

To all of CAFCA's friends and allies,

I am writing in a spirit of deep appreciation to announce the retirement of Edith Pollock Karsky from her position as Executive Director of the Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA), and [the launch](#) of our hiring process for our next amazing executive director.



Edith has been a key leader in advocacy for the needs of low-income people in Connecticut for decades. She joined Community Action in 1990 and became executive director of CAFCA in 1994. At that time, CAFCA was a small organization with great challenges. Edith met those challenges and succeeded in building CAFCA and supporting our member Community Action Agencies in their work, while advocating for important state policies that impact hundreds of thousands of Connecticut residents. Prior to coming to Community Action, Edith served as Chief of Staff for Speaker Irv Stolberg, CT House of Representatives and as the City of Hartford lobbyist under Deputy Mayor Nick Carbone.

Some of CAFCA's key accomplishments under Edith's leadership as Executive Director include:

- Successfully advocating for state and federal support of critical funding streams
- Successfully procuring and administering statewide health and human services programs
- Becoming the lead grantee for the Office of Community Services, HHS Regional Performance and Innovation Consortium for Region I
- Launching and annually sponsoring and supporting the Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island conference
- Relaunching and supporting the New England Community Action Partnership which holds biennial 'Issues Forums' and a 'Presidential Primary and Issues Conference' every 4 years.

Edith plans to begin enjoying retirement later this year. We are deeply in Edith's debt for her leadership over the years.

With Edith's announcement, CAFCA launches our search process for our next executive director. The Community Action movement was founded in the 1960's as part of the War on Poverty. As Edith has noted, "the war on poverty continues." Please circulate our job announcement to anyone you think is qualified who might be interested in the position. You can find the job announcement [here](#).

Deb Monahan  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Connecticut Association for Community Action