



Connections (

Summer 2006

A publication of Community Action

Celebration Honors Corporate Leaders, Faithful Friends

Two of Community Action's most faithful long-time friends won honors at this year's Celebration of Community Spirit, held April 14 at Tiger Woods Center on the Nike World Campus.

Tuality Healthcare received the Outstanding Corporate Partner award. Fred Johnson, Columbia Community Bank Executive Vice President, received the award for Outstanding Business Leader. The event is a celebration of corporate philanthropy and volunteerism.



Dick Stenson accepts Community Spirit Award for Tuality Healthcare from Executive Director Jerralynn Ness

At a reception preceding the celebration dinner, Oak Knoll Winery and David Hill Winery offered tastes of recent bottlings.

Many guests were encouraged by keynote speaker Roger Hinshaw's remarks emphasizing corporate social responsibility.



2006 Community Spirit Award recipient Fred Johnson with Jerralynn Ness and Board Chair Leslea S. Smith

"Many of us don't see the human suffering — and the joy — that Community Action's staff see daily ... yet you can take pride in knowing ... your support of Community Action is changing lives every single day."

Hinshaw is Bank of America President for Oregon and Southwest Washington. He served as 2005 United Way Campaign Chair.

The celebration raised \$40,000 for programs and services.



Roger Hinshaw, Bank of America President for Oregon and Southwest Washington

Thank You!

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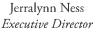
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A Letter to Our Friends

Dear Friends,

Each year in May, we celebrate the incredible progress made by children in our Pre-Kindergarten Head Start program. Proud friends and family gather to watch the children receive their Head Start certificates. We also thank all the family members for their involvement and help in making our Head Start program the best! The

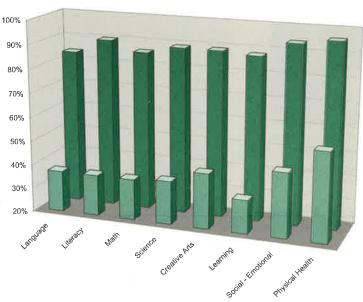






Leslea S. Smith Board Chair

average Head Start family contributes 16 hours of volunteer time during the program year. Program wide, 861 low-income children, from infants to five-year-olds, received a Head Start at Community Action last year. Another 786 children remained on our waiting list, hoping to get a "Head Start".



This chart shows eight major areas of educational success, the percentage of children who entered Community Action Head Start last fall with school readiness skills, and how that percentage increased by year-end.

More than 300 Community Action Head Start graduates will start kindergarten next fall. We are fortunate to have excellent school district partners. Though their schools are already full, Beaverton, Tigard-Tualatin, and Hillsboro districts make space for our Head Start classrooms and include Head Start in their playground, meal, and library schedules.

We are proud of the progress that children in Head Start make as they prepare to enter kindergarten ready to learn. Parents can be confident that as they head off to elementary school, their children have received comprehensive screening for health, vision, hearing, or dental concerns. Parents also tell us they see their children's improved self-confidence, ability to get along with others, helpfulness at home, and that all-important teeth-brushing!

This year, former Head Start Teacher Donna Bennington celebrated her 25th anniversary with Community Action.

When she was a teacher, Donna worked with a Head Start family that later survived an apartment fire. When asked, "How did you know what to do?" the Head Start graduate replied, "My teacher Donna taught me to stop, drop and roll." Community Action Head Start not only helps to change lives, it can even save lives!

Jewalynn New Leslea Smith

"Head Start is hope to families that would otherwise have none ...we should expand this valuable program so we can reach more families in need. ... we can not afford to sell off the future of our most vulnerable children for a little relief today."

Jim, Head Start parent

Local Heroes Help Promote Self-Sufficiency

Community Action gratefully The Streets of Tanasbourne supports acknowledges support from a diverse and growing group of Washington County businesses, churches and fraternal and community organizations.

The Kaiser Permanente Sunset pediatric clinic adopted our Family Shelter for monthly donations of essential supplies for homeless families. Our shelter is grateful for donations from Kiwanis Club of Cedar Hills, New Seasons Market customers, Providence Community Benefit Fund, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Unitarian Universalist Community Church, and W.L. Henry Elementary School students.



Sharon and Bill Beran with Scott Schlegel, Resource Development staff. Beran Vineyards donated tasting fees from Memorial Day weekend to Community Action.

Community Action's Opening Doors program, providing maternal outreach to help ensure the birth of healthy babies.

Last winter brought an unprecedented level of need for energy and rent assistance. Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, St. Vincent DePaul Conference of St. Anthony's Church, the United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church of Forest Grove support our Westco Fund.

Donations from Evergreen Christian Center and Hillsboro Presbyterian Church support the Hillsboro Emergency Fund.

Our Neighborshare Fund receives support from Tigard Church of God, Tigard Community Friends Church, St. Vincent DePaul Conference of St. Anthony's Church, and Calvin Presbyterian Church.

Beautiful handmade baby quilts and other gifts from Northwest Quilters and the Women's Ministry of the Beaverton Christian Church help blossoming families.

Donations from Calvary Lutheran Church and New Thought Ministries are applied where need is greatest.

The Gap Foundation, Nike, PGE, and Washington Mutual matched employee contributions to Community Action.

Integrated Management Resources provides support that reduces administrative costs.

Thanks to Aura nightclub in Portland, and Fish Grotto for proceeds from their fundraising event.

Foundation Grants

We gratefully acknowledge grants made by:

- Oregon Community Foundation
- Sunshine Lady Foundation
- Hollione Foundation
- Spirit Mountain **Community Fund**
- Wells Fargo Foundation

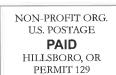
Stand Up for Community Action Features Sinbad

Three hundred people filled the Cedar Hills Crossing mall on February 16th to enjoy the high-energy comedy of Sinbad, nationally known comedian and actor. Sinbad performed a free public show for all ages before hosting a private fundraising dinner at the Dessert Noir Café & Bar. The event raised \$8,000 for Community Action programs.

Special thanks to Dessert Noir Café & Bar, Cedar Hills Crossing, Rentrak, Food Services of America, the Heathman Hotel, Hanlon Brown Design, Photo Memories by Harvey, Infinite Solutions and Pacific Executive Services for making this special event possible!



Comedian Sinbad with Dessert Noir Cafe & Bar owner Monique Hayward





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Community Connections

Community Connections is a publication of
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Community Action is a private, nonprofit organization. In partnership with the community, Community Action assists low-income people to achieve self-determination.

For further information contact Resource Development, 503.693.3255, or visit our website: www.communityaction4u.org

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Fast Track Philanthropy: Five Ideas That Take One Hour or Less

- Ask your employer to match your contribution.
- Host a table of friends at People You Should Know.
- Designate your United Way gift to Community Action.
- Ask your company to be a sponsor of the Celebration of Community Spirit.
- Invite Community Action to speak at your workplace or place of worship.

Share your creative ideas with us! We are happy to talk with you about how your group or service club can get involved. Email us at contact@caowash. org.