

# CPCA NEWS

Second Quarter of Program Year 18-19



## EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Congratulations to the Employee of the Quarter, WAP Auditor **Juan Diaz Gonzalez!** His supervisor said, "Juan has been in weatherization for over 16 years. He started from the ground up, first working as a Technician. From there, through hard work and dedication to the program, he moved up to Crew Leader and now Auditor. Juan is always at work and doing a great job auditing homes and communicating with customers about the process of the weatherization program. For this I would like to see that Juan gets recognition for his hard work and dedication to WAP and CPCA." \*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 21 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday (closed)
- Jan 31 - Trivia Night Fundraiser, Pittsboro Roadhouse
- Feb 18 - Presidents' Day Holiday (closed)
- Apr 13 - Community Easter Event, 11am-2pm

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Employee of the Quarter
- Upcoming Events
- Trivia Night Fundraiser Event
- Money Management Training
- Weatherization Day Celebration
- Customer Statement, Cynthia T.
- Customer Statement, Angela M.
- 2nd Annual Family Fun Day
- Be Winter Ready Workshop
- Customer Story, Jalisa Y.
- The Price is Right Workshop
- Customer Statement, Ginger H.
- Know Your Car Workshop
- Customer Statement, Mendy S.
- Know Your Rights Workshop
- Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Our Supporters
- Holiday Cheer Workshops





**JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER EVENT**

**BENEFITING THE MISSION OF CENTRAL  
PIEDMONT COMMUNITY ACTION, INC (CPCA)**

# TRIVIA NIGHT

**Thurs- Jan 31, 19 at Pittsboro Roadhouse**

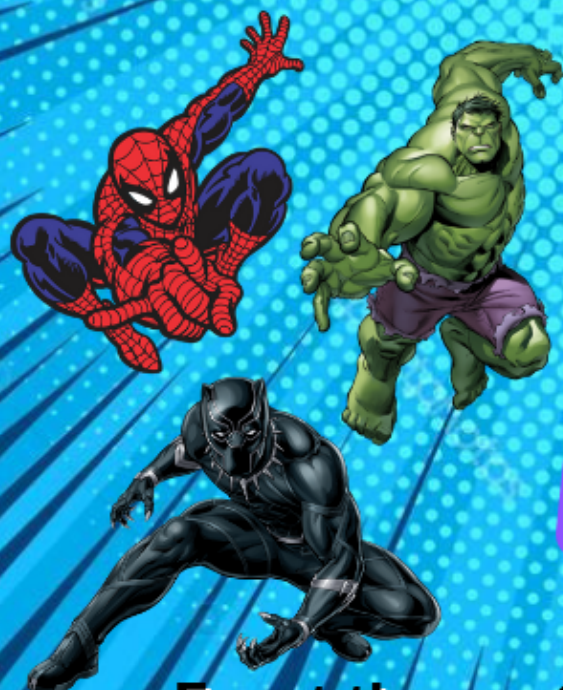
**Doors Open @ 6pm Team Trivia @ 7pm**

**Up to 6 players on a team**

**\$5/each player or \$25/team if paid in advance**

**SPECIAL MENU &  
SIGNATURE  
HUGGIE HEART  
MARTINI FOR  
PURCHASE.**

**TRIVIA PRIZES  
50/50 RAFFLE  
SILENT AUCTION**



Team tables for 6 are reserved on a paid, first-come-first served basis. Space is limited to 130 patrons. Visit [www.cpcanc.org](http://www.cpcanc.org) and click on the Trivia Night Event tab for details. Be sure to download a team sign up form. Event contact is Natasha Elliott at 919.742.2277 or [jacksonn@cpcanc.org](mailto:jacksonn@cpcanc.org).

**Event theme: Community Action Heroes**





# MONEY MANAGEMENT TRAINING

CSBG New Customer Orientation and Foundations of Money Management workshops were held on 10/3&4/18. Many thanks to Kristi Whitley from PNC Bank for providing the Money Management training.

