

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

THE FFY 2016 CSBG NATIONAL PERFORMANCE UPDATE



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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR STATE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

Our Mission



BUILDING CAPACITY IN STATES TO RESPOND TO POVERTY ISSUES

The National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSP) represents the States in their work to improve the lives of low-income families and strengthen local economies. NASCSP members administer the federally-funded Community Services Block Grant and the Weatherization Assistance Program that serve millions of American families in communities across the country.



Community Services Block Grant

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE UPDATE*

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Community Services Programs

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*This report is formerly known as the CSBG Annual Report. Because the CSBG network has begun to implement its new Performance Management Framework which includes a federally required and OMB approved report of the same name, the name of this report has changed to the CSBG National Performance Update. The CSBG FFY 2016 National Performance Update will report Federal Fiscal Year 2016 data from the CSBG Information Systems (IS) Survey and Module 1 of the new CSBG Annual Report.



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Executive Summary

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is unique among federal grant programs in that it is the only comprehensive investment exclusively focused on reducing poverty. CSBG supports a state-administered, nationwide network of local agencies whose purpose is to reduce the causes of poverty in the low-income communities they serve. Funding from CSBG allows states and Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to leverage funding, strategically target the root causes of poverty at the local level, and impact health and economic security on a national scale. In FFY 2016, every dollar invested in CSBG leveraged an average of \$20.19 in other federal, state, local, and private funds. CAAs receiving CSBG funds effectively use this powerful mix of federal, state, and local resources to address the barriers that lead to and perpetuate systemic poverty.

CAAs, also referred to as CSBG Eligible Entities, are local private nonprofit and public organizations who are governed by a tripartite board composed of representatives of the low-income neighborhoods being served, elected local officials, and key private partners. Each CAA focuses their efforts on a specific community and coordinates and collaborates with their state CSBG administrators and a wide range of community partners to reduce the causes and consequences of poverty in the low-income communities they serve. CSBG funding provides a vehicle for state CSBG administrators and local leaders to create planned and coordinated interventions to ensure economic opportunity for all Americans. Due to its flexible nature, CSBG funds result in innovative programs that address the leading causes of poverty, such as lack of affordable housing, inadequate access to health care, and too few job opportunities.

CAAs also report on other sources and uses of other funding administered by the CSBG local network, program activities of the network, results of these activities, and number and demographics of participants served. This report summarizes key data from CAAs reported in the CSBG Information System Survey (CSBG IS) and data on state administration of CSBG reported in Module 1 of the new Annual Report based on data from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016. All 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico provided information through Module 1 and the CSBG IS Survey on the funding level, allocations, and expenditures of CSBG funds that are compiled into this report.

FFY 2016 marks the first year of the transition from the CSBG IS to the new CSBG Annual Report. The Office of Community Services (OCS) received OMB approval for a new CSBG Annual Report on January 12, 2017, allowing FFY16 state level data to be reported in Module 1. The new CSBG Annual Report is the network's most recent revision of CSBG data collection and reporting since the first CSBG IS developed in 1983 which was updated at certain intervals over the years. OCS and the CSBG Network – composed of CSBG Eligible Entities, State CSBG Lead Agencies, State Community Action Associations, national partners, and others – participated in a multi-year effort to update the CSBG Annual Report that was designed to complement Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) Next Generation and support and complete the CSBG Performance Management Framework. The new Performance Management Framework includes local, state, and federal accountability standards, ROMA Next Generation, the new CSBG Annual Report, and a national Community Action Theory of Change. The information in the new CSBG Annual Report will be used at local, state, and national levels to improve performance, track results from year to year, and maintain accountability for critical activities and outcomes at each level of the CSBG network.

The new CSBG Annual Report builds upon Community Action's 50-year history of serving individuals, families, and communities across the United States. Analysis of current CSBG data collection and reporting, consultation from multiple working groups, three public comment periods, and countless

listening sessions and interaction with the CSBG Network have led to the final, approved CSBG Annual Report that will replace the CSBG IS in totality by FFY 2018.

The CSBG IS National Performance Indicators (NPIs) reported by CAAs are a tool for setting priorities and monitoring progress toward the broader goal of ending poverty. Individuals and families face poverty and economic insecurity in varying degrees, across family and community level domains, and ranging from health and housing to employment and education. In FFY 2016, CAAs addressed 32.5 million conditions of poverty that created barriers to economic security among low-income individuals, families, and communities. The 15.7 million individuals served by CAAs represent nearly 38.9 percent of the 40.6 million Americans in poverty according to the most recent Census data.¹

According to 2014 and 2015 U.S. Census American Community Survey data, over 20 percent of the U.S. population had incomes below 125 percent of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG), and just under 7 percent had an income below 50 percent of the poverty threshold.² Out of the approximately 4.5 million families reporting their poverty status to CAAs, 70 percent were at or below the FPG for a family of four. More than 2.2 million families, nearly 50 percent, were “severely poor,” with incomes at or below 50 percent of the FPG. This indicates both the severity of need facing Americans served by the Network, and the importance of multiple services to move people towards self-sufficiency.

The CSBG IS NPIs track outcomes for comprehensive and coordinated services such as employment initiatives, early childhood programs, education, and emergency services. While emergency services are an element of the big picture of helping people through crises toward stability, individuals who receive coordinated or “bundled” services are three to four times more likely to achieve a major economic outcome such as staying employed, earning a vocational certification or associate’s degree, or buying a car, than individuals receiving only one type of service.³ Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the unemployment rate trending downward, from 4.9 percent in January 2016 to 4.7 percent by December of 2016.⁴ Reflecting this decreasing unemployment rate, the number of program participants gaining employment in FFY 2016 increased from the previous year’s employment outcomes.

Aside from direct employment, education is another major factor in becoming economically secure. The CSBG Network has always been instrumental in helping people with low-incomes obtaining additional education. For example, in FFY2016, the CSBG Network helped 16,032 people obtain a certificate or diploma and 14,215 people obtain their General Education Diploma or equivalent. This assistance is particularly crucial at a time when 24.8 percent of people aged 25 and older without a high school diploma were in poverty, a decline from 26.3 percent in 2015.⁵

As poverty often affects several generations, the CSBG Network uses not only “bundled” services but also a two-generation approach to addressing poverty. This two-generation approach works to alleviate the burden of poverty for both children and adults receiving services.⁶ This focus on multiple generations is especially critical as research has shown that growing up in poverty has substantial impacts on the development and function of the brain.^{7,8,9,10} A large body of research underscores the effectiveness of early childhood education interventions on success later in life.¹¹ Nationwide, child poverty rates remained high, at 18% in 2015.¹² The CSBG Network responded to the high child poverty levels and provided services to over 3.9 million children in FFY 2016, representing over 30% of all children in poverty.

The CSBG Network continues to face communities with too few resources to address existing needs,

creating a demand for the services and strategies CAAs employ. This anti-poverty network of over 1,000 state-administered local agencies remains committed to ensuring economic security for vulnerable populations and creating employment opportunities for low-wage workers.

CSBG helps Americans with low-incomes obtain employment, increase their education, access vital early childhood programs, and maintain their independence. The coordinated services provided by CSBG go beyond short-term interventions and strengthen long-term economic security for individuals, communities, and the nation. The statistics outlined in this report demonstrate the strength and value of CSBG as the national anti-poverty Network that coordinates local, state, and federal efforts to secure a promising future for our nation.

Senior Homelessness Project | Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership | MN

TACKLING SENIOR HOMELESSNESS

In Minnesota, the Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership identified senior homelessness as a priority issue during their annual community needs assessment. Additionally, through the agency's existing Senior Chore Services Program, staff observed reoccurring issues within the senior citizen population. Seniors often experience life changing events that affect their living situations. For example, when a spouse dies, the surviving spouse may no longer be able to afford their current living situation, medical problems may precipitate requiring an individual to move to an accessible or supervised location, or long term living arrangements with family or friends may no longer be viable. In transitioning to a new living situation, seniors are often uninformed about the process or lack the financial means necessary to make a successful transition.

The Mahube-Otwa CAP used CSBG funds to bring together community partners and initiate strategic conversation and meetings in order to address senior homelessness. The Executive Director, Senior Services Director, and Family Development/Homelessness Director created a Request for Proposals to address Senior Homelessness. Mahube-Otwa also worked alongside representatives from the State Department of Human Services' Board on Aging to identify promising practices.

This initiative has been successful in offering necessary services and intervention to seniors in need. Although the program is in its infancy, the initiative has engaged managers of senior apartments, assisted living facilities, hospital discharge staff, and patient planning staff. These various entities have begun communicating with Mahube-Otwa and providing referrals to any seniors in need of their services. In doing so, the Senior Homelessness Project has provided services through home visits and phone contacts, offering varying degrees of intervention and assistance including rental deposits for senior apartments, assistance making payments, and assistance paying utility costs. The project has increased awareness of senior homelessness among healthcare providers and housing managers in the community. By establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships, Mahube-Otwa is able to better identify and serve seniors at risk of homelessness.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships
- 6.1 - Independent Living
- 6.2 - Emergency Assistance
- 6.4 - Family Supports

Introduction to the CSBG Network

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) supports a state-administered, nationwide network of local organizations whose mission is to reduce the causes and effects of poverty in the low-income communities which they serve. The Office of Community Services (OCS) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) administers CSBG funding to state grantees, the State CSBG Offices. State administrators allocate CSBG funding to local CSBG Eligible Entities, also known as Community Action Agencies (CAAs). This unique collaborative relationship between federal, state, and local leaders sets the CSBG Network apart from other federal grant programs. The network also works closely with state and national associations as well as related organizations that collaborate and participate with CSBG Eligible Entities in their efforts on behalf of people with low-incomes.

CSBG's mission is to provide assistance to states and local communities, working through a network of CAAs, for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of communities where people with low-incomes live, and the empowerment of families and individuals with low-incomes in rural and urban areas to become self-sufficient. CSBG is administered at the state level and distributed to eligible entities including local private nonprofit and public CAAs, migrant and seasonal farmworker organizations, or other organizations as designated by the states.

To be eligible for CSBG funding, local entities must meet the following statutory requirements:

- Be governed by a three-part community board consisting of one-third elected public officials and at least one-third representatives of the low-income community, with the balance drawn from leaders in the private sector including businesses, faith-based groups, and civic organizations.
- Periodically assess their communities' needs and serve as a principal source of information about, and advocacy for, poverty-reduction actions.
- Develop strategies for increasing economic opportunity and security for their communities' residents with low-incomes.
- Mobilize and coordinate resources and partnerships to achieve these goals.

CSBG Eligible Entities, which are primarily private CAAs and public entities, carry out their missions by creating, coordinating, and delivering a broad array of programs and services to their communities. In FFY 2016, 1,005 CSBG Eligible Entities provided services to low-income families, individuals, and vulnerable communities in 99 percent of U.S. counties.

This collaborative relationship between state and local administrators allows organizations to tailor their anti-poverty efforts to address specific local conditions and capitalize on the unique resources in their states. States and CAAs work together to stimulate a better focusing of all available local, state, private, and federal resources upon the goal of enabling low-income families, and low-income individuals of all ages, in rural and urban areas, to attain the skills, knowledge, and assistance to secure the opportunities needed for them to become self-sufficient".¹³ Each CAA focuses their poverty reduction efforts on a specific community, under the oversight of their board and state administrator of the CSBG funding.

State CSBG administrators coordinate and develop linkages with other federal, state, and local programs to improve efficiency, access, and results for low-income individuals and communities. Administration at the state level also provides robust accountability and oversight of CSBG, and track metrics and performance indicators in domains such as employment, education, housing, and health, which in turn inform this CSBG National Performance Update.

CSBG represents a federal investment and a national commitment to reducing poverty in our nation. This commitment has created a local delivery infrastructure that responds to the national challenges that contribute to poverty in locally appropriate ways. CSBG's results-driven approach allows States and CAAs to strategically target the root causes of poverty at the local level and measure progress toward the broad goal of ending poverty. CSBG gives local leaders the tools they need to address today's economic concerns. Additionally, CSBG is a key resource for many CAAs and often funds cross-cutting programmatic and administrative needs. An important added benefit of receiving CSBG funding is that agencies across the nation share an institutional framework, overarching goals, and a common mission and vision.

The 2017 CSBG National Performance Update contains data from the FFY 2016 CSBG IS Report and Module 1 of the new Annual Report. All 50 States and two territories provided information in Module 1 on the funding level, allocations, and expenditures of CSBG funds that are compiled into this report. Through the CSBG IS, CAAs reported on other sources and uses of other funding administered by the CSBG local network, program activities of the network, results of these activities, and number and demographics of participants served. This national report summarizes key data reported in both the CSBG IS and Module 1.

The new CSBG Annual Report builds upon Community Action's 50-year history of serving individuals, families, and communities across the United States. The new CSBG Annual Report contains four Modules:

Module 1: State Administration (completed by State CSBG Administrators) contains information on State administration of CSBG funding, including information on distribution of funds to CSBG Eligible Entities, use of State administrative funds and discretionary funds for training and technical assistance, as well as information on CSBG Eligible Entity organizational standards progress and the State's progress meeting accountability measures related to State monitoring, training and technical assistance, and other critical areas. All states will be reporting in Module 1 based on the federal fiscal year.

Module 2: Agency Expenditures, Capacity, and Resources (completed by CSBG Eligible Entities; reviewed, evaluated, and analyzed by State CSBG Lead Agencies) includes information on funds spent by CSBG Eligible Entities on the direct delivery of local services and strategies and capacity development, as well as information on funding devoted to administrative costs by the CSBG Eligible Entities.

Module 3: Community Level (completed by CSBG Eligible Entities; reviewed, evaluated, and analyzed by State CSBG Lead Agencies) includes information on the implementation and results achieved for community-level strategies.

Module 4: Individual and Family Level (completed by CSBG Eligible Entities; reviewed, evaluated; analyzed by State CSBG Lead Agencies) includes information on services provided to individuals and families, demographic characteristics of people served by CSBG Eligible Entities, and the results of these services.

It is only the state administrative data that is collected in Module 1 of the new Annual Report that will be reported in this FFY 2016 CSBG National Performance Update. This first iteration of Module 1 data covers FFY 2016 and was submitted by state offices April 7, 2017. While the data in Module 1 is similar to that of the data that had been reported in Section A-C of the CSBG IS, enough differences exist to

where the data cannot be compared to the previous year's data. Subsequent years will elicit opportunity for year to year comparison and eventually trend analysis.

