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Straight from the **Corner** Office (Literally)

It is an exciting time at Cornerstone Community Action Agency, and I am proud to share some of the progress taking place across our communities. One of the most important things we can do is listen, which is why our Community Assessment process is so valuable. By meeting with partners, leaders, and residents throughout our 11-county service area, we are learning directly from the communities we serve and using that input to help guide our work.

We also have much to celebrate. Our Mineral Wells Head Start campus is officially open and welcoming children and families for the new school year. CCAA received \$600,000 from the Texas Veterans Commission to continue supporting veterans and their families through our General Assistance and Housing for Texas Heroes programs. We are also incredibly proud to have earned Gold recognition

through the National Community Action Partnership's Pathways to Excellence program, placing Cornerstone among a very small group of Community Action Agencies nationwide to achieve this distinction.

There is still more ahead. On October 24, we will gather in Weatherford for our Boots & Bling Casino Night, an evening of fun that will also help support the work we do throughout our communities. Thank you to our employees, Board, partners, supporters, and neighbors who continue to make this work possible. Together, we are building stronger communities and creating opportunities for the people and families we serve.

Hanna Adams
Executive Director



The Gold Standard

Cornerstone Community Action Agency has reached an extraordinary milestone, earning Gold Tier recognition through the National Community Action Partnership's Pathways to Excellence program. Among a national network of more than **1,000 Community Action Agencies**, CCAA joins an exceptionally small group of **fewer than 10 agencies nationwide to have earned Gold recognition**. This achievement places Cornerstone among a select group of Community Action organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to organizational excellence, continuous improvement, and **delivering meaningful results** for the people and communities they serve.



Executive Director Hanna Adams with CCAA Board Chair Dr. Dayna Prochaska and Chief Executive Officer of National Community Action Partnership Denise Harlow

Earning Gold required an extensive agency-wide self-study measuring CCAA against all 35 Community Action Standards of Excellence. The review examined our leadership, strategic planning, customer service, use of data, workforce development, operations, and results. Our work and supporting documentation were then evaluated through a peer-review process, demonstrating that CCAA's systems and practices meet nationally recognized standards for high-performing Community Action Agencies.

This recognition belongs to our Board of Directors, leadership, employees, volunteers, partners, and everyone who helps carry out our mission. We are incredibly proud of what Gold represents, but it is not a finish line. It challenges us to continue improving, measuring our impact, strengthening our organization, and finding better ways to serve our communities. For CCAA, this national recognition confirms that excellence is not simply a goal, it is how we fulfill our responsibility to the people who depend on us.



Listening to Our Communities

Cornerstone Community Action Agency is committed to making sure our work reflects the real needs of the communities we serve. As part of that commitment, CCAA has been conducting Community Assessment meetings throughout our 11-county service area. In each county, we bring together nonprofit organizations, local government agencies, community leaders, service providers, and members of the public to have an open conversation about the challenges facing local families. Each group is asked to help identify the five greatest needs they see within their county.



Once meetings have been completed across all 11 counties, CCAA's Leadership Team reviews what we have learned and looks for the needs and challenges that are being heard consistently throughout our service area. From that information, we identify the five most significant needs affecting the communities we serve and begin developing a plan of action. That plan helps guide how CCAA can respond through our programs, partnerships, resources, advocacy, and future funding opportunities.

The process does not end with identifying needs. Our findings and proposed strategies are presented to the CCAA Board of Directors for review and approval, and the completed assessment helps shape the direction of our agency moving forward. We then publish the findings on our website and begin putting the plan into action. Most importantly, this process gives the people who live and work in our communities a voice in determining where attention and resources are needed most. Their input helps ensure that CCAA continues to respond to the challenges our communities are facing today while planning for a stronger tomorrow.



Mineral Wells “NEW” Head Start Center, *well kind of.*

Mineral Wells Head Start has officially come home. After months of preparation and renovations, Cornerstone Community Action Agency has returned to the original Head Start campus on Garrett Morris Parkway in Mineral Wells, with help from our friends at JRJ Construction in Weatherford, who worked to bring new life to this special location.

Before welcoming students for the new school year, CCAA celebrated the campus reopening with an Open House that gave community members, local leaders, families, and partners an opportunity to tour the facility and see the improvements firsthand.



Head Start on Garrett Morris Pkwy Mineral Wells, TX

It was a meaningful way to celebrate both the history of Head Start in Mineral Wells and the beginning of an exciting new chapter. Our previous location served our families well, but returning to a campus designed with Head Start children, families, and staff in mind feels especially meaningful.

Today, classrooms are once again filled with children learning, playing, and growing at the Garrett Morris campus. We are excited about what this new school year will bring and grateful to everyone who helped make the move possible. Most of all, we are proud to continue serving Mineral Wells families in a place that has been part of the community's Head Start story for many years.

