

This document was prepared to provide the reviewer with the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) basics.

CSBG Act Purpose

To provide assistance to states and local communities, working through a network of Community Action Agencies, for: the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals to become fully self-sufficient.

FUNDING

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requires that at least ninety percent (90%) of the funds made available to the state are administered through grants to Community Action Agencies (CAAs), Community Action Programs (CAPs), or Limited Purpose Agencies (LPAs) that performed the functions of a Community Action Agency in fiscal year 1981, or their successors. See page 2 for FFY 2023 funding breakout by CAA/LPA.

BOARD

- Maintain Tripartite Composition: At least 1/3 public officials (or designees); at least 1/3 low-income individuals or representatives (democratically selected); and remaining members from major groups and interests in the community served.
- Maintain Size: Minimum 15 and maximum 51
- Meetings: Must meet at least 6 times per year (best practice)
- Roles/Responsibilities: Tripartite Board must fully participate in the development, planning, implementation and evaluation of the program(s) to serve low-income communities.

MONITORING AND PAYMENTS

- Monitoring: DSS conducts on-sight and remote monitoring reviews which include but are not limited to: CSBG triennial review; client file, data, and financial reviews; annual Center of Excellence Organizational Standards review; and Community Action Plan reviews.
- **Payments:** DSS issues quarterly payments based upon the submission of required financial and statistical reports.

CSBG EXPENDITURE DOMAINS: Each CAA reports CSBG funds within the following nine (9) domains:

- 1. Employment;
- 2. Education and Cognitive Development;
- 3. Income, Infrastructure, and Asset Building; Housing;
- 4. Health and Social/Behavioral Development (includes nutrition);
- 5. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement;
- 6. Services Supporting Multiple Domains;
- Linkages (e.g. partnerships that support multiple domains);
- 8. Agency Capacity Building; and
- "Other" (e.g. emergency management/disaster relief)

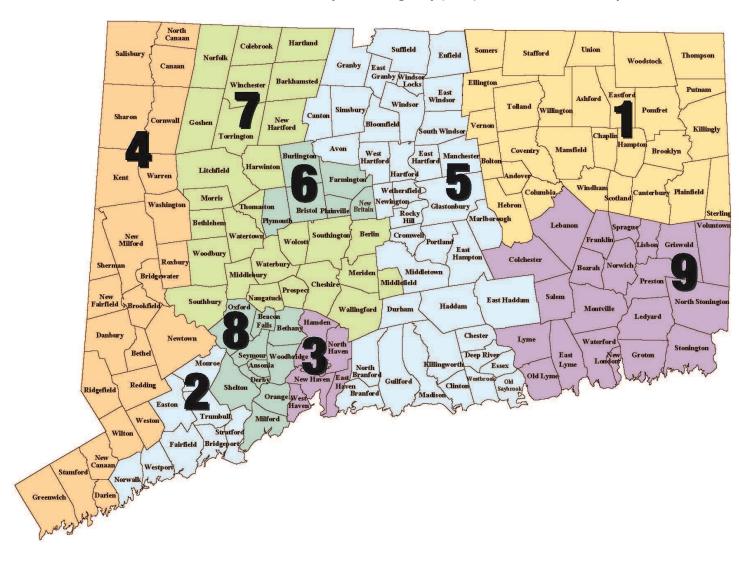
PROPOSED EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM CATEGORY (CSBG Allocation Plan, FFY 2023, page 12, Table D)

Major Program Categories	FFY 2021 Expenditures (including carry forward funds)	FFY 2022 Estimated Expenditures ³ (including carry forward funds)	FFY 2023 Proposed Expenditures (including carry forward funds)
Grants to Eligible Entities			
Alliance for Community Empowerment (ACE)	\$879,340	\$1,169,301	\$1,185,062
ACCESS Agency, Inc.	\$496,660	\$482,211	\$493,350
Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH)	\$1,284,363	\$1,239,511	\$1,182,958
Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut, Inc. (CAAWC)	\$600,638	\$730,214	\$739,635
Community Renewal Team of Greater Hartford, Inc. (CRT)	\$1,957,863	\$1,920,041	\$1,944,812
Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA)	\$348,157	\$245,206	\$248,369
Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. (HRANB)	\$562,732	\$551,862	\$558,981
New Opportunities, Inc. (NOI)	\$1,101,965	\$1,080,609	\$1,094,550
TEAM, Inc.	\$198,325	\$236,925	\$239,981
Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA)	\$491,020	\$481,535	\$487,747
Formula Allocations – Total	\$7,921,063	\$8,137,415	\$8,175,445
Discretionary Programs ¹	\$302,574	\$448,335	\$448,335
State Agency Administration ²	\$281,095	\$448,335	\$448,335
TOTAL CSBG	\$8,504,732	\$9,034,085	\$9,072,115

Notes:

- 1. CSBG discretionary resources will be utilized as follows: 80% capacity building activities; 15% other CSBG purposes; and 5% other purposes to support Connecticut's compliance with the CSBG Act. Examples of services funded through discretionary resources include training and technical assistance for ROMA training; Center of Excellence Organizational Standards performance benchmark initiative, CAA network support; data warehouse annual maintenance, board training; conferences, meetings, annual needs assessments, etc.
- ^{2.} FFY 2022 Personal Services and Fringe costs are associated with 2.75 FTEs dedicated to the CSBG program. These staff will provide appropriate oversight of the program consistent with federal requirements. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the Department's ability to fully staff the program during FFY 2021.
- ^{3.} Some expenditures were incurred prior to the end of FFY 2021 but, due to the timing of the submittal of documentation, payment was not issued until after September 30, 2021. These payments for FFY 2021 expenses are included in the FFY 2022 expenditures shown above. After factoring out this adjustment, the proposed expenditures for CAANH for FY 2023 are in line with the increases proposed for the other CAAs.

Connecticut's Community Action Agency (CAA) Network Service Map*



- 1. Access Community Action Agency (Access)
- **2.** Alliance for Community Empowerment, Inc.
- 3. Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH)
- 4. Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut, Inc. (CAAWC)
- 5. Community Renewal Team, Inc. (CRT)
- 6. Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. (HRA)
- 7. New Opportunities, Inc. (NOI)
- **8.** TEAM, Inc.
- 9. Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA)

^{*} Map provide by the CT Association for Community Action

FFY 2021 Activity



CT CSBG NETWORK RESOURCES*

For every \$1 of CSBG, the CT Network leveraged **\$18.48** from federal, state, local and private sources.

\$14.31 \$ 2.65	Federal State
\$ 0.07	Local
\$ 1.77 \$18.80	Private

*Data generated from the CSBG Annual Report, Module 2 for FFY 2021.

\$12,100,186 in CSBG & CSBG CARES funds were expended in support of the core activities of the CT CSBG Network

CT's CAA Network's non-CSBG funding totaled \$223,651,742.

CLIENTS SERVED**

- CT CAAs provided services to 185,704 low-income individuals
- 34% of families served by the CT CAA Network lived below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- 23% of families served by the CT CAA Network lived below 50% of the federal poverty guidelines.

^{**}Data generated from CSBG Annual Report, Module 4 for FFY 2021.