

BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

January 1, 2024- June 30, 2024

Please 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.

DocuSigned by: Block Grant Manager: <u><i>Lisa Dennis</i></u> _____ Lisa Dennis Commissioner	8/1/2024 _____ Date
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1. FINANCES	Federal Funds	General Funds	Trust/Local Match	Total
CSBG Annual Budget	13,251,060.27	104,268	0	13,355,328.27
CSBG Actual Expenditures	13,251,060.27	51,753.28	0	13,302,813.55
CSBG Encumbrances	0	0	0	0
CSBG Available Balance	0	52,514.72		52,514.72

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.
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.	3. For the period of January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024, thirteen (13) CAAs CSBG contracts were monitored by Division of Administration and Financial Management (DAFM). All agencies monitored had no findings for non-compliance. Thirteen (13) of the monitoring were conducted on-site review.
4. Monitor CAAs for compliance with the Organizational Standards as determined by the Office of Community Services and promulgated in the Kentucky	4. The Division of Family Support (DFS) and Community Acton Kentucky perform Organizational Standard monitoring on-site reviews for each of the 23 local CAAs each fiscal year. Eight

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<p>Administrative Regulation in accordance with state and federal statutes.</p>	<p>(8) of twenty-three (23) agencies were monitored from January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024. All monitoring was conducted on-site review. Five (5) agencies monitored had no findings for non-compliance. Two (2) agencies had findings in Organizational Standards 1.3 Consumer Input and Involvement, 3.5 Community Needs Assessment. One (1) of the two agencies had a finding with 6.5 Strategic Planning. The agencies did not have documentation of these standards being approved in board meeting minutes.</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 held, in collaboration with DCBS, held 2024 Spring Training on March 26 and 27, 2024. All twenty-three (23) CAAs were represented. The training included the following: 2025 Plan and budget Proposal Questions and Answers, Cultivating Workplan Culture: Harnessing Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion for Success, Telling an effective Story with your Data and Racial Healing Circle.</p> <p>CAK staff and DCBS conducted ongoing technical assistance and trainings for CAAs from January 1, 2024- June 30, 2024. Through email, phone calls and on-site training, when requested.</p>

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

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)**.

On **November 17, 2023**, The House has passed a second Continuing Resolution (CR) to extend government funding into January and February. The bill is "laddered", or phased funding, with a number of funding bills lapsing January 19 and the remaining bills lapsing on February 2. The Health and Human Services bill is one of the bills with a February 2 deadline.

The House passed CR extends funding and provisions included in the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act - including the use of 200% of the federal poverty level for eligibility. The CR is considered "clean", meaning it extends funding without adding new provisions. Some in the House voted against the bill because it did not include reductions in funding or border security provisions, nonetheless the bill passed on a bipartisan basis.

On Saturday March 23, President Biden signed [HR 2882: Further Consolidated Appropriations Act](#), the second of

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two fiscal year 2024 minibuss bills that fund the government through September of this year. The passage of this Act caps four continuing resolutions and almost 12 months of negotiations.

The Act includes the same funding level and language as we shared last week. Funding for the Community Services Block Grant remains level at \$770 million dollars and the bill includes the following language "for services furnished under the CSBG Act with funds made available for such purpose in this fiscal year and in fiscal year 2023, States may apply the last sentence of section 673(2) of the CSBG Act by substituting "200 percent" for "125 percent".

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 13 of the 23 CAAs from of January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024. 13 of the agencies had zero findings.

DAFM based the Federal award amount according to allocation given in FFY24. The expenditures represent January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024.

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.