



# Gateway In The News

## A Note from the Executive Director's Office

Happy New Year!

Being together under one roof on December 12 to learn, have fun, and fellowship was a wonderful experience. I do hope you walked away with new knowledge about the agency and a greater understanding and appreciation for community action as a whole. Directors did an excellent job providing an overview of the most impressive work each department had accomplished in 2014. You have my sincere admiration and gratitude for jobs well done! As we transition into 2015 and settle into a comfortable pace, keep in mind how much, collectively, we have to be proud of. Together we are able to accomplish our mission each day.

Congratulations to the lucky winner of the beautiful handmade trunk so generously donated by Brad LeMaster, the chair of Gateway's board of directors. We fundraise from time to time during the year in order to obtain unrestricted funds that support the agency. Unrestricted funds allow us to assist those in need that may not qualify under one of our core programs and affords the opportunity to actively participate in community events to promote outreach and raise public awareness of the services and opportunities that Gateway has to offer.

I look forward to all of the possibilities the new year holds for Gateway. Growth can only occur when we are open to new ideas, willing to embrace new concepts, and most of all, accepting of change. My new year's resolution is to reach higher and look for new and exciting opportunities in 2015.

Very Best Wishes for the New Year  
Charlene Engle  
Executive Director

### Anniversaries

#### October

Kristy Gamble 12 yrs

#### November

Dedra Dye 6 yrs

Virginia Hall 3 yrs

Chelsea Lawson 1 yr

Barbara Razor 1 yr

Lisa Risner 1 yr

Jennifer Rose 1 yr

Yolanda Shockey 2 yrs

#### December

Angie Elliott 3 yrs

Brenda Kendrick 3 yrs

Jessie Stidham 13 yrs

Debbie VanNorman 11 yrs

Justin Wells 3 yrs

Pepper Williams 17 yrs



### Upcoming Events

Check local newspapers for upcoming events

Thanks for being a part of Gateway Community Action Giving Tuesday!

Non-profits across the area received \$1,775,511 in donations. Gateway received \$380 which will assist in promoting our mission. We hope you'll join us again next year when we will again kick off the holiday season in the spirit of giving.

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## Moving Up and Making it Happen!



Someone's true dedication cannot be hidden when he sets his mind to a goal and receives the necessary education and motivation to achieve those goals, as is evidenced by the following cases."

Gateway's Responsible Fatherhood Program, located in West Liberty, KY and serving Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, and Rowan counties, provides education & individual coaching to help fathers learn practical skills to reduce stress and improve parenting skills in order to be successful in long term relationships with their children. The program serves approximately 300 clients yearly, assisting them with financial literacy, job skills, and parenting education. Funding for the Responsible Fatherhood Program at Gateway Community Services is provided by a Fatherhood grant, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant: 90FK0014.

Ben is a young man who recently completed multiple class programs with Gateway Community Action staff at a local rehabilitation facility. He has struggled with drug addiction from a young age, and as a result has never held steady employment or participated in many job interviews. As a result of these factors, he has looked at the prospect of entering the job market with a great deal of trepidation. Once he completed job coaching classes, Ben expressed a new sense of optimism when it comes to entering a world that can be frightening to even the most experienced individuals. He stated that he feels much more prepared to complete job applications and ready himself for job interviews, and that he is quite confident he can obtain employment utilizing the skills he has learned and practiced through Gateway Community Action's job coaching program.

Gateway's Healthy Marriage and Relationship Project, located in West Liberty, KY and serving Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, and Rowan counties, provides education & individual coaching to help couples and singles learn practical skills to reduce stress and improve communication skills in order to be successful in long term relationships. The program serves approximately 300 clients yearly, assisting them with financial literacy, job skills, and relationship education. Funding for the Healthy Marriage and Relationship Project at Gateway Community Services is provided by a contract partnership with Kentucky River Foothills in their HMRP Grant, United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant: 90FM0050.

John and Cindy completed Gateway's financial literacy program. At the time, they were each working two jobs while readying themselves for retirement. When we heard from them recently, Cindy had left one of her jobs and John had retired from a small consulting business. In even better news, they had just sent in their final mortgage payment, with their next financial goal being a kitchen renovation. Based on the progress they have made to this point, it is not difficult to envision Cindy cooking in her new kitchen!

The staff is determined that cases of clients highlighted here will become the rule and not the exception and we look forward to many more success stories in 2015!



## Angel Tree Distribution

Gateway Community Action CSBG Staff assisted with Angel Tree Distribution at Christian Social Services on December 19<sup>th</sup> in Bath County. The distribution was a huge success and helped many Bath County clients provide Christmas gifts to their children.



## Job Fair

We had 76 job seekers attend and 14 employers. We were all very pleased and are planning another one for Menifee in the Spring and one for Morgan in the Spring also.



In the photo L to R: Lori Sorrell (KCC), Wendy Crain-Lawson (KCC), Sheila Mullins (kynect), Emily Cravens (KCC), Schelena Smith (kynect), Kim Plank (kynect), Cindy Hurt (KCC) and Brittany Keeton (KCC).

