



Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation

Carl Rosenkranz, Executive Director

215 S. Barnes Avenue * Springfield, MO 65802

Phone: 417-862-4314 * Fax: 417-864-3499

www.oacac-cao.org

PRESS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Alice Wingo, Resource Development Director, 417-864-3448

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OACAC RECOGNIZES MAIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH AS OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PARTNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 29, 2011, Springfield, MO – Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) is pleased to recognize Main Street Baptist Church of Greenfield as the Outstanding Community Partner for 2011. Pastor Harold McMasters accepted the award at the Opening Ceremony of the Missouri Association of Community Action (MACA) annual conference at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, MO on June 29, 2011. Mayor Jim O’Neal opened the conference by presenting a proclamation stating June 29, 2011 as Community Action Day in Springfield. All 19 Community Action agencies from around the state of Missouri were represented at the conference.

The partnership between Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation and The Main Street Baptist Church of Greenfield, MO is Community Action in its truest form. This collaboration has created dozens of opportunities for service providers to meet the various needs in their community.

Main Street Baptist Church generously provides the use of its former building in Greenfield, to OACAC at an amount that is cost effective for the agency. As a result of this, OACAC has been able to coordinate and integrate services in one central location. Just a few examples of the services that are provided at the Neighborhood Center are; the local food pantry that services over 200 families a month, a Children's Ministry group, the Ministerial Alliance, as well as representatives from Social Security, Medicare/Medicaid, Probation and Parole and many others.

By utilizing the Neighborhood Center, OACAC is now able to expand life skills classes, and OACAC hosted a Women's Overall Wellness Conference in April of this year with over 70 attendees. By providing unrestricted access to so many services in one location, OACAC and the Main Street Baptist Church are strengthening families and the community.

Pastor Harold McMasters at Main Street Baptist Church has a love for his community and a commitment to his fellow human being that is unmistakable. Pastor McMasters has led the Main Street Baptist Church, along with the Greenfield Community to fight against hunger by providing their new church building as the drop off location for the mobile food pantry. The food pantry has already provided over 105,000 pounds of food to over 500 families in 2011. Main Street Baptist Church was also the catalyst for creating "Team Kids" – a group that provides weekly meals made exclusively for the children at the food pantry.

Main Street Baptist Church is also a sponsoring partner of OACAC's School Readiness Fair, and the Dade County Christmas Project which provides holiday gifts to the families with limited resources in Dade County. Pastor McMasters, along with the congregation at Main Street Baptist Church are not

only a partner with OACAC; they support their entire community and strive for a better quality of life for every resident.

For more information about the programs OACAC offers to low-income families contact Alice Wingo at 417-864-3448 or visit our website at www.oacac-cao.org.

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