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Weatherization Staff
Celebrate a Successful
2004 Program Year With
Retreat and Awards

Get Your Tickets Now
For the 13th Annual
“Look Who’s Cooking”
Fundraising Event

Mission Statement:
*CEDA’s mission is to work
in partnership with commu-
nities to empower families
and individuals to achieve
self-sufficiency and improve
their quality of life.*

Would you like to be on the mailing list for *Community Networking News*? Contact Editor Amanda Grant via phone (312-795-8958) or email (agrant@cedaorg.net) with your mailing address information. Email subscriptions are also available.

5th Annual Senior Information Fair Links South Suburban Residents to Health, Wellness Services

The 5th Annual Senior Information Fair, hosted by CEDA Bloom-Rich Community Development Association at their Ford Heights office, offered a wealth of information to area residents concerning a variety of health and wellness topics. All subject matter was designed for South Suburban residents age 55 and older.

In addition to seminars, staff from the White Crane Wellness Center were on hand to provide free cholesterol, blood pressure and glucose screenings. Cook County’s Mobile

Mammography Unit provided mammograms at no cost to fair participants with appointments.

“The senior health fair was great. What a wonderful service to bring to the community!”

stated Barbara Barron, Community Representative from VITAS Innovative Hospice Care of the Chicagoland Area. “The CEDA Bloom-Rich Ford Heights Office included a



Barbara Barron, Community Representative from VITAS Innovative Hospice Care, explains the benefits of Hospice to an attentive audience at the recent Senior Information Fair at the CEDA Ford Heights office.

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Hot, Nutritious Meals Still In Session With Summer Food Service Program and Partners

Many children look forward to the summer months: school is out, and the long days can be spent in play with friends and family. For children in Cook County’s poorest neighborhoods, summer vacation is not as fun: a break from school often means a break from hot, nutritious meals. However, CEDA’s Summer Food Service Program has been working to change all that.

During the summer months, children in many suburbs receive healthy breakfasts, lunches and snacks at local schools, park district buildings and community centers.

Fourteen years ago, the Summer Food Service Program began with three sites in Ford Heights and Robbins. While the locations have expanded to 18 sites in Suburban Cook County, the mission of the program has remained the same: serve

nutritious meals to children during the summer months in areas where at least 50% of the children receive free or reduced price meals through the National School Lunch Program. The Summer Food Service Program is funded by the USDA and administered by the Illinois State Board of Education.

The expansion
(continued on page 3)

Weatherization Staff Ends a Successful Program Year with Retreat

In late June, CEDA Weatherization staff members celebrated the successful completion of the 2004 Weatherization Program with a Training Retreat at Indian Lakes Resort in Bloomingdale, Illinois. Attending were the entire 53-person Weatherization staff, many Weatherization contractors, Robert Wharton, CEDA President and CEO, and Mark Enenbach, CEDA Vice-President and COO.

At the retreat, staff members, management, and contractors met as a team to discuss current weatherization issues, participate in additional training, and reflect on the completion of a successful program year.

Customer service and safety issues were the themes of the retreat. Friday's session began with Weatherization Director John Hamilton's presentation, *Chemical Dependency/Alcohol and Drug Abuse*. John Kiepura, Multi-Family Manager for CEDA Weatherization presented *Safety, Your Friend*, a discussion on workplace and vehicle safety. Jim Glick, from Rockhurst University, presented *How To*

Achieve Excellent Customer Service. Kiepura and Glick spoke concurrently to reduce group size. This encouraged audience participation which was spirited throughout the day.

After Friday's group dinner, Robert Wharton and Mark Enenbach congratulated the entire Weatherization Team for a highly successful 2004 Program Year. John Hamilton then recognized outstanding Weatherization performers as identified by their peers and managers. This year's awards went to: Dan Calamari, Weatherization Master; Robert Crudup, Field Supervisor of the Year; Gloria McKinney, Office Supervisor of the Year; Terry Lee, Inspector of the Year; Reginald Jones, Assessor of the Year; Jaime Swise, Office Team Spirit Award; Brent Phillips, Office Employee of the Year; Alistine Goodwin, Field Team Spirit Award; Joseph Castellanos, Rookie of the Year; and Robert Crudup and Freddie Golden, Appropriate Sense of Humor

Award.

Outstanding contractor awards were given to DNR Construction, Parliament Builders, and Orozco and Daughter Heating and Cooling.

A highlight of the festivities was a short play written and directed by Jaime Swise and performed by the Third City Players, comprised of Weatherization staff members. It was a comedic representation of the home weatherization process from application intake to final inspection.

