



## RISE TOGETHER - APRIL 11, 2023

### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- Our very own Bryana Ross is running for the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Board of Directors. There are eight candidates running for three seats and Bryana needs your help! Voting closes at 5 p.m. on May 12 and is only open to current OPRA members. If you are a member, you should have received an email with directions on how to vote. If you did not receive the email with directions, please reach out to [Mindy](#) with OPRA.
- The department is proud to join the rest of the City in participating in "Take Your Child To Work Day" on Thursday, April 27. Since 1993, this day has allowed youth to see what their parent or mentor does during the workday. This year's theme focuses on empowering young people to effect positive change together within their communities, schools and homes. If you wish to participate, you are invited to bring to work a youth between the ages of 8-18. The City of Columbus has two required documents that need to be turned in to the department's Human Resources prior to the youth arriving to the worksite. [Learn more about this program and](#)

#### 4/17/2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26 ●	27 ●	28 ●	29 ●	30 ●	31 ●	1 ■
2 ●	3 ●	4 ●	5 ●	6 ●	7 ●	8 ●
9 ●	10 ●	11 ●	12 ●	13 ●	14 ●	15 ●
16 ●	17 ●	18 ●	19 ●	20 ●	21 ●	22 ■
23 ●	24 ●	25 ●	26 ●	27 ●	28 ●	29 ●
30 ●	1 ●	2 ●	3 ●	4 ●	5 ●	6 ●

April 7

All day

ADULT PICKLEBALL LEAGUES - SUMMER I SESSION  
REGISTRATION

All day

ADULT TENNIS LEAGUES - SUMMER I SESSION  
REGISTRATION



[download the required forms.](#) If you have



# SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

**East or West Coast**

colsrecparks@gmail.com [Switch account](#)

✉ Not shared

🔒

**This or That**

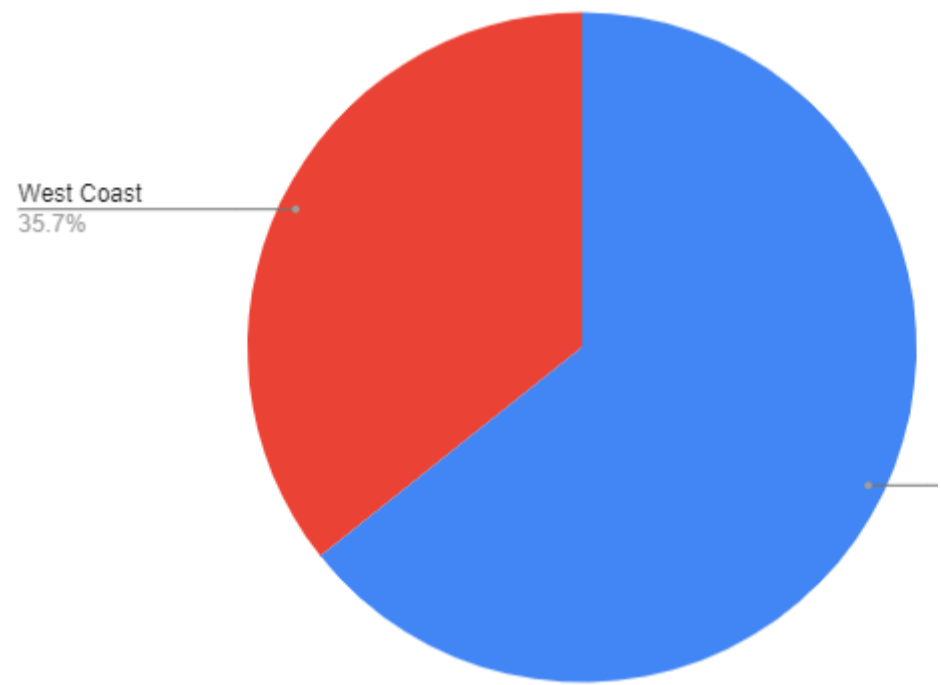
East Coast

West Coast

Submit

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# LEADERSHIP UPDATE





- Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) is pleased to share that we have posted a Notice of Funding Availability and Request for Proposals for American Rescue Plan Act funds.
- Approximately \$3,022,483 in funding for ARPA/Title III services is available for Delaware, Fayette, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, and Union counties. Allocation amounts are based on projected state and Federal budgets and are subject to change. These funds will be awarded beginning July 1, 2023 until Sept. 30, 2024.
- Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 5, 2023.
- COAAA will host a virtual Bidders Conference for interested applications on Friday, April 14 from 10-11:30 a.m. Register at <https://lnkd.in/gWHzXg-W>.
- Full details, application, and other documents are available at <https://lnkd.in/gSMRYDF8>.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### MICHELLE RICE

