



Agency Happenings

Lima Allen Council on Community Affairs Wins Chamber Award

On Wednesday, May 7 the Lima Allen Council on Community Affairs (LACCA) received the Non-Profit of the Year award from the Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce at their annual Awards Gala. LACCA was one of three area non-profit agencies in the running for the prestigious award, which they also won at the inaugural awards gala in 1998.

The Awards Gala, with the theme of “Puttin on the Ritz,” was a black tie optional affair where six awards were distributed in different categories. For Non-Profit of the Year, agencies had to conduct an activity that made a difference in the community. LACCA was nominated for their community needs assessment.

This year they took the needs assessment a step further and partnered with the regional planning commission to gather data and create a more comprehensive community needs assessment. They are also sharing the needs assessment with other organizations so that they can work together to meet the needs of the community.

LACCA used Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) dollars and also used that money to leverage additional funds to pay for a professional agency to develop the needs assessment. They then held a meeting and invited other community organizations, including the county commissioners, police and fire departments to hear the findings. The report is also available to everyone on their website. “We’ve met our first goal, which is to get the assessment out to the community so that the community can respond better,” said LACCA Executive Director Jackie Fox. “Now we’re hoping that we can get a financial commitment to continue to update the data. We also want to be able to make improvements. It is available to everyone to utilize.”

Fox said that the findings in the report were not surprising to LACCA, but it was to the community. “There has been a lot of discussion about poverty,” Jackie explained. “The numbers tell it all. We can talk about the issues with poverty, but when you see it in a report, you can’t ignore it.”

LACCA is very excited to have won the Chamber award. “We had stiff competition with the other two agencies nominated, so just being nominated was enough. We’re really excited to have won,” Jackie stated. The award demonstrates how useful the needs assessment is for the Lima Allen community.

Congratulations Lima Allen Council on Community Affairs!



Pictured left to right: Thom Mazur, Regional Planning Commission; Warner Roach, LACCA Board President; Jackie Fox, LACCA CEO; Holly Rex, LACCA COO; Marva Cowan, LACCA Centralized Intake Director; and Steve Gilroy, LACCA CSBG/IT Coordinator