

September 2021 PLC:

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

September 15, 2021



Community Services Block Grant

CBCAP Peer Learning Call

September 15, 2021

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Agenda

- OCS / CSBG Overview
- History of CSBG
- Use of Funds
- Areas of Intersection with CBCAP/child welfare
- Spotlight on the state of Virginia



What does OCS do?

The Office of Community Services (OCS) partners with states, communities and agencies to reduce the causes and consequences of poverty, increase opportunity and economic security of individuals and families, and revitalize communities.

OCS administers six social service and community development programs:

- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)
- Community Economic Development (CED)
- Rural Community Development (RCD)
- Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)



History of Community Action

1960s War on Poverty

Hallmarks of Community Action

- “Maximum feasible participation”
- “Tripartite” Boards of Directors
- Locally determined approaches to fighting poverty



CSBG – The Basics

Purpose - To provide assistance to States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. Territories, and Federally or State-recognized Tribes and Tribal Organizations to support services and activities for **individuals and communities** that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty. Up to 125% FPL.

Appropriations - In FY 2021, \$745 million.

In FY 2020, Supplemental CARES Act, \$1 billion.



How CSBG Funds are Used by States and Tribes

Block Grants - States fund local eligible entities (often called “CAAs”) with 90% of award.

State use of 10%:

- Administrative Funds
- Remaining Funds

Tribal allocations are taken from the State’s CSBG allocation and provided directly to the Tribal government.



How CSBG Funds are Used by Local CAAs and Tribes

The local eligible entities, Tribes and Tribal Organizations identify services and strategies based on **local community needs assessments**, to include these various domains:

Employment

Education

Improved financial management

Housing

Nutrition

Emergency services

Healthcare



Community Action Impact

- CAAs administer nearly \$14 billion in other federal, state, local and private funds
- CAA Network serves 15 million people with low incomes annually, in 99% of U.S. counties
- [Link to CAA Impact Report](#)



Potential Areas of Intersection

- CAAs can supplement CBCAP-related prevention strategies
- CAAs that administer Head Start/Early Head Start – referrals from child welfare for families in foster care (categorical eligibility)
- Youth aging out of foster care – seeking supports from CAAs such as financial education, job training



CSBG Federal Technical Assistance Support

Discretionary Grants - 1.5 percent of the total appropriation is reserved to support technical assistance and monitoring efforts of CSBG.

- Community Action Partnership (CAP) - <https://www.communityactionpartnership.com/>
- National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP) - <http://www.nascsp.org/CSBG.aspx>
- Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW) - <http://www.capl原因.org/>
- Lux Consulting – Tribal T/TA <https://www.luxcg.com/tribalta/>



State of Virginia Partnership Highlights

Matt Fitzgerald

Community Service Program Manager
Office on Volunteerism and Community Services
Virginia Department of Social Services



Q & A



Children's Bureau Updates

