Community Services Block Grant 2016 Program Summary

Ohio Development Services Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor
David Goodman, Director

The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of ADA Services
Mission

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to reduce poverty, build strong communities, and provide resources and services to support families in achieving self-sufficiency. Nationally, more than 1,000 agencies work to end the causes of poverty in their communities. The Ohio Development Services Agency partners with Ohio’s 48 Community Action Agencies to ensure CSBG funds serve those in need, while also committing to the Community Action Promise:

| Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other. |

In order to receive CSBG funds, Community Action Agencies must have a tripartite governing board. A tripartite board consists of one-third low-income persons or representatives, one-third elected public officials and one-third private sector representatives from within the community. Effective tripartite boards reflect and promote the unique anti-poverty leadership, action, and mobilization responsibilities assigned by law to Community Action Agencies. The boards are responsible for assuring that agencies continue to assess and respond to the causes and conditions of poverty in the communities they serve, achieve anticipated family and community outcomes, and remain administratively and fiscally sound.

Each Community Action Agency is structured and trained to utilize a Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) process to improve customer service and overall agency management and accountability. Each Community Action Agency conducts a needs assessment to identify the services needed by individuals in their communities who are facing poverty. Community Action Agencies provide services and activities that address employment, education, better use of income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and/or health services. It is through these strong partnerships that Community Action Agencies achieve success in improving citizens living conditions, increasing community ownership and pride, and assisting stronger families and support systems.

Accountability

The Development Services Agency administers funding for all of Ohio’s 48 Community Action Agencies. The Agency ensures accountability of the grant funds and evaluates performance to make sure program goals are met annually. CSBG eligible entities are required to be monitored. Monitoring ensures program and fiscal accountability, and assists agencies with continuous improvement of their programs to ensure the best results. The newly implemented federal Organizational Standards were designed to reflect the CSBG rules and regulations, good management practices, and the value of Community Action.

THE PROCESS

Evaluation → CSBG State Plan Development → CAA Community Action Plan Developed → Results → Agency Accountability
Ohio Community Action Agencies’ Performance Outcomes

The efforts and outcomes of CSBG are monitored through six national goals. These goals were designed to highlight the achievements of the programs, as well as monitor success in three areas: promoting self-sufficiency, family stability, and community revitalization. Below is how Ohio performed in 2016.

**GOAL 1**  Low-income people become more self-sufficient
- 89% of program participants successfully completed and maintained a budget for over 90 days
- 27 program participants purchased a home with individual development account funds or other savings
- 30% of program participants obtained a job

**GOAL 2**  The conditions in which low-income people live are improved
- 37,000+ community members participated in community revitalization and anti-poverty initiatives
- 40+ safe and affordable housing units were created
- 31 new initiatives for accessible, new or expanded transportation resources were created

**GOAL 3**  Low-income people own a stake in their community
- 1.4M+ low-income residents volunteered in their communities
- 42 low-income residents acquired businesses in their community
- 1,000+ low-income residents participated in formal community organizations, government, boards or councils that provide input to decision-making and policy setting in the community

**GOAL 4**  Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved
- 6,000+ organizations, both public and private, developed partnerships to expand resources and opportunities to achieve family and community outcomes

**GOAL 5**  Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results
- 150,000+ hours dedicated by community action agencies to training local governing boards, which support efforts in providing services in the community

**GOAL 6**  Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems
- 500,000+ individuals provided emergency food services
- 600,000+ individuals provided emergency fuel or utility payments
- 12,000+ children obtained age appropriate immunizations, medical and dental care
MORE THAN 660,000 INDIVIDUALS AND 270,000 FAMILIES WERE SERVED IN 2016

MORE THAN 12,000 INFANTS AND CHILDREN OBTAINED IMMUNIZATIONS, MEDICAL, AND DENTAL CARE

MORE THAN 183,000 CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATED IN PRE-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES WERE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN OR 1ST GRADE

MORE THAN 410,000 BOXES OF FOOD WERE PROVIDED TO FAMILIES IN NEED

MORE THAN 1 MILLION RIDES WERE PROVIDED TO INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES

If you have questions about the Community Services Block Grant, please contact Toski Flemister, CSBG Manager at (614) 466-4394 or at Toski.Flemister@development.ohio.gov