Modules 2-4, agency-level information, will be collected for FFY 2018 and reported in March 2019. The new indicators and other agency-level information will not be included in this report until the FFY 2018 report. The CAA network has a long history of performance improvement and advanced data quality initiatives. This can be seen through the history of the CSBG IS NPIs that were updated in the new CSBG Annual Report. From FFYs 2001 to 2003 there were 12 common categories, or indicators, of CAA performance identified in the NPI data. From FFYs 2004 to 2008, the 12 NPIs from the CSBG IS measured the impact of CSBG Network programs and activities on families and communities. Then, beginning in FFY 2009, the number of indicators was expanded to 16, with an additional indicator added to capture the impacts of the Recovery Act Funding. This CSBG IS NPI was removed to reflect the end of the Recovery Act Funding, and the total CSBG IS NPI count is currently at 15 for FFY 2014 – FFY 2017. Beginning in FFY 2018, with the new CSBG Annual Report, there are three modules that contain agency-level data, community level NPIs (CNPIs), and individual and family level NPIs (FNPIs) reporting across six core domains that are also represented in the national Theory of Change. The CNPIs and FNPIs contain a number of revised and new indicators that capture the performance of the CAA network.

For the purposes of this report, the designation “CAA” will refer to all local organizations within the CSBG Network also known as the CSBG Eligible Entities. Table 1 shows the number of CSBG-funded eligible entities, by type, in the nation. State-specific details can be found in the Appendix.

TABLE 1: LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS BY TYPE

| CATEGORY OF ELIGIBLE ENTITY | NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES | NUMBER OF STATES |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Private Community Action Agencies | 836 | 52 |
| Limited Purpose Agencies | 6 | 6 |
| Migrant and/or Seasonal Farm Worker Organizations | 8 | 6 |
| Local Government Agencies | 142 | 21 |
| Tribes and Tribal Organizations | 12 | 2 |
| Other | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 1005 | |

History of the CSBG Information System Survey (CSBG IS Survey)

NASCSP and the National Governors Association conducted the first comprehensive survey of state and local uses of federal CSBG funds in a 1983 cooperative venture with outside assistance from the Center for Community Futures. This led to the development of the National Voluntary Reporting System.

The Center for Community Futures conducted the surveys of FY 1984, 1985, and 1986 with guidance from NASCSP's Data Collection Committee. NASCSP solely has conducted the surveys since FY 1987.

In FY 2005, reporting on the CSBG IS Survey became a federal requirement. The CSBG IS Survey was amended to focus on information of interest to state and federal policymakers, such as the relationship of CSBG to other funding sources and the development of innovative programs.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS SURVEY

A group of stakeholders (State CSBG offices, CAAs, State CAA Associations, and national partners) who felt it important to design a mechanism to collect statistical data to tell the story of the CSBG Network created the Information Systems Task Force (ISTF) in 1983. When NASCSP secured the data collection grant to administer the IS Survey in 1987, it was given the responsibility to staff the ISTF.

The ISTF was an independent committee responsible for designing the data collection tool in a manner that meets the political and management needs of the CSBG Network. The independence of the task force was important for a number of reasons. The first is that it allowed for the collection of non-statutory data that helped the CSBG Network communicate how they changed lives and communities. In addition, the ISTF also played a significant role in maintaining data credibility. The ISTF was comprised of one representative from each of the 10 HHS regions, with five representatives from CAAs or State CAA Associations, and five representatives from State CSBG offices, as well as national partners (the National Community Action Foundation, the Community Action Partnership, OCS, and the Association of Nationally Certified ROMA Trainers (then known as National Peer-to-Peer Results Oriented Management and Accountability Network).

The CSBG Data Analysis Technical Assistance Task Force

With the advent of the new CSBG Annual Report a task force was created to inform the implementation process. The CSBG DATA Task Force (DATA TF) is an extension of the ISTF; the DATA TF serves as a consultative body focused on the transition from the CSBG IS Survey to the CSBG Annual Report, as well as ongoing assistance in the implementation of the CSBG Annual Report. The DATA TF is convened by NASCSP to assist the OCS and NASCSP in understanding and addressing the CSBG Network's data needs and the use of data for analysis and continual improvement of results. The task force consists of representatives from Community Action Agencies, State CSBG Offices, Community Action Agency State Associations, National Partner organizations and OCS.

The DATA Task Force provides feedback to OCS and NASCSP on the implementation of the CSBG Annual Report, with a focus on how to use CSBG data in all phases of the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) cycle. Members of the DATA Task Force collaborate to make recommendations for improvements to the use of data and provide valuable input regarding data

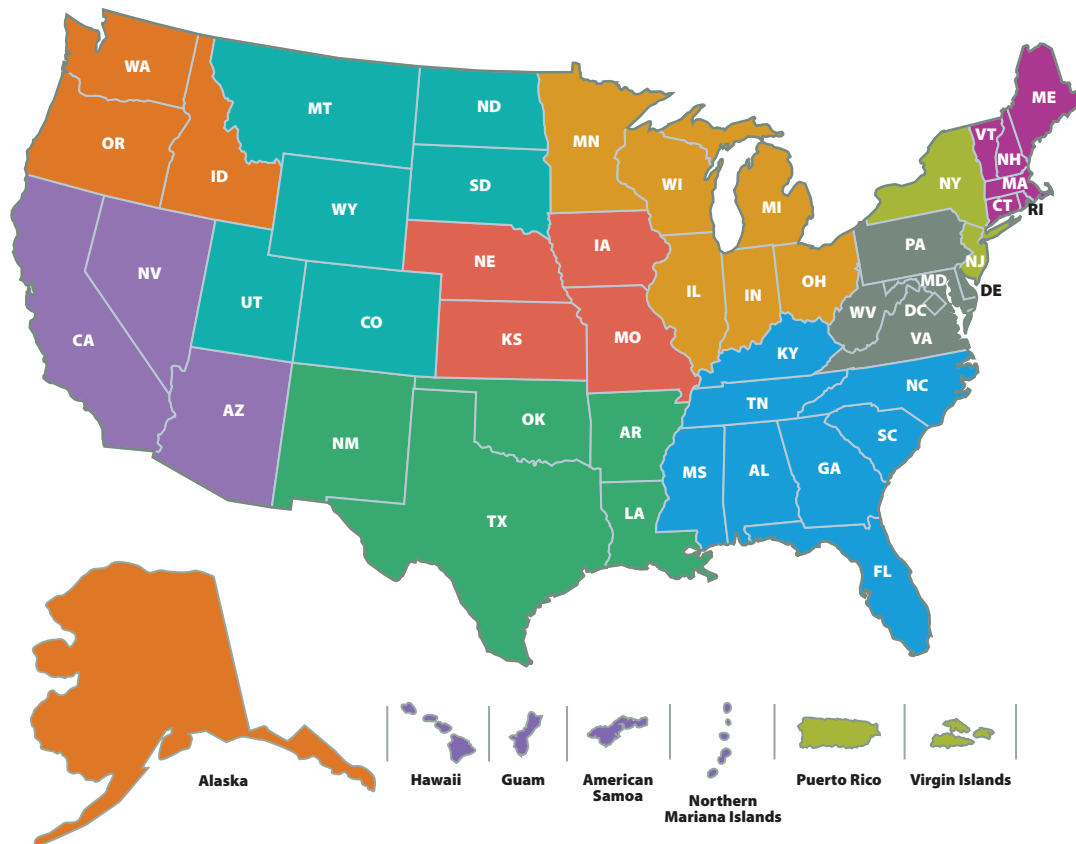
collection, data reporting, and affecting change with data.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR STATE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS (NASCSP)

As the membership association for State administrators of both the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's (HHS) CSBG and the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), NASCSP coordinates semi-annual training conferences for State and local CSBG and WAP staff. NASCSP is the sole provider of orientation and monitor training for new State CSBG and WAP administrators and staff, as well as the only collector of national data to reflect the work of the CSBG Network. NASCSP also provides training and technical assistance to States and local agencies upon request in such areas as the basics of CSBG, CAA roles and responsibilities, State roles and responsibilities, as well as various trainings on, data collection, reporting, and performance management and measurement. NASCSP also informs the CSBG Network of best practices, innovative program resources, and anti-poverty tools.

CSBG Network Region Map

As designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



| | | |
|--|------------------|---|
| | Region 1 | Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont |
| | Region 2 | New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands |
| | Region 3 | Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia |
| | Region 4 | Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee |
| | Region 5 | Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin |
| | Region 6 | Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas |
| | Region 7 | Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska |
| | Region 8 | Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming |
| | Region 9 | Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam |
| | Region 10 | Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington |

Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA)

The Monitoring and Assessment Task Force (MATF), a task force of federal, state and local CSBG Network officials, created the framework for the performance management system known as Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) in 1994. Based upon principles contained in the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, ROMA provides a process for supporting continuous growth and improvement among local CAAs and a basis for State leadership and assistance.

In 1998, the CSBG Reauthorization Act made ROMA implementation a requirement for receiving federal CSBG funds, and established October 1, 2001 as the start date for reporting outcomes in the context of ROMA performance-based management principles. This statutory mandate changed both the nature and pace of ROMA implementation throughout the CSBG Network which had been voluntarily.

IM 152 outlines a new Performance Management Framework. The IM places an enhanced emphasis on analysis and evaluation under ROMA Next Generation. This evaluation and analysis is actualized through the new CSBG Annual Report that will replace the CSBG IS beginning in FFY 2018.

Local CAAs have been encouraged to undertake a number of ROMA implementation actions that focus on results oriented management and accountability.

RESULTS ORIENTED MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

- Identify poverty causes and conditions within the community based on a comprehensive assessment of needs and resources.
- Employ a clear understanding of the anti-poverty mission for the CSBG Network in defining the strategies and services to address those needs, both immediate and longer term, in the context of existing resources and opportunities in the community.
- Identify specific improvements, or results, to be achieved among people with low-incomes and communities in which they live.
- Organize and implement programs, services, and strategies within the agency and among partnering organizations, to achieve anticipated results related to the National Community Action Goals and Theory of Change.

RESULTS ORIENTED ACCOUNTABILITY PRINCIPLES

- Develop and implement processes to identify, measure, and record improvements in the condition of people with low-incomes and the communities in which they live that result from CSBG Network intervention.
- Use information about outcomes, or results, among agency tripartite boards and staff to determine overall effectiveness; inform annual and longer-range planning; and promote new funding and community partnership activities.
- Encourage state CSBG offices and state CAA associations to work in coordination with local CAAs to advance ROMA performance-based concepts among CSBG Eligible Entities through ongoing training and technical assistance.

National Performance Goals and Indicators

The CSBG Act Section 678E(a)(1) required States administering CSBG to implement a management and evaluation strategy that measures and reports the performance outcomes of CAAs by FY 2001.

From 2001 to 2003, OCS worked with national, state, and local CSBG officials to identify the results and performance targets that best reflected the multi-faceted work of CAAs. Priority was given to targets that could be collected and reported in a manner that presented an accurate indication of national impact. Results of this collaboration included the National Performance Indicators (NPIs), used to organize and report outcomes, and the identification of four performance indicators for which target information is collected. The introduction of the new Performance Management Framework and the new CSBG Annual Report will mean that the CSBG IS National Performance Goals and Indicators will phase out, with the last reporting period being FFY 2017 and the new CSBG Annual Report goals and indicators will be collected in FFY 2018.

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE GOALS

Under the CSBG IS, states and CAAs receiving CSBG funds work to achieve six national performance goals:

Goal 1: Low-income people become more self-sufficient.

Goal 2: The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.

Goal 3: Low-income people own a stake in their community.

Goal 4: Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.

Goal 5: Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.

Goal 6: Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments.

Moving forward, and as directed in OCS's Information Memorandum (IM) #152, under ROMA Next Generation of the new Performance Management Framework, the network will move from the six national goals to three. NPIs under the new goals will not be reported on until FFY18.

Goal 1: Individuals and families with low incomes are stable and achieve economic security.

Goal 2: Communities where people live are healthy and offer economic opportunity.

Goal 3: People with low incomes are engaged and active in building opportunities in communities.

These three new goals will be phased in for FFY 2018.

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

To enable greater aggregation and national reporting of the most universal and significant CSBG results among States and CAAs, 12 common categories, or indicators, of CAA performance were identified in FY 2001 to 2003 data. From FY 2004 to 2008, the 12 CSBG IS NPIs measured the impact of CSBG Network programs and activities on families and communities. Beginning in FY 2009, the number of indicators was expanded to 16. One indicator was removed after the end of the Recovery Act funding period as it specifically tracked the impact of the Recovery Act Funding. The CSBG IS NPIs are related to the six national performance goals in that they measure incremental progress toward achieving each of the larger goals.

The NPIs cover the following outcome areas:

- 1.1 – Employment
- 1.2 – Employment Supports
- 1.3 – Economic Asset Enhancement and Utilization
- 2.1 – Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 – Community Quality of Life and Assets
- 2.3 – Community Engagement
- 3.1 – Civic Investment
- 3.2 – Community Empowerment through Maximum Feasible Participation
- 4.1 – Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships
- 5.1 – Agency Development
- 6.1 – Independent Living
- 6.2 – Emergency Assistance
- 6.3 – Child and Family Development
- 6.4 – Family Supports (Seniors, Disabled, and Caregivers)
- 6.5 – Service Counts

Moreover, while establishing common definitions for reporting family, community, and agency improvement outcomes, the CSBG IS NPIs enable States and CAAs to convey broad family and community outcomes. These outcomes are the result of the strategic use of a variety of change mechanisms, including service provision and program coordination, both within each agency and with partnering organizations in the broader community.

Beginning in FFY 2018 states will begin collecting the new set of NPIs in the annual report. The new NPIs are organized by community level work (Community National Performance Indicators (CNPIs) and individual and family level work (Individual and Family Level National Performance Indicators (FNPIs)).

The new CSBG Annual Report NPIs are organized by six core domains and one unique additional domain that organize the work of CAAs. Community Service Block Grant Domains:

1. Employment
2. Education and Cognitive Development
3. Income and Asset Building
4. Housing
5. Health and Social/Behavioral Development
6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
7. Outcomes and Services Across Multiple Domains

Each domain includes its own set of new CSBG Annual Report NPIs. The NPIs will be reported on in FFY 2018.

National Performance Outcomes

The outcomes measured by the NPIs represent some of the most common activities performed by CAAs. CSBG allows agencies to participate in a broad range of activities to meet their communities' unique needs, and in turn capture outcome data specific to its individual programs. Not all agencies participated in the activities which generated outcomes for every CSBG IS NPI, nor do these indicators represent all of the outcomes achieved by agencies. This report is based on outcomes which support the CSBG IS NPIs, reported by CAAs in FFY 2016. CAAs organize a range of services to have a measurable and potentially major impact on the causes of poverty in the communities served. In order to tell a more complete story, narratives about CSBG IS NPI outcome achievements and successes are included along with the national data. These narratives represent a cross-section of the impact that CAAs make every day in local communities through innovative strategies with the necessary support of CSBG funding.

The outcomes documented below demonstrate the CSBG Network's widespread impact on the nation's most vulnerable individuals, families, and communities. In all, the CSBG Network reduced or eliminated 32.5 million barriers contributing to poverty in FFY 2016. CAAs were able to leverage their CSBG dollars more effectively, expanding and maintaining highly successful program outcomes.

