

# Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. "A COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY"



2 East Arch Street  
Shamokin, PA 17872  
570-644-6575  
January 1– March 31, 2017



## Exactly What IS Community Action?

Let's be honest– if you know what Community Action is, raise your hand!

The concept of Community Action has been around for a long time, dating back to 1964 and President LBJ's War on Poverty. Almost every county in the United States (over 99%) has some type of Community Action Agency. The Community Action Association of Pennsylvania recently released a series of videos to explain our mission. (click the links below)

Basically, Community Action is whatever the community needs it to be. Each agency has its own agenda, based on a comprehensive needs assessment. In CSO's case, Columbia, Montour, and Northumberland Counties dictate what services we will provide in the area. Our most recent survey identified trouble paying utility bills, housing issues, under– and un-employment, and food insecurity as major deficiencies. Consequently, our slate of services reflect our efforts to address these topics.

May is Community Action Month. Here's hoping that you will tell one person that you know about your Community Action Agency, **CSO**. If you would like someone to come to your site, give us a call. Finally, if you are able, make a donation by visiting our [website](#). We can really strrrretch a dollar and your generosity will help in your community.



Who  
We  
Are...

What  
We  
Do...

Why We  
Do This...

### In this edition:

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### CSO's offices will be closed:

- Fri., April 14  
Good Friday
- Mon., May 29  
Memorial Day
- Tues., July 4  
Independence Day

Office Hours are  
Monday through Friday  
from 8am-4pm.



Another tax season is almost over. If you didn't already file, you have until April 18 to have your return filed electronically or in the mail.

CSO served as a VITA site for our area once again this year. With a grant from the Lower Anthracite Region United Way to cover supplies and other expenses, we were able to assist individuals with their electronically filed returns. This service is provided free to our customers.

CSO Community Action Staff attended a naloxone training program on February 7 at the Shamokin site. The training was provided by Project Bald Eagle from Williamsport.



Steve Murphy Shope, Executive Director for the program, presented detailed, visual instruction on the use of naloxone, and also the physiological effects of opioid addiction. The site received a kit to have on hand in the event of an overdose emergency.

For more information about this program, please refer to [www.ProjectBaldEagle.com](http://www.ProjectBaldEagle.com).

It may surprise many people to learn how SNAP (Food Stamp) benefits are actually spent. According to a report published in November, 2016 by the US Department of Agriculture:

- ◆ 40% is spent on basics like bread, meat, milk, eggs, fruits and vegetables.
- ◆ Another 40% goes for items such as cereal, rice, beans, dairy products (aside from milk), and other cooking ingredients.
- ◆ Finally, 20 cents from each dollar is spent on sweetened drinks, salty snacks, desserts and candy. In other words, 80% of each SNAP dollar is spent on foods used to provide meals and healthy snacks.

Another fact is that most recipients are children under 18 and the elderly, and many other recipients are working individuals.

CSO continues to assist these vulnerable populations by providing SNAP outreach and education, as well as assistance with the application. If you know of anyone who may benefit from this service, please contact Marlene by [email](mailto:marlene@csocentral.org) or at 570-644-6575, extension 123. It's a SNAP!



During the last year, CSO was able to assist eligible individuals in the quest for obtaining vital documents like a photo id, birth certificate, and even a GED.

Through the generosity of a "High 5" award from the Lower Anthracite Region United Way, CSO provided these services to 25 people.

