



HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

Presentation to the  
Legislative Health and Human Services Committee  
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July 16, 2015

# Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Background

## ▶ Legislative Authority:

- Authorized by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, P.L. 97-35, the Community Service Block Grant Act, as most recently amended by the Community Opportunity, Accountability, Training and Education Services (COATES) Reauthorization Act of 1998, P.L. 105-285. CSBG provides for formula grants to States, U.S. Territories, and Federal and State-recognized Indian Tribes and tribal organizations.
- The Community Action Act of 1983, § 27-8-1 et seq. NMSA provides the authority to operate the CSBG program in New Mexico.

# Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

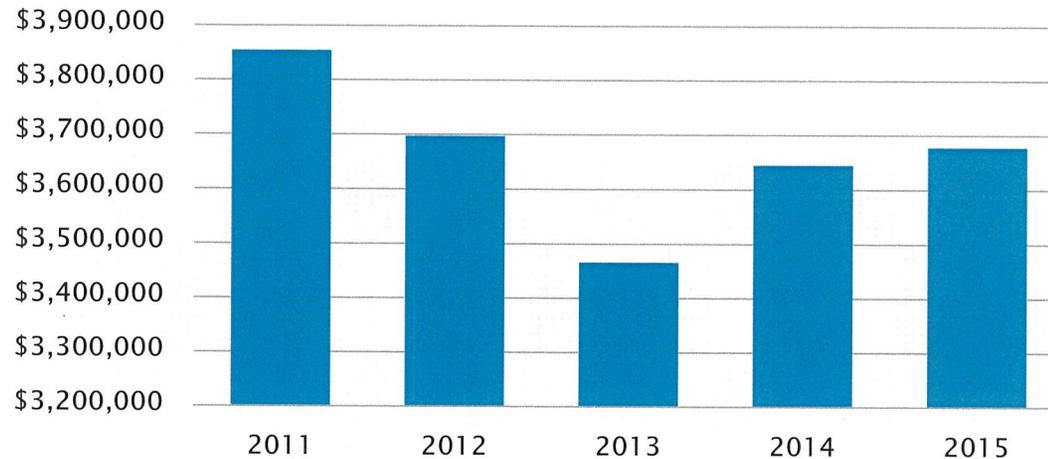
- ▶ New Mexico's Community Action Act designates the Human Services Department (HSD) as responsible for CSBG. Within HSD, the CSBG program is administered by the Income Support Division's Work and Family Support Bureau (ISD/WFSB).
- ▶ CSBG is 100% federally funded; no State funds are allocated to support the program.

# Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

- ▶ A Block Grant from the U.S. Health and Human Services Department that provides a flexible funding source to HSD through a network of Community Actions Agencies (CAAs) for the reduction of poverty.
- ▶ The federal statute requires a state legislative hearing at least every three (3) years in conjunction with the development of the CSBG State Plan.

# CSBG funding is appropriated as part of the annual federal budget

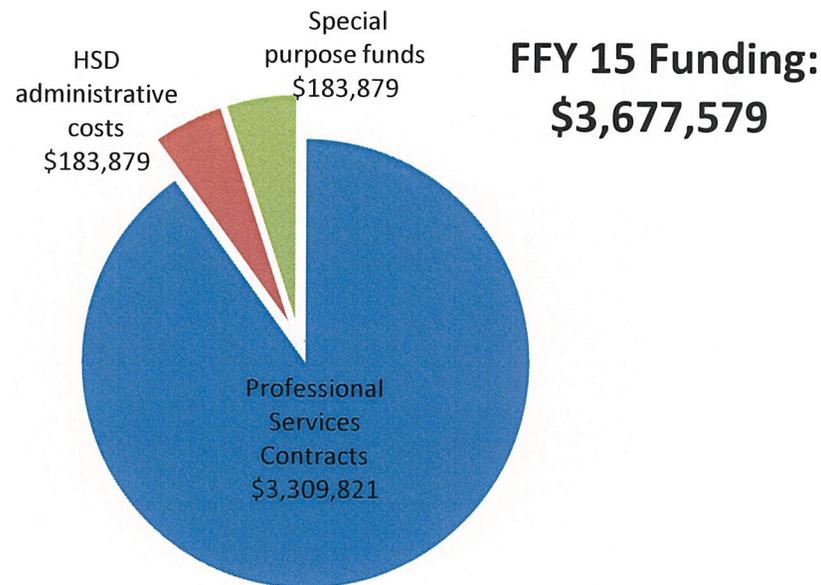
## Annual Allocations to HSD



- ▶ 2011—\$3,853,550
- ▶ 2012—\$3,696,732
- ▶ 2013—\$3,467,113
- ▶ 2014—\$3,644,891
- ▶ 2015—\$3,677,579
- ▶ 2016— pending

