

## Dear Colleagues,

The federal Office of Community Services (OCS) encourages all state Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Administrators to attend the 2021 National Association of State Community Services Programs (NASCSP) Winter Training Conference, March 8 - 12, 2021.

Considering the health and safety impacts of COVID-19, NASCSP will conduct this as a **virtual** event. In this virtual environment, attendees will have the ability to participate in live conference sessions, as well as view a select number of pre-recorded conference sessions at their own pace.

The CSBG track of the conference will include information that highlights examples related to impactful anti-poverty efforts, CSBG administration, performance management, and innovation. OCS sessions include:

- March 10, 12:00pm 12:30pm ET OCS Federal Partner Update: A special update from OCS Director, Dr. Lanikque Howard and the Division of Community Assistance (DCA) Director, Charisse Johnson
- March 10, 2:30pm 3:30pm ET OCS CSBG Townhall: Join the Office of Community Services (OCS) for a new style of a virtual townhall with an introduction by the DCA Director, Charisse Johnson, and targeted topics with the program and financial operations teams to provide you the most up-to-date information about CSBG focused on your needs.
- March 11, 2:30pm 3:30pm ET Things to Know About Grant Management: Join the
  Office of Community Services and the Office of Grants Management (OGM) for a joint
  session on grants management.

Attendees can also attend the following sessions:

- Managing and Maximizing Performance: This session will discuss the tools and techniques states can use to not only manage performance and compliance, but also to support entities to maximize performance and impact on families and communities of low income.
- Wellness from Within: This peer-led session will discuss practices to support yourself, your staff, and your agencies through times of crisis. Peer states will discuss strategies they've employed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to address and prevent burnout, stay connected, and find inspiration.
- Strategies for Engagement: Creating and building engagement with your network can be challenging. Engaging with your agencies regularly can help build trust, capacity, and

help you act proactively to identify opportunities for improvement and needed supports. Join this session to hear strategies to create meaningful opportunities for engagement with your eligible entities.

While the NASCSP Winter Training Conference may not be structured in its traditional format this year, OCS is confident that this virtual platform opportunity will be beneficial as you seek to engage with the CSBG Network. For more information, please visit the 2021 NASCSP Winter Training Conference website.

OCS hopes you will enjoy the conference and use the information shared to support your continuous quality improvement efforts.

Sincerely,

/s/
Charisse Johnson
Director, Division of Community Assistance
Office of Community Services