthday. About a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs. Interest in older Americans and their concerns was growing. A meeting in April 1963 between President John F. Kennedy and members of the National Council of Senior Citizens led to designating May as ‘Senior Citizens Month,’ the prelude to ‘Older Americans Month.’

“Historically, Older Americans Month has been a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our country, in particular those who defended our country. Every President since Kennedy has issued a formal proclamation during or before the month of May asking that the entire nation pay tribute in some way to older persons in their communities. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country through ceremonies, events, fairs, and other such activities.”

IN *Action*



Hamm, Glass Attend Conference

KI BOIS Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Director Cindy Hamm and her assistant Trisha Glass recently attended the National Child Nutrition Conference in San Diego, CA.

The primary goal of CACFP is to serve nutritious meals to children attending family day care homes. Secondary goals are the establishment of positive eating habits at the earliest stages of development, reduction of future health care and education costs due to lack of proper early development and training and support of local child care personnel.

For more information about the CACFP Program, visit <https://www.kibois.org/cacfp>.

Healthy Living Program and TAG-SE Employees Attend Conference

KI BOIS Healthy Living Program Director Denice Daniels and Assistant Kathy Healy, along with TAG-SE Coordinator Debbie Vega and Assistant Jennifer Vaezi attended the 2023 Tribal Public Health Conference in Durant on April 11-13.

The theme of this year's conference was UNITED COMMUNITY. Attendees were treated to a jam-packed event with well-respected speakers, networking opportunities, a contest PowWow and other surprises.



Weatherization Seminar

On April 28, 2023, KI BOIS Region 4 Weatherization Director Michael Knapp held a information seminar for home health agencies who administer the Advantage Program at the KI BOIS Conference Room in Stigler. The program has recently expanded it's coverage area to include LeFlore, Sequoyah, Haskell, Latimer, Pittsburg, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Hughes, Okmulgee, McIntosh and Seminole Counties.

For more information, visit the Weatherization page on our website, www.kibois.org.



WE ARE HIRING!

A career with KI BOIS is a career with a future! ✓

KI BOIS Community Action Partnership
Helping People. Changing Lives.
AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

Operating Since 1968 ✓
On-The-Job Training

Follow us on: facebook.com/kibois

MATCHING RETIREMENT ✓

ARE YOU OUR MISSING PIECE?

Paid Vacation ✓
Competitive Pay

MEDICAL/DENTAL LIFE ✓
Service Awards

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

EMPLOYMENT Opportunities

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.