



OACAA News

Best Practices Award Nominations Due December 2

OACAA is proud to once again collaborate with The Ohio State University John Glenn School of Public Affairs and the Ohio Development Services Agency to provide the Best Practices Awards. Developed in 1999, the Best Practices Awards honor innovative and effective Community Action Agency programs that measurably meet the needs of clients, families and communities by helping low-income people become more self-sufficient. The Best Practices Awards serve as a showcase for unique Community Action Agency efforts that make a measurable and life-changing difference. This year's award nominations are due December 2.

The purpose of this annual award is to recognize and honor innovative and effective programs that you're operating, and demonstrate to your community's leaders and the media the power of the work you do. Agencies nominate programs in one of six categories through an extensive application process, then a panel of judges selected by the Glenn School evaluates each nomination independently and assigns points based on their assessment to determine which programs are worthy of a Best Practices Award. The six categories coincide with ROMA (Results Oriented Measurement and Accountability) goals and include:

- Low-income people become more self-sufficient
- The conditions in which low-income people live are improved
- Low-income people own a stake in their community
- Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved
- Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results
- Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems

To nominate a program at your agency, visit our website at <http://www.oacaa.org/about-us/best-practices/> to download instructions and a nomination form.

Recipients of the awards will be honored at OACAA's annual Winter Legislative Conference, January 29-31, 2014 in Columbus. Together, OACAA and the Glenn School will publish an abstract description of all Best Practices programs and publicize the results through press releases and announcements, and share this with other Community Action Agencies for replication purposes and the betterment of the Community Action Network.

"The Ohio Community Action network is fortunate to have developed this unique working relationship with such a highly respected organization as the John Glenn School," said Philip E. Cole, executive director of OACAA. "Their recognition of your good work will be meaningful and fully appreciated by your local political leaders, the media and your program funders. We strongly hope that each and every CAA in Ohio will nominate one or more of its programs as a Best Practice."

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Colleen Stoker at 614-224-8500 or colleen@oacaa.org.