

AppCAA Names New Executive Director

Appalachian Community Action and Development (AppCAA) has named Lisa Barton its new Executive Director. Ms. Barton brings more than two decades of executive experience to this position including as the Finance Director for AppCAA and for 15 years as the Finance Director for Kid Central, Inc. Ms. Barton was the Adult Education Director for Hawkins County for three years, where she helped older learners gain life skills and improve their employability.

Ms. Barton's extensive experience helping the people of our region uniquely position her to guide AppCAA. "We are happy that Lisa has accepted the Executive Director position," said AppCAA Board Chair Selma Hood, "She has done an excellent job as Finance Director. With that experience and her devotion to the Agency, she will do well in leading AppCAA into a successful future." Ms. Barton will be spearheading several initiatives for AppCAA in 2021--including the development of the Agency's Strategic Plan--while expanding AppCAA's client base.

About AppCAA

Based in Gate City, Virginia, AppCAA serves moderate-to-low-income households in Wise, Lee and Scott Counties and the City of Norton. Since its founding in 1965, AppCAA has remained a trusted community partner for families in Southwest Virginia. So far this fiscal year 2021, AppCAA was able to:

- Provide 1816 afterschool meals to children;
- Help 417 children through the Imagination Library;
- Provide 1603 summer meals for children;
- Help 25 seniors and people with disabilities live independently;
- Avoid utility shut off for 606 households;
- Provide diaper vouchers for 406 families;
- Keep 1,086 families from going hungry through food vouchers;
- Help 64 families remain in their homes through rental payments;
- Weatherize 11 homes to lower energy bills;
- Deliver financial literacy training to 117 people.

AppCAA manages the Financial Opportunities Center, providing classes and coaching to Southwest Virginians hoping to pay off debts, improve their credit scores, or buy a home. AppCAA has won awards for its home weatherization program which helps reduce energy bills by \$283 on average.

All of AppCAA's services are free. Find out more at: www.appcaa.org or call AppCAA: (276) 452-2441.