Did You Know?

According to the National Head Start Association, every dollar invested in Head Start returns between **\$7** and **\$9** to society through higher earnings, better health, and reduced reliance on public assistance.



Veteran Services: Serving Those Who Served

Cornerstone Community Action Agency is proud to have received **\$600,000** in funding from the **Texas Veterans Commission** to support our **General Assistance and Housing for Texas Heroes programs**. This funding will help CCAA continue providing critical services to veterans and their families throughout our service area, including eligible surviving spouses and children.

Through these programs, CCAA works to help veterans and their families overcome financial hardships and maintain safe, stable housing.

Assistance may include support with essential needs, housing-related expenses, and other services designed to promote stability and self-sufficiency. Our Veterans Services team also works closely with individuals and families to connect them with additional community resources and benefits that may be available to them.

This investment allows CCAA to continue honoring those who served by making sure veterans and their families have access to help when they need it most. We are grateful to the Texas Veterans Commission and the State of Texas for their continued support of Texas veterans, surviving spouses, children, and families, and we are proud to put these funds to work in the communities we serve.

Our service men and women handled defending freedom, so we'll handle the occasional help with rent, the lights, and maybe even the dentist. It's our way of saying thank you, with fewer push-ups and a lot more heart.



Executive Director Hanna Adams with Governor Greg Abbott

Casino Night and Silent Auction



Join Cornerstone Community Action Agency for Boots & Bling Casino Night, presented by BKCW, on Saturday, **October 24, 2026**, at the **Doss Heritage & Culture Center in Weatherford**. Doors open at 6:30 PM, with casino gaming, great company, prizes, and plenty of fun until 10:00 PM.

Our online silent auction opens Monday, October 12 at 9:00 AM, giving you nearly two weeks to start bidding on an incredible lineup of trips, experiences, signed memorabilia, tickets, jewelry, and more. Bidding will remain open through Casino Night and close at 9:00 PM on October 24. New items may still be added, so check back often!

Purchase tickets, preview silent auction items, and stay up to date at:
www.cornerstonecaa.org/casinonight

CORNERSTONE Community Action Agency
Presented By **BKCW**

BOOTS & BLING
CASINO NIGHT

SILENT AUCTION SNEAK PEEK
Exclusive Experiences • Signed Memorabilia • Family Fun

Lady A	SIGNED GUITAR	MASTERS	TWO SINGLE-DAY BADGES • 2027 OR 2028
TAYLOR SWIFT	HAND-SIGNED & FRAMED CD ALBUM DISPLAY	Six Flags	FOUR ADMISSION TICKETS • VALID AT ANY SIX FLAGS PARK
AT&T STADIUM	VIP STADIUM TOUR FOR FOUR	DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	TWO PERFORMANCE TICKETS
STAR WARS	SIGNED MYSTERY COLLECTIBLE	TEXAS	FOUR HOME-GAME TICKETS • 2026-2027 SEASON
KENTUCKY Bourbon TRAIL	3-DAY / 2-NIGHT LOUISVILLE GETAWAY FOR TWO	KENDRA SCOTT	DESIGNER JEWELRY PIECE

MORE ITEMS ARE BEING ADDED!
Check back often for the latest auction and raffle updates.
www.cornerstonecaa.org/casinonight

DOOR PRIZES TOO!

Get in on the Action, it's a Busy Corner

We've shared our stories, now it's your turn.

If you or someone you know has been part of our Head Start or Early Head Start program, tell us how it made a difference in your life. Maybe it was a teacher who believed in your little one, or maybe it was finally learning how to get glue out of hair without panic. We want to hear it all. Your stories remind us why this work matters and help us inspire others to get involved.

👉 **Share your story** at www.cornerstonecaa.org/head-start

Feeling inspired and ready to do something about it? Join our volunteer team. We have opportunities that fit every schedule and skill set. You can sort donations, help at events, or lend your expertise to programs that change lives. Volunteers don't need a cape, just a good heart and maybe a little caffeine.

👉 **Sign up to volunteer** at www.cornerstonecaa.org/volunteerportal

And if your idea of volunteering is cheering from the sidelines, that works too. You can support all of our programs by making a donation. Every dollar helps keep families housed, classrooms open, and hope moving forward right here at home.

👉 Click the **Donate** Button at www.cornerstonecaa.org

Because around here, every helping hand, every story, and every gift makes our corner of the world a little brighter, and a lot more fun to be part of.

Did You Know?

Over the last 3 years, **6,044 pounds** of venison has been donated to local food banks/pantries feeding **1,250 families** through Cornerstone's **Hunters for the Hungry** program?



Where Can I Find Cornerstone?



cornerstonecaa



cornerstonecaa



cornerstonecommunityaa



cornerstonecaa



TikTok

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