

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FACT SHEET**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program is to assist low-income families and individuals to achieve economic self-sufficiency through a variety of services under the following six core service categories: employment services, child and family development services, emergency services, domestic violence services, legal services, and seniors and/or disabled adult services. Client eligibility is based on income and residency. Currently, the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has executed Master Agreements (MAs) with over 40 Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) for the provision of CSBG-funded services across all five Supervisorial Districts. CSBG Program will continue core services development to address the needs of the community.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

The CSBG Program is administered by DPSS, which serves as the local Community Action Agency (CAA) for the County of Los Angeles. Each calendar year, the County receives CSBG grant funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD), based on the latest census data on poverty populations. To obtain CSBG funds, DPSS must execute a State Standard Agreement with CSD.

The agreement is between the Los Angeles County DPSS and CSD, commencing January 1, through December 31, of the Program Year (PY) for the provision of CSBG services for low-income families and individuals. The agreement will be executed only after approval as to form by County Counsel.

### **FUNDING CYCLE**

CSBG funds are received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and are distributed annually to the County by CSD, based upon a federally mandated allocation formula that considers the level of poverty (number of persons/families in poverty) in the local area. It is discretionary funding and therefore, subject to the annual federal appropriations process. DPSS received \$6,259,644 in CSBG funds for the PY 2021.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Services provided under the CSBG Program are fully funded by CSBG funds. There is no net County cost.

## **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

DPSS received \$6,259,644 in CSBG funds in PY 2020. DPSS executed Service Requisitions with 40 CBOs for the provision of CSBG-funded services across all five Supervisorial Districts. The outcomes in Los Angeles County were as follows:

- Served 7,258 individuals, that included 5,841 families, received CSBG services in Los Angeles County.
- 2,449 individuals/families received emergency food and/or shelter services.
- 656 individuals/families received protection from domestic violence.
- 201 individuals/families received some form of legal assistance.
- 1,278 senior citizens received services that helped them maintain an independent living situation; 134 of these senior citizens were individuals with disabilities.
- 574 youth increased their academic and social skills to achieve educational success.
- 446 individuals removed barriers to employment by being provided professional clothing for job search.
- 217 individuals received unemployment services and obtained employment.

Additionally, CSBG funds allow the CBOs and FBOs the opportunity to leverage other sources of funding to complement the wide array of services provided to the Los Angeles County community.