# Distribution of CSBG Funding in NM

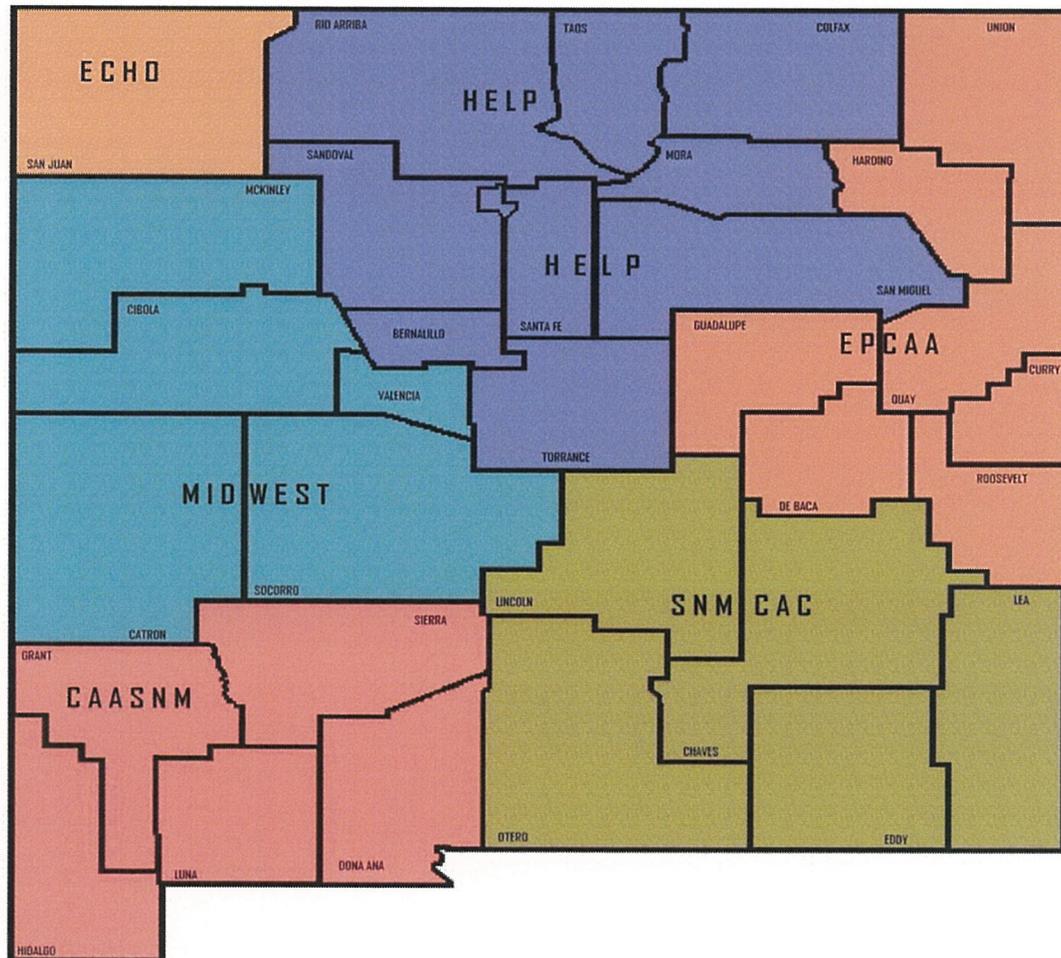
- ▶ A minimum of 90% is provided to the CAAs via sole source Professional Services Contracts.
- ▶ 5% is used for HSD's administrative expenses.
- ▶ 5% can be used for any of eight specified purposes identified in the federal statute, such as training and technical assistance, or supporting innovating programs.



# Eligible Entities—Community Action Agencies (CAAs)

- ▶ In NM, the six CAAs are designated as eligible entities under the provisions of the Federal COATES Act.
  - Community Action Agency of Southern NM (CAASNМ)
  - Eastern Plains Community Action Agency (EPCAA)
  - Economic Council Helping Others, Inc. (ECHO)
  - HELP–New Mexico (HELP)
  - Mid–West NM Community Action Program (MIDWEST)
  - Southeast NM Community Action Corp. (SNMCAC)

# Geographic Areas Served by the CAAs



## CAAs use CSBG funds:

- ▶ To provide services according to community needs. These services include emergency assistance (food and food vouchers, payment assistance for utilities, rent, and prescriptions), employment and training, and income management services directly to individuals and families. CSBG-funded services may be provided concurrently with other public assistance.
- ▶ For the administrative support of programs and services funded by other federal, state, and local sources.