Center Pic: left: Asst Director Allexus Porter, center: Customer Michael B., right: PNC Bank Rep Kristi Whitley \*



# WX DAY CELEBRATION

A lot of fun was had at our National Weatherization Day Celebration Event on 11/3/18. We had two bounce houses and corn hole. The grand prizes were a \$25 gift card to Food Lion (donated by FL of Liberty) and a digital weather station (donated by Lowe's Hardware of Pittsboro). Many thanks to our donors. Pictured: WAP Director Douglas Dixon presenting the grand prizes to Mr. and Ms. Marsh. \*

# CSBG CUSTOMER STATEMENT, CYNTHIA T.



Hello, my name is Cynthia T. I am writing this letter to thank CPCA. In March 2018 I came to Chatham County to enter a housing program. While in the housing program I entered and completed several other programs. After being there for 90 days I was told I wasn't eligible to receive housing and was given two weeks to find a place. Before coming to CPCA, I was lost, hurt, and felt like this home was the place for my healing process to begin.

I was hurt and afraid as I didn't have any family here and didn't know many people. I got in touch with my Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Case Manager Carol Currie. The whole staff stepped in to help. They told me that I wasn't alone, and they were going to help me. The love and concern they showed me was a blessing. I wasn't judged about my past. The CSBG program got me housing within a week. They have supported me in so many ways that it would take a lifetime to explain how good this program works. It's like they gave me a reason to keep moving. They promised me that I would not be left alone and to this day they have shown me a better way of life. Everything, I mean everything the CSBG program states is true. The staff goes over and above to help people set goals and help them to achieve them.

I believe that if a person really wants a better way of living and has the willingness, this is the best program ever. I have been in several programs in my life; however, I have never seen one that works so hard to help people. It hasn't been a month and I have already found permanent housing. They also helped me with getting my car insurance, tag, clothing, food, shelter, etc. I really don't know how to express in words how grateful I am for the staff at CPCA. I don't feel like saying thank you will be enough to show how much gratitude I have. Today I am at peace and I feel there is hope for me. I would encourage everyone that's in the program to trust the process because it does work if you work it. I took all the tools that were given to me and I put them in to action. And to all the ones like me, I would like to say that there's help out there if you got to get it. \*

# CSBG CUSTOMER STATEMENT, ANGELA M.

"Central Piedmont has been great with assisting my family with our needs. We need more people who are compassionate as the staff here." – Angela M. (11/13/18)  
Pictured with Case Manager Michael McMahon. \*





# 2ND ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY

In keeping with a national CSBG goal of strengthening families and local communities, we have decided to host annual events in each of the 4 counties we serve. We will continue to dedicate our quarterly workshops to developing the economic potential of our clients by providing employment and educational enhancement and other needed assistance. These enrichment activities are available to family members including the children as appropriate. The annual events are a great opportunity to promote awareness and unity in the local community and to reiterate our care and concern for our clients. We are very excited about these expanded initiatives and to be of greater service going forward. The 2nd Annual Family Fun Day was held 10/29/18 in Durham. \*





# BE WINTER READY WORKSHOP

On 11/01/18, Case Manager Lisa Scott hosted the “Be Winter Ready” workshop to CSBG Orange County customers. During the workshop, customers learned about ways to reduce water, electrical, heating and cooling costs/utilities. Lisa also provided information about common winter illnesses; know the warning signs, when to seek medical attention, home remedies, prevention, and a fact sheet.

Speakers were Mary Wyatt Tiger, Sustainability Manager at Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) and Douglas Dixon, Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Director at Central Piedmont Community Action.