(She/Her/Hers)



#### **Section**

COAAA – Medicaid Care Coordination Assistance

#### **Length of Employment**

23 years

#### **Favorite aspect of Columbus Recreation and Parks?**

I really enjoy learning from others. Also, the chance to teach others about Medicaid.

#### **Favorite project that you have worked on?**

When Mycare started in 2014 with COAAA, I had the opportunity of setting up the spreadsheets, figure out what the roles were between the MyCare programs and our roles as MA CCA, and to build a working relationship with the Mycare programs.

#### **Favorite ice cream flavor?**

Butter Pecan

#### **What is your favorite book or movie?**

The Notebook





## What is one piece of advice you have?



### Nominate A Coworker for the Staff Spotlight

[Fill out this form to nominate a coworker.](#) They will be notified that they were nominated in order to answer spotlight questions.

## INFORMATION UPDATE

### SECTION SPOTLIGHT

#### Teen Programming



#### Division

Youth Development

#### How many staff work in the section?

We have five full-time staff (Antonio Combs, Jr., Alex Passas, Annaie Williams, Christophe McGhee, and Eugene Cannaday) and seven part-time staff.

#### What's new in the last 18 months?

Over the last 18 months, Teen Programming has continued efforts to reunite community members with our parks and community centers while simultaneously providing safe areas for the entire family to enjoy. Our "Community Kickbacks" are recreational community pop-up events. Our team takes pride in providing opportunities to those underserved families with limited access to programming. During these events, community members have the opportunity to participate in gaga ball, nine square, schoolyard games, dodgeball (different variations, of course), basketball, kickball and many other games. Additionally, over the last 18 months, we've expanded teen programming to five locations across the city.

#### What is the section's core function?

Our section's core function is to provide recreational programming to youth in the comforts of their own community. We believe that there is no better option than meeting the community where they are and providing what the community feels is best for them. We do this by making connections with community stakeholders, school principals, civic associations and more. We then implement programs that will assist in providing that need. The Center Without Walls (CWOW) team provides after-school programming, reading and literacy support, school lunch and recess programming, school special event support and programming, community special events/kickbacks (big pop-up events we hold in a local park) and exposure to many new activities and programs. The Teen Impact Program (TIP) team provides evening programming that allows teens to participate in recreational activities while learning skills that will allow them to be productive members of the community. TIP provides special programming focused on financial literacy, entrepreneurship, digital footprint, leadership, music, and creative initiatives. We are currently working on how to introduce skill trades and technology certifications to our young people.

#### What benefits do you provide to staff or residents?

Our Teen Programming division benefits residents by providing safe, fun, programming in the comforts of their own community. We do this in our after-school programs and our Teen Impact Program. We enhance the

quality of life through a wide range of program offerings and expose



section not only provides recreational programming but includes healthy meals, academic support, family events, field trips, guest speakers and support during the school day.

**How do staff or residents interact with your section?**

Residents interact with us in person during community programs, civic association meetings, community meetings, school meetings, email and community/school events.

**What are some fun facts about the section?**

CWOW started out as an expansion program for one neighborhood (two schools) to provide recreational activities for a community that had high crime and economic lulls. Now, this section is in five schools and five community centers. Our team created a feeder system where students can be a part of the program from third grade to high school. We now have a steady flow of participants that are provided the opportunity to volunteer as counselors-in-training (CIT) and work in the program through APPS and give back in a way that was meaningful to them.

**Do you have any additional information to share with the department?**

Over the last year, the Teen Programming division has had 900+ registrations and has engaged approximately 15,700 young people through programming and special events.