While some participants may have received a single service in only one key area to improve their self-sufficiency, many others received multiple, bundled services. For example, a person coming to a CAA may receive support finding a job, obtain support while pursuing and securing additional education, access stable transportation, and enroll children in quality childcare.

RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

Figure 1 shows the number of program participants who gained employment as a result of CAA initiatives over the last five years. In 2016, the number of program participants gaining employment slightly increased over employment outcomes in 2015.

FIGURE 1: CAA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT

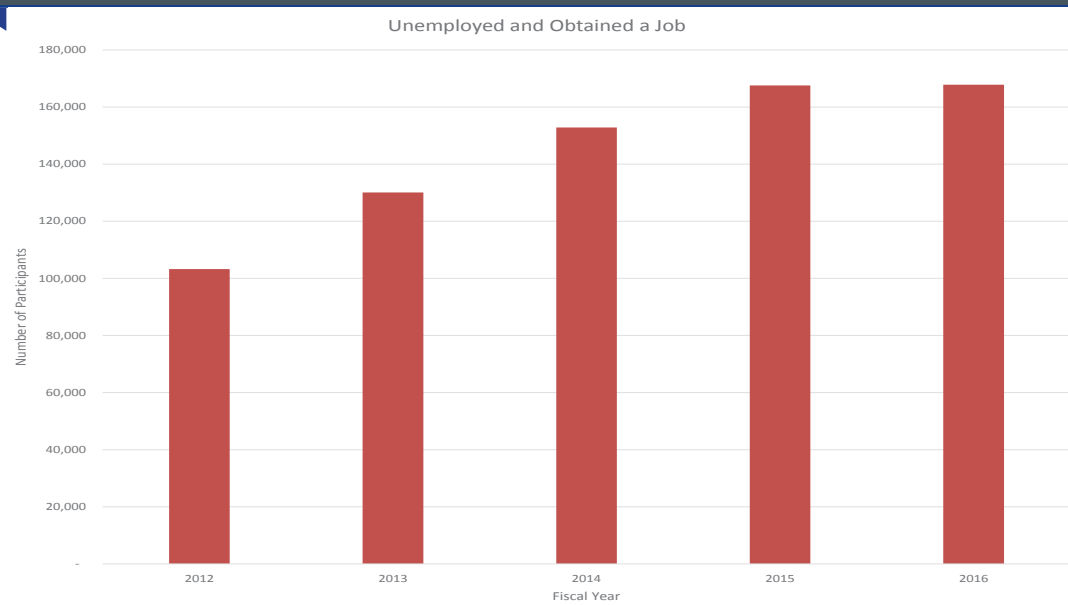


FIGURE 2: CAA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS INCREASING THEIR INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT

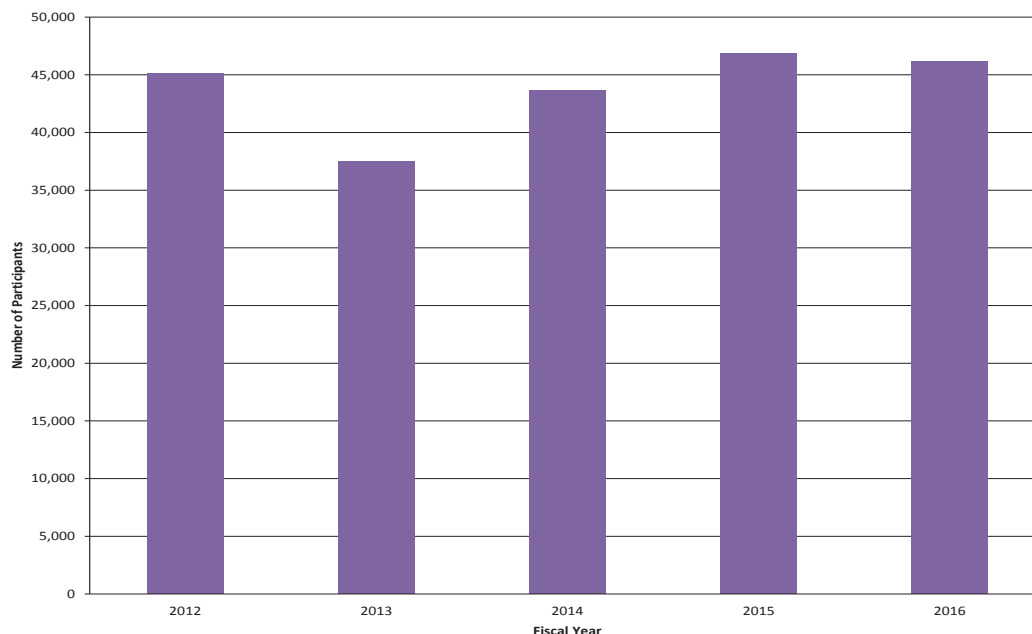


Figure 2 provides trend information for the number of CAA program participants who experienced an increase in income and/or benefits from employment as a result of CAA interventions over the past five years. It is understood that not all jobs obtained by program participants resulted in income or benefit increases. There was a slight decrease in the number of individuals experiencing greater income from employment over FFY 2015. However, there has been a steady increase between 2013 and 2015.

GOAL 1: LOW-INCOME PEOPLE BECOME MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT.

NPI 1.1: EMPLOYMENT

The CSBG Network achieved employment outcomes:

- 167,817** Unemployed people with low-incomes obtained a job.
- 71,230** Unemployed people with low-incomes obtained a job and maintained it for at least 90 days.
- 46,143** Employed people with low-incomes obtained an increase in income and/or benefits.
- 26,825** Employed people with low-incomes achieved “living wage” and/or benefits.¹⁴

NPI 1.2: EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS

The CSBG Network provided services that reduced or eliminated barriers to initial or continuous employment:

Job Skills

225,625 People with low-incomes obtained skills/competencies required for employment.

Education

14,215 People with low-incomes completed Adult Basic Education (ABE) or General Educational Development (GED) coursework and received a certificate or diploma.

16,032 People with low-incomes completed postsecondary education and obtained a certificate or diploma.

Care for Children

245,578 People with low-incomes enrolled school-aged children in before and after school programs.

216,095 People with low-incomes obtained child care for pre-school children or dependents.

Transportation

423,799 People with low-incomes gained access to reliable transportation and/or a driver's license.

Health Care

396,756 People with low-incomes obtained health care services for themselves or a family member.

Housing

191,401 People with low-incomes obtained safe and affordable housing.

Food and Nutrition

1,585,511 People with low-incomes obtained food assistance.

Energy Security

1,916,846 People with low-incomes obtained non-emergency Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) energy assistance.

60,009 People with low-incomes obtained non-emergency Weatherization assistance.

201,234 People with low-incomes obtained other non-emergency energy assistance.

NPI 1.2 illustrates the breadth of supports provided to low-income people who are either working or looking for work. However, the CSBG Network also provides similar supports to people in vulnerable populations who are unable to work, such as seniors, caregivers, and adults with disabilities. NPI 6.4 captures the outcomes of family supports provided to those individuals.

Expansion of Early Head Start Program | Community Renewal Team, Inc. | CT EXPANDING EARLY EDUCATION

In the Greater Hartford area of Connecticut, Community Renewal Team, Inc.'s (CRT) Community Needs Assessment and research by other organizations have long spotlighted the tremendous need for affordable infant/toddler care. There was always a waiting list for the existing 100 slots of infant/toddler care that CRT offers under contract with the Office of Early Childhood (OEC). The sliding fee for this program can be a barrier to very low-income families, whose children may be economically barred from the education and development services provided in licensed, high quality child care. Additional research for this project showed that there were 5,227 eligible children under the age of three in the City of Hartford but only 565 slots of child care in this age group (11%). While the raw numbers are smaller, the lack of child care was even more pronounced in nearby East Hartford; there were 1,815 eligible children under the age of three but only 128 child care spaces (7%).

CSBG funds were used to cover staff members in the Planning Department when developing this approach. The Planning Department required many weeks of work on the part of the Director of Planning, Director of Research, Budget Manager, Budget Analyst and two Planning Analysts (grant writers) in order to design this program and submit a detailed grant. In addition, leadership from Human Resources, Facilities and Business Administration were involved with staffing the program, putting out bids and managing the renovation and furnishing of all spaces. When designing the program, letters of support were received from many of the partners already working with CRT's Early Care and Education programs.

The program used outcome measures along two distinct tracks to measure the success of the Early Head Start program. First, the program made sure all infants and children were obtaining age appropriate immunizations, medical and dental care, and health and physical development improved as a result of adequate nutrition. Additionally, children's developmental milestones were tracked monthly. Regular observation and screenings allowed for staff to flag any concerns throughout the process. Secondly, as with all Head Start programs, the Early Head Start parents worked with family services to address housing stability, employment, education, and other topics that help bring them out of poverty.

2015 set the groundwork for the program, concentrating on building infrastructure and hiring staff. In 2016, this paid off and the program was able to enroll a total of 139 participants from 96 families. There were 11 transitions from the infant/toddler room into CRT's preschool classrooms. 100% of the children enrolled

in the program received screenings for vision/hearing, height/weight, and behavioral and developmental issues. Of these, four children were identified for needing additional services and referred. A family service worker assisted one family experiencing homelessness and assisted them in finding housing. An additional 4 parents were assisted in enrolling in post-secondary certificate programs. Still, more than 40 families took advantage of supports that included mental health services, English as a Second Language (ESL) training, adult education, job training, domestic violence services, and parenting educating and emergency services such as meeting immediate needs of food, clothing or shelter.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 1.1 - Employment
- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 - Community Quality of Life and Assets
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships
- 6.3 - Child and Family Development
- 6.4 - Family Supports

Employment Training Program | Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources | SC

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

Circles is a program provided by the Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources, Inc. aimed at inspiring and equipping families and communities to end the cycle of poverty. Ultimately, Circles works to improve lives through education and/or employment by utilizing a 12-week curriculum where participants gain access to financial, educational, emotional and social resources as well as create an Economic Stability Plan.

Households in poverty are referred to Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources, Inc. Circles from partner organizations or community members. A recruitment team then evaluates each applicant's abilities and motivation for success, in order to identify the key areas of focus. Circle Leaders are then enrolled in the 12-week curriculum. At the end of this training, Circle Leaders are paired with 2-3 trained community volunteers (Allies) who provide listening, networking, and guidance. The Circle Leaders and Allies make an 18-month commitment to each other to accomplish the goal of exiting poverty which is measured as earning an income of more than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

The Community Services Block Grant provides necessary funds for the staffing and supportive services of this program. CSBG staff were utilized in the intake process, eligibility determination and approval. Additionally, funding was provided by the Sisk Foundation of Buncombe Street United Methodist Church, which awarded the program \$15,000 to assist in its efforts.

This past year, 20 participants were enrolled in the Circles program. Of the 20 enrolled, 2 were unemployed and obtained a job following their participation, 18 participants were employed and maintained a job for at least 90 days, and 13 participants increased their employment income and/or benefits. All 20 participants were successful in maintaining affordable housing while receiving food assistance. 2 participants completed post-secondary education programs and obtained a certificate or diploma. 7 participants enrolled their children in before or after school programs.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 1.1 - Employment
- 1.2 - Employment Supports
- 1.3 - Economic Asset Revitalization

NPI 1.3: ECONOMIC ASSET ENHANCEMENT

The CSBG Network helped low-income families increase their non-employment financial assets:

Tax Credits

371,468 Families with low-incomes in CAA tax preparation programs qualified for federal or state tax credits.

\$459,277,981 Anticipated total tax credits.

Child Support Payments

9,608 Families with low-incomes were helped to obtain court-ordered child support payments.

\$24,839,912 Anticipated total payments.

Utility Savings

386,242 Families with low-incomes enrolled in telephone lifeline programs and/or received energy bill discounts.

\$123,594,568 Anticipated total savings.

NPI 1.3: ECONOMIC ASSET UTILIZATION

The CSBG Network helped low-income families gain financial management skills that enabled them to better use their resources and achieve their asset goals:

Maintain a Family Budget

62,049 Families with low-incomes demonstrated the ability to complete and maintain a budget for over 90 days.

Open Individual Development Accounts or Other Savings

14,390 Families with low-incomes opened Individual Development Accounts (IDA) or other savings accounts.

Increased Savings

8,553 Families with low-incomes increased their savings through IDA or other savings accounts.

\$11,524,659 Total savings amount.

Capitalize Small Business

525 Families with low-incomes began small businesses with accumulated savings.

\$646,752 In savings used.

Enroll in Higher Education

1,107 Families with low-incomes pursued post-secondary education with accumulated savings.

\$841,457 In savings used.

Purchase a Home

1,012 Families with low-incomes purchased a home with accumulated savings.

\$6,444,365 In savings used.

Purchase Other Assets

1,038 Families with low-incomes purchased other assets with accumulated savings.

\$724,570 In savings used.

Financial Futures Program | Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity | VT HELPING NEW AMERICANS

Over the past several years, the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity has seen a significant increase in the number of new Americans seeking services. In particular, the Financial Futures program noticed the need for quality and accurate financial information among this population. Because the US financial system can be complex, many new Americans were struggling with learning how to navigate the system. In response to this need, the Financial Futures program developed specially interpreted classes to help new Americans learn how to work with financial systems. The goal of this program is to provide new Americans with the knowledge and skills they need to competently navigate the US financial system so the households have the confidence to move on a path toward economic self-sufficiency. The next step is to train members of the various new American communities to teach interactive classes in the homes of their peers.

CSBG funds contributed to staff time for the development and implementation of this project as staff conducted interviews, research, meetings, brainstorming sessions, taught classes, met one-on-one with clients, did outreach, reporting, and analysis of data and survey results. Additionally, the Financial Futures program worked closely with the Vermont Resettlement Program for interpretation and referrals. Necessary input and feedback was sought from: the Association of Africans Living in Vermont, the Vermont State Refugee Coordinator, All Nations for Jesus Christ Church, ReSource, Burlington School District, and various community members.

In total, Financial Futures served 87 new Americans who speak seven different languages through interpreted classes. In order to assess the success of the programs, baseline data is compared with follow up surveys to measure increased knowledge and engagement with financial tools. Surveys are currently being implemented to measure outcomes.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 1.3 - Economic Asset Enhancement
- 1.4 - Economic Asset Utilization
- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-wide Partnerships

GOAL 2: THE CONDITIONS IN WHICH LOW-INCOME PEOPLE LIVE ARE IMPROVED.

NPI 2.1: COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AND REVITALIZATION

The CSBG Network increased and preserved community opportunities and resources for low-income people through programs, partnerships, and advocacy*:

Saved or Created Jobs

24,937 Jobs created or saved from reduction or elimination in the community.

Living Wage Jobs

8,532 Accessible “living wage” jobs created or preserved in the community.

