



Fall, 2010

C-SCDC UPDATE

"KEEPING YOU INFORMED"

Rural Development Grant from USDA

In October of this year, The Home Ownership and Asset Development Center at C-SCDC was delighted to announce the receipt of a new Rural Development grant from USDA for our Mutual Self-Help Housing Program. This new two year grant will allow us to oversee the construction of 25 new homes for families who need decent affordable energy efficient housing in rural areas. Due to the high demand in our area, we received a substantial increase from 14 homes to 25 homes on this new grant.

The Home Ownership Center also received a Housing Preservation Grant from USDA to facilitate home repairs for our owner occupied Home Rehabilitation Program along with a certificate of Achievement from Little Dixie Community Action Agency out of Hugo, OK.

The official signing of this grant took place at C-SCDC on Friday, October 1st. Speakers included: Mark Whitmer, Executive Director C-SCDC; Karen Phillips, HOC Director; Kathy Watson, Congressman John Boozman's Office; Lawrence McCollough, USDA State Director; Cheryl Ivy, USDA Single Family Manager, Steve Mosher, USDA Area Director and Greg Kemper, USDA Multi-Family Housing Director.



Pictured left to right: Greg Kemper, USDA; Steve Mosher, USDA; Mark Whitmer, C-SCDC; Cheryl Ivy, USDA; Lawrence McCollough, USDA and Karen Phillips, C-SCDC



Pictured left to right: Karen Phillips, HOC Director; Buddy Lloyd, Construction Manager and Tricia Hall, Self-Help Housing Manager.

Opening Rural Housing Center

The Home Ownership and Asset Development Center is delighted to announce the opening of its new Rural Housing Center to be based at 107A North Plaza, Van Buren. This center will house our Self-Help Mutual Housing Program along with a bi-lingual Housing Counselor who will see clients once a week for credit and mortgage default counseling.

We are also delighted to announce that Michael Fuchtman has recently accepted the position of IDA Case Manager. Michael is also our HPRP Program Manager.

River Valley Regional Food Bank Annual Awards Luncheon

The River Valley Regional Food Bank, a program of Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council hosted its Annual Awards Banquet on September 29, 2010. The event, which was held at the Lighthouse Inn, had 100 in attendance.

Reporter and Producer with KFSM-TV 5 News, Jared Broyles emceed the event and Mayor of Rogers and Candidate for U.S. Representative, Steve Womack was the guest speaker.

Donor Awards went to: Tyson Foods, United Way of Fort Smith Area, OK Foods, Allen Canning Company, Van Buren Wal-Mart and Sam's Club.

Volunteer Awards went to: AT&T Pioneers, Comprehensive Juvenile Services, Planter's Peanut and Target.

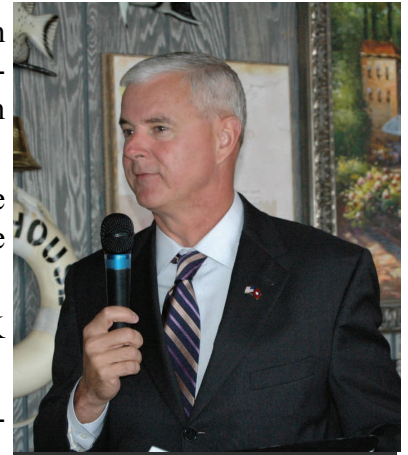
Service Awards went to: Liftruck Parts & Services, M P Warehouse, Zero Mountain and Second Street Live.

Food Pantry Awards went to: Mena First Assembly of God, Havana Assembly of God, 2nd Baptist Compassion Center and Community Services Clearinghouse.

Advisory Council Awards went to: Paul Shealy, Mark Whitmer, Bill Hook, John Faust, Clarence Smith, Veronica Robins and Mike Heathcott.

Staff Awards went to: Ben Selby, Norman Kennon, James Martin, Alice King and Lonnie Long.

Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council Executive Director, Mark Whitmer closed the luncheon stating that "It will be an exciting time in the coming year with the expansion of the Food Bank and the Rural Delivery Program. The Donors, Volunteers, Service providers, Food Pantries, Advisory Council members and staff are the ones that allow us to continue to provide food to our communities in need."



Rogers Mayor Steve Womack



Stephen Dye, RVRFB Director presents a Donor Award to Tom Minton, United Way of Fort Smith Area Director



Stephen Dye, RVRFB Director presents Food Pantry Award to Debbie Todd of the Mena First Assembly of God Church



Stephen Dye, RVRFB Director presents a service award to Cindi Kelley of Zero Mountain

The Home In My Heart



THE HOME IN MY HEART CHILDREN'S CREATIVITY COMPETITION 2011



Here at the Home Ownership and Asset Development Center, a program of C-SCDC, we are always looking for ways to reach out to the community in beneficial ways. In our goal for more community involvement we are implementing a new Children's Creativity Competition to begin in 2011.

The *Home in my Heart* competition will be an annual children's creativity competition for children and teenagers including and up to 18 years. Children will be asked to create a piece of artwork that represents what home means to them. This piece can be a painting, a sculpture or a unique and individual creation! Entries can be as individuals or small groups. A selection of the pieces will then be shown in an exhibition with winners being announced on the day. The competition runs from February 14th to February 28th.

We need your help to make this competition a success. If you might be interested in making a contribution as a sponsor or helping in any way, please contact:

Elizabeth Madden-Jones at 479-784-9298 ext 125.



ROMA Coordinator Achieves Certification

Michele Trawick, C-SCDC ROMA Coordinator, received her National ROMA Trainer Certification on November 2, 2010. It was presented to her November 8th during a luncheon for our Annual Fall ROMA Training in Little Rock.

Michele began her journey in the certification process in March of 2008 with the help of her mentor, Terry Bearden. When asked what she thought about her achievement, she stated "This achievement will help me to improve the management and programs using results oriented principles and practices and to increase the use of the Six National Goals in planning and implementing strategies throughout the network. I have to say I finally feel like I can breathe again, it was definitely a long and arduous task, but very fulfilling."



Arkansas' three National Certified ROMA Trainers pictured from left to right: Toby Atkinson, Director OOI, Michele Trawick, ROMA Coordinator C-SCDC and Terry Bearden, ROMA Coordinator ACAA

Executive Director

Mark Whitmer

Personnel Director

Darlene Hill

Financial Director

Sally Fisher

Homeownership Center

Director

Karen Phillips

Weatherization Director

Debbie Biggs

Child Care Food Program

Carol Jenkins

Community Dental Clinic

Nenya Perry

**River Valley Regional Food
Bank Director**

Stephen Dye

Editor

Michele Trawick

479-785-2303 ext 118



Deedra Hershel has been with the agency for 6 years. Deedra is the Housing Counseling Manager. She is married and has one son. In her spare time, she enjoys a good movie and spending time with her family.



Kathy Lord has been with the agency for a little over one year. Kathy currently works in the Home Ownership Dept. Kathy is single and has one daughter who lives in Seattle. In her spare time she loves to hike, camp and browse antique stores.

Board Members

Linda Bryant, Chairperson

Cecil M. Greene, Jr., Vice-Chairperson

Patricia Free, Secretary

Evelyn Wilson

Van Ferguson

Judge David Hudson

Mayor Richard Leakey

Veronica Robins (Representative)

Judge John Hall

Elaine Stanfield (Representative)

State Rep. Stephen Breedlove

State Rep. Tracy Pennartz

Glenda Snow

(Representative)

Gene Bell

Virginia Waldon

Michael Shinn

Shirley Lee

Karen Pearson

Abigail Taylor-Cox

Mayor Kenneth Edwards

Paula Riordan

Tim Hodges

Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 4069, 4831 Armour

Fort Smith, Arkansas 72914-4069

Mission Statement

Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc. is a community action agency whose purpose is to make improvements in the lives of low-income individuals, families and the communities in which they live, so that a greater level of self-sufficient living can be achieved.