



Bill Purcell, Mayor

News Release

Metropolitan Action Commission

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Cynthia L. Croom, Executive Director

"Helping People. Changing Lives"

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Metro Action Volunteers Saves Agency Over \$1 million through Volunteer Program

2006 Community Action Awards Banquet Honors Outstanding Volunteers

Nashville, TN---Children enrolled in the Metropolitan Action Commission, are not just prepared for Kindergarten, they also receive the love and attention from foster grandparents, exposed to the arts through performances by the Nashville Ballet and enter the world of imagination through books and plays from hundreds of volunteers that donate time at 8 Head Start Centers throughout Nashville.

On Friday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m., Metro Action will honor 39 outstanding volunteers and Head Start parents at the 5th Annual Community Action Banquet at the Sheraton Music City Hotel, located at 777 McGavock Pike. Nearly 300 guests will attend this event.

In addition to volunteers in our Head Start program being honored, many individuals and community groups will be recognized for the contributions sent to our Community Services division, which helps families with utility bills, rent and mortgage assistance.

"Over 50 residents in Tennessee and Kentucky donated money to provide additional help to families that needed help high energy bills during the winter months," said Cynthia Croom, Executive Director

In 2005, 3,829 volunteers served 106,457 hours at the Metropolitan Action Commission, enabling the agency to live up to its mission of "Helping People. Changing Lives." This equates to \$1,066,599 in savings to the agency.

"Our volunteers give so much of themselves in response to the needs of children and families in Davidson County. It is a privilege to be able to honor them for their contributions," said Cynthia Croom, Executive Director of Metro Action.

Steve Hayslip, Morning News Anchor of CBS affiliate, NewsChannel 5 Morning Report, will serve as the Master of Ceremony.

The Metro Action Commission Community Services division provides services to low-income families such as rent and utility payment assistance, College Preparatory and Adult Basic Education courses. The agency also administers the Head Start program. This year marks the 40th year of the program. Head Start provides early childhood education and Health and Nutrition Services for children ages 3-4 years old from low-income families. Metro Action's Head Start program is the largest provider of pre-school education in Davidson County.

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Note: Complete descriptions of this year's honorees are available upon request.