New Housing

25,347 Safe and affordable housing units created in the community.

Improved or Preserved Housing

116,208 Existing housing units improved or preserved through construction, weatherization, or rehabilitation.

Health Care Services

216,176 Accessible safe and affordable health care services/facilities for people with low-incomes created or saved from reduction or elimination.

Child Care and Child Development

127,900 Child care or child development placement opportunities for children in families with low-incomes created or saved from reduction or elimination.

Youth Programs

129,241 Before or after school program placement opportunities for families with low-incomes created or saved from reduction or elimination.

Transportation

2,396,477 Transportation opportunities for people with low-incomes (public transportation routes, rides, carpool arrangements, car purchase, and maintenance) created, expanded, or saved from elimination.

Educational Opportunities

142,760 Educational and training placement opportunities for people with low-incomes created, expanded, or saved from elimination (including literacy, job training, ABE/GED, and postsecondary education).

* While CSBG does not support lobbying efforts, CAAs are engaged in a number of advocacy and educational efforts as demonstrated through the outcomes associated with a number of the NPIs. These efforts are supported by multiple funding sources. Specifically, the outcomes reported in NPI 2.1 and NPI 2.2 describe the alliances, partnerships, and relationships developed by the CAA to improve the quality of life and assets of the community and do not indicate lobbying efforts, but rather an increasing awareness and education of the public that influences public policy.

Education Lab | SHORE UP! Inc. | MD

OPENING DOORS FOR JOBS WITH EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

A new program at SHORE UP! Inc., a Community Action Agency in eastern Maryland, provides creative training techniques to assist individuals prepare for exams necessary for obtaining employment. This program utilizes a computer lab and innovative software to work with customers in developing math, English, and occupational skills. Shore UP!'s goal is to help participants move towards self-sufficiency by scoring well on exams that open up job opportunities otherwise not available.

The program focuses on preparation for test scores such as the General Education Development exam, the Test of Adult Basic Education, and the Comprehensive Student Assessment System exam. The software targets numeracy and literacy development by allowing for students to learn at their own pace, not moving on to complex concepts until they have mastered more basic material. Additionally, comprehensive analysis of how a student is progressing through the material allows for staff to understand what their specific strengths and weaknesses are to further assist their progression outside of the computer software itself. For instance, the lab is fully equipped with a whiteboard in order to have interactive sessions with students and provide detail on material they are learning. This has shown to help students who have had a difficult time grasping complex concepts.

The lab also acknowledges that there is not always ample time for students to review this information and study on their own so it offers flexibility for the users. One way is by allowing for students to use the lab while their children are at the Head Start or Early Head Start centers, as the lab is in the same location. Another way that the agency maintains flexibility for its users is by allowing for students to access the material from any Internet connection.

For this program to be possible, CSBG funds were used to support the agency in grant acquisition and development, publicity, personnel issues, fiscal maintenance (budgeting and administering of grants), management, and data entry. Other local partners involved in adult education have also assisted this program by providing referrals and offering feedback on the software so it can be most effective.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 1.1 - Employment
- 1.2 - Employment Supports
- 2.2 - Community Quality of Life Assets
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships

NPI 2.2: COMMUNITY QUALITY OF LIFE AND ASSETS

CSBG Network initiatives and advocacy* improved the quality of life and assets in low-income neighborhoods:

Public Policy

188,338 Community assets (i.e. low- and moderate-income housing, jobs, education and training opportunities, bus rides, and medical appointments) preserved or increased as a result of CAA advocacy for changes in laws, regulations, or public policies.

Community Facilities

213,473 Community facilities created, expanded, or saved from reduction or elimination as a result of CAA initiatives.

Community Services

112,451 Community services created, expanded, or saved from reduction or elimination as a result of CAA initiatives.

Commercial Services

25,261 Commercial services within low-income communities created, expanded, or saved from elimination as a result of CAA initiatives.

Quality-of-Life Resources

113,748 Neighborhood quality-of-life resources (i.e. parks, youth sports teams, recreation centers, special police foot patrols, and volunteer neighborhood watch programs) created, expanded, or preserved as a result of CAA initiatives.

* While CSBG does not support lobbying efforts, CAAs are engaged in a number of advocacy and educational efforts as demonstrated through the outcomes associated with a number of the NPIs. These efforts are supported by multiple funding sources. Specifically, the outcomes reported in NPI 2.1 and NPI 2.2 describe the alliances, partnerships, and relationships developed by the CAA to improve the quality of life and assets of the community and do not indicate lobbying efforts, but rather an increasing awareness and education of the public that influences public policy.

Being Empowered & Safe Together | Maui Economic Opportunity | HI

ELIMINATING BARRIERS FOR EX-OFFENDERS

The Being Empowered & Safe Together program was developed to help give individuals being released from jail or prison a more comprehensive support system than was previously provided. After conducting research on previous support systems for newly released individuals, the program saw that although there were services offering help, the available programs were not offering the necessary aid. Being Empowered & Safe Together offers innovative strategies to individuals that target their actual needs by assisting with employer relationships with educational opportunities, bus passes to and from school or work, and identification restoration. These programs ultimately increase the self-sufficiency and employment opportunities individuals have by eliminating typical barriers.

Before the program started, the Community Service Block Grant helped to leverage the administrative funds needed, so that money received from the Weinberg Grant could be used solely for the program costs. While in service, the program worked with a variety of local businesses on the island of Maui who were willing to employ individuals released from jail or prison. Additionally, the University of Hawaii Maui College worked with the program to help with the training and technical training needed for a desired job.

The program's overall goal was to help 50 individuals. Ultimately, the Being Empowered & Safe Together Program achieved its goal and succeeded in helping 51 individuals.

National Performance Indicators addressed:

- 1.1 - Employment
- 1.2 - Employment Supports
- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization

NPI 2.3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The CSBG Network mobilized individuals to work together for community improvement:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 784,647 | Community members mobilized by CAAs to participate in community revitalization and anti-poverty initiatives. |
| 44,074,017 | Volunteer hours donated to CAAs. |

GOAL 3: LOW-INCOME PEOPLE OWN A STAKE IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

NPI 3.1: COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT THROUGH MAXIMUM FEASIBLE PARTICIPATION

The CSBG Network mobilized low-income individuals to work together for community improvement:

27,826,975 Volunteer hours donated by individuals with low-incomes to CAAs.

Many low-income people empowered by the CSBG Network are invested not only in their own success, but that of their community and their peers. To capture the impact and dedication of low-income program participants, NPI 3.1 was added in FY 2009. Based on the total number of volunteer hours reported in NPI 2.3, 57.8 percent of total volunteered time was donated by individuals with low-incomes.

NPI 3.2: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH MAXIMUM FEASIBLE PARTICIPATION

The CSBG Network empowered low-income individuals to engage in activities that promoted their own well-being and that of their community:

Community Decision-Making

209,142

People with low-incomes participated in formal community organizations, government, boards, or councils that provide input to decision-making and policy setting as a result of CAA efforts.

Community Business Ownership

1,675

People with low-incomes acquired businesses in their communities as a result of CAA assistance.

Homeownership in the Community

4,368

People with low-incomes purchased a home in their community as a result of CAA assistance.

Community Involvement

250,097

People with low-incomes engaged in non-governance community activities or groups created or supported by CAAs.

Intergenerational Poverty | Community Action Project of Tulsa County | OK PAIRING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION WITH CAREER ADVANCEMENT

After identifying a need for a comprehensive method to address intergenerational poverty, the Community Action Project of Tulsa County implemented a two generational approach connecting adult and child services for larger, longer-term impacts on family economic success. The program integrates high quality educational opportunities for young children with evidence based programs for their parents, including occupational training, financial coaching, English language instruction, and parenting classes.

CSBG funds have been a vital source of support to provide staff that is able to research, plan, develop, and implement innovative client programs. The CSBG funds are also instrumental in administering the daily operations of CAP Tulsa and its 550 employees. Meanwhile, CAP Tulsa maintains numerous partnerships with local organizations in an effort to provide the highest quality services. For instance, CAP partners with three school districts to provide food services, special education, meal delivery to early childhood centers, and facilitates coordination which creates a seamless pipeline between early education and the public school system. Family & Children Services is another partner, providing high-quality mental health services staff onsite at the Early Childhood Centers. Lastly, Madison Strategies Group, Tulsa Technology Center and Union Public Schools Adult Education Division partner to provide an array of career-readiness training, job placement and retention assistance.

For its Early Childhood Program, CAP Tulsa measures outcome results based on TS GOLD, an assessment tool teachers use to develop individualized, appropriate lesson plans based on each child's needs and strengths. Teachers collect assessment information as children engage in daily activities and record scores based on their skill level several times throughout the year. The CareerAdvance program tracks participant outcomes through testing, data from partner education providers, and personal interviews. The English as a Second Language program utilizes the BEST Plus Oral English Exam to measure each participants' increase in English language proficiency, administered three times per year.

Ultimately, CAP Tulsa's Early Childhood Program (ECP) provides high quality school readiness curriculum to children from low-income families in Tulsa County. In 2016, CAP Tulsa served 3,643 children through its ECP Program by

combining Head Start philosophy and partnering with school districts and social service agencies. CAP Tulsa intends that all children who graduate the program are school ready and reach goals in the following domains: socio-emotional, physical, cognitive, language literacy and mathematics. Ideally, all four-year-olds are prepared to perform well in kindergarten upon the program's completion. In 2016, 375 four-year-olds were developmentally ready to enter kindergarten.

CAP Tulsa's CareerAdvance program draws upon the best practices in workforce development so that upon completion of training for the initial career track, students are encouraged to pursue a continued pathway toward advanced certifications (e.g., moving on from the Certified Nursing Assistant program to the Licensed Practical Nurse degree program.) In 2016, 86 students enrolled in CareerAdvance, 58 of these participants completed the program and 30 went on to obtain employment in the healthcare sector. Non-English-speaking parents served by CAP's ESL program are organized into cohorts and attend weekly partner meetings facilitated by their ESL coach to build a community support on top of the instruction in beginning and intermediate English skills. In 2016, 56 participants increased their English proficiency through this program.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 1.2 - Employment Supports
- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 - Community Quality of Life and Assets
- 2.3 - Community Engagement
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships
- 6.4 - Family Supports

GOAL 4: PARTNERSHIPS AMONG SUPPORTERS AND PROVIDERS OF SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME PEOPLE ARE ACHIEVED.

NPI 4.1: EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH COMMUNITY-WIDE PARTNERSHIPS

202,952 Organizations worked with the CSBG Network to promote family and community outcomes.

These organizations included:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 47,896 | Nonprofits |
| 20,386 | Faith-Based Organizations |
| 15,889 | Local Governments |
| 7,471 | State Governments |
| 4,025 | Federal Government |
| 48,871 | For-Profit Business or Corporations |
| 10,500 | Consortiums/Collaborations |
| 5,593 | Housing Consortiums/Collaborations |
| 10,201 | School Districts |
| 6,001 | Institutions of Postsecondary Education/Training |
| 4,948 | Financial/Banking Institutions |
| 13,030 | Health Service Institutions |
| 4,687 | Statewide Associations or Collaborations |

For many years the CSBG IS Survey has reflected the outcomes of partnerships between CAAs and other organizations in the community, including faith-based organizations. Beginning in FY 2009, NPI 4.1 was expanded to show a more comprehensive view of these partnerships and now includes information on both the number of partnerships and the number of organization with whom CAAs are partnering with.

Affordable Housing Construction | Housing Solutions for the Southwest | CO

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

In southwest Colorado, communities are geographically isolated creating housing, economic, and social challenges for residents. In particular, affordable housing has been a persistent need of the community. Sixteen years ago, Housing Solutions partnered with multiple public and private entities to build an affordable housing community of 61 single family homes called Southwest Horizon Ranch. This development serves five Southwestern Colorado counties encompassing 6,583 square miles of very rural land. Originally built in part with LIHTC funding, Housing Solutions exercised the right of first refusal by assuming the debt on the property and took ownership in 2015.

As an affordable housing development, the rental funding is limited, but expenses are higher than a typical metro area LIHTC apartment building project. Specifically, Southwest Horizon Ranch has found it challenging to provide and pay for the cost of water in an area where most of the region does not have central water, sewer systems, or availability of central gas or electrical services. An on-site well system was built to provide potable water to the subdivision, but maintenance and electrical costs to power the well have added difficulties. Looking for creative ways to defray some of the costs, Housing Solutions worked with 4 Corners Office for Resource Efficiency (4CORE), a long-time partner agency, to explore the option of adding solar power to the property. While the individual homes were not suited for solar, the agencies applied for and received approval to build the solar array to power the water well itself, becoming the first approval of its kind for this grant.

This venture used CSBG funds for its collaboration and partnering efforts. 4 CORE Office of Resource Efficiency took the lead by applying, receiving, and administering the Environmental Justice EPA Grant. Additionally, other financial support was received from the Ballantine Foundation and La Plata Electric Association. CalCom Solar, Solar Works, and Solar Living provided services and materials necessary to the project. Finally, the project included over 50 community volunteers donating over 400 hours of their time because of their passion for bringing much needed solar power into a low income community.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 1.3 - Economic Asset Enhancement
- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 - Community Quality of Life Assets
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-wide Partnerships
- 6.1 - Independent Living

GOAL 5: AGENCIES INCREASE THEIR CAPACITY TO ACHIEVE RESULTS.

NPI 5.1: AGENCY DEVELOPMENT

The CSBG Network worked to expand agency capacity to achieve results:

Certified Trainers in Local CAAs

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 507 | Certified Community Action Professionals (CCAP) |
| 390 | Nationally Certified ROMA Trainers |
| 4,415 | Family Development Trainers |
| 17,159 | Child Development Trainers |

Training Participation

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 123,531 | Staff attending trainings |
| 14,836 | Board members attending trainings |
| 3,391,419 | Hours of staff in trainings |
| 105,846 | Hours of Board members in trainings |

The CSBG Network continually works to increase its capacity to provide high quality services to people and communities. At the local level, one way that CAAs increase their capacity is by investing in staff and board development. In FY 2009, NPI 5.1 was added to capture this information. CCAP and ROMA certifications are only two of a number of professional development opportunities that the CSBG Network offers their workforce. These certifications demonstrate the commitment of CAAs to implement the highest level of performance management and measurement within their agencies.

GOAL 6: LOW-INCOME PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL BY STRENGTHENING FAMILY AND OTHER SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS.

NPI 6.1: INDEPENDENT LIVING

The CSBG Network assisted vulnerable individuals to maintain an independent living situation:

Senior Citizens

1,766,538

Senior citizens received services and maintained an independent living situation as a result of services.

Individuals with Disabilities

1,066,574 *

Individuals with disabilities received services and maintained an independent living situation as a result of services.

110,887 Of those individuals were 0-17 years old.

362,257 Of those individuals were 18-54 years old.

