

# Tompkins Community Action

**March 2022**

**News & Updates**



Issue 11

## **TCAction's Joe Cassaniti Community Service Award- Nominations due April 1**

TCAction is now accepting nominations for the **2022 Joe Cassaniti Community Service Award (JCCSA)**.

This **\$350.00** cash award is presented each year to a high school senior in Tompkins County who has demonstrated their commitment to the community through volunteerism.



Walter Gangl, attorney, and former Ithaca resident established the JCCSA in 1996 to honor the work of local businessman and community activist, Joe Cassaniti.

If there is a high school senior you would like to have honored, consider nominating them for this award. Volunteerism is on the rise, especially with our young people and this is a wonderful way to recognize a young person for giving of themselves.

Many organizations could not fulfill their missions without the time, commitment, and talents of volunteers.

Together we can encourage these young people to make volunteering a lifelong activity.

**For nomination information & materials, please contact Cindy Martin, HR Director, 607-273-8816 or [info@tcaction.org](mailto:info@tcaction.org)**

**Check Out This Upcoming Event!**



# Southern Tier Regional Virtual Career Fair

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022  
11 AM – 2 PM

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Join us at the Southern Tier Regional Virtual Job Fair on March 24!  
[Click here to register!](#)

## Housing Services: Supportive Housing



Our Supportive Housing Programs focus on building life skills. Recently, Jermaine and Laura worked in the Amici House Training Kitchen to practice food preparation skills and kitchen safety. Together they made sugar cookies with frosting. This provided a fun way to learn about baking with a gas stove, practicing math skills with measuring, portioning, and keeping track of baking time as well as the importance of cleaning up. This was a fun and yummy introduction to using the kitchen!



## Community Services: Food Pantry

**TCAction Emergency Food Pantry**  
**Scheduled Pick Up Hours:**  
Tuesdays: 1pm- 4pm  
Wednesdays: 11:30am- 2:15pm and



3pm to 5:15pm  
Thursdays: 10am to 1pm

*Use the QR code to place your order!*

## Family Services: Early Head Start & Head Start

**Now Enrolling!**



**Early Head Start**  
Infants, toddlers,  
& expectant mothers

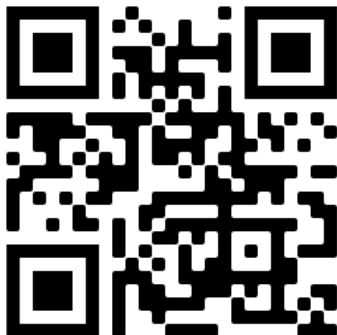


**Head Start Preschool**  
Children ages 3-4 years old

*Serving families throughout Tompkins County.  
Children with special needs are fully included in all  
aspects of our Head Start Programs.*



**Tompkins Community Action**  
607-273-8816 [www.tcaction.org](http://www.tcaction.org)



Use the QR code to start your application today!

# Community Spotlight



## DO YOU NEED HELP PAYING FOR CHILD CARE?

### YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A SUBSIDY THROUGH DSS!

The New York State Office of Children & Family Services has expanded eligibility for families effective December 2021:

Changes include:

- ✓ 12-Month Eligibility Period – your family share cannot increase during this period
- ✓ Engaged In Work requirement has decreased from 20 hours per week to 10 hours per week
- ✓ No Family Share for Child Protective, Preventive and Child-Only Cases
- ✓ Mandated payment for 24 absences per child, per provider, per year

Contact us **TODAY** to find out if you may be eligible for help paying your child care costs and apply!

(p) 607-274-5612 (f) 607-274-5314

### Important Note:

TCAction will be closed on Friday, March 18, 2022 for staff development.

#### *Our Mission:*

*Tompkins Community Action collaborates with individuals and organizations to sustain and improve economic opportunity and social justice for families and individuals impacted directly or indirectly by poverty.*



Tompkins Community Action, Inc.  
[www.tcaction.org](http://www.tcaction.org)