



## OACAA News

### Community Action Turns 50!



In 2014, Community Action will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In honor of this special occasion, OACAA has several activities planned and would like to encourage its members to celebrate as well.

#### 50 Best Things

In honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, OACAA would like to showcase the 50 best things about Community Action by highlighting Ohio's 50 Community Action Agencies. We will ask each of Ohio's 50 CAAs to submit one success story from their agency to OACAA that exemplifies the best of Community Action. We will then post a success story once a week on our blog and send out an email announcing that week's "best" story to our full mailing list, the general assembly and the

media each week throughout the year, as well as promoting them on Facebook and Twitter.

#### Anniversary Toolkit

OACAA will create a toolkit for member agencies with ideas for celebratory events, sample press releases, talking points, letters to the editor and more.

#### Summer Conference Where it All Began

The 2014 Summer Conference will be held May 21-23 in Athens where President Lyndon B. Johnson spoke 50 years ago, almost to the day (May 7, 1964), on the War on Poverty and presented his vision of the Great Society, which eventually led to the creation of Community Action Agencies.

"In 1964, at Athens, Ohio, the 36<sup>th</sup> President of the United States issued his call to arms for all Americans, especially the young, to engage in the battles against poverty, illiteracy, disease and bigotry, and to fight for equal justice for all," said Phil Cole, OACAA executive director. "He said we could not achieve them in a day or in a year, but that they would be reached if we began the effort." Community Action has been making that valiant effort for 50 years and we will celebrate this where it began, in Athens, Ohio.

Look for more information on these activities and events in the coming months!