593,430 Of those individuals were 55 years old and older.

*The total includes the sum of the individual age categories, plus individuals whose age data were not collected.

NPI 6.2: EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The CSBG Network administered emergency services that helped individuals obtain and maintain self-sufficiency:

| Individuals | Emergency Services |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 6,472,368 | Emergency Food |
| 2,460,921 | Emergency Fuel or Utility Payments |
| 183,244 | Emergency Rent or Mortgage Assistance |
| 46,414 | Emergency Car or Home Repair |
| 131,821 | Emergency Temporary Shelter |
| 68,895 | Emergency Medical Care |
| 76,924 | Emergency Protection from Violence |
| 47,075 | Emergency Legal Assistance |
| 175,829 | Emergency Transportation |
| 18,159 | Disaster Relief |
| 272,304 | Emergency Clothing |

NPI 6.3: CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

The CSBG Network helped infants, children, youth, parents, and other adults achieve developmental and enrichment goals:

Infants and Children

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 487,586 | Infants and children obtained age-appropriate immunizations, medical, and dental care. |
| 1,727,655 | Infants and children received adequate nutrition, assisting in their growth and development. |
| 400,395 | Infants and children participated in pre-school activities, assisting in developing school readiness skills. |
| 365,080 | Children who participated in pre-school activities became developmentally ready to enter kindergarten or first grade. |

Youth

| | |
|---------|---|
| 241,485 | Youth experienced improved health and physical development. |
| 153,307 | Youth experienced improved social and emotional development. |
| 105,444 | Youth avoided risk-taking behavior for a defined period of time. |
| 47,675 | Youth reduced involvement with the criminal justice system. |
| 186,273 | Youth increased their academic, athletic, or social skills by participating in before or after school programs. |

Parents and Other Adults

| | |
|---------|---|
| 247,142 | Parents and/or other adults learned and exhibited improved parenting skills. |
| 246,381 | Parents and/or other adults learned and exhibited improved family functioning skills. |

Needle Education Program for Preschoolers | Ohio Valley Opportunities, Inc. | IN

CREATING COMMUNITY AWARENESS

An increase in drug use, specifically by injection using hypodermic needles, has led to a spike in the number of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) diagnoses in rural Indiana communities. Community members have found hypodermic needles in parks, roadsides, and lawns in residential areas. A child was reported to have accidentally been pricked with a needle while walking through their yard and had to begin a regiment of testing for HIV.

In order to keep children safe in Indiana's communities affected by this problem, Head Start staff began to educate preschool children about identifying needles and to avoid touching them to prevent the spread of germs or disease. Developmentally appropriate materials for needle education and safety for preschool-aged children was not readily available, as typically it

had only been available to children in middle and high school levels. Due to the urgency of the safety hazard, staff reached out to the local Health Department/Needle Exchange Program to gather needles and a sharps container to educate the children in-house. Early Childhood Education Staff sat down with children in small groups to show the needles, review places they might find the needles, talk about their typical use by doctors or nurses to help sick people, discuss germs, and encourage “Don’t Touch, Go Tell” habits if needles are found in their environment. Information was also provided to parents/guardians to inform them of the safety education the children received and encouraged continued discussion at home.

The Needle Education Program for Preschoolers was able to provide its program with CSBG funds which supported activities involved in the operations, community mobilization around the cause, and the coordination of resources. The Scott County Health Department, the Needle Exchange Program, the North Police Department, and the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department all provided supplies and materials needed for the presentations. In short, the program focused on the children in the primarily affected county, but shared materials and information with two other counties also, ultimately serving 200 Head Start children annually. Additionally, at a national conference, the Health Coordinator spoke personally to physicians from the American Academy of Pediatrics to request the development of materials for preschool aged children, given the lack of resources available before this program.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 - Community Quality of Life and Assets
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships
- 5.1 - Agency Development
- 6.4 - Family Supports

NPI 6.4: FAMILY SUPPORTS

The CSBG Network provided services that reduced or eliminated barriers to family stability:

Care for Children

52,394 Participants enrolled children in before or after school programs.

60,006 Participants obtained care for a child or other dependent.

Transportation

456,505 Participants obtained access to reliable transportation and/or a driver's license.

Health Care

233,065 Participants obtained health care services for themselves or a family member.

Housing

148,150 Participants obtained safe and affordable housing.

Food and Nutrition

1,515,187 Participants obtained food assistance.

Energy Security

1,355,221 Participants obtained non-emergency Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) energy assistance.

35,379 Participants obtained non-emergency Weatherization assistance.

154,790 Participants obtained other non-emergency energy assistance.

Just as the CSBG Network provides supports to low-income people who are able to work, it also provides similar supports to those who are unable to work. Thus, NPI 6.4 has been added to capture the outcomes of family supports provided to those individuals.

NPI 6.5: SERVICE COUNTS UPDATED

The CSBG Network helped low-income individuals and families meet basic household needs and improve economic security:

Services Provided

24,432,801 Food Boxes

294,345,345 Pounds of Food

1,658,121 Units of Clothing

18,503,493 Rides Provided

9,022,378 Information and Referral Calls

CAAs that meet the needs of low-income families through the provision of services and resources report those services in NPI 6.5. Unlike the other NPIs, where outcomes are mostly measured in the number of unduplicated individuals or families impacted, NPI 6.5 measures services.

Weatherization-Plus Program | Operation Threshold | IA

PROVIDING TARGETED WEATHERIZATION

Operation Threshold's Weatherization Assistance Program's evaluators inspect many houses each year to determine if they are eligible for weatherization assistance. Their evaluators noted that there were often instances where houses were in need of repairs (mostly roofing, electrical, and plumbing) that rendered the house ineligible for weatherization assistance. Agency staff noted that these were typically families with low-incomes who were unable to make the necessary repairs in order to be weatherized, and were likely to continue to deteriorate if the problems were not resolved.

In order to address this concern, agency staff prepared and submitted applications to local funders to undertake a Weatherization-Plus program. This new program provides up to \$10,000 toward repairs on a house that would otherwise not be eligible for weatherization assistance. As a result, these houses are receiving much needed repairs and are able to be weatherized after the necessary repairs are made. This project was made possible by the CSBG funds which were used to pay for the staff time involved in identifying the local funders and preparing the necessary applications. Additional support was offered by Waterloo Housing Trust Fund (\$75,725 grant) and the City of Waterloo (\$24,000 grant).

The goal of the Weatherization-Plus program is to improve the living conditions and reduce energy costs for low-income Waterloo residents. In FY 2016, the program assisted 12 homeowners who reported through exit surveys that the weatherization work was completed on each house and included items designed to improve its short and long-term energy efficiency. In total, \$81,164.48 was invested in the community to improve the housing stock.

National Performance Indicators Addressed:

- 2.1 - Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 - Community Quality of Life and Assets
- 4.1 - Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Development
- 6.1 - Independent Living
- 6.4 - Family Supports

OUTCOMES HIGHLIGHTS

Employment

The CSBG Network assisted individuals with finding and maintaining employment and increasing wages or benefits. As a result of CAA involvement, over 167,000 unemployed individuals obtained jobs. CAAs supported these outcomes by partnering with local businesses to provide job training and certifications and by subsidizing positions that would have been eliminated without CSBG Network involvement.

Additionally, CAAs work to reduce or remove challenges facing job seekers. In addition to direct job-seeking and training assistance, CAAs provided many services that removed barriers to employment, such as education attainment, safe and reliable housing, and transportation. For example, to help people with low-incomes access and maintain employment, the CSBG Network helped over 423,000 people secure reliable transportation.

Education

Both children and adults benefit from the educational opportunities provided by the CSBG Network. CAAs make education more accessible to individuals with low incomes through ABE or GED courses, college scholarships, skills training, and a multitude of options and support services based on local need. Over 225,000 individuals obtained skills required for employment, a slight 7% decrease from 2015. Further, 18% more individuals obtained their ABE/GED than in 2015, creating opportunity for 14,215 people. An additional 16,032 people completed post-secondary education programs and obtained certificates or diplomas because of CSBG Network assistance. As well as enrolling tens of thousands of youth in before and after-school programs, CAAs assisted more than 400,395 children to develop necessary school readiness skills through participation in pre-school and after school activities.

Health Care

Many CAAs are designated as Health Insurance Navigators or have personnel on staff who are trained to assist individuals seek health coverage options. The CSBG Network made health care more accessible to over 629,000 low-income individuals. CAAs also helped infants and children improve and maintain their health in several ways. More than 587,000 infants and children received necessary immunizations, medical care, and dental care. In addition, over 1.7 million infants and children received adequate nutrition, which assisted their growth and development.

Energy

The CSBG Network provided energy services to approximately 3.7 million low-income individuals through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and other energy programs. Individuals with low-incomes' homes were made more energy-efficient to decrease utility payments and had positive impacts on health of residents and the environment. Homes of individuals with low-incomes were made more energy-efficient, effectively reducing utility payments and positively impacting the environment and health of communities.

National Performance Targets & Trends

In addition to CSBG's performance measurement initiative, the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has established a government-wide initiative to use performance targets and outcome measures to assess the program efficiency and effectiveness of all federally-funded domestic assistance programs. As a result, beginning in FY 2004 OCS began to develop and report CSBG performance targets, or anticipated levels of achievement. This FFY 2016 report represents the twelfth year of collecting performance targets based on the NPIs.

The nature and scope of national CAA outcome reporting has been incorporated into the CSBG IS NPIs. OCS collects baseline information concerning CAA performance targets to which future years' performances may be compared. This information serves to gauge the effectiveness and efficiency of CAA program activities. This section provides target performance levels for the following four CSBG IS NPIs:

- National Performance Indicator 1.1 – Employment
- National Performance Indicator 1.3 – Economic Asset Enhancement and Utilization
- National Performance Indicator 6.2 – Emergency Assistance
- National Performance Indicator 6.3 – Child and Family Development

Section 678E of the CSBG statute requires agencies to measure their performance and achievement in carrying out their goals. CAAs set targets for the number of participants they expect to achieve specific goals and then collect data on the number of participants who achieved those goals.

As the data accrue, agencies relate their abilities to predict performance outcomes by dividing the number of participants achieving the goal by the number expected to achieve the goal. The resulting percentage generally assesses CAAs' knowledge of their programs as well as the success of their participants. Trends indicate that agencies' abilities to set targets remain high as the anticipated and actual numbers converge. Tables 2 through 5 reveal performance outcomes for the four indicators.

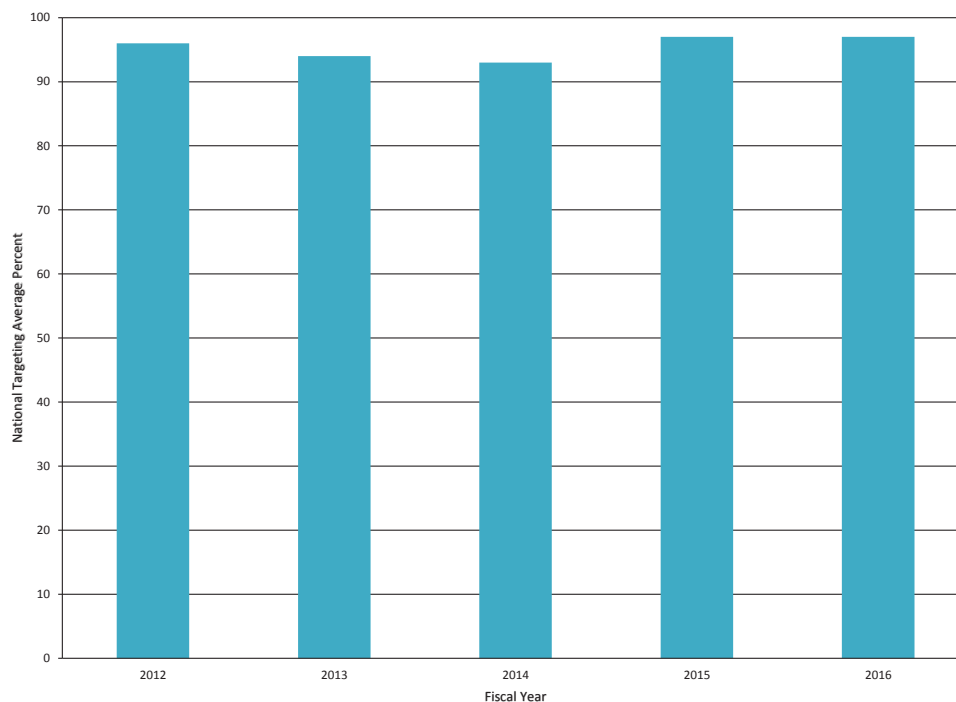
NPI 1.1 - EMPLOYMENT

Table 2 shows performance measures for NPI 1.1: The number and percentage of low-income participants in Community Action employment initiatives who get a job or become self-employed. This table depicts how agencies set and met their outcome goals for Employment in FY 2016, with 943 CAAs reporting outcomes under this indicator. CAAs achieved their performance targets for obtaining an increase in income and/or benefits by at least 91 percent.

TABLE 2: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR 1.1 - EMPLOYMENT

| PERFORMANCE MEASURE | ENROLLED | EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE OUTCOME (TARGET) | ACHIEVING OUTCOME | ACHIEVING TARGET |
|--|----------------|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Unemployed and obtained a job | 268,641 | 168,825 | 167,817 | 99.40% |
| Employed and maintained a job for at least 90 days | 122,942 | 73,352 | 71,230 | 97.11% |
| Employed and obtained an increase in employment income and/or benefits | 94,963 | 49,578 | 46,143 | 93.07% |
| Achieved “living wage” employment and/or benefits | 57,969 | 29,282 | 26,825 | 91.61% |
| TOTAL | 544,515 | 321,037 | 312,015 | 97.19% |

FIGURE 3: NPI 1.1 TARGETING PERCENTAGE, FY 2010-FY 2015



NPI 1.3 - ECONOMIC ASSET ENHANCEMENT AND UTILIZATION

Table 3 shows performance measures for CSBG IS NPI 1.3: The number and percentage of low-income households that achieve an increase in financial assets and/or financial skills because of Community Action assistance. This table depicts how agencies set and achieved their outcome goals for Economic Asset Enhancement and Utilization in FFY 2016, with 930 CAAs reporting outcomes under this indicator. Achievements of targets were high, with CAAs achieving their performance targets by at least 86 percent. The purchase of and saving for homes typically results in lower numbers in comparison to the other indicators. Evidence from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) suggests low-income families “face significant barriers to sustainable homeownership”. Because these barriers exist, CAAs implement a variety of programs to help people obtain homeownership such as matched savings accounts known as Individual Development Accounts that help families purchase a home.¹⁵ It is also important to note that many of these indicators and associated outcomes may take periods of longer than one year to achieve, and many of the individuals enrolled continue to work towards achievement of outcomes over program years.