**THANK YOU**  
For Changing Lives  
LIVE UNITED 



**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.  
*Click the Amazon Smile logo above and select Central Susquehanna Opportunities to contribute when you shop!*



Many organizations designate April as the month to recognize and thank their volunteers. There are so many activities and services that would not exist without volunteers, but they play an important part in our lives. Imagine a community without some of these supports and services:

- ◆ Fire Fighters
- ◆ Food Banks
- ◆ Community Meals
- ◆ Youth Sports
- ◆ Boy/Girl Scouts

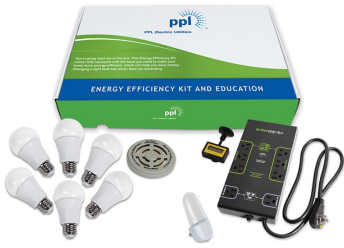
**Almost everyone has a few hours a month to do a worthwhile activity. Put your volunteer hat on and get connected to your community- and take a friend along!!**

CSO Sportsman's Raffle tickets are available again- same price and loads of great prizes (see flyer on p.5)!

Look for us at these community events, just in time for Father's Day (or Mother's Day!):

- ◆ April 29- Bloomsburg Renaissance Jamboree 10-5
- ◆ May 6- Danville Spring Fling 9-5
- ◆ May 13- Oak St. Festival, Mt. Carmel 9-3
- ◆ May 27- Anthracite Heritage Festival, Shamokin 10-5
- ◆ June 10- Eagle Arms Gun Show, Bloomsburg Fair 9-3



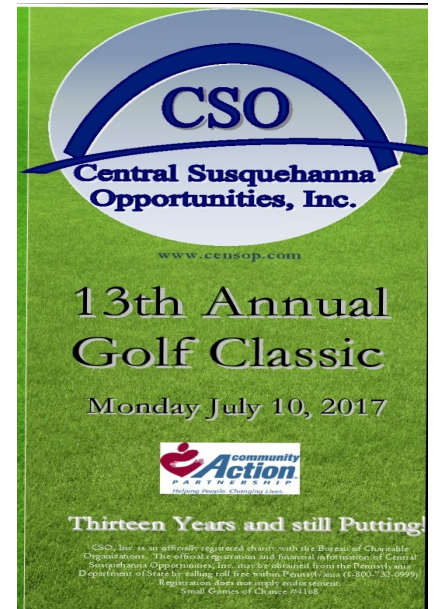


Many customers have attended the PPL workshop offered by CSO's Financial Literacy program and received a **free** energy efficiency kit. Until recently, the free kit was a one-time gift.

CSO is happy to announce that their new kit is available to all residential customers, even if you received one of the earlier gifts.

The PPL Education program is chock full of great information about how to save on your electric bill. For example, an LED Night Light can be used to guide the way instead of turning on main lights in a room. It uses less energy than an incandescent bulb and can last up to 50 times longer!

If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, all you have to do is call and schedule your session and bring your PPL bill to the 1-hour class. Please call 570-644-6575, ext. 113 or email [Lari](mailto:Lari) for more information, including class times and dates.



explore the  
**WORLD OF WORK**



CSO and Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) will join forces once again to provide Job Shadowing experiences for area 10th graders. The popular program shines a light on career development and STEAM– science, technology, engineering, art, and math. These skills are incorporated into just about every career!

The Job Shadowing program includes students from Lourdes Regional, Mt. Carmel Area, and Shamokin Area School Districts. Dates are flexible– we will try our best to accommodate everyone!

If you would like to spend an enlightening day with an area teen, we are looking for you. Please contact [Andrea](mailto:Andrea) to inquire about how you can be a mentor for a day!



For former inmates, adjusting to life on the outside can be harder than the time spent behind bars. CSO has been working with Northumberland County inmates who are preparing for release. Warden Kovach and Deputy Warden Smink screen and identify those individuals who demonstrated good behavior and compliance during incarceration for participation in the program.

Services include weekly visits to the prison by CSO staff, individual case management, and assistance finding employment and housing upon release. For many, the lack of family and community support often leads to recidivism. CSO hopes to give individuals a fresh start through Community Action initiatives.



The **Columbia County Human Services Coalition** will be conducting a Needs Assessment through Spring 2017. The coalition hopes that the information will be used by agencies to assist in grant writing, planning, and operating programs that will benefit the area.