OWASA provided customers with new shower-heads, leak detection dye tablets, and flow rate aerators for use at their own homes. Customers were appreciative of OWASA’s generosity and expressed they really enjoyed the informative workshop.\*



## CSBG CUSTOMER STORY, JALISA Y.

Jalisa Y. was recently enrolled in CSBG, and we are already impressed by the progress that she has made. Jalisa was employed with a local restaurant, but she was tired of working in fast foods. Jalisa and her Case Manager, Lisa Scott, worked together to make positive changes happen. For several weeks, Lisa used Orange County NC Works Career Center resources to provide Jalisa with suitable job referrals and helped her complete applications. Lisa also followed up by telephone on the applications submitted to facilitate consideration for Jalisa. As a result of a call to Lowes Foods, Jalisa was asked to interview for an available position on that same day. Jalisa aced the interview and was offered the position. Jalisa shared her good news with her WIOA Case Manager and Lisa. When congratulated on her success, Jalisa responded “Thanks to Ms. Lisa”. Jalisa has set even bigger employment goals, and we look forward to contributing to her success.\*





# THE PRICE IS RIGHT WORKSHOP

On 11/00/18 Randolph County CSBG office held a workshop aimed to help clients become more thrifty shoppers. The theme of the workshop was “The Price is Right”. Case Managers brought in items that had a high dollar value and each client was given a dry erase board, so they could place their bids, the client who was closest without going over won and could play the game. Games included Highest to lowest, Flip or Flop, Punch a Bunch, and What is the Greater Value. We also did several taste testing items; one store brand product and the other the name brand product. Clients would choose what they felt was the better quality; some could not tell the lesser value. This was a lot of fun and the clients really seemed to enjoy it.

Lessons learned for clients include more expensive does not always mean it is the best quality. This is not always the case but, in most situations, it was. We had a great discussion about thrift store and consignment shopping. Clients were educated on some great local shops and where to find bargains. This workshop was interactive and engaging. Clients were able to take away a small prize for the games they won.\*



## CSBG CUSTOMER STATEMENT, GINGER H.

“I was referred to CPCA CSBG Program by my Social Worker. I am a college graduate and was employed full-time since 1997 until I was laid off in 2015 through no fault of my own. After receiving unemployment for 13 weeks and diligently looking for a job, I found myself unemployed and depressed and remained so for about 2 years. At first it seemed like CSBG was not a good fit for a person in my situation, but my Case Manager, Sandra Rush, made it happen. She did what she said she would do to help me progress and followed through on everything. I am appreciative for her attentiveness in my case. With the support of the program and Sandra, I am now employed and working with low-income families in my current job. I always recommend that they get a referral to CPCA CSBG because it is a program that can truly help families get back on their feet. I am so grateful that it helped me.” - Ginger H. \*



# KNOW YOUR CAR WORKSHOP

Don't Be Left on the Side of The Road- Know Your Car!" workshop was held on 11/14/18 at the CSBG location in Siler City. This workshop was designed to advise customers of the warning signs of car maintenance, vehicle safety, routine maintenance anyone can perform and driving laws. Customers received multi-purpose paper towels, multi-purpose funnel, tire pressure gauge, and safety eye wear from Walker Auto in Siler City. The customers really enjoyed this informative workshop with guest speaker, Val Nelson, from Nelson Tire and Auto in Siler City, NC.

Customers eagerly asked questions and Mrs. Nelson answered. Her knowledge of vehicles provided excellent information for our customer's daily use. Our customers now have a better understanding of vehicles and routine maintenance to ensure safe driving. Pictured Bottom Right: CSBG Director Sheryl Andrews with Ms.

Nelson \*



## CSBG CUSTOMER STATEMENT, MENDY S.

"For over 19 years I worked for the same company. In 2017 while on medical leave I lost my job. A week later I found out I was pregnant. For the first time since I was 18 years old, there I was looking for employment. Turns out, no one wanted to hire a pregnant lady. So, with 3 kids and one on the way, drawing unemployment, not qualifying for food stamps and barely getting by, I needed help.