**TABLE 3: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR 1.3 -
ECONOMIC ASSET ENHANCEMENT AND UTILIZATION**

| PERFORMANCE MEASURE | ENROLLED | EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE OUTCOME (TARGET) | ACHIEVING OUTCOME | ACHIEVING TARGET |
|---|-------------------|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Identified and received Federal/ State tax credits | 16,481,190 | 337,496 | 371,468 | 110.07% |
| Received court-ordered child support | 20,043 | 8,975 | 9,608 | 107.05% |
| Received telephone and energy discounts | 420,023 | 391,578 | 386,242 | 98.64% |
| Developed/maintained a family budget for 90 days or more | 86,854 | 64,344 | 62,049 | 96.43% |
| Opened Individual Development Account (IDA) | 23,707 | 15,079 | 14,390 | 95.43% |
| Increased savings through IDA or other savings accounts | 14,884 | 9,073 | 8,553 | 94.27% |
| Used IDA to capitalize a business | 2,524 | 610 | 525 | 86.07% |
| Used IDA to pursue higher education | 3,470 | 1,020 | 1,107 | 108.59% |
| Used IDA to purchase a home | 4,184 | 1,081 | 1,012 | 93.62% |
| Used IDA to purchase other assets | 2,217 | 1,026 | 1,038 | 101.17% |
| TOTAL | 17,059,096 | 830,282 | 855,992 | 103.1% |

NPI 6.2 - EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Table 4 shows performance measures for CSBG IS NPI 6.2: The number of low-income individuals served by Community Action who sought emergency assistance and the number of those individuals for whom assistance was provided. This table depicts how agencies meet the emergency needs of families seeking Emergency Assistance in FFY 2016, with 995 CAAs reporting outcomes for this indicator. CAAs responded to at least 82 percent of most emergency needs for families with low-incomes. In almost all cases, the number of individuals seeking service and receiving emergency services has decreased steadily since 2013 with the exception of Emergency Transportation, which has increased slightly.

TABLE 4: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR 6.2 - EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

| PERFORMANCE MEASURE | EMERGENCY SERVICE | INDIVIDUALS SEEKING SERVICE | INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING SERVICE | EMERGENCY NEEDS MET |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Strengthened individuals and families via emergency assistance | Emergency Food | 6,562,641 | 6,472,368 | 98.62% |
| | Emergency Fuel or Utility Payments | 2,699,680 | 2,460,921 | 91.15% |
| | Emergency Rent or Mortgage Assistance | 257,075 | 183,244 | 71.28% |
| | Emergency Car or Home Repair | 58,610 | 46,414 | 79.19% |
| | Emergency Temporary Shelter | 158,331 | 131,821 | 83.25% |
| | Emergency Medical Care | 75,944 | 68,895 | 90.71% |
| | Emergency Protection from Violence | 81,178 | 76,924 | 94.75% |
| | Emergency Legal Assistance | 57,254 | 47,075 | 82.22% |
| | Emergency Transportation | 285,748 | 175,829 | 61.53% |
| | Disaster Relief | 19,679 | 18,159 | 92.27% |
| | Emergency Clothing | 280,471 | 272,304 | 97.08% |
| TOTAL | | 10,536,611 | 9,953,954 | 94.47% |

NPI 6.3 - CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Table 5 shows performance measures for NPI 6.3: The number and percentage of all infants, children, youth, parents, and other adults participating in developmental or enrichment programs who achieve program goals. This table depicts how agencies set and met their outcome goals for Child and Family Development, with 966 CAAs reporting outcomes for this indicator. CAAs could exceed their targets for most of the measures in this indicator.

TABLE 5: NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR 6.3 - CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

| PERFORMANCE MEASURE | ENROLLED | EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE OUTCOME (TARGET) | ACHIEVING OUTCOME | ACHIEVING TARGET |
|--|------------------|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Infants and Children | | | | |
| Improved immunization, medical, dental care | 523,147 | 483,181 | 487,586 | 100.91% |
| Improved nutrition (physical health) | 1,607,692 | 1,592,395 | 1,727,655 | 108.49% |
| Achieved school readiness skills | 425,402 | 376,291 | 400,395 | 106.41% |
| Improved developmental readiness for kindergarten or first grade | 469,120 | 457,61 | 365,080 | 79.78% |
| Youth | | | | |
| Improved health and physical development | 234,216 | 227,077 | 241,485 | 106.34% |
| Improved social and emotional development | 177,850 | 133,450 | 153,307 | 114.88% |
| Avoided risk-taking behaviors | 129,595 | 84,522 | 105,444 | 124.75 |
| Reduced involvement with the criminal justice system | 69,618 | 41,755 | 47,675 | 114.18% |
| Increased academic, athletic, and social skills | 203,489 | 159,913 | 159,913 | 116.48% |
| Adults | | | | |
| Improved parenting skills | 293,654 | 237,175 | 247,142 | 104.2% |
| Improved family functioning skills | 290,399 | 238,047 | 246,381 | 103.5% |
| TOTAL | 4,424,182 | 3,573,806 | 4,182,063 | 117% |

TARGETING SUMMARY

Overall, the data demonstrate that despite hard-to-predict economic conditions, the CSBG Network has remained knowledgeable about its capacity to achieve results and to effectively provide the most needed services to families and communities with low incomes. It is important to reiterate that many of these indicators and associated outcomes may take periods of longer than one year to achieve, and many of the individuals enrolled continue to work towards achievement of outcomes over program years. Additionally, changes within local communities and local economic instability are variables outside of an agency's control and affect targeting projections.

CAAs can use trend data and the ROMA cycle to modify and position their programs and services in anticipation of changes and are highly successful at modifying and responding to changes in the communities in which they operate to achieve relatively high percentages of their projected outcomes. Targeting is an essential part of the CSBG Network's capacity to anticipate, plan, and respond to needs in communities and facing families and individuals served throughout the year.

State Uses of CSBG Funds

In FFY 2016, Congress appropriated over \$674 million for the CSBG Act.¹⁶ States were allocated \$654 million and tribes and territories were allocated nearly \$9.4 million. In addition, the CSBG Act provides for community economic development and rural facilities grants that were funded at approximately \$36.38 million.¹⁷ Some CAAs received these grants, which are separate from their regularly appropriated CSBG allocations.

There are three allowable uses for State CSBG funds: grants to local eligible entities, state administrative costs, and discretionary projects. During FFY 2016, \$703 million was expended by states, including nearly \$94.5 million carried over from FFY 2015. States allocated over 91 percent of these funds to eligible entities, totaling over \$619 million. The remainder was allocated for state administrative expenses, discretionary funding, and supporting the infrastructure and operations related to administering CSBG funding. The block grant-funded state personnel coordinate multiple programs, manage systems to avoid duplication, and oversee and evaluate the continuity of services and activities provided by CAAs.

It is critical to understand the nature of the CSBG distribution of funding. The Congressional allocation includes funding for tribes, territories, discretionary grants at the national level, and funding for the states. Each state receives a yearly CSBG allocation, but by statute, has a two-year period over which to spend the allocation. Therefore, the total amount of CSBG funding that each state has access to on a yearly basis includes a yearly allocation, plus carryover from the prior year, and minus any funding the state decides to carry forward into the second-year period. At the state level, per the statute, the state is obligated to allocate 90 percent of the yearly Congressional allocation to local agencies. Additionally, the state may keep 5 percent of the yearly Congressional allocation for state administrative expenses, and 5 percent for discretionary funding at the state level, which may go to a CAA or to an organization that is not a CAA. Each agency therefore, has CSBG funding that may have been carried over from the prior year, the current state allocation, and any discretionary funding, as well as other federal, state, local, and private sources of funding, which also vary by year. As an added factor, each state has its own fiscal year, which may or may not align with the federal fiscal year. These factors combine to create a funding environment in which allocations and expenditures are unlikely to match precisely. State fiscal years, additional sources of federal, state, local, and private funding, and additional state-wide breakdowns of funding can be found in the Appendix.

GRANTS TO LOCAL ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

The CSBG statute requires not less than 90 percent of the state block grant be allocated to local CSBG Eligible Entities. States allocated over \$619 million, or 91 percent, to the 1,005 CAAs, as shown in Table 6. These funds supported direct services to low-income individuals and communities as well as the management, infrastructure, and operations of the CAAs. The block grant-funded local personnel to coordinate multiple programs, fill gaps in services, manage systems to avoid duplication, and improve the continuity of services and activities for participants. CSBG-funded staff was also assigned to build local partnerships for reducing poverty. In addition, CSBG covered indirect expenses associated with the space, equipment, materials, and services needed for the CAAs to work effectively.

TABLE 6: USES OF CSBG FUNDS

| USE OF FUNDS | AMOUNT ALLOCATED* | NUMBER OF STATES | PERCENTAGE OF FUNDING ALLOCATED |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Grants to Local Eligible Entities | \$619,073,786 | 52 | 91% |
| State Administrative Costs | \$29,370,415 | 52 | 4.34% |
| Discretionary Projects | \$28,171,855 | 44 | 4.16% |
| TOTAL EXPENDED IN FFY 2015** | \$676,616,056 | 52 | 100% |
| Carried Forward to FFY 2016 | \$109,925,656.00 | 40 | |

*Expended funding may differ from allocated funding based on carryover and differing fiscal years and contracts based on state variances.

** This includes funds carried over from FFY 2014.

***Includes 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. This is an unduplicated count of states in FFY 2015.

STATE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

No state may spend more than the greater of \$55,000, or five percent of the block grant for state administrative costs, including monitoring. This administrative allotment provides states with the resources necessary to maintain strong oversight of CSBG through fiscal reporting, data collection and analysis, and ongoing assessments of CAAs. It also helps states coordinate and establish linkages between and among governmental and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of services to low-income people and avoid duplication of services. As Table 6 shows, States collectively used 4.3 percent for their administrative expenditures.

The block grant funded all or part of 559 state positions, and an additional 237.5 full-time state employees (FTEs). Just as the local agencies administer many federal and state programs in conjunction with CSBG, so do the state CSBG offices. Altogether, state CSBG offices administered an average of four programs per state, in addition to CSBG.

CSBG state administrators are housed in a variety of administrative locations, most often in a state's Social Services and/or Human Services Department or the state's Community Affairs, Community Services, or Community Economic Development Department. A few state CSBG offices are housed in departments related to health or labor and still others are in a state's executive office. State-specific details showing the administrative locations and responsibilities of CSBG State administrators are available in the Appendix.

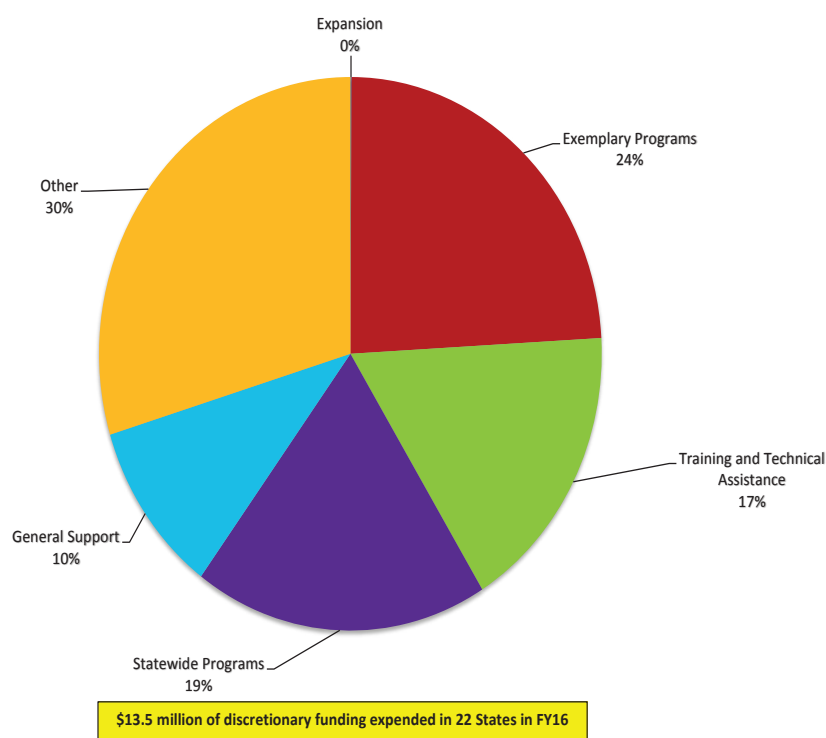
DISCRETIONARY PROJECTS

The remaining funds may be used at the state's discretion for programs that help accomplish the statutory purposes of the block grant. Discretionary project funding by 47 states accounted for 4.16 percent of CSBG expenditures, or \$28.1 million. Figure 4 demonstrates these expenditures which include:

- Statewide initiatives, such as programs that address a particular need and involve state-level planning, research, information dissemination, coalition building, and/or intra-State coordination.
- Grants awarded to CAAs through a vigorous process that support exemplary competitive or demonstration programs to eliminate one or more causes of poverty. This was the largest area of discretionary spending by the CSBG network.
- Training and technical assistance to local agencies.
- Expansion to new geographic areas.

Information for state-level initiatives funded by discretionary grants can be found in the Appendix.

FIGURE 4: DISTRIBUTION OF CSBG DISCRETIONARY FUNDS BY PURPOSE



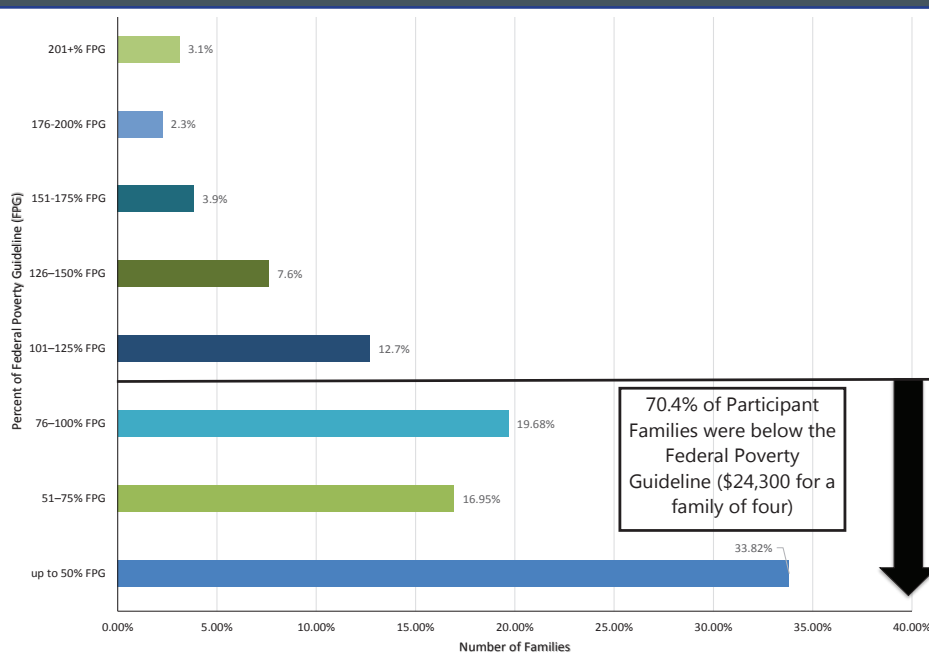
Participants of CAA Programs

In FFY 2016, CAAs in every state reported information about the participants in their programs and projects to the state CSBG office. Over 15.7 million individuals and members of 7.0 million families participated in CAA programs. The CSBG IS Survey captured various demographic data for 77 percent of individuals and 84 percent of the families of this population.¹⁸

The CSBG Network serves a heterogeneous group of Americans with low-incomes who live in a wide variety of communities. However, the majority of CAA program participants were white, had incomes below the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG), and were members of families that relied on either a worker's wages or retirement income. State-specific data on participant characteristics are available in the Appendix.

