



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

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Mayor

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Metro Action Honors Volunteers/Partners during National Community Action Month *Agency Saves Over \$1 Million through Volunteer Program*

Nashville, TN—During the month of May, the Metropolitan Action Commission, the Community Action Agency for Nashville and Davidson County joined 1,000 other agencies across the nation to celebrate National Community Action Month.

The National Community Action Month was established by the National Community Action Partnership to showcase how Community Action Agencies across the country are helping low-income people change their lives.

In honor of National Community Action Month, Metro Action recognized 47 outstanding volunteers, community partners and financial contributors at the agency's 7th Annual Community Action Awards Recognition held at the downtown Library earlier this week.

Honorees received awards for their partnership or volunteer service to the agency. Last year more than 3,800 people volunteered at Metro Action, which equated to 106,144 volunteer hours and \$1,067,854 savings to the agency.

“This event is very special to us because it allows us to honor those persons and organizations who work as our partners to make a difference in the lives of the families and the children we serve,” said Croom.

In addition to the volunteer awards, the agency director selected three people to receive the coveted Executive Director's Award for their exemplary commitment to the agency's mission of “Helping People. Changing Lives.”

Recipients of the Executive Director's Award for exemplary commitment were:

- The Closer to Home Foundation provided Wal-Mart Gift Cards to four Head Start families that lost everything in a two-alarm fire at a North Nashville Apartment Building last fall as well as to a family that needed work clothing for the adults and school clothes for 7 school-aged children.

- Sally Baynham and her four children entered the GED program, beginning last fall. Three of her children have passed the GED and are currently enrolled at the Tennessee Technology Center at Nashville in pursuit of Associate Degrees. Ms. Baynham and the youngest son are expected to complete the program very soon and begin classes at Tennessee Technology Center at Nashville this fall. The Baynham family will participate in the agency's GED Graduation in June and three of them will be inducted into the GED Honor Society due to their high test scores.
- WSMV-Channel 4 News also received one of the three top awards for their implementation of the Operation Heat Wave campaign last summer. When Nashville's temperatures reached 100-degrees and above, the news station encouraged their viewers to purchase air conditioners for the agency's Summer Cooling Program, which provides free air conditioners to Davidson County seniors citizens, physically or mentally disabled adults, medically eligible residents, and families with small children. Through this campaign, 750 air conditioners were donated to the agency.

The Metropolitan Action Commission provides services to low-income families such as rent/mortgage and utility payment assistance, GED and college preparatory services and the Head Start Program, which is the largest provider of early childhood education in Davidson County.

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