Modeling CSO's most recent Needs Assessment, the Columbia County Coalition will carry out the survey under the direction of a sub-committee designed for that specific purpose. CSO Case Manager Becky Stender will contribute her experience and expertise to the study.

Agencies and individuals from Columbia and Montour are invited to participate in the assessment. Both consumers and professionals will be surveyed. The data will be compiled and analyzed by Bloomsburg University's Center for Community Research, with results made available this fall. Please contact [Becky](mailto:Becky) for additional information or to complete the survey.

# CSO Classifieds



## Monthly Recruiting Events

All Shifts Available  
Great Advancement Opportunities  
Positions are Temp to Hire  
Warehouse, Assemblers, Mig Welders, Fork Lift Drivers, Clerical,  
Medical and Non Medical



Pennsylvania CareerLink®

## 2017 Job Fairs

**Columbia County - Thursday, March 9**  
Berwick Country Club, 473 Martzville Rd, Berwick, 18603  
**Snyder County - Thursday, May 4**  
VFW, Selingsgrove Post 6631, 940 US Rt 522, Selingsgrove, 17870  
**Montour County - Tuesday, May 23**  
Frosty Valley Country Club, 2201 Bloom Rd, Danville, 17821  
**Sunbury - Thursday, June 15**  
Shikellamy High School, 115 Fairmount Ave, Sunbury, 17801  
**Paxinos - Wednesday, September 20**  
Masser's Banquet Hall, Rt 61 & 487, Paxinos, 17860  
**Union County - October**  
(Date & Location TBA) Lewisburg, 17837



2:30 pm to 3:00 pm for Veteran job seekers  
3:00 pm to 6:00 pm Open to the Public

Questions please call:  
570-988-7300 TTY: 570-286-8293  
Or visit: [www.jobgateway.pa.gov](http://www.jobgateway.pa.gov)

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request. Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.

### CSO SERVICES

**Financial Literacy**– to attend or schedule a workshop please call Lari at ext. 113.

**UGI**– for assistance with your Gas bill, call Lari at ext. 113.

**SNAP**– to submit a SNAP application or to schedule a presentation , dial ext. 123 for Marlene.

**CARES for Saving** - call Lari at ext. 113.

**BH/IDS Housing Needs**– for assistance in locating housing please call Brian at ext. 109 or 570-492-1212

**Columbia/Montour Counties:**  
Reach Becky at 570-412-2830

### DIRECTORY

**Adult Services**– for rent/housing related services in Northumberland County, contact a Case Manager.

**Case Management**– 570-644-6575  
Melissa Farrow– ext. 144  
Sarah Fowler– ext. 126  
Rich Higgins– ext. 135  
Kathie O’Grady– ext. 174 or 409

**JOBS Room**– Call Andrea @ ext. 119

**General Information**– ext. 171  
email [csoinc@censo.com](mailto:csoinc@censo.com)

**SafeLink**– if you meet certain criteria you may be eligible to a free cell phone. Ask at ext. 171

**Home-Delivered Meals**– call Rich At ext. 135

**Contact any CSO Staff Member by email :**  
(first init.)(last name)@censo.com

*Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. Memorial Gift Program*

Give back to the community that gave you so much.

A memorial gift ensures the continuation of CSO's outstanding work in community assistance, individual empowerment, and workforce development.

Please consider making a financial gift or donation in honor or in memorial of an individual, group, or special event.

