

[<BACK](#)

YCCAC News & Events

SCHOLARSHIP – WIC Program Director awarded Scholarship from National WIC Association



York County WIC Program Director Jen Quimby has been selected as a recipient of a National WIC Association Member Benefit Fund Scholarship to the Washington Leadership Conference, which takes place March 4 – 6, 2018, in Washington, D.C. Seven scholarships are offered nationwide (one to each of the seven regions), and will cover registration, travel, and hotel costs for the recipients. Jen will represent the Northeast region.

The conference will provide a forum to discuss Federal initiatives affecting the health and nutritional well-being of WIC mothers and young children, as well as service delivery and the effective management of the Program.

“This is a great opportunity to learn about WIC policy, connect with colleagues from across the country, and exercise my role in WIC policy,” Quimby said.

The conference will feature speakers from the National WIC Association, and will include breakout sessions for participants to learn about WIC Policy and Current Issues; Marketing, Media and Communications; and “Becoming a Strong WIC Spokesperson.”

As select person from the Northeast Regions, Jennifer will be the WIC scholarship representative for the States of Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and New York.

“SUPER SATURDAY” – Free tax prep to be held February 10th in Sanford

On Saturday, February 10th, York County Community Action Corporation will host its annual “Super Saturday” Free Tax-Prep services at the YCCAC main office complex at 6 Spruce Street in Sanford. The tax-prep service will begin at 9:00 a.m., and the last appointments will be scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

[<BACK](#)

YCCAC News & Events Cont'd

There will be 6 or more seasoned IRS tax preparers available. People can book appointments now by calling 324-5762 ext. 2718.

York County CA\$H, a program of the YCCAC Economic Opportunity program, provides free preparation of basic Federal and State tax returns for those with adjusted gross income below \$54,000, who have had a “life event” — a major event that changes a person’s status or circumstances, such as giving birth, marriage, divorce, death of spouse, loss of job—or who have participated in YCCAC services in the past. All tax prep services are provided by IRS-certified volunteers. The tax prep volunteers can help determine what special tax credits you might be eligible for, such as Earned-Income Tax Credit (EITC), Child Tax Credit, and Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled.

In addition to the “usual” tax return documents, people must present an original social security card and a photo ID at the time of their appointment. Tax-services cannot be done for the self-employed.

February 10th is the only “Super Saturday” this year. However, we are currently booking weekday appointments for tax return preparation in both the YCCAC Biddeford and Sanford offices, ongoing through April 17, 2018. To schedule your appointment, please call 324-5762, ext. 2718.

WINTER COAT DRIVE – Bringing warmth to many in York County



Winter struck early this year, with temperatures dipping into single digits, and even below zero in some southern Maine locations, all before the season’s start date of December 21. The first arctic blast hit Maine in early November, the second just before Thanksgiving, and then brutally cold temperatures arrived with the snowstorm on Christmas day. Relief from the bitter cold didn’t come until well into the new year—on January 9th,

the first day temperatures climbed above freezing in nearly a month.

[<BACK](#)

YCCAC News & Events Cont'd

For people lacking sufficient winter clothing, the cold can be more than a nuisance. It can be dangerous.

In November, Williams Realty Partners (WRP) launched a winter coat drive to collect new and gently used coats for those in the York region who were in need. The “WRP Month of Giving” ran from November 25 to December 23. York County Community Action Corporation, with an office site in the Kittery Community Center, was selected to distribute the coats through its Community Outreach program.



Donation drop-off locations were set up throughout southern Maine, and included outlet stores in Kittery, the First Parish Church, York Region Chamber of Commerce, and the Wiggly Bridge Distillery, all in York. Every Saturday during the campaign, the WRP trolley, affectionately named “Stella,” made trips to various locations to collect the donated coats—and to spread holiday cheer.

Thirteen large bags of coats were collected and delivered to YCCAC. Melinda Chamberlain, YCCAC

receptionist at the Kittery office, sent a note to Troy Williams, owner of WRP, a day after he had made a delivery: “As of 11 a.m. today, we have distributed 28 coats and jackets. One pregnant woman came in wearing an old coat that does not fit her at all due to her growing belly. She walked out with two coats and was so thrilled. I have contacted a local church that runs a clothing “closet” that is interested in getting some of the coats to distribute to local residents. The teachers from Head Start (in Kittery) were able to find coats and jackets for some of the kids in need. In just 24 hours, this event has been a huge success!”

The coat drive was a hit by any measure. Williams Realty Partners and York County Community Action Corporation, working in partnership to help keep local families safe during one of the coldest periods in recent memory, were delighted with the result.

“WRP was thrilled to donate the coats from our Month of Giving to YCCAC,” Williams said. “Our team lives and works in the Greater York Area and felt it was important to make sure the beneficiaries from the drive were local families and individuals in need.”

[<BACK](#)

YCCAC News & Events Cont'd

TRANSPORTATION GRANT – Transportation program receives \$50,000 Maine Cancer Foundation Grant

York County Community Action Corporation (YCCAC) has been awarded a two-year \$50,000 grant by the Maine Cancer Foundation. The grant will provide access to cancer care and related appointments for York County residents who do not have access to other transportation options. YCCAC's Transportation program will use the funds to operate "Connecting to Cancer Care," a strong partnership with the medical providers treating persons diagnosed with cancer, in 2018 and 2019.

"Connecting to Cancer Care" is available to residents of York County who have a cancer diagnosis, need transportation to treatment or related appointments, and do not have other means of transportation. Rides can be scheduled by phone (207 324-5762, Option 2) or by visiting the YCCAC Transportation office at 6 Spruce Street, Sanford. For more information, please visit www.yccac.org

"Maine Cancer Foundation's grant is offered as part of their ongoing Challenge Cancer 2020 initiative, aimed at reducing cancer incidence and mortality 20% by 2020. They have awarded nearly \$6 million since 2015 in support of this initiative, focused on prevention, early detection and screening, and access to care for all Mainers. To learn more about Maine Cancer Foundation, visit mainecancer.org, or contact Kristen Smith, kristen@mainecancer.org, 207-773-2533."

ROAR – Head Start children among recipients of stuffed animal drive

Student volunteers from the University of New England, along with the United Way of York County, invited YCCAC and a handful of other community organizations to receive stuffed animals that were collected through UNE's 2nd Annual Teddy Bear Toss. Exactly 2,665 stuffed animals were gathered from the event and 300 were given to YCCAC for distribution to our Head Start students and children enrolled in WIC. We express our sincere gratitude to UNE, the United Way of York



Pictured l-r: Darcy Dube, Children's Services Lead Family Service Worker; Ericka Sanborn, Volunteer Coordinator; Caraline,

[<BACK](#)

YCCAC News & Events Cont'd

UNE Student Leader; and Sarah Hoover, United Way Community Impact Associate.