

## State Learning Cluster on Organizational Standards Meeting Summary

February 27, 2015

- It would be helpful if Org. Standards state assessment tools were updated to, where appropriate, tie the Org. Standards to the CSBG Act
- It would be helpful if there were a standardized monitoring tool for the Org. Standards
  - The tool should define deficiency/serious deficiency/finding
  - The tool should address whether or not there are tiers related to “Met” and “Unmet” within the Org. Standards or if it’s only a Yes/No
  - The tool should define TAP, QIP, CAP
  - The tool should provide a TAP template
  - The tools should address what to do in off years
  - The tool could provide a work flow chart
  - The tool could provide a decision tree
  - The tool should not be burdensome; it should leave time to do big picture work
- State Learning Cluster on Org. Standards
  - The cluster should update the *Standard Monitoring for CSBG* and the *State Monitoring Self-Assessment Tool* to incorporate Org. Standards and ROMA NG
  - The cluster should collect and share best practices
  - Cluster subcommittee should work on templates
  - The cluster should be open to all states at all times
  - The cluster will meet monthly; a schedule will be provided shortly
  - The cluster should establish a place to store documents that’s easily accessible
- TTA
  - NASCSP and the Partnership will work together to do a series of webinars, specific to states, on the Org. Standards review areas
- Revised Model State Plan
  - NASCSP and Partnership board intend to provide formal comments
- Points of Discussion
  - In some states, the monitoring manual and tools are incorporated into grant agreements with Eligible Entities; as a result, if they receive an “Unmet” for a particular Org. Standard it will automatically become a finding
  - States provide a lot of TTA but it is not always included in a formal TAP

- Even with the ability to use a third party in reviews, monitoring against the Org. Standards every year for every eligible entity will place a significant strain on state capacity; it can be difficult to secure a contract and funding for third party verification; states will still need to review self-assessments and peer assessments and this takes time away from providing quality on-site reviews and follow-up
- The standards are more about compliance than excellence; increased documentation for compliance may become a real capacity issue
- States should be having discussion on the Org. Standards and their implications with all levels of their CSBG Network