

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT CSBG APPROPRIATION

***Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program
Office of Community Services
Administration for Children and Families
Department of Health and Human Services***



Goals of the Session

Provide Tribes guidance on:

- Understanding the Recovery Act
- Application for and Distribution of Recovery Act funds
- Benefits enrollment and coordination activities
- Understanding income eligibility requirements
- Obligating and expending funds
- Reporting requirements
- Preparing for Recovery Act projects



Background

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act):

- Signed into law February 17, 2009
- Provides “...supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment... assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization...”
- Supports CSBG activities and services
- Promotes **employment-related services and activities** that create and sustain economic growth



CSBG Recovery Act Funds

- \$985 million in Recovery funds to States, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Federal and State-recognized Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations for FFY 2009 and 2010
- \$15 million in Recovery funds for training and technical assistance
- Option for Tribes to increase income eligibility limit from 125 percent to 200 percent of the federal poverty line



Application and Distribution of Recovery Act Funds

- Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Application and Plan for Recovery Act funds was due to OCS by **May 29, 2009**
- Checklist for CSBG Recovery Act Plan posted on the CSBG website
- Recovery Act funds are a separate allotment



Benefits Enrollment and Coordination Activities

- Describe how the Tribe will identify and enroll individuals and families into benefit programs
- Description of the geographical area served
- List of Tribal agency or sub-grantee providing services



Income Eligibility Requirements

During fiscal years 2009 and 2010, Tribes may:

- Use up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level, as the criterion of eligibility for regular CSBG and CSBG Recovery Act services
- Retain for the regular CSBG and/or CSBG Recovery services the 125 percent of the federal poverty line as the criterion of eligibility
- Use different percent levels criterion of eligibility for the regular CSBG appropriations and CSBG Recovery funds



Obligating and Expending Funds

- Services must be provided on or before September 30, 2010
- Liquidation must occur on or before December 29, 2010
- Unobligated or unexpended funds must be:
 - Reported on the SF-269 and
 - Returned to HHS



Reporting Requirements

- Tribes are required to:
 - Track Recovery funds separately from CSBG funds
 - Continue fulfilling all reporting requirements in the CSBG Act (i.e. Results-Oriented Management and Accountability)
 - Fulfill supplemental reporting requirements for Recovery Act funds*

***Note:** HHS is working to clarify and streamline Recovery Act reporting needs



Reporting Requirements (cont.)

- Section 1512 of the Recovery Act
 - Report on usage of Recovery Act funds
 - Information will be made available to the public
 - Reports are due every quarter to OCS
 - Review Section 1512 (c) for necessary information to be included



Preparing Recovery Act Projects

- Initial Planning
- Marketing, Outreach and Communication
- Coordinating Services
- Project Planning and Development
- Reporting Expenditures and Performance Outcomes



Summary: You Need To Know

Tribes should:

- Consider issues of sustainability when planning and developing Recovery Act projects
- Focus on employment-related services and activities that create and sustaining economic growth
- Track Recovery Act funds separate from regular CSBG funds
- Follow Section 1512 of Recovery Act for reporting requirements



Questions



For additional information...

**Contact Your CSBG Regional
Program Specialist**

CSBG Website

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/csbg/index.html>