*leave a legacy...*










Please contact CSO, Inc. at 570-644-6575

Visit CSO online at [www.censo.com](http://www.censo.com)

Like us on Facebook

# 2017

## NATIONAL SEASONAL PREPAREDNESS MESSAGING CALENDAR

|        |  |   |  |
|--------|--|---|--|
| WINTER | <br><b>DECEMBER</b><br>National Influenza<br>Vaccination Week<br>Holiday Safety                 | <b>JANUARY</b><br>MLK Day of Service<br>   | <br><b>FEBRUARY</b><br>Winter Storm<br>Extreme Cold   |
|        | <br><b>MARCH</b><br>American Red Cross Month<br>Severe Weather Preparedness                    | <b>APRIL</b><br>Financial Literacy Month<br>National Volunteer Week<br>  | <b>MAY</b><br>Wildfire Community<br>Preparedness Day <br>National Small Business Week<br>National Hurricane<br>Preparedness Week<br>National Police Week<br>National EMS Week<br>National Building Safety Month<br>National Dam Safety Awareness Day |
|        | <br><b>JUNE</b><br>Pet Preparedness Month<br>Extreme Heat<br>National CPR/AED Awareness Month | <br><b>JULY</b><br>Parks and Recreation Month   | <br><b>AUGUST</b><br>National Night Out<br>Back to School   |
| FALL   | <b>SEPTEMBER</b><br>National Preparedness Month<br>9/11 Day of Service and<br>Remembrance<br> | <b>OCTOBER</b><br>National Crime Prevention Month<br>Cybersecurity Awareness Month<br>Fire Prevention Week<br>Great ShakeOut<br> | <b>NOVEMBER</b><br>Critical Infrastructure<br>Preparedness Month<br>Military Family Month<br>   |

- For links to social media toolkits and key messaging for seasons & topics please visit: [www.ready.gov/calendar](http://www.ready.gov/calendar)
- Toolkits and hazard related content are most engaging prior to and right after disasters and emergencies.

**CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA  
OPPORTUNITIES, INC.  
REGISTRATION FORM**

*Deadline for Registration is July 3, 2017*

Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorship Level**

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| ◇ Master Sponsor       | \$2,500  |
| ◇ Dinner Sponsor       | \$2,000  |
| ◇ Lunch Sponsor        | \$1,000  |
| ◇ Cart Sponsor         | \$1,000  |
| ◇ Patio Sponsor        | \$750    |
| ◇ Registration Sponsor | \$750    |
| ◇ Happy Hour Sponsor   | \$750    |
| ◇ Beverage Sponsor     | \$750    |
| ◇ Awards Sponsor       | \$750    |
| ◇ Eagle Sponsor        | \$500    |
| ◇ Birdie Sponsor       | \$300    |
| ◇ Par Sponsor          | \$250    |
| ◇ Hole Sponsor         | \$100    |
| ◇ Individual Golfer    | \$100    |
| ◇ Contribution         | \$ _____ |

**Please Mail Form & Check to:**

**CSO, Inc. c/o Golf Classic**  
**2 East Arch Street**  
**Shamokin PA 17872**  
**570-975-7422**

**OR VISIT [WWW.CENSOP.COM](http://WWW.CENSOP.COM)**



**GOLFER REGISTRATION**  
(4 per team @ \$100 each)

Golfer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Tee Off at 10:00 AM**  
**Shot Gun Start**  
**Four Person Scramble**

**\*EVENT HELD RAIN OR SHINE\***



**13th Annual  
Golf Classic**

**Monday July 10th, 2017**



**Thirteen years and still putting!**

CSO, Inc. is an officially registered charity with the Bureau of Charitable Organizations. The official registration and financial information of Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania (1-800-732-0999). Registration does not imply endorsement.

Small Games of Chance #4796

**On Monday July 10, 2017**

Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. will be hosting its 13th Annual Golf Classic at **Frosty Valley Country Club in Danville, PA.**



**\$100 Per Golfer**

**Cost of the event will include:**

- ◆ Coffee & Doughnuts at Registration
- ◆ Greens Fee and Cart
- ◆ Lunch between Nine Holes
- ◆ On-Course Refreshments
- ◆ Dinner
- ◆ Prizes

Prizes from the Frosty Valley Country Club

Pro-Shop will be awarded to the top three teams in three flights.

There will be specialty prizes awarded for closest to the pins and longest drive. Door prizes will also be awarded.