# Fiscal and Program Oversight

- ▶ HSD reviews monthly expenditure and program reports for compliance.
- ▶ HSD requires the Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to submit a single agency financial audit report annually.
- ▶ HSD conducts biennial onsite management evaluations/reviews, including:
  - Administrative Review
  - Board of Directors Compliance
  - Program Review
  - Fiscal Review

# CSBG Expenditures in FFY 14 by Service Categories

- ▶ \$744,472 of CSBG funds were used to provide emergency services;
- ▶ \$519,857 of CSBG funds were used to support nutrition initiatives;
- ▶ \$393,911 of CSBG funds were used to support education initiatives;
- ▶ \$346,267 of CSBG funds were used to expand resources and opportunities for low-income individuals and families;

# CSBG Expenditures in FFY 14 by Service Categories

- ▶ \$274,336 of CSBG funds were used to support employment programs
- ▶ \$246,088 of CSBG funds were used to support housing programs
- ▶ \$242,833 of CSBG funds were used to support income management programs

# CSBG Expenditures in FFY 14 by Service Categories

- ▶ \$184,046 of CSBG funds were used to support health initiatives
- ▶ \$155,264 of CSBG funds were used to support self-sufficiency initiatives.

# Total CAA Resources in FFY 14

- ▶ In addition to \$3,107,074 in CSBG funds, the six CAAs also received \$46,821,640 in federal, state, local, and private funding and resources.

- Federal: \$36,365,940 (Not including CSBG)
- State: \$2,874,700
- Local Public: \$2,277,257
- Private Sector: \$5,303,743

# 2016–2017 NM CSBG State Plan

- ▶ Each state must submit an annual or biennial state plan. NM prepares biennial state plans. The Plan serves as the application for funding. The CSBG grant award from Health and Human Services(HHS) is contingent on acceptance of the state plan by the federal oversight agency, the Office of Community Services (OCS).
- ▶ OCS has extensively revised its State Plan template, incorporating the formal implementation of a performance management framework designed to drive CSBG program improvement at the CAA, state and federal levels.

# 2016–2017 NM CSBG State Plan

- ▶ The final version of the State Plan template is expected later this month.
- ▶ ISD–WFSB must submit the plan electronically by September 1, 2015, to be effective October 1, 2015.

# 2016–2017 NM CSBG State Plan Summary

- ▶ Describes CSBG planned activities for Federal Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017. OCS will revise the current CSBG annual report to incorporate state reporting on actual results.
- ▶ In addition to this Legislative Hearing, a Public Hearing is scheduled for July 30, 2015 in Santa Fe.
- ▶ The CAAs have received the proposed plan for their review and comments.

# Summary of Draft 2016–2017 State Plan CAA Standards

- ▶ OCS is requiring states to implement organizational standards for CAAs in FFY 16. OCS has developed a set of 58 specific organizational standards for CAAs, and recommends that states adopt these standards. The [Appendix](#) to this presentation includes the list of standards.
- ▶ Each State has the option of adopting the OCS standards, adopting them with slight modification, or developing its own set of standards.
- ▶ NM proposes to adopt the OCS standards with slight modification. For one CAA, the standards for the governing board will apply to its CSBG Policy Board of Directors.

# Summary of Draft 2016–2017 State Plan Use of Funds

- ▶ For 2016, NM will use its current funding formula to allocate to the CAAs the required 90% of the grant
  - \$79,516 to one CAA for statewide seasonal farmworker services;
  - Each CAA receives a \$50,000 base amount ;
  - Each CAA also receives a pro-rata distribution according to the percentage of individuals in poverty in the counties that comprise its designated CSBG service area, using the 2007 US Census Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. The size of designated CSBG service areas ranges from 1 to 10 counties.

# Summary of Draft 2016–2017 State Plan Use of Funds

- ▶ During 2016, the funding formula will be revised. A workgroup of CAAs will be involved in the research, development and modeling of potential allocation methods.
- ▶ Implementation of the new allocation method will be targeted for 2017.
- ▶ In 2016 and 2017, the 5% of the grant available for special, statutorily–defined purposes will be used primarily for training/technical assistance to the CAAs as they prepare for and implement the new organizational standards.

# Summary of Draft 2016–2017 State Plan Use of Funds

- ▶ The special purpose funds will also be available to CAAs for innovative programs. Funds have been used in the past to:
  - Support a Kids Backpack Food Program
  - Support free tax preparation services to low-income individuals and families
  
- ▶ If 90% of the FY 16 or FY 17 grant amounts are insufficient for CAA contract compensation, funds may be reverted to contracts.

# Summary of Draft 2016–2017 State Plan State and CAA Linkages

- ▶ ISD–WFSB managers will develop linkages between CSBG and other Programs administered by ISD–WFSB, including LIHEAP, TANF, and SNAP.
- ▶ ISD–WFSB managers will also explore the potential for linkages with other programs.
- ▶ CAAs will develop and maintain their extensive network of local partnerships with public, nonprofit and private organizations.

# CSBG State Plan and CAAs

Proposed CSBG State Plan

October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2017

<http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/income-support-division-plans-and-reports.aspx>

# Additional Questions, Contact

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