## kynect

Open enrollment for insurance through kynect began in November 2014 and approximately 100 applications have been completed and enrolled into Medicaid or Qualified Health Plans for Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan and Rowan Counties. Open Enrollment ends February 15, 2015. If you need medical coverage please call one of our kynectors in the following counties:

Bath & Rowan – Kim Plank, 606-207-2404

Menifee & Morgan – Schelena Smith, 606-495-8541

Montgomery – Sheila Mullins, 606-359-1040

## OHS CLASS Descriptive Statistics, 2014

### National Statistics by Domain

Grantee-level dimension scores are averaged to produce grantee-level domain scores. Previous large-scale studies of CLASS™ have shown that the average preschool classroom scores are higher in the domains of Emotional Support and Classroom Organization than in the domain of Instructional Support.

OHS CLASS Descriptive Statistics, 2014 National Distribution of Grantee-Level Domain Scores		
Domain	National	Gateway
Emotional Support	6.10	6.22
Classroom Organization	5.83	5.39
Instructional Support	2.90	3.29



### Gateway applies for \$24,000 Grant

The WHAS Crusade for Children, Inc. established in 1954 by WHAS-TV, raises money for schools, agencies and hospitals to better the lives of special needs children. In its first 61 years, the Crusade has raised \$160 million.

Thanks to generous contributions of goods and services, the Crusade is able to return 100% of all donations to organizations that serve special needs children in all 120 Kentucky counties and more than 50 southern Indiana counties. Fire departments raise more than 50 percent of the money each year by staging road blocks and other events.



### Kentucky Career Center JobSight

The Kentucky Career Center JobSight has training funds available for those 18 and older who live in Menifee and Morgan counties. Work experience placements are also available for those 18-21. For more information call 606-768-3352 or 606-743-3133.

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## Winter Driving



### Safe Driving and Vehicle Maintenance Are Key

Winter is a time when safe driving and well-maintained vehicles take on even greater importance. “Failure to keep in proper lane or running off the road” and “driving too fast for conditions” are two of the most frequent driver behaviors, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

In order to avoid potentially dangerous situations, the Insurance Information Institute offers the following winter driving tips:

- ✦ Give yourself enough time to arrive at your destination. Trips can take longer during winter than other times of the year, especially if you encounter storm conditions or icy roads.
- ✦ Bring a cellphone so that those awaiting your arrival can get in touch with you, or you can notify them, if you are running late. But avoid the temptation of using the phone while driving, as it can be a dangerous distraction—pull over first.
- ✦ Drive slowly because accelerating, stopping and turning all take longer on snow-covered roads.
- ✦ Leave more distance than usual between your vehicle and the one just ahead of you, giving yourself at least 10 seconds to come to a complete stop. Cars and motorcycles usually need at least 3 seconds to halt completely even when traveling on dry pavement.
- ✦ Be careful when driving over bridges, as well as roadways rarely exposed to sunlight—they are often icy when other areas are not.
- ✦ Avoid sudden stops and quick direction changes.
- ✦ Be sure to keep your gas tank full. Stormy weather or traffic delays may force you to change routes or turn back. A fuller gas tank also averts the potential freezing of your car's gas-line.
- ✦ Keep windshield and windows clear. Drivers in cold-weather states should have a snow brush or scraper in their vehicle at all times. Your car's defroster can be supplemented by wiping the windows with a clean cloth to improve visibility.
- ✦ Do not activate your cruise control when driving on a slippery surface.
- ✦ Do not warm up a vehicle in an enclosed area, such as a garage.
- ✦ Keep your tires properly inflated and remember that good tread on your tires is essential to safe winter driving.



## Fall/Winter Energy Saving Tips

The following tips will save you energy and help your budget as the weather cools down.

- Set your thermostat no higher than 68 degrees when you are home and lower the temperature when you go to bed or when you are not at home. This will ensure optimal home heating and save energy.
- For every degree you lower your thermostat you save about 2 percent off your heating bill.
- Cut annual heating bills by as much as 10 percent a year by turning your thermostat back 10 to 15 percent for eight hours a day.
- Weatherize your home by caulking and weather-stripping all doors and windows. Also use locks on your windows to make them tighter and draft resistant.
- Insulate or increase the amount of insulation in your attic, basement and outside walls. Also cover through-the-wall air conditioners to prevent cold air from leaking into your home.
- Reducing air leaks could cut 10 percent from an average household's monthly energy bill. The most common places where air escapes homes are: floors, walls, ceilings, ducts, fireplaces, plumbing penetrations, doors, windows, fans, vents and electrical outlets.
- Keep shades and curtains open during the day on the south side of your home to allow solar heating. Close them at night to retain heat.
- Don't block your radiators or heating vents with furniture or draperies. Keep your radiators, registers and baseboard heaters dirt and dust free. Close vents and doors in unused rooms.
- Have your heating system serviced once a year and regularly replace furnace filters. During the heating season, change or clean furnace filters once a month.
- Close the fireplace damper when not in use.
- Turn your water heater down to 120 degrees Fahrenheit to save money on your energy bill. If you have children in the house, this is also a safety



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We're on the Web!

[www.gcscap.org](http://www.gcscap.org)

*Gateway Community Action is an "Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer"*