Individuals and families aided by CAAs face poverty and economic insecurity in varying degrees. However, data show that CAAs serve some of the poorest, and most vulnerable populations in the U.S. The 15.7 million individuals served by CAAs represent nearly 38.9 percent of the 40.6 million Americans who, according to the most recent census data, live in poverty.¹⁹ According to the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey data, over 20 percent of the U.S. population had incomes below 125 percent of the poverty threshold and just under 7 percent had an income below 50 percent of the poverty threshold.²⁰ Out of the approximately 4.5 million families reporting their poverty status to CAAs, 70 percent were at or below the FPG of \$24,300 for a family of four. More than 2.2 million families, nearly 50 percent, were "severely poor," with incomes at or below 50 percent of the FPG, or below \$12,150 for a family of four.²¹ This data indicates that CAAs are successful in targeting and serving populations most in need of their services and programs. Figure 5 shows the proportion of families with incomes at or below percentages of the FPG.

FIGURE 5: POVERTY STATUS OF CAA PROGRAM PARTICIPANT FAMILIES*



*Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding.

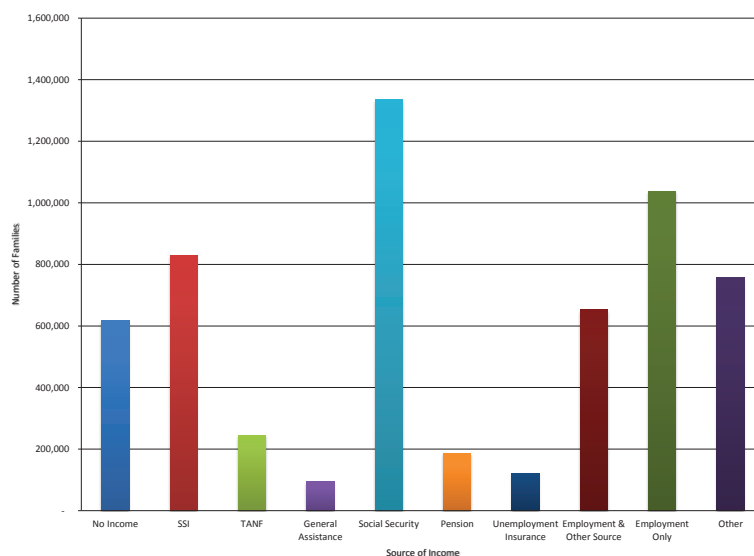
INCOME SOURCES

Low-income households experience significantly greater instability in their monthly incomes than high-income households. Income sources are wages, government assistance, social security, pension, and other types of resources. Families report all sources of household income, not just the primary source. In addition, approximately 616,000 families that came to CAAs reported zero income. This a decrease of over 14,000 families reporting no income in FY 2015. It underscores the difficulty that families with low incomes face in making ends meet, and emphasizes the fact that the majority of families have a source of income. The following statistics outline key income trends of families in the CSBG Network who reported one or more sources of income.

- Over 47.7 percent of participant families reporting one or more sources of income indicated that some or all of their income comes from employment.
- Approximately 88 percent of participant families include a worker, an unemployed job-seeker, or a retired worker as contributing to their income sources.
- Approximately 1 million low-wage participant families relied solely on wages for income.
- CAAs served nearly 1.5 million families living on retirement income from Social Security or pensions.
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) provided income to less than eight percent of the families served by CAAs.

According to recent Bureau of Labor Statistics analysis, the poverty rate for working households in 2015 was 5.6 percent.²² This rate has been decreasing each year since 2012 and in 2015 was lower than pre-recession rates of 6% for the first time. In addition, incomes have not returned to their pre-recession

FIGURE 6: SOURCES OF INCOME FOR CAA PROGRAM PARTICIPANT FAMILIES**



*Government assistance includes TANF and unemployment insurance.

** Figure 6 includes a full list of income sources. Note that General Assistance is a state income supplement program, not a federal source of assistance.

rates. As a result, many more low-income working families are not making ends meet and need CAA services to help them maintain employment and achieve a better, living wage job.

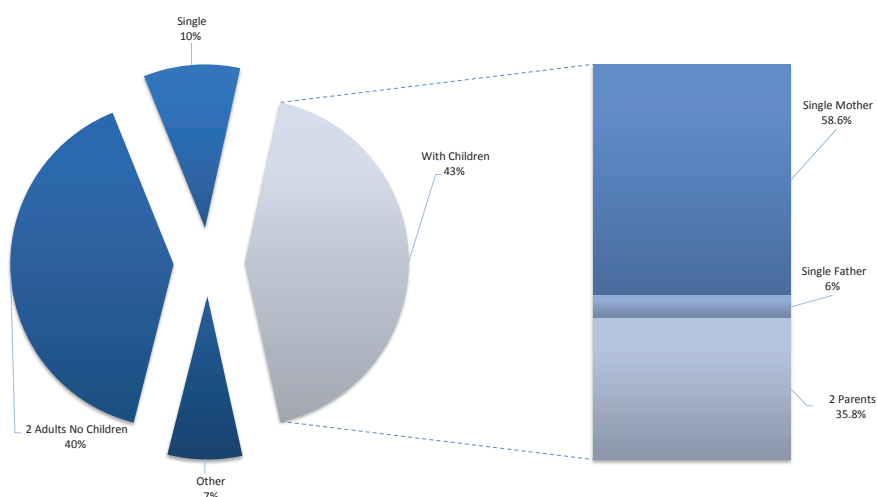
FAMILY STRUCTURE OF PARTICIPANTS

CAAs served over 1.7 million two-person and three-person families and nearly 42,000 families with 8 or more members. The average family size of the participants who were surveyed was 2.4 members per family.

Of the participants reporting family size, 43 percent of participating families who provided information on their family size indicated they had children in their family, nearly 40 percent of all families were people who lived alone, and 10 percent reported two adults living alone with no children. Just over 64% of all CAA program participants' households reporting children were single parent families. Research shows that families headed by a single parent are more likely to be living at or below the poverty line – 14.9% of single fathers and 28.2% of single mothers.²³

Figure 7 illustrates that of the 43 percent of participating families who indicated they had children in their family:

FIGURE 7: FAMILY COMPOSITION OF CAA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

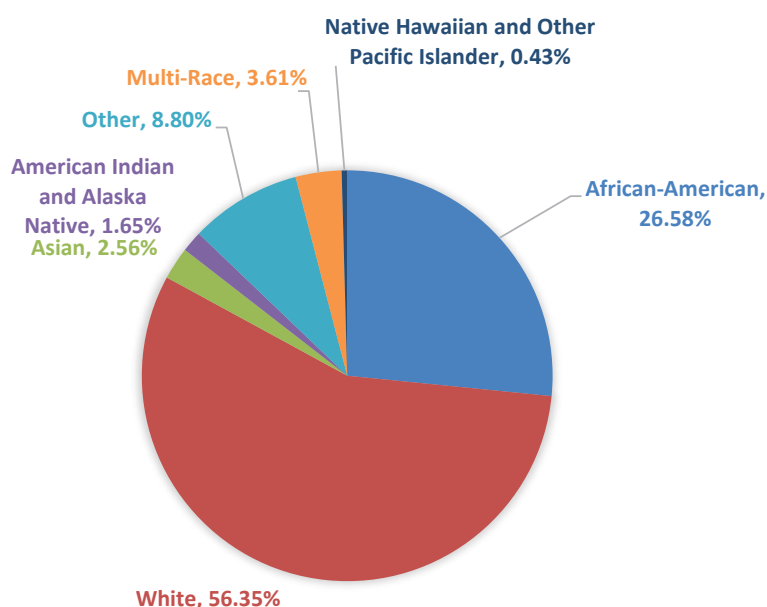


- 35.8 percent had both parents present.
- 58.6 percent were headed by a single mother.
- 6 percent were headed by a single father.
- “Other” includes families composed of children living with grandparents, or other extended family.

RACE AND ETHNICITY OF PARTICIPANTS

CAA program participants are racially and ethnically diverse, reflecting the diversity of the communities CAAs serve across the country. Of the 15.7 million individuals served, over 9.8 million reported their race or ethnicity data to CAAs. Ethnicity data indicated that nearly 19 percent self-identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.²⁴ In 18 states, 20 percent or more of the participants self-identified as Hispanic or Latino. Over 9.8 million participants also reported their race. Figure 8 highlights the racial diversity of CAA participants served in FFY2016.

FIGURE 8: RACE OF CAA PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



*Totals do not sum to 100% due to rounding

The following racial breakdown reflect participants' voluntarily-provided responses:

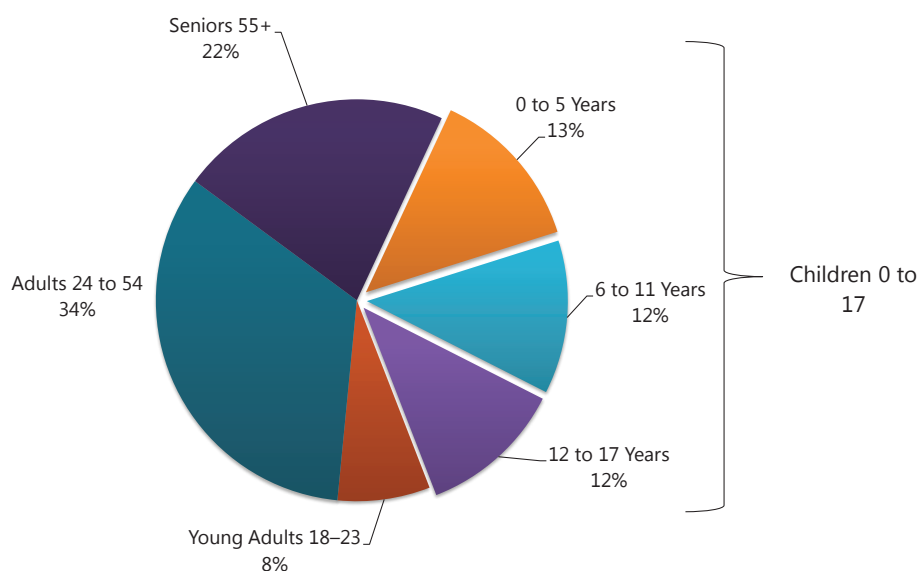
- 56.35 percent White.
- 26.58 percent African-American.
- 8.8 percent of another race or declined to disclose.
- 3.61 percent multi-racial.
- 2.56 percent Asian.
- 1.65 percent American Indian or Alaska Native.
- 0.43 percent Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.

CHILDREN AND SENIORS IN CAA PROGRAMS

The participants in CAA programs included over 3.9 million children under the age of 17. The Census Bureau reports that the poverty rate for children under 18 is 18 percent.²⁵ Reflecting this fact, children aged 17 and under made up more than 37 percent of all individuals served. Additionally, approximately 1.4 million, or 13 percent of all CAA program participants, were 5 years of age or younger, as Figure 9 shows. Child poverty is an urgent need across the nation and CAAs are working to alleviate the effects of poverty on this vulnerable population.

Over 2.3 million people, over 21 percent of CAA program participants reporting age, were 55 years or older, and over 8 percent of the participants in that age group were 70 years or older. CAAs helped these older participants maintain their independence and remain engaged in their communities.

FIGURE 9: CHILDREN AND SENIORS IN CAA PROGRAMS



BARRIERS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Many CAA program participants face multiple barriers to achieving economic security, such as lack of health insurance, or education, living with a disability, and homelessness. Health insurance data offered by nearly 9 million participants indicated that 23.5 percent were without medical insurance. In FFY 2016, 3.5 percent less people reported being uninsured than in FY 2015. CAAs across the nation have been involved in working to enroll clients in the Health Insurance Marketplace, as established by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and other state available health care. Research shows that lack of health insurance is a strong predictor of future critical hardships for families at all income levels, but is particularly strong for those with incomes below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.²⁶ For this reason, the work that CAAs do in health services is especially significant in ending a cycle of poverty that impacts families now and for generations to come.

Research also shows that young adults with a bachelor's degree earn 64 percent more than high school graduates and 100 percent more than those who do not have high school diplomas.²⁷ Thirty-three percent of adults over age 24 who reported their educational attainment to CAAs lacked a high school diploma or equivalency certificate, and 45 percent of CAA program participants reported a High school diploma or a GED as their highest educational attainment as shown in Figure 10. CAAs' efforts to improve educational levels for program participants is a key investment.

Data collected from nearly 9.1 million participants indicated that 20 percent of the CAA program participants were disabled. Research shows that among working-age adults with disabilities, only 17.9 percent were employed. CAAs are critical in assisting people with disabilities to find employment, improve their quality of life, and maintain an independent living situation.

Housing data offered by a little fewer than 4.4 million participants indicated that 3.6 percent were homeless. This number rises to 10 percent when including clients who report living with friends and family for an extended period. Homelessness, though, does not equate to unemployment.

Almost half of the homeless population works, but does not earn enough to pay for housing. However, homelessness does contribute to many other social and economic challenges. For example, research shows a cyclical relationship between health and homelessness.²⁸ Homelessness leads to poor health, and poor health can lead to homelessness. CAAs provide critical services to help alleviate homelessness and its effects through housing, health services, and other supportive programs.

