

Tompkins Community Action

June 2022

News & Updates



Issue 14

Introducing the TCAction Volunteer Team

TCAction staff celebrated Community Action Month by volunteering for service activities in our community. Our TCAction Volunteer Team is made up of staff who dedicate time for community service related activities outside of their regular workday. This year the team participated in 2 service events.

An active community can produce powerful change!



Adopt- A- Highway



**Habitat for Humanity
Women Build Weekend**

The team got together on a Saturday and cleaned up 2 miles of Bostwick Road. It took 15 big orange bags to get the job done! Look for us in the fall when we do it again!

On another very warm Saturday, the team spent time building sheds for Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a valued community partner!

Childcare Center Improvements



TCAction recently improved our outdoor spaces at the *Casey Calandra Childcare Center* in Dryden and the *Donna Jewett Childcare Center* in Groton. At both locations, **Welliver** added 10' x 20' pavilions and installed new rubber playground surfacing to enhance playground safety. The Casey Center had a new seamless gutter system installed with below grade drainage to go along with some much needed repairs to a storage shed. Over at the Donna Center, Welliver replaced some rotted wood and installed a new roof on one of the playground structures. On the main building, the gutters were tied in to below grade drainage and a new motorized awning was installed. The driveway on the north side of the building was repaved. A new storage shed and cedar fence surround for the recycling enclosure were also added. We are very excited about these enhancements that make our outdoor space more comfortable and safe! The Early Head Start & Head Start children are enjoying more outside activities thanks to the shady spaces made possible by these improvements. ***Thank you Welliver!***



Victory Garden Project 2022



Held annually since 2010, through a generous collaboration with **Cornell University Horticulture Department with Professor Neil Mattson** and loyal **Cargill** volunteers, the Victory Garden provided TCAction program participants and staff with starter vegetable plants to create home gardens. Again this year the plant selection was incredibly beautiful and included basil, cilantro, and a variety of pepper and tomato plants.



The dedicated **Cargill Volunteers** helped with setting up, packing plants, loading cars and even delivering when needed. **Thank you Cargill Volunteers!!**

Did you participate in the 2022 Victory Garden Project??? Join the fun and post pictures of your growing garden spaces on social media and tag us or email pictures to info@tcaction.org.



Community Services: Food Pantry Changes



Update! We needed to make a few changes in our pantry pick up and delivery schedule. The Food Pantry has shifted to a *biweekly* schedule- but don't worry- we provide a double order of food. This means only one pick up for two orders worth of food.

We hope this will help save households time and gas money!

You can request a food pantry order on our website using the [Pantry Order Form](#) or by calling 607.273.8816.

A Day of Caring



On Saturday, June 11th **District Council #4** members donated their time and skills to transform the lobby and corridors of our main office building during a **Day of Caring**. The volunteers had a great attitude throughout the day. What a difference a few coats of paint make! The space looks great!

"It was a proud moment for the volunteers to be able to give back to the community, especially for an organization like TCAAction, that does so much for area residents."

A giant **Thank You** to all who took part



in the planning and execution: *The Finishing Trades Institute of Western & Central NY, DC#4 Volunteer Organizing Committee, Local 178. Dave Peterson, Gerald Michie, Alex Harrington, Jacob Quinn, Jon Vaccaro, Sianna Emrich, Keith Barkan, Petro Shchur, Dale Upright, Frank Stento, Laura Cain & grandson Logan, & Raymond George-Spaccaporno.*



Family Services: Early Head Start & Head Start

Supporting children's school readiness is an ongoing partnership between families and staff!

Head Start promotes school readiness by enhancing the skills and social development of children through a comprehensive preschool curriculum. Family classroom involvement and site activities promote parents as a child's first teacher; while supporting family educational, literacy and self-sufficiency goals. Program resources promote health, safety and nutrition; as well as mental health and disability services which ensure full participation for each child. Healthy meals, dental and hearing screenings, skill assessments and parent teacher collaborations enhance a child's success.

Early Head Start serves infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families. These programs enhance

Now Enrolling!



Early Head Start
 Infants, toddlers,
 & expectant mothers



Head Start Preschool
 Children ages 3-4 years old

Serving families throughout Tompkins County.
Children with special needs are fully included in all aspects of our Head Start Programs.

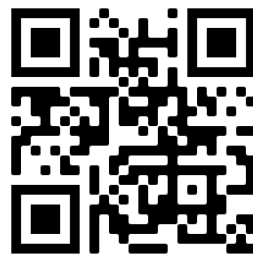


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 607-273-8816 www.tcaction.org



There is still time to enroll! Applications are available at our main office or you can even apply on line! Use this QR code:

children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development; assist pregnant women to access comprehensive care; support parents as their child's first teacher; and support families moving toward self-sufficiency.



Important Dates

Special Dates

Our programs and offices will be closed on the following dates in observance of:

Monday, June 20 to celebrate Juneteenth

Monday, July 5 to celebrate Independence Day

Monday, July 25 for Employee Recognition Day



Giving is Gorges 2022

Consider giving to TCAction on Tuesday, June 21. Giving can be monetary or volunteer time.

Interested in more information? Here is the link to our dashboard:

[TCAction Giving Is Gorges 2022](#)



Our Mission:
Tompkins Community Action collaborates with individuals and organizations to sustain and improve economic opportunity and social justice for families and individuals impacted directly or indirectly by poverty.

Follow us on our socials!



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