

**BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM STATUS REPORT**

July 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

Department: Community Based Services (DCBS) Block Grant: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

This report is submitted in compliance with KRS 45.357. This report on achievements may be compared to the Block Grant application currently on file with LRC.

Block Grant Manager: Lesla Dennis 2/1/2023  
 Lesla Dennis Date  
 Acting Commissioner

1. FINANCES	Federal Funds	General Funds	Trust/Local Match	Total
Annual Budget	\$12,517,256.01	\$104,268.00	\$0.00	\$12,621,524.01
Actual Expenditures	\$6,799,915.03	\$87,532.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
Encumbrances	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Available Balance	\$5,717,340.98	\$16,735.56	\$0.00	\$5,734,076.54

FINANCES	Federal Funds	General Funds	Trust/Local Match	Total
CSBG-CARES Annual Budget	\$3,194,650.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,194,650.33
CSBG-CARES Actual Expenditures	\$3,147,595.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CSBG-CARES Encumbrances	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CSBG-CARES Available Balance	\$47,054.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$47,054.57

**2. RESULTS BUDGETED/ACHIEVED**

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS
1. Provide, through contracts with 23 local Community Action Agencies (CAAs), needed services to clients whose income meets poverty guidelines on a statewide basis.	1. DCBS implemented contracts with all twenty-three (23) CAAs, serving one hundred and twenty (120) counties of the Commonwealth, for provision of appropriate required services based on their approved plans and budgets. Some agencies had carryforward monies remaining from the previous SFY contract period that was put on their current SFY contract during the time period in question.
2. Conduct an annual fiscal audit under auspices of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services with actual audits being conducted by certified public accountant firms and approved by DCBS-Division of Administration and Financial Management (DAFM).	2. DAFM maintains contractual arrangements for personnel responsible for these duties.

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<p>3. Monitor CAAs for compliance with Standards of Performance as promulgated in Kentucky Administrative Regulation for Community Action Agencies and in accordance with plan and budget instructions and federal and state statutes.</p>	<p>3. For the period of July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022, ten (10) CAA CSBG contracts were monitored by Division of Administration and Financial Management (DAFM). All agencies monitored had no findings for non-compliance. Ten (10) of the monitoring were conducted on-site review.</p>
<p>4. Monitor CAAs for compliance with the Organizational Standards as determined by the Office of Community Services and promulgated in the Kentucky Administrative Regulation in accordance with state and federal statutes.</p>	<p>4. The (DCBS) Division of Family Support and Community Action Kentucky perform Organizational Standard monitoring on-site reviews for each of the 23 local CAAs each fiscal year. Fifteen (15) of twenty-three (23) agencies were monitored from July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022. All monitoring was conducted on-site review. Agencies monitored had no findings for non-compliance.</p>
<p>5. Obtain contract service reports to use for training and technical assistance.</p>	<p>5. Service and fiscal reports from each CAA are reviewed on a quarterly basis year-to-date. Information is maintained on the DCBS data system and reported as required to federal and state officials.</p>
<p>6. Provide training and technical assistance based on input from all contract agencies.</p>	<p>6. Community Action Kentucky (CAK) and DCBS provide training and technical assistance through different venues, including work sessions, annual conference, and regional trainings. Trainers or consultants with expertise in their fields are often selected to facilitate these sessions.</p> <p>Community Action Kentucky, in collaboration with DCBS, held the 2022 CSBG Fall Work Session on September 6 and 7, 2022. All twenty-three (23) CAAs were represented. The training included the following: Case Management, Head Start Numbers, and Whole Family Approach, Addressing and Overcoming Compassion Fatigue and Cabinet Updates/Questions and Answers.</p> <p>CAK staff conducted ongoing technical assistance and trainings for CAAs from July 1 through December 31, 2022. Through email, phone calls, and on-site training, when requested.</p>

**3. AUTHORIZED CHANGES (from the Block Grant Plan in Finances and/or Objectives)**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law March 27, 2020, granting the state of Kentucky an additional \$16.8 million in Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. CSBG funds are allocated to each of Kentucky’s 23 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) in order to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty throughout their communities. These additional CARES funds have been divided proportionately to CAAs and will be used to address a variety of needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic including, but not limited to, rent/mortgage and utility assistance payments, grocery vouchers, employment related assistance, and medical assistance (copays, transportation, PPE, etc.).

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) filed an ordinary and emergency administration regulation change for 922 KAR 6:010 on May 21, 2020, in response to the Office of Community Services (OCS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) CSBG Information Memorandum (1M) 2020-157, authorizing states to, “revise the income limit for eligibility ceiling from 125 to 200 percent of the federal poverty level for CSBG services furnished during fiscal years 2020 and 2021, including services furnished with the state’s regular CSBG

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appropriations during those years,” via the CARES Act. The regulation changes also granted CHFS the flexibility to waive the twenty percent in-kind matching for additional CSBG funds provided by HHS; the twenty percent in-kind match was waived for CSBG-CARES funds. CARES funding ended September 30, 2022.

H.R. 6119, the “Further Extending Government Funding Act” which includes a short-term continuing resolution that provides fiscal year 2022 appropriations to Federal agencies through February 18, 2022, for continuing projects and activities of the Federal Government; includes supplemental appropriations for the continuing support of Afghanistan evacuees; and extends several expiring authorizations. The Continuing Resolution (CR) passed with language extending the use of the 200% FPL for CARES and CSBG FY21, FY22 and FY 23 funds that are released during the CR.

On January 6, 2023, the Office of Community Services (OCS) released a notice regarding the 200% Federal Poverty Line (FPL) Provision for CSBG Eligibility. Per the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) and section 673(2) of the CSBG Act, states may revise the poverty line not to exceed 125 percent of the official poverty line otherwise applicable under the CSBG Act by substituting "200 percent" for "125 percent" for CSBG and CARES funding during FY 2022 (October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022) and FY 2023 (October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023).

#### **4. EVALUATION OF RESULTS**

Using a compliance monitoring instrument based on state statutes, contractual requirements, minimum program, and management standards, DCBS performed contract monitoring for 10 of the 23 CAAs from of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. 10 of the agencies had zero findings.

DAFM based the Federal award number on what was given in FFY22. The expenditures represent January 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022.

Implementation of uniform service definitions and a client service report/evaluation document have enabled Kentucky to compile service statistics consistent with both federal and state laws. Use of the data, as compiled by each of the CAAs on a monthly basis, enables the individual agencies to better evaluate their services and develop plans for service delivery.

#### **5. ALTERNATIVES FOR IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY**

Improved service delivery is continually sought primarily through ongoing training and technical assistance provided and planned for CAA staff. Contract requirements include a mandate for local CAA coordination with DCBS and other area service providers in order to avoid duplication of services.

Additionally, CAA Boards are responsible for an ongoing process to evaluate local needs and assure that needs are met.