

CONNECTIONS

Deb Gerken, Executive Director

www.nocac.org

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NOCAC Participates in Tornado Recovery Efforts

Late in the evening on June 5, 2010, tragedy struck when an EF-2 tornado with winds ranging from 111 to 135 miles per hour struck in Fulton County. Seventy-four families were impacted with damage ranging from complete destruction and loss to minor damages.

NOCAC partnered with the United Way of Fulton County, the local Emergency Management Agency, The Delta Open Door and other agencies and community members who formed a Long Term Recovery Committee (LTRC) to assist with relief efforts following the initial response and clean up.

NOCAC applied for and received a technical assistance grant from the Ohio Department of Development, Office of Community Services, to assist in coordinating this project and to offer funding to meet needs related to tornado damage. The United Way of Fulton County coordinated the collection of local donations, which were also used to assist the tornado victims.

NOCAC Community Service Worker April McKenzie coordinated case management activities for this program. Under her leadership, local volunteers contacted each tornado-affected family. A questionnaire and priority checklist was used to assess each family on their level of needs. Of the affected families, 51 participated in the program. Assistance provided to the families was based on the level of needs indicated through the assessment, as well as follow up questions brought up by other agencies during the LTRC meetings held bi-weekly.

The committee also hosted two information fairs with representatives from Ohio Department of Insurance, Four County Family Center, First Call for Help, NOCAC and the Ohio Benefit Bank, Job and Family Services, Legal Aid of Northwest Ohio, The Open Door of Delta, and the Fulton County

Stress Center. Eighteen families attended these events where they could meet privately with several agencies to receive information to aide with the various difficulties they have had to face following the storm.

NOCAC is grateful to have been involved in such a meaningful project and appreciates the dedication of all those who worked to make it successful.



Pictured above are members of the Long Term Recovery Committee

Front row from left: NOCAC - project coordinator April McKenzie, volunteer Tracy Potter, United Way of Fulton County director Gina Saaf.

Back row from left: volunteers Paul Wibbeler and Tom Shadle, and Fulton County Emergency Management Agency director JT Thompson.

Important Dates

NOCAC Governing Board Meeting

(Held at the NOCAC Central Office, 1933 E. Second St., Defiance)

- October 14 at 7 p.m.

Head Start Policy Council

(At the Family Resource Center, 644 Clinton St., Defiance)

- August 30 at 6:30 p.m.
- September 27 at 6:30 p.m.

We're on Facebook

Become a Facebook Fan of Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission and be the first to learn about all of the great things happening at NOCAC. Find out about our heating and cooling programs, government commodities, workshops and more!



AEP-Ohio

Low-Income Program

Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission (NOCAC) was recently awarded a contract with American Electric Power-Ohio to perform energy efficiency services at eligible customer's homes. The focus of this program is to generate energy savings for residential low-income customers with energy efficient light bulbs, possible electrical work/roof replacement where needed, repairs to electric water heaters or electric furnaces and replacements of non-efficient appliances with Energy-Star rated appliances.

To be eligible for this program the customer must be a current AEP-Ohio electric user and an applicant of the Home Weatherization Assistance Program. Requirements from the customer are to provide NOCAC with a current electric bill and written permission from the property owner prior to any services.

Please refer customers to the Home Weatherization Assistance Program at 419-784-5393 to determine eligibility or for questions regarding the AEP Low-Income Program.



Night Without A Home

Experience the unknown. Experience one night in someone else's shoes. Experience A Night Without A Home on Saturday, October 23, 2010, on the campus of Defiance College.

For the fourth time, The PATH Center and Defiance College will team up to educate the public about homelessness in northwest Ohio.

To become a sponsor, or to learn more about A Night Without A Home, go to www.nocac.org (under upcoming events), or call Heather or Kris at 419-782-6962. You can also find us on Facebook at NOCAC's "A Night Without A Home".

