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### **Skyline CAP Celebrates Community Action Month with Poster Contest**

Skyline Community Action Partnership is joining with more than 1,100 community action agencies across the country to celebrate National Community Action Month in May. To honor this celebration, Skyline CAP is sponsoring a poster contest for local students in preschool through 12th grade in all of our service counties. This year's theme is "When You Need a Hand." At Skyline CAP, our goal is to "give a hand up, not a hand out." We recognize that everyone occasionally needs a helping hand and we are here to serve that role.

"People come to Skyline CAP in need and they are experiencing desperate hardships, but they have not lost all hope", said Kim Frye Smith, Executive Director. "We offer them the hand they need, and it can be as simple as help with an overdue utility bill or as complicated as a foreclosure notice. It often changes their lives. That's what we hope will be reflected in the poster contest entries."

This annual celebration highlights the work of agencies across the country fighting poverty on the local level. For 21 years, Skyline CAP has served individuals and families in need in Madison, Greene, and Orange counties.

"Our goal for our National Community Action Month celebration is to recognize the real problems low-income people in Greene, Madison and Orange counties are facing, especially during these challenging economic times and where the very agencies that assist are under critical economic stress to help more with less," said Ms. Smith. "Our programs are designed with a variety of situations and individuals in mind, and we have a proven track record helping the most vulnerable people achieve economic security."

National Community Action Month recognizes 47 years of Community Action Agencies' work fighting poverty on the local level. Each year, Community Action Agencies help 20 million Americans escape poverty and achieve financial stability through programs such as Head Start, financial education, affordable housing programs, and emergency assistance. During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, Skyline CAP served more than 2,500 individuals.

"The economy is on everyone's mind—people want to work, they want to be able to purchase a home and provide for their families. With the economy continuing to veer off course, these basic goals seem illusive and out of reach," said Don Mathis, President and CEO of the Community Action Partnership. "That is why Community Action programs such as Skyline CAP are needed now more than ever. National Community Action Month is our time to showcase our 47-year history helping people achieve economic security amid some of the most dismal circumstances."

More information about the services offered by Skyline CAP as well as more details about the poster contest can be found on the agency's website at [www.skylinecap.org](http://www.skylinecap.org).