



*The mission of Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc., is to improve the quality of life for people in need by empowering them to become more self-sufficient and by providing essential services in collaboration and cooperation with partners.*

Visit our website

## ***May is National Community Action Month***



The month of May has traditionally been designated as “National Community Action Month.” Although this newsletter and writing comes towards the end of the month, the designation provides us all with a reminder to consider and learn about the role that Community Action agencies play across the region, the state, and nationally. Locally, since 1965 the Garrett County Community Action Committee has responded to community need from developing affordable housing, to expanding access to job training and

educational opportunities, to helping families to better thrive and achieve their goals.

Empowering families with the resources they need to thrive: economically, socially, psychologically, physically, and spiritually, takes effort, and engagement with a wide range of community partners who are dedicated to creating better outcomes.

The 2-Generation approach that this agency has developed and implemented is creating positive outcomes for those we serve and has re-ignited and strengthened community partnerships. Interest from across the country continues to grow in our 2-Generation work and we are happy to share what we have learned.

Despite President Johnson declaring a “War on Poverty,” poverty and challenges remain, as the root issues are complex with many causes and no one solution. But, families and individuals thrive in communities that thrive and to this we remain steadfastly committed to achieving.

To learn about the beginning of Community Action, [click here](#). To view the 2016 fact sheet on Maryland’s CSBG funded programs [click here](#).

Warm regards,

*Duane Yoder*

**President, Garrett County Community Action Committee**

Considering Making a Donation Today - Click Here

# Judy-Overlook Children Learn about Community Helpers

## Marshall, the Firedog is Their Favorite

The children and staff at Overlook Child Development Center enjoyed a visit from the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department. They enjoyed exploring the Fire Truck and checking out all the equipment. The Firemen dressed up for the children and showed them what a fireman looks like, "in case they have to come to your house for an emergency"; so the children would not be afraid. The children also met (and loved) a fire dog, named Marshall: everyone's favorite part of the day.

Our Head Start children learned about community helpers and practiced their social skills and turn taking (very difficult with Marshall being the favorite of all).

To learn more about our Early Childhood Development programs or Wrap Around Child Care [click here](#).

Students Learn about Firefighters—and love the Firedog.



## Did You Know?

### TAM Announces 2017 Rodeo Winners

#### Matt Paugh and Jim Kisner take 1st and 3rd Place

On Saturday, April 22nd, the Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) hosted its 22nd Annual Rodeo. Matt Paugh, Garrett Transit Service, was awarded the top honor, winning a full scholarship to attend the CTAA National Rodeo in Detroit, Michigan, this June. James Kisner, Garrett Transit Service, took third place and received a scholarship to attend the CTAA National Rodeo.

The competition measured drivers' skills in maneuvering vehicles among challenging driving obstacles. Each driver performed a pre-trip inspection of a vehicle and demonstrated proficiency in wheelchair securement and passenger assistance.



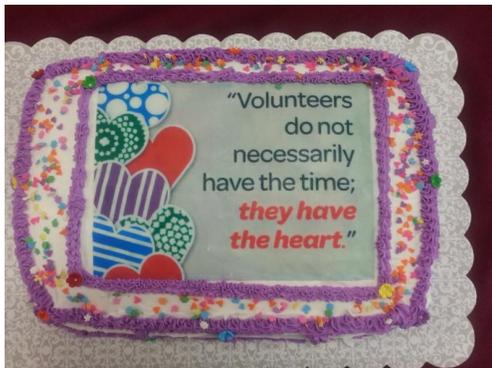
Congratulations gentlemen and Best of Luck in the upcoming National CTAA competition. We are proud of you and of GTS for providing safe, affordable transportation to Garrett County residents.

To Learn more about GTS [click here](#). To learn about scheduling a ride [click here](#)

## Volunteers Honored at Annual Banquet

The annual Volunteer Banquet honoring our volunteers for the valuable work they contribute was held April 28, 2017 in the Mary Browning Senior Center. The ongoing work conducted here simply would not be possible without our volunteers.

This year our volunteers were recognized with a beautiful dinner of Chicken Cordon Bleu with seasonal vegetables as a side. The occasion was finished with a cake baked to honor the heart that volunteers bring to their work.



Special recognition went to:

- Phyllis Friend--Volunteer of the Year
- Donna Schrier--Employee Volunteer of the Year
- Salem Hough--Parent Volunteer of the Year
- The entire group of VITA Volunteers



# We LOVE Our Volunteers

## Did You Know?

### Gooding Earns Honorable Mention at Power of Possibilities

Daphne Gooding, [VISTA Volunteer at GCCAC](#), was honored at "[Power of Possibilities](#)" summit. The Power of Possibilities nurtures, champions, and showcases the entrepreneurial spirit. Over the past six months, Daphne has been drafting her business plan and been taking part in business development sessions at Garrett College. She combines her talent for weaving, knitting, and crocheting with her passion for recycling and re-purposing items that might otherwise end up in the 'waste stream.' Her "Honorable Mention" also came with a \$100. check award which will help her to purchase promotional materials for her business: **The Bag Lady**. Click the photo to see **The Bag Lady on LinkedIn**



To learn more about 4ruralsuccess and the Power of Possibilities [click here](#)

## Be Sure to check out the NEW GCCAC Store

[Visit our Online Store](#)

**Special Thanks** to Michele Wolfe for maintaining the online store

### Impact Dashboard—March 2017

12 Families are not homeless in March	4207 Homes warm this year	165 people received home-delivered meals	198 people served at Senior Centers	148 children Fully Ready for Kindergarten	\$1,170,538 in Tax refunds for VITA participants	FY 2017 3360 Households served
---------------------------------------	---------------------------	--	-------------------------------------	---	--	--------------------------------

[Click Here to Learn More about Making a Donation](#)

Please feel free to pass this newsletter and remember to visit our website and follow Garrett County Community Action Committee on



Garrett County Community Action Committee | 301-334-9431 | [Email](#) | [Our Website](#)