

What is CSBG?



Illinois Community Action
Association

www.icaanet.org
217-789-0125

Community Action
Helping People, Changing Lives



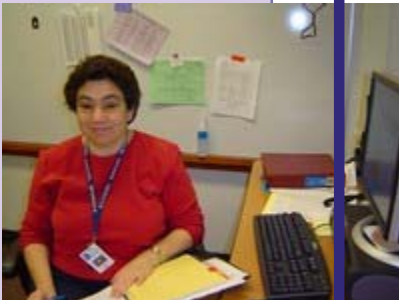
The CSBG program is designed to provide a range of services which assist low-income people to attain the skills, knowledge and motivation that is necessary to achieve *self-sufficiency*.

CSBG also provides low-income people with *immediate life necessities* such as food, shelter, medicine, etc.

The state receives approximately *\$30 million* annually in CSBG funding.

90 percent of Illinois' CSBG funds go to the State's network of *Community Action Agencies* (CAAs) that provide antipoverty services in all of Illinois' 102 counties.

What are Community Action Agencies?



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Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are created by their local governments as public or private entities to serve two primary *purposes*:

- 1) to provide essential antipoverty programs; &
- 2) to advocate for the needs of the poor in their communities.

A CAA's *board of directors is unique*, comprised of an equal number of local elected officials, private sector representatives and representatives of the low-income population.

Examples of programs administered locally by CAAs include Anti-Drug Abuse, Economic Development, Energy Assistance (LIHEAP), Foster Grandparents, Head Start, Homeless Assistance, Housing, Job Counseling & Training, Literacy Training and Basic Education, Outreach & Referral, Senior Assistance, Surplus Food Distribution, Transportation, Weatherization, & Women, Infants & Children (WIC).

What CSBG did for Illinois in 2005.....



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Illinois received close to **\$30 million** in federal CSBG dollars that stimulate the local economy.

241,335 persons in **128,754 households** received direct assistance from CSBG.

7,455 Katrina survivors received direct assistance from CSBG.

5,688 veterans received direct assistance from CSBG.

37,361 disabled individuals received direct assistance from CSBG.

38,371 elderly individuals received direct assistance from CSBG.

If the administration's budget proposal of **zero funding** for CSBG in FY 06 is approved, it would severely impact the community action network's ability to provide vital services to your constituents.

Priorities for CSBG Legislation in 2006.....



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Funding

CSBG funding levels should reflect *level funding* in FY 2007 (630.4 million).

Reauthorization

Representatives should *co-sponsor H.R. 341*. In the Senate, we support the reauthorization bill passed unanimously by the Senate in the 108th Congress (S.1786) and encourage Senators' *support if similar legislation* is reintroduced.

The *tripartite board* structure should be preserved.

Training & technical assistance for *Results Oriented Management & Accountability* implementation should be continued.

Although Community Action has always partnered with the faith-based community, the ICAA strongly discourages that CSBG funds be used to fund the administration's *faith-based initiative*.