# CELEBRATIONS

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

**Admin**

- Steve Hiland, 04/01
- Jack Castle, 04/15
- Kenton Curtis, 04/29

**Business Services**

- Morgen Wade, 04/08
- Danny Coleman, 04/09

**COAAA**

None

**Community Centers**

- Rayvon Cody, 04/02
- Robert Smith, 04/03
- Cole Abbott, 04/05
- Michael Terlecky, 04/06
- Hezekiah Moore, 04/06
- James Douglas, 04/07
- Monique Mapp, 04/08
- William Neff, 04/08
- Mark Golden, 04/08





- Eric Berry, 04/08
- Michael Marsh, 04/09
- Kimberly Steward, 04/09
- Janera Anderson-Mccrory, 04/10
- Nicolas Foster, 04/11
- Lillian Hoyt, 04/13
- Mark Berry, 04/14
- Maya Gordon, 04/15
- Maizy Lawnicki, 04/15
- Andrew Page, 04/15
- Noah Owens, 04/16
- Timiko Walker, 04/16
- Charquez Newbern, 04/17
- Aretha Anderson, 04/18
- Collin Teets, 04/18
- Cody Readnour, 04/20
- Navae Taylor, 04/20
- Amy Davis, 04/21
- Alex Nichols, 04/21
- Adrienine Bailey, 04/22
- Matthew Jackson, 04/22
- Jason Acuff, 04/23
- Michael Blakesley, 04/24
- Nicole Hunter, 04/24
- Joy Robertson, 04/24
- Kiara Banks, 04/26
- Lydia Bohannon, 04/26
- Gideon Mitchell, 04/26
- Anthony Anderson, 04/27
- Jesse Hendricks, 04/27
- Rosalyn Lasekan, 04/28

### Community Relations

- Elizabeth Blockinger, 04/04
- Morgan Castleberry, 04/10
- Stephanie Garling, 04/12

### Parks and Facility Operations

- Mark Pritchard, 04/03
- Christopher Kunce, 04/03
- James Crowder, 04/06
- Steven Lowe, 04/09
- Nicholas Shannon, 04/09
- Erik Artrup, 04/09
- Jacob Long, 04/10
- Tyler Reichert, 04/10
- Jordan Bivens, 04/11
- James Amick, 04/12
- Brendaline Watkins, 04/14
- Taylor Glynn, 04/17
- Seth Nisonger, 04/19
- Julia Hatton, 04/20
- Kyle Jackson, 04/21
- Gary Henderson, 04/21
- Gabriel Hawkins, 04/22
- Melanie Smith, 04/23
- Aidan Isaac, 04/24
- Daniel Dudzinski, 04/24
- Paige Barnes, 04/25
- Andrew Belliveau, 04/25
- Russell Chisler, 04/26
- Emily Dingman, 04/26
- David Wehner, 04/26
- Scott Pealer, 04/28
- Gary Smith, 04/28

### Recreation Services

- Mallory Washington, 04/01
- Nathan Smith, 04/03
- Heather Williams, 04/03
- Christopher Denney, 04/05
- Victoria Davis-Bowman, 04/07
- Frances Moore, 04/07
- John Bennett, 04/08
- Charles Chandler, 04/08
- Matthew Tobe, 04/08
- Patrick Taylor, 04/09
- Sean Miliner, 04/09
- Nicholas Dauer, 04/09
- Mack Allen, 04/10
- Alana Cornelius, 04/10
- Jameciana Weaver, 04/10
- Pilar Walton, 04/11
- Quinn Mcgonigle, 04/12
- Alijah Bracey, 04/19
- James Hazelwood, 04/21
- Sydni Stokes, 04/26
- Aureana Vega, 04/28

### Youth Development

- Damien Grunewald, 04/01
- Kanique Jenkins, 04/09
- Jonathon Bailey Jr, 04/10
- Jacobi Riversmorgan, 04/12
- Austin King, 04/15
- Shon Curry, 04/20
- Charli Woodson, 04/20
- Claire Collins, 04/21
- Zemirah Thomas, 04/22
- Jaylen Tyree, 04/27
- Jeffrey Stewart, 04/28
- Josiah Shephard, 04/30
- Mathiah Shephard, 04/30



- Stanley Bulejski,



04/30

- Norman Scarberry,  
04/30

[To request your name be removed from the monthly list of birthdays, please fill out this form.](#) This form only needs to be filled out once.

## ARCHIVE

**2023**



**2022**



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[Parks](#)

[Trails](#)

### WELLNESS

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[Aquatics](#)

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### CREATIVITY

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[Cultural Arts Center](#)

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