Article by Weatherization staff members Dan Calamari, Quality Control Manager; Carol Hill, Office Operations Manager; Ethel Brown, Budget Coordinator and John Hamilton, Director.



Award winners (left to right) Brent Phillips, Gloria McKinney, Jaime Swise and Alistine Goodwin celebrate a successful program year.

Super Senior Fair at CEDA Ford Heights Office (Continued)

(continued from page 1) great mix of vendors. I particularly enjoyed the interaction with community members."

Over 25 local social service agencies, health awareness groups, and community and government organizations participated in the fair. Vendors included the Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care, Secretary of State's Office, Suburban Area Agency on Aging, Catholic Charities, Arthritis Foundation, National Able Network, Glenwood Health Care and Rehab Center, St. James Hospital, Bloom Township, Rich Township, and the

Social Security Network, among others.

"The health screenings and nutritional analyses were a big hit," said Denise Chaffe, Senior Advocate at CEDA Bloom-Rich Community Development Association. "Seniors were excited to see all the services available in the community in one location."

Transportation to the event was provided by Bloom and Rich Townships. A door prize raffle and a buffet-style lunch were available to all participants.

CEDA Bloom-Rich CDA provides a variety of services to

seniors, including the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Weatherization, housing counseling, and links to other social service and community agencies. In addition to the senior health fair, CEDA provides a variety of wellness seminars throughout the year, focusing on health topics particularly relevant to seniors, such as heart disease, osteoporosis, proper nutrition and breast cancer.

For more information about the services available to seniors through the CEDA Bloom-Rich Community Development Association, call Senior Advocate Denise Chaffe at 708-758-2510.

13th Annual "Look Who's Cooking!"

September 14, 2004 6:00-8:30pm

Sheraton Northwest Pavilion, 3400 West Euclid Avenue
Arlington Heights, Illinois

Enjoy gourmet ethnic food prepared by local chefs from:

Cuisine of India, Dave's Specialty Foods, David's Bistro, Delaney & Murphy Steakhouse, Francesca's Tavola, J. Alexander's Restaurant, La Tasca Tapas, Le Titi de Paris, Patisserie, Peggy Kinnane's Irish Restaurant & Pub, Pronto Roma, Regina's, Southern Wines, Trader Joe's, Tuccio's, X Winery and more! An unforgettable culinary experience!

Tickets are \$75.00 per person. Event sponsorships are available at the following rates:

Platinum: \$4,700, includes premiere seating for a table of ten, special recognition on promotional materials, banner and a full-page program book advertisement.

Gold: \$1,600, includes reserved seating for a table of ten, company signage at table, special recognition in press releases and a one-half page program book advertisement.

Silver: \$900, includes ten tickets and program book recognition.

All proceeds from "Look Who's Cooking" will benefit CEDA Northwest Self-Help Center, Inc. literacy programs. This year we will honor the Kohl McCormick Story Bus for its outstanding contribution to literacy. For more information, or to purchase tickets, please contact MaryAnn Geary (extension 222) or Hilda DeJesus (extension 236) at 847-392-2332 or Amanda Grant at 312-795-8958.

Summer Food Service Program Provides Nutritious Meals (Cont.)

(continued from page 1) from three sites to 18 sites would not be possible if it weren't for additional donations from local community groups. WGN--Neediest Kids Foundation and the McCormick Tribune Foundation have lent a great deal of support in recent years. Their generous funding has allowed CEDA's Summer Food Service Program to serve more children throughout the Cook County area, as well as maintain the sites where meals are served.

Other community groups are also involved with the Summer Food Service Program. This year, the University of Illinois Extension Program provided 4H educational services to children at four sites. These "adventure camps" serve over one hundred children in Robbins, Ford Heights and Calumet City.

Collaborations with school districts provide additional educational enhancement, and partnerships with park districts provide day camps and field trips for the children. Church organizations also provide classes and field trips.

CEDA provides summer food services to children of migrant workers at the Arlington Heights race track. There, children are able to participate in a lending library program to improve their reading and language skills.

"The CEDA Summer Food Service Program is unique because we offer freshly-cooked, nutritious hot meals to children rather than catering bag lunches,"

said Suman Sood, program director. "We serve breakfast, lunch and snacks. The location and meal service is based upon the need in the area, the activities provided at the location and the hours of operation. We look forward to expanding our efforts."

For more information about the Summer Food Service Program, call Suman Sood at 312-907-7426.



Children in Maywood enjoy a hot lunch during the summer as part of CEDA's Summer Food Service Program.



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