



**Ohio Association of
Community Action Agencies**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE



West Ohio Community Action Partnership program awarded by Community Action Association and Ohio University's Voinovich School

COLUMBUS, Ohio (Feb. 12, 2020) – The No Excuses Program coordinated by the West Ohio Community Action Partnership was honored by the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies as an exemplary program at the 2020 Winter Legislative Conference on Jan. 30 in Columbus.

“West Ohio CAP is happy to be recognized for the impact of the work that we do in our community,” Chief Executive Officer Jacqueline Fox said. “The strength of our impact is predicated on the strength of our partnerships locally to meet the needs of our community. We are happy to have such great community partners.”

The No Excuses program, was developed to identify and assist vulnerable populations in securing shelter. The program collaborates with over 28 community partners, enabling them to accept any family that seeks help with no income requirements. The flexibility of the program ensures that previously untapped resources, such as hotels, can be utilized to provide shelter in emergency situations.

“Community Action Agencies throughout Ohio are developing programs that help their entire communities,” said Philip E. Cole, executive director of the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies. “We are proud to work with Ohio University to evaluate the best of the best and qualify them as ‘exemplary.’ The programs selected for this award truly shine and can serve as a model for other agencies who may face similar challenges in their communities.”

The No Excuses Program was one of three honorees awarded during the conference, with nearly 300 Community Action partners, professionals, vendors, and elected officials in attendance. OACAA works with 47 Ohio agencies and over 1,000 Community Action Agencies across the country. OACAA and Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs collaborated to determine the winners of this year's awards.

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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. Community Action Agencies work to alleviate poverty and empower low-income families in their communities. The Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies represents 47 agencies around the state serving the needs of low-income people in all of Ohio's 88 counties. CAAs provide education and training, emergency services, and other assistance programs to nearly 600,000 Ohioans annually.