

Community Services - CSBG Update

January 17, 2017

ACROS

Reminder - ACROS binders are due to your assigned program analyst by January 31st. Please contact your assigned program analyst if you have any last minute questions.

Funding Opportunities

❖ DOS Funding Opportunity

The NYS Office for New Americans (ONA) is pleased to issue a new request for applications titled "Workforce Community Education, Community Navigator and Welcoming Communities Program." **CAAs are strongly encouraged to apply.**

This Request for Applications (RFA) complements the ONA Opportunity Centers around New York State and ONA Legal Counsels that will provide legal technical assistance to ONA Opportunity Centers. Applications due March 6, 2017. Click [here](#) for detailed information on this request.

❖ To find out about other funding opportunities, sign up for these automatic email notifications:



- [Federal] [Grants.gov](#) registration
- [NY State] [Contract Reporter](#)
- [NY State] [Grants Gateway](#)
- [NY State] [Assembly Grants Actions News](#)
- [NY State Department of Health] – [Funding Page](#) Email updates
(See email link on left side of page)

BJA Accepting Letters of Interest to Support the Hiring of People with Criminal Records



The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), through its administration of the National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC), is inviting letters of interest from organizations that are interested in providing technical assistance to employers to support the hiring of people with criminal records. Click [here](#) for more details.

[Apply](#) to be a DOS DCS Vista Leader!

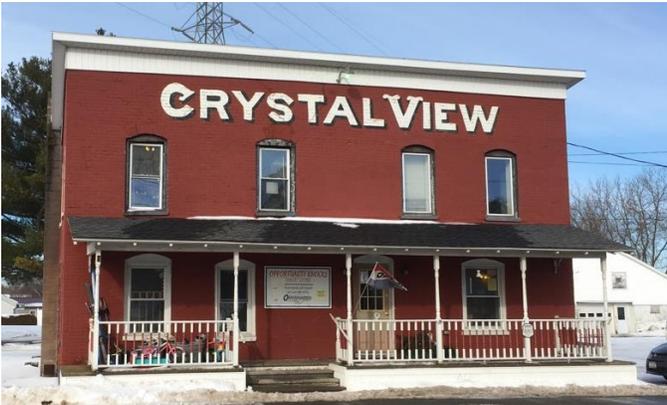


DCS Welcomes Charlene Griffin!

Charlene Griffin has joined the DCS staff as a program analyst. You may recall seeing Charlene's name in the past as she came to us in May 2016 as a student intern enrolled in the MSW program at the University at Albany. We are so pleased to have her as an addition to our division. Good luck, Charlene!



Spotlight on Lewis County Opportunities, Inc.



Opportunity Knocks Thrift Store at Lewis County Opportunities (LCOI) is dedicated to becoming a more consumer-friendly environment. LCOI has had a successful thrift store for five years now and is continually working at making it a better environment for shoppers. The most recent change is that they've made more room for displaying merchandise and improved the overall organization of the store. Shoppers will find this update to be more pleasing to the eye and make it easier to browse.

The store now has specific donation drop off days and a separate holding area to store donated goods. Donations will be taken on Wednesdays and Thursdays only. Stock will be rotated on a regular basis and items that have gone through the store's typical rotation will be offered as bag sale items. Bag sale items are sold at a considerable discount.

Opportunity Knocks is not just a store, but a learning opportunity, a volunteer opportunity, and a resource for low-income families. Through a partnership with the local one-stop, Opportunity Knocks offers job training skills to participants. Reliable, friendly volunteers staff the store on a regular basis. In FY2016 1343 hours of service were performed by volunteers. For low-income families who cannot afford to purchase items, the agency employs a vouchering system to provide the much needed assistance. Thirty-two families were assisted with vouchers in FY2016.

Congratulations to Lewis County Opportunities for operating such a successful enterprise that assists families in need!

Happy New Year 2017!

Secretary of State Rossana Rosado hosted an open house to ring in the New Year. The Albany DCS Team posed for a picture with the Secretary.



Left to Right:
Jorge Montalvo, Deputy Secretary, Clenard Killikelly, Program Analyst, Veronica Cruz, Director, Rossana Rosado, Secretary of State, Emmett Ferris, Program Analyst, Charlene Griffin, Program Analyst, Tim Brogan, Program Analyst III, Becky Parsons, Program Analyst