

# CSBG Tribal Network Quarterly Update Winter Session Summary

The CSBG Tribal Training & Technical Assistance Program and the Office of Community Services (OCS) held our Winter CSBG Tribal Network Quarterly Update Session on January 24, 2019. Feel free to view the <u>presentation slides</u> and below is a summary of the updates shared in the session:

#### Federal Updates:

• Government Partial Shutdown

The Federal Government has been and continues to be on partial shutdown since December 21, 2018. However, most of the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Operating Divisions, including the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program within the Office of Community Services (OCS), were fully funded through the 2019 fiscal year. Therefore, your CSBG program, services, and activities are able to operate as usual. The HHS Payment Management System is also in operational status and will continue to process your grant downdrawn requests.

The <u>CSBG Tribal Training & TA team</u> and the <u>OCS/CSBG Tribal staff</u> and are able to provide administrative support services as well as training and technical assistance services. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions.

- <u>ANA 2019 Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs)</u>
  On January 15th, the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) announced their <u>2019</u>
  <u>Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs)</u>. The open ANA grants are:
  - Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance (P&M)
  - Native American Language Preservation and Maintenance Esther Martinez Immersion (EMI)
  - Social and Economic Development Strategies (SEDS)
  - Environmental Regulatory Enhancement (ERE)
  - Social and Economic Development Strategies for Alaska (SEDS-AK)

Applications are due April 15, 2019. Please note that this date is subject to change; refer to the opportunity on <u>www.grants.gov</u> for all official updates.

### ANA 2019 Funding Opportunities Resources

If you are interested in learning more about these great grant opportunities, here are some excellent resources to help you.

- Get started by <u>downloading and reading the FOAs</u> for each announcement.
- Decide which FOA to apply for by reading the descriptions of each of the main program areas on <u>the ANA website</u>.
- Review the <u>Resources page</u> on the ANA website, including the <u>Pre-Application</u> <u>Training Manual</u>, which helps applicants with the federal application process.
- Visit the <u>ANA website in your region</u> for access to local Pre-application trainings. These trainings are designed to provide prospective ANA applicants with all of the necessary information on the federal application process and ANA FOAs The training sessions are offered free of charge to Tribes and Native American, Native Alaskan, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander non-profit organizations. Each participant is responsible for paying their own travel costs to attend.

If you decide to apply, please remember to

- Make sure you understand the Funding Opportunity Announcement
- Decide whether you wish to apply
- Write a strong application
- o Submit your application by the due date
- o Know what to expect after the application submission
- Understand the review process.
- <u>ACF Tribal Council Nominations</u>

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is seeking <u>nominations</u> to fill open positions on the <u>ACF Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC)</u> for the following area representatives: Albuquerque Area, Oklahoma Area, Great Plains Area, Nashville Area, Bemidji Area, Portland Area, and an at large alternate representative.

The purpose of the ACF TAC is to strengthen the government-to-government relationships and to guide the Assistant Secretary for ACF and the principals of the program offices to benefit American Indian and Alaska Natives. Discussions held by the ACF TAC do not take the place of Tribal consultation but serve to increase the understanding between the federal government and Tribes on the various programs administered by ACF.

All nominations should be submitted by January 31, 2019. View the <u>Dear Tribal Leader</u> <u>letter</u>, dated December 11, 2018, for more information and detailed instructions.

## OCS News:

• FY19 CSBG Tribal Application Reviews

The initial reviews of the CSBG Tribal applications and plans have been completed. While we recognize that there have been numerous staff changes among the Tribes and Tribal organizations this past fiscal year (2018), OCS did observe several re-occurring issues and problems during the review process. The re-occurring issues include:

- The completion of the SF-424M form, particularly items 1.a Type of Submission, 1.b - Frequency, and 1.d - Version
- One- year versus a two-year application and plan.
- Clarification regarding the authorizing official and the Tribal point of contact.
- The timing of the public hearing and the public's review of the plan.
- Proof of Federal or State recognition.
- The use of funds for administrative expenses.
- The submission of the Annual Report and its narrative.
- Differentiating between CSBG and LIHEAP programs.
- Accessing the OLDC system to make revisions to plans.

While individual application and plans have been discussed with individual grantees, a more comprehensive and in-depth discussion on these and other issues will be held during the Spring CSBG Tribal Network Update Session.

## NASCSP 2019 Winter Training

National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSP) is hosting its <u>2019 Winter Training Conference</u> in Arlington, VA, February 11 - 15, 2019. The conference offers valuable opportunities for professionals from around the country to come together and discuss strategies for meeting new challenges in improved performance, innovation, and accountability in the fight to change the face of poverty across the nation.

There will be a pre-conference being held on February 11th and 12th. The preconference will host a CSBG and Weatherization Assistance Program (or WAP) Orientation. The orientation offers useful tools, updates, and information for anyone who administers the CSBG or WAP.

The core conference will be held from February 12th to the 15th. The conference will be separated into the following two tracks: CSBG and WAP. The CSBG track focuses on the HHS CSBG initiatives. It also highlights best practices related to anti-poverty efforts,

performance management, and performance measurement. CSBG Tribal grantees will have the opportunity to meet with their Program Specialist and Tribal Liaison.

The OCS/CSBG Tribal Staff and The CSBG Tribal Training & TA team will be attