

April 28, 2010

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

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NECAC OBSERVES NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH

For more than 45 years, the not-for-profit North East Community Action Corporation (NECAC) has offered a helping hand to those in need.

NECAC President and CEO Don Patrick has announced that the agency's Board of Directors, employees and volunteers will be joining the other 18 Community Action Agencies in Missouri and a network of more than 1,000 agencies across the nation in observing National Community Action Month during May.

In recognition of the occasion, the Lincoln County Commission proclaimed May as NECAC Community Action Month. NECAC Lincoln County Coordinator Susan McAlexander was presented the proclamation during the April 20 meeting and gave the commission a brief update on issues facing low income individuals in Lincoln County.

NECAC is a 12-county area not-for-profit social service, community health and public housing Community Action Agency that serves the low-income, elderly, youth, handicapped and disadvantaged through partnership contracts and grants with federal, state, and local governments, private businesses and other non-profit agencies. The agency's Central Administration Offices are located in Bowling Green, with NECAC County Service Centers operated in the counties of Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Pike, Ralls, Randolph, Shelby, St. Charles and Warren counties.

Patrick said Community Action programs and services have helped improve the lives of thousands of people in the agency's 12 counties. "We are pleased to join

Community Action Agencies in Missouri and across the United States in observing more than four decades of helping people and changing lives,” he said. “This is a time when we can highlight the important social service, community health and public housing assistance that we deliver to those who need our services.”

“It’s important to recognize that without Community Action, many of the neediest among us would not get the services they need to improve their lives. We provide temporary assistance to our neighbors in need, helping them to become self-sufficient to build better lives.”

Common Community Action programs include employment and training services, foreclosure counseling, housing rent-assistance, energy assistance, home-ownership, home weatherization and repairs, affordable housing, senior and family apartment developments, family planning health services, in-home senior care services, volunteer programs for seniors, and county outreach programs.

NECAC, established in 1964, delivers more than 60 social service, community health and public housing programs to clients through more than 30 contracts and grants with federal, state and local governments, private businesses and other non-profit organizations. The agency has 140 full-time and more than 250 part-time employees, and currently operates a budget of \$29.3 million.

NECAC is governed by a 36-member volunteer Board of Directors with three representatives from each of the 12 counties. The Board consists of one Public Elected Official (PEO) representative, one Civic Interest Representative (CIR) and one Low-Income Representative (LIR) from each county.

More information about NECAC programs and services is available by contacting NECAC Lincoln County Coordinator Susan McAlexander at the NECAC Lincoln

County Service Center, 11 Woodcrest Dr. in Troy, MO, 636-528-7604.



NECAC Community Action Month: The Lincoln County Commission proclaimed May as NECAC Community Action Month at its meeting on April 20 in Troy. The Proclamation recognizes the work and dedication of NECAC's 36-member Board of Directors, employees and volunteers to provide temporary assistance to those in need by helping them become self-sufficient and build better lives. Pictured: (*seated*), Lincoln County Commissioner and NECAC Board Member Matt Bass, Presiding Commissioner Sean O'Brien, Commissioner Jim Mayes, (*standing, from left to right*), NECAC Community Services Director Betty Whittaker and NECAC Lincoln County Coordinator Susan McAlexander.