NC Works Career Center referred me to the CSBG program at CPCA. With the support of my CSBG Case Manager, I have set goals and feel like I am getting myself back on track. Life can change in the blink of an eye. We pray not to fall on hard times, but it happens. It is good to know that CPCA and their wonderful Asheboro CSBG staff has our back and is there to help. We need more places like CPCA in our community; building each other up and helping people get back on our feet." "Helping one person might not change the whole world, but it could change the world for one person." -Mendy S. \*





# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WORKSHOP

On 11/13/18, CSBG customers in Durham were provided a “Know Your Rights” workshop to increase their knowledge of laws regarding housing, evictions, expungements, and hiring. Representatives from Legal Aid and North Carolina Department of Commerce spoke with our customers during the workshop.

Jesse Ramos, from Legal Aid, spoke about evictions and housing. Joseph Laizure, also with Legal Aid, spoke about expungements and criminal records release. The last speaker, Kimberly Gammons with North Carolina Department of Commerce (NCDC), discussed different criminal convictions that employers consider when completing background checks and how NCDC may be able to provide bonding insurance to help people with criminal backgrounds become gainfully employed despite their past.

Customer were actively engaged and asked questions covering many topics. They were also given the opportunity to speak one-on-one with each speaker about their unique situation and circumstances. \*



# THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

Staff Thanksgiving potluck meal (Nov 2018). The food was delicious, and we had a good time fellowshiping. \*



# A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND CONTRIBUTORS SINCE JANUARY 2018!

You can help now by giving to our cause. When you make a gift, you will instantly become a part of the Promise of Community Action. Together, we can **fight poverty, one family at a time!**

Sheryl Andrews  
Applied Energy Products  
Clintess Barrett  
Bojangles of Siler City  
Chatham County  
Joseph & Elizabeth Cook  
Davenport Energy Care  
Douglas Dixon  
Durham Softball  
Natasha Elliott  
Food Lion of Liberty & Siler City  
Friendly Florist  
Generous Individuals and Organizations  
Home Depot of Durham  
Karen Howard  
Jersey Mike's Subs of Durham  
Gwen Johnson  
JustSave Foods of Asheboro and Ramseur  
Lowe's Home Improvement of Asheboro,  
Chapel Hill, and Pittsboro  
North East Baptist Church  
Rhoda Pappert  
Richard Paravella  
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Siler City Automotive  
Tabitha Schweers  
Lisa Scott  
Siler City Auto  
Stella Smith  
Smithfield's Chicken of Siler City  
Walmart of Asheboro, Chapel Hill, Siler City,  
and Durham  
Laurie Welch  
White Star Cleaners of Durham  
Millicent Williams

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**[www.facebook.com/cpcanc](https://www.facebook.com/cpcanc)**



## **Different ways you can become a part of our Huggie Heart family include:**

Become a **Sustainer** for as little as \$10 a month. Automatic recurring monthly donations are easy to setup through our PayPal button. Simply select your monthly amount and check the Make This a Monthly Donation box. It is automatic and continues until you select stop in your PayPal account.

Make your **annual donation as a gift** in honor or in memory of someone you love. We will recognize this gift on this page and our Facebook page; unless you request to be anonymous. Include your request with your check, cash, or PayPal donation.

Mail or drop-off a check at one of our offices. Make check out to CPCA.

Support us through **Amazon Smile** when you shop on Amazon. Select us as your default Amazon Smile nonprofit organization. Our link is <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-0861200>

Become a Board Member. The Board meets bimonthly. Contact Executive Director Natasha Elliott at 919-742-2277 or [jacksonn@cpcanc.org](mailto:jacksonn@cpcanc.org).

Volunteer at one of our locations. See our donation page for details. \*



# HOLIDAY CHEER WORKSHOPS

Customers participated in a Holiday Cheer workshop on 12/13/18 at our CSBG Chatham, Orange, Randolph, and Durham county offices. Customers were provided helpful holiday learning, fun, and safety tips. With the help of community donations, we were able to provide the children in our program with holiday cheer that included a few small gifts and refreshments. \*