CAA Resources

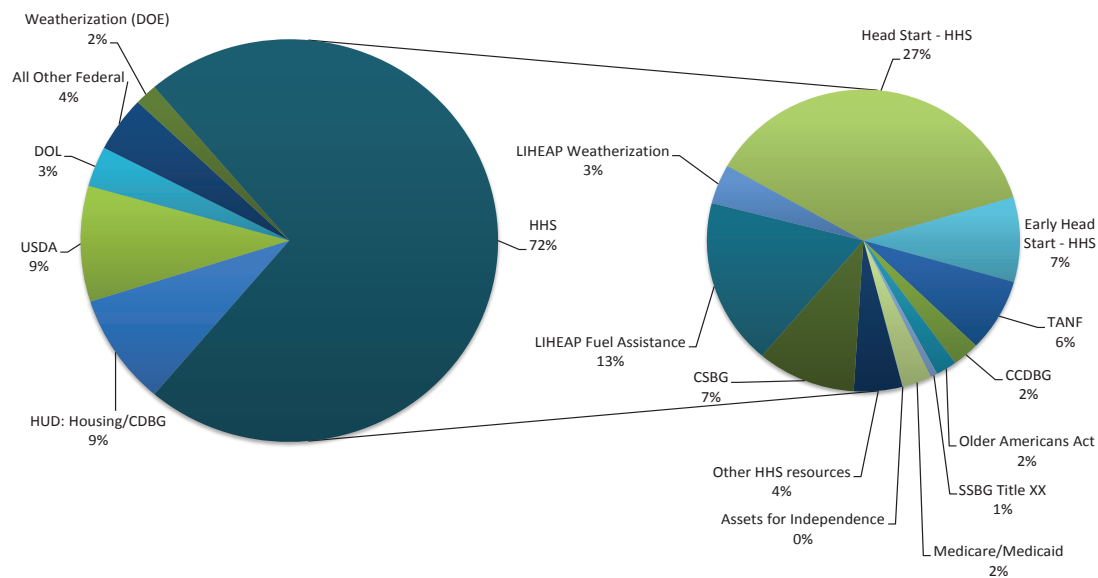
NATIONWIDE RESOURCES

In FY 2016, CAAs were allocated financial resources totaling \$13.8 billion from federal, local, state and private sources of funding, including \$668.6 million from CSBG. Although CSBG is a small part of the total resources managed by CAAs, its flexibility allows them to fund staff, infrastructure, innovative programs, and activities not supported by other resources. Figure 10 shows all sources of federal funding that CAAs manage and the percent of total funding from each source.

While federal programs, predominantly those of HHS, provided nearly three-quarters of non-CSBG funding allocations, private partners contributed over \$1.5 billion. Volunteers contributed an additional \$319 million in value, bringing all total resources to over \$14.1 billion. Table 7 shows all allocated resource amounts, as well as the leveraging ratio as compared to CSBG. State-specific details, including federal, state, private, and local allocations, are available in the Appendix.

A major function of staff funded by CSBG is developing resources to meet community needs. The high leveraging ratio reflects CAAs' progress towards this goal. CAAs develop partnerships to offer opportunities for private donors, businesses, and volunteers to donate their resources or time to improve the lives of families in their communities. They also generate federal, state, and local government support

FIGURE 10: FEDERAL SOURCES OF CAA ALLOCATIONS



by obtaining contracts, grants, and partnership agreements. The total financial resources of a given year can reflect the organization's resource development work of the previous fiscal years. For every \$1 of CSBG, CAAs leveraged \$7.70 from state, local, and private sources, including the value of volunteer hours at federal minimum wage. Including all federal sources and volunteer hours, the CSBG Network leveraged \$20.19 of non-CSBG dollars per \$1 of CSBG

TABLE 7: RESOURCES BY FUNDING SOURCE AS COMPARED TO CSBG

| FUNDING SOURCE | ALLOCATION | LEVERAGING RATION PER \$1 OF CSBG |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| CSBG | \$668,664,307 | \$1.00** |
| All Federal Programs (minus CSBG) | \$8,349,181,605 | \$12.49 |
| State Sources | \$1,717,937,537 | \$2.57 |
| Local Sources | \$1,609,132,398 | \$2.41 |
| Private Sources | \$1,504,790,621 | \$2.25 |
| Value of Volunteer hours | \$319,536,623 | \$0.48 |
| Total Non-Federal Sources*** | \$5,151,397,180 | \$7.70 |
| TOTAL ALL RESOURCES | \$14,169,243,092 | \$20.19 |

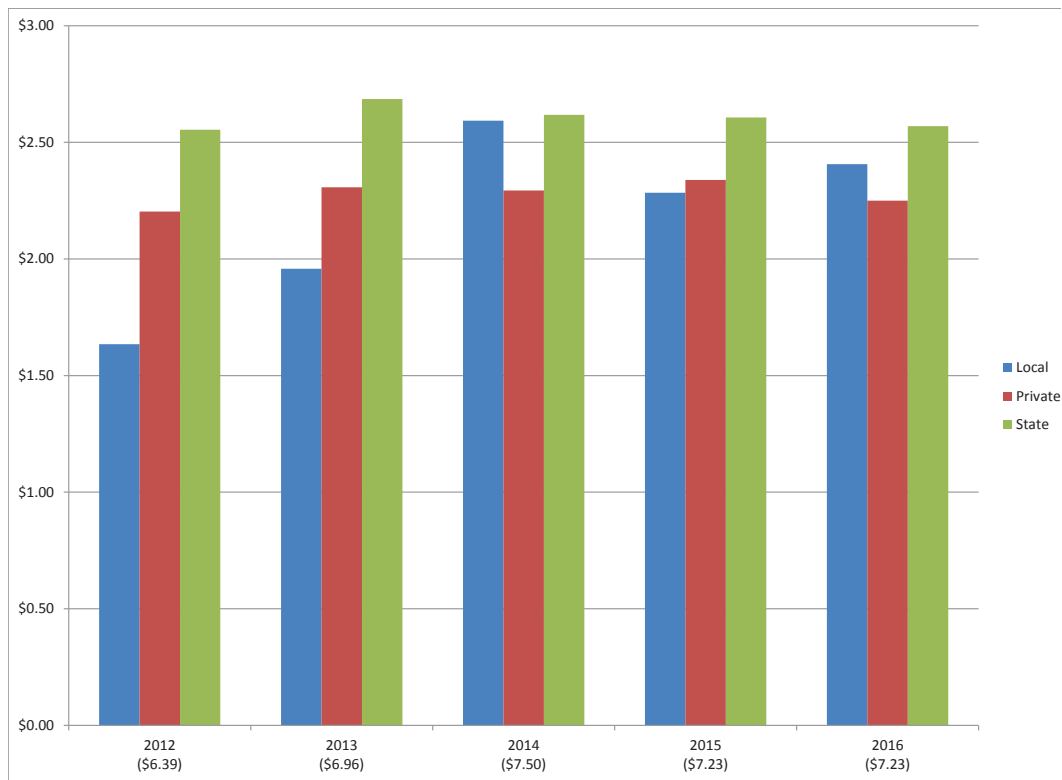
*Calculated by dividing the funding source allocation by the CSBG allocation.

**This amount not included in leveraging totals below.

*** Includes value of state, local, and private sources as well as volunteer hours.

TRENDS IN NETWORK RESOURCES

In FFY 2016, the “leveraging” ratio of CSBG to non-federal funding, an important indicator of CAAs’ efficacy, was 19 percent higher than 2011 and, excluding the value of the volunteer hours. These increases demonstrate the efficacy and targeted focus of CAAs to strengthen local, state, and private partnerships for maximum impact. Figure 11 shows the non-federal resources leveraged by CSBG funds for FFY 2016.

FIGURE 11: NON-FEDERAL LEVERAGING PER CSBG DOLLAR (\$1.00)

CAA Uses of CSBG Funds

CAAs typically draw upon resources from many limited-purpose programs to support individual participants and families striving to increase their economic security. CAA programs either fill a gap in community supports or coordinate existing facilities and services.

CAAs also mobilize initiatives that benefit entire communities, such as effective responses to predatory lending or initiatives preventing local business closure. Typically, CAAs must develop the investment partnerships or coalitions that support community improvement.

The staff, facilities, and equipment needed for this work often are supported by CSBG. The block grant funding permits CAAs to coordinate national and state programs to meet local needs. Although most CAAs manage multiple programs that are classified by the group served (such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; Crime Victims Assistance Program; or Emergency Services to the Homeless), CAA projects are classified by the conditions causing poverty that the CSBG statute identifies as major barriers to economic stability.

UNIQUE INITIATIVES

While some categories are easy to understand, such as employment, education, income management, health, housing, nutrition, and emergency services. Other types of initiatives have a broader scope, and may require further explanation:

LINKAGES

The term “linkages” describes funding for a unique local institutional role. It refers to the activities that bring together, or make linkages through mobilizing and coordinating community members or groups, and often, government and commercial organizations which serve many communities. Linking a variety of local services, programs, and concerned citizens is an important strategy to combat community-wide causes and conditions of poverty. CAAs categorized 13 percent of their CSBG expenditures, a little over \$78 million, as linkages expenditures.

Linkages also can be observable connections, such as medical transportation, integrated databases of community resources, communications systems, or support and facilities for new community-based initiatives. Linkage programs can involve a variety of local activities that CSBG-funded CAA staff support, including:

- Coordination among programs, facilities, and shared resources through information systems, communications systems, and shared procedures;
- Community needs assessments, followed by community planning, organization, and advocacy to meet these needs;
- Collective impact projects to create community changes, such as reducing crime or partnering with businesses in neighborhoods where people with low-incomes live to plan long-term development;
- Efforts to establish links between resources, such as transportation and medical care, or programs that bring services to participants, such as mobile clinics or recreational programs, and management of continuum-of-care initiatives;

- The removal of barriers, such as transportation challenges, that hinder low-income individuals' abilities to access their jobs or other necessary activities;
- Support for other groups of community residents with low-incomes who are working for the same goals as the eligible entity.

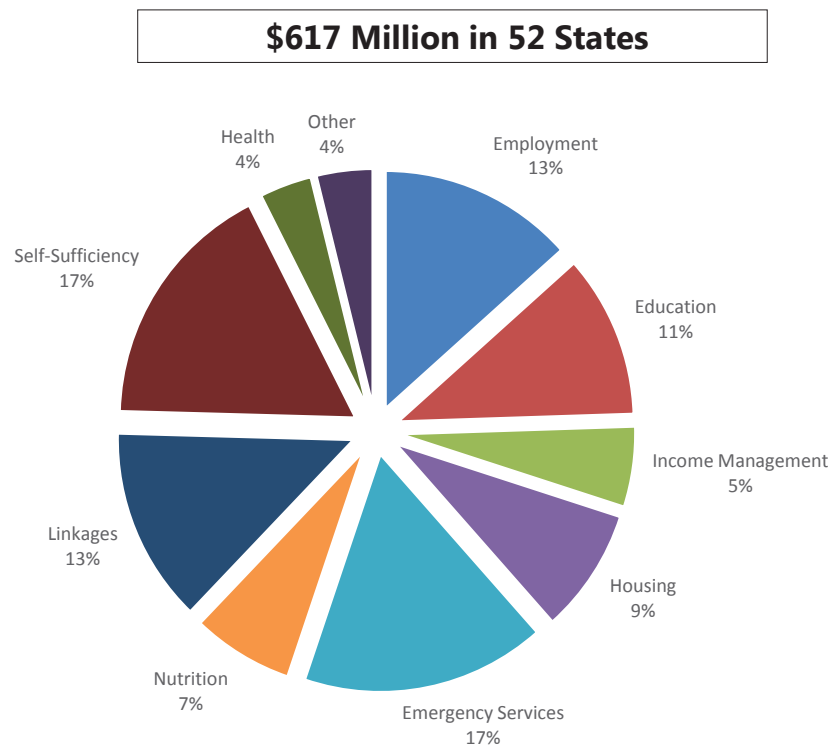
FIGURE 12: CAA USES OF CSBG FUNDS


Figure 12 shows how CAAs expended CSBG funds among these categories. A project in any one category may help to further the multiple goals of CAAs and many projects fall into more than one of these categories. To ensure unduplicated figures, funds are only reported under the primary category. The expenditures include agencies' CSBG funds and any discretionary funds, as well as any funds carried forward from the previous year and expended during the reporting period. States and CAAs vary in their methods for recording expenditures. The largest categories of CSBG fund expenditures were self-sufficiency programs (17.1 percent) and emergency services (16.7 percent).

SELF-SUFFICIENCY INITIATIVES

All activities funded by CSBG support the goals of increasing economic security and self-sufficiency for low-wage workers and their families, as well as for those unable to work, such as some seniors and individuals living with disabilities. CAAs partner with many organizations that also aim to help families and individuals become more self-sufficient. However, funding reported under self-sufficiency generally represent longer-term investments in families, through case management or counseling programs, for example, in which trained staff help families examine their economic, social, medical, and educational goals. These programs offer a continuum of services to assist families in becoming more financially secure. Dedicated CAA staff members identify and coordinate supportive services to help the family members attain their goals over an extended period of engagement. Examples of services supported include:

- An assessment of the issues facing the family or family members and the resources the family brings to address these issues;
- A written plan for becoming more financially independent and self-supporting;
- Identifying resources to help the participant implement the plan, such as clothing, bus passes, emergency food assistance, career counseling, family guidance counseling, referrals to the Social Security Administration for disability benefits, assistance with locating possible jobs, assistance in finding long-term housing, assistance in expunging minor criminal offenses in eligible states, etc.

CAA RESOURCES HIGHLIGHTS

YOUTH AND SENIOR EXPENDITURES

Within the service categories, CAAs reported spending nearly \$49.8 million in CSBG funds on programs serving youth, and \$55.7 million in CSBG funds on programs serving seniors. Services noted under these categories were targeted exclusively to youth from ages 12 to 18, or persons over 55 years of age. Examples of youth programs include recreational facilities and programs, educational services, health services, prevention of criminal involvement, delinquency prevention, employment, and mentoring projects. Seniors programs help the elderly to avoid or ameliorate illness or incapacity, address absence of a care taker or relative, prevent abuse and neglect, and promote wellness. Expenditures made by each state for programs serving youth and seniors can be found in Appendix B.

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Endnotes

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- 13 “OEO Instruction 6320-1”, Office of Economic Opportunity, 1, <http://www.cencomfut.com/Opinions/1-OEOInstruction6320-1.pdf>.
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- 18 It is important to note that individuals and families may self-report or report partial demographic data points to Community Action Agencies depending on the enrollment process or program in question. Therefore, the demographic totals are equal to or less than the total number of individuals and families served, and are based on totals as reported around one or more characteristics for each unduplicated person or family.
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24 It is important to note that Hispanic or Latino is an ethnic identity, and may include individuals who identify as White, African-American, only by ethnicity and not by a racial group at all, or who self-identify as multi-racial or other. Given the racial diversity present in this ethnic group, these responses are not aggregated with racial data, which includes the racial self-identification of some, but not all, individuals who also reported a Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.

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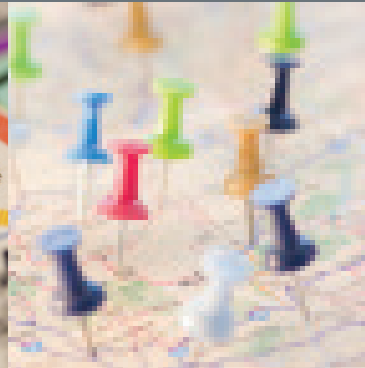
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