

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) GENERAL INFORMATION

In 1964, Congress enacted the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 that created the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program “war on poverty.” Legislation provided for the CSBG program in the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 aims to help eliminate the causes and ameliorate the conditions of poverty. Currently each state receives an allocation of funds to distribute to community service providers who provide a variety of services to clients who meet eligibility guidelines.

In Orange County, Community Action Partnership of Orange County is the Community Action Agency that receives CSBG funds.

ASSISTANCE TYPE

The Community Services Block Grant program is designed to provide a range of services to assist low-income people in attaining the skills, knowledge, and motivation necessary to achieve self-sufficiency. The program also provides low income people with immediate life necessities such as food, shelter, and health care needs, etc. In addition, services are provided to local communities for the revitalization of low-income communities, the reduction of poverty and to help provider agencies to improve and increase their capacity at achieving results and to develop community resources with whom to link services and funding.

Services to eligible clients provided with CSBG funds must contribute to the achievement of one or more of the six goals developed by the National CSBG Monitoring and Assessment Task Force.

- Low-income people become more self-sufficient;
- The conditions in which low-income people live are improved;
- Low-income people own a stake in their community;
- Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low income people are achieved;
- Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results;
- Low-income people achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive systems.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible client households must meet 100% of the United States Department of Health and Human Services’ low-income poverty guidelines.