

# News Alert

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## **MCCAA Makes Rounds For Partner Appreciation Initiative**

LEBANON – Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency officials have been busy visiting local organizations and utilities in an effort to thank their partners with helping them serve Middle Tennessee's low-income families.

"MCCAA programs are designed to give those in need the tools and resources they need to become productive members of society," said Kreda Yokley, the non-profit agency's executive director. "But without the help of our community partners, we wouldn't be able to serve our families as much as possible."

"That's why we want to make sure our partners know how much we are grateful to them with helping us provide much-needed services to the community."

Since 1971, MCCAA has provided a number of home energy assistance, medical support, transportation, rental, mortgage and utility assistance, and nutritional services to Middle Tennessee families. Agency programs include Head Start and Early Head Start, Self-Sufficiency and Income Tax Preparation. The agency services eight Mid-State counties, which include Cannon, Cheatham, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson and Wilson.

"During the past couple of weeks, we have been out in all our counties meeting our partners and introducing ourselves to the community," said Rita Vaughn, MCCAA's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program director.

"We've also been out recruiting new partners and letting them know what we are about and what we can do. Our LIHEAP program, for example, serves 7,000 households in the Mid State, and about 1,600 here in Wilson County."

Vaughn said the agency's Partnership Appreciation initiative has also been helpful in identifying additional programs that may be available to low-income families.

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"While our primary mission is to deliver reliable, inexpensive power, our secondary mission has always been to make a difference in the communities we serve," said Becky Smith, Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation's customer account coordinator.

"Our partners," MCCA's Vaughn explained, "have been especially helpful in giving us information about programs they have that might be beneficial to our clients. By working more closely together, we and our partners should be better able to serve families in the area."

For additional information about the services provided by Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency, contact the following locations: Cannon County (Community Center, 630 West Lehman Street, Woodbury, phone:615-563-5852); Cheatham County (296 Frey Street, Ashland City, phone:615-792-3632); Robertson County (401 North Main Street, Springfield, phone:615-384-1086); Rutherford County (Bradley Academy, 415 South Academy Street, phone:615-893-8938 or 895-3093); Sumner County (179 West Smith Street, Gallatin, phone:615-452-7570); Trousdale County (113 C Hall Street, Hartsville, phone:615-374-3489); Williamson County (Community Services Building, 129 West Fowlkes Street, Suite 103, Franklin, phone:615-790-5786 or 790-5789); and Wilson County (233 Legend Drive, Suite 103, Lebanon, phone:615-444-4714).

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**Editor's note:** This press release is accompanied by a digital photo that has been attached to the original e-mail.

**Photo cutline:** From left to right, Becky Smith of Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation and Rita Vaughn and Debbie Hauser of MCCA's Wilson County office work closely to serve low-income families in Middle Tennessee.