**In Support of:**

Portion of funds raised at the Golf Classic support the CSO C.A.R.E.S. (Crisis Assistance Refueling Energy Services) program, which will provide a variety of energy-related services to low-income individuals and/or households. Your participation and support will help us in these endeavors.

**CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.**  
A COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

*"Helping Communities, Changing Lives"*

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Central Susquehanna Opportunities serves as a catalyst for economic, educational, social, and workforce development in collaboration and cooperation with the entire community to provide diverse resources that promote self-sufficiency and community prosperity.

**VISION STATEMENT**

We will be the leader in advancing economic, educational, social, and workforce development opportunities.

**VALUES**

Central Susquehanna Opportunities believes:

- That each individual is unique and should be treated with dignity and respect
  - In developing partnerships in order to re-invest in the communities in which we live
  - In creating a work environment that empowers employees to make a difference
- In providing services to the public in the most effective and efficient manner



**Master Sponsor**

**SPONSORSHIP LEVELS**

**\$2500—Master Sponsor**

- Foursome
- Two Hole Sponsors
- Logo on All Tournament Literature
- Special Recognition at Registration/Dinner/Awards

**\$2000—Dinner Sponsor**

- Foursome
- Two Hole Sponsors
- Logo on All Tournament Literature
- Special Recognition at Registration/Dinner/Awards

**\$1000—Lunch Sponsor**

- Foursome
- One Hole Sponsor
- Special Recognition at Registration/Dinner/Awards

**\$1000—Cart Sponsor**

- Foursome
- One Hole Sponsor
- Special Recognition at Pre-Tee Off/Awards

**\$750—Registration, Happy Hour, Beverage, Patio or Awards Sponsor**

- Foursome
- One Hole Sponsor
- Special Recognition at Dinner

**\$500—Eagle Sponsor**

- Foursome
- One Hole Sponsor
- Special Recognition

**\$300—Birdie Sponsor**

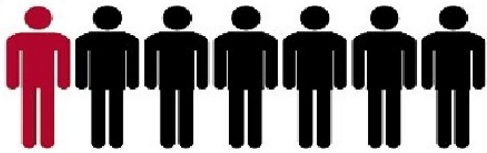
- Twosome
- One Hole Sponsor
- Special Recognition at Registration

**\$250—Par Sponsor**

- Twosome
- Special Recognition at Registration

**\$100—Hole Sponsor**

- Placard with Name at Tee Area



**In the United States,  
1 in 7 adults and**



**1 in 5 children  
lives in poverty.**

**What are we doing about it?**

More than 50 years ago President Lyndon Johnson launched the “War on Poverty,” a government campaign which brought us Medicaid and Medicare, Head Start, Legal Services, subsidized housing, raises in the minimum wage and later food stamps and Pell grants. What’s the legacy of such efforts to address poverty?



**David Bradley, CEO of the  
National Community Action Foundation  
presents  
Examining Community Action  
and the War on Poverty  
7 pm, Monday, April 10  
Gallery Theatre, Langone Center**

**Advocating for the Poor  
in the New Washington\***  
**11 am–1 pm, Tuesday, April 11**  
**Larison Dining Hall**

\*Registration required for this event. Go to:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/fE1kGAs6K14g4XIP2>  
or call 570 577-3973



David Bradley helped found the National Community Action Foundation in 1981. The Community Action approach emphasizes local priorities and the maximum feasible participation of individuals from communities being served. For more than 30 years, Bradley has been one of Washington’s leading advocates on behalf of low-income programs. In an age in which partisan gridlock is too often the norm, he has shown an uncanny ability to make poverty issues a concern to both parties.

Events co-sponsored by the Bucknell Office of Civic Engagement, Managing for Sustainability, Political Science, Economics, Public Policy Institute, Place Studies Program, and the CommUnity Zone.  
Call 570 577-3973 for details.