## New Certification Opportunity in the IT Field

The IT field is a high-paying, fast-growing field with jobs in every city in the world...at virtually every company in both rural and urban communities. The greatest barrier to obtaining roles in the IT field is proper training. We are excited to announce a new Red Hat certification opportunity for our agencies and their clients on training that will help them break into the IT field.

Red Hat, Inc. is an open-source software company that developed Linux, an operating system that allows users to modify the codes of various IT software programs for tailored usage. Linux is used by most government agencies, fortune 500 companies, communication companies and healthcare facilities because of its versatility and security.

The Red Hat Linux certification program will allow participants to gain hands-on skills needed to land a job in the IT field in positions like IT administrator or engineering. Research shows that LINUX certified professionals in the United States earn an average annual income of \$120,000.

Prior to enrolling in the program, it is recommended that participants have a minimum of one year of computer-related college courses and basic computer and coding skills.

The courses can be completed via a weeklong in-person or virtual class, or virtually through self-paced learning. Red Hat offers these classes at a cost of up to \$1,000. Through the discounted special offered to community action agencies, classes range between \$50 and \$100.

This certification program is currently under development, pending the interest of agencies and their clients. If your agency would like to learn more and take advantage of this certification opportunity, email Mariah Handy at <a href="mariah.handy@nccaa.net">mariah.handy@nccaa.net</a>. Community action clients wishing to break into the IT field should contact their local community action agency.

NCCAA is deeply thankful to Forrest Taylor, senior principal cloud architect, Red Hat training and certification, who has made the discounted certification program possible.