Thank You for Your Support this Past Holiday Season!

Thank you to all of our donors, volunteers and partners who helped CAI fulfill its mission in 2017. Your generous support is crucial to providing the services and programs that help the individuals and families CAI serves in the greater Haverhill, Amesbury and Newburyport area. Following are some highlights from this past holiday season.

Christmas Tree Santas
CAI Head Start Director, Deborah Linett, thanks Alex Gramling of Christmas Tree Santas for the generous donation of 175 Christmas trees, lights and decorations to Head Start families. On December 2, volunteers unloaded the trees.

– Continued on Page 2

Leeward Charitable Foundation Donates $20,000 to Community Action Energy Programs

Community Action has been awarded a $20,000 donation from the Leeward Charitable Foundation to support low income clients who need assistance paying for energy bills this winter. The Leeward Charitable Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) corporation operating charitable thrift stores in several New England communities.

The mission of Leeward is to recycle, reuse and renew for charity. Through the generous donations of the community, The Leeward Charitable Foundation turns unwanted/surplus clothing, furniture and household items into funds for worthy local charities.

Rob Werner, President of The Leeward Charitable Foundation said, “Many people find it difficult to donate money, but nearly everyone has a box of perfectly good things they no longer need or want. We turn those items into funds to help those most in need.”

“Community Action is honored to receive this generous donation from Leeward,” said John Cuneo, President of Community Action. “Recent frigid temperatures and snowfall have made this winter particularly challenging for many. Thanks to Leeward, CAI will be able to help keep warm a greater number of individuals and families in need of energy assistance.”
and distributed the trees and CAI staff prepared food, snacks and activities for the kids. It was a wonderful and memorable day for staff, students and families.

**SeniorCare’s Project Warm Friends**

CAI Northern Essex WIC Director, Hope Davenport, thanks SeniorCare’s Project Warm Friends Program for their generous (and adorable) donation of hand knitted baby and toddler sweaters, hats and blankets. SeniorCare’s volunteers donated two boxes of the knitted winter garments to the CAI Northern Essex WIC program that WIC staff distributed to families in December.

**Haverhill Gazette Santa Fund**

CAI Administration thanks the Haverhill Gazette Santa Fund for their continued partnership and funding that enables CAI to distribute holiday vouchers to local Haverhill families in need. 112 families in Haverhill received vouchers this past December.

**Health Insurance Help & Information**

The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council (GLCAC) Health Care Navigator Program will continue to hold hours at Community Action, Inc. in January. The program will be at CAI, 3 Washington Square in Haverhill on January 23, 9 a.m.–Noon and at the CAI Amesbury Center, 44 Friend St. in Amesbury on January 16, 9 a.m.–Noon.

For more information or to register for an appointment please call: Iris Narvaez at (978) 373-1971 or GLCAC Navigator Program Coordinator, Elizabeth Martinez at (978) 620-4784

https://www.glcac.org/departments/Health-Care-Navigator.html

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**Children & Families**

The CAI Family & Community Connection (FCC) serves families with children from 0–8 years of age. FCC is located at 346 Broadway in Haverhill. Call 978-914-7893 to register.

**Babies & Babble Playgroup (0–3 yrs.)** Tuesdays, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

**Busy Bees Playgroup (3–6 years)** Wednesdays, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

**Kindergarten Ready**

FCC - Tuesdays, 10–11:30 a.m. 
Moody School - Fridays, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**Messy Monday**

Monday, Jan. 22 & Feb. 12, 1–2 p.m.

**STEAM**

Monday, Jan. 29 & Feb. 26, 1–2 p.m.

**Learn & Move at FCC**

Perley in Georgetown on Thursdays, 1–2 p.m.

**Music Creations**

Haverhill Public Library, Jan. 10 & 24 and Feb. 7 & 21, 10–11 a.m.

**Story Time and Craft**

Monday, January 8, 1–2 p.m.

**Donuts & Dads**

Sacred Hearts Parish - Sat., Jan. 27 & Feb. 17, 9–10 a.m.

**FCC Story Times at Libraries**


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**Pictured Above: Alexa Fischer, with mom Amanda Scola, models her new hat and sweater at the Northern Essex WIC office.**

Thank You! – Continued from Page 1
Registration is held at the CAI Adult Learning Center, 3 Washington Square, 3rd floor in Haverhill. Please arrive on time, late arrivals are not permitted.

- **Wednesday, January 10 at 6 p.m.**
  English for Work Evening ESOL Class Registration (classes begin January 17)

- **Tuesday, January 16 at 10 a.m.**
  HSE (High School Equivalency) Preparation Class Waitlist Registration

- **Tuesday, January 23 at 10 a.m.**
  ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Class Waitlist Registration

- **Friday, February 16 at 10 a.m.**
  HSE (High School Equivalency) Preparation Class Waitlist Registration

For more information contact: Alisa Povenmire, Career and Education Advisor, (978) 373-1971 ext 216 or apovenmire@communityactioninc.org. For English for Work Classes please contact Peter Espiefs, 978-373-1971 ext. 249 or pespiefs@communityactioninc.org.

First Time Home Buyer Training Offered

The Community Action Inc. (CAI) First Time Home-buyer Education Program will offer first time home-buyer education classes for area residents beginning Thursday, February 8 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Presidential Gardens Community Room, 140 Evergreen Drive, Bradford.

A Massachusetts Homeownership Collaborative approved certificate is awarded after completion of the three-night course. The program is also approved by MassHousing. The dates for the course are Thursday, February 8, Tuesday, February 13 and Thursday February 15. The cost is $60 per household. There are no income requirements to take the training.

For more information contact Richard Lynch at 978-373-1971 or Susan Collins at 978-317-8998.

NECC Provides Information and Resources for CAI’s English for Work Students

CAI would like to thank Dr. Noemi Custodia-Lora, Executive Director of the Northern Essex Community College’s Lawrence Campus and Community Relations, for speaking with evening ESOL English for Work students on November 2nd. Dr. Custodia-Lora volunteered her time to provide academic, financial aid, and credit credentialing resources and information that is relevant to ESOL students and available at Northern Essex Community College.

Pictured above, from left: Geraldy Sanchez, Arisleidy Santos, Ariela Gomez, Cleidiane Ventura, Dr. Custodia-Lora, Maria Luisa Del Riego, Dennis Pereyna, and Manuel Quibaja.
Congressman Moulton Appoints Michael Nesson to the Community Action, Inc. Board of Directors

Congressman Seth Moulton (D-MA) announced the appointment of Michael Nesson to Community Action, Inc.’s Board of Directors. CAI is the largest anti-poverty organization in the Lower Merrimack Valley, serving eleven cities and towns. CAI provides resources and opportunities for individuals, families, and communities to overcome poverty.

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Michael Nesson works in public education as both an educator and consultant, providing social and emotional supports to student. “I am very excited to be appointed by Congressman Moulton as a public representative on CAI’s Board, supporting the needs of low income individuals in CAI’s region,” said Nesson. “CAI’s clients are historically underrepresented and living in the shadows struggling with economic social and other challenges. The advocacy of the Congressman’s office will help to further the work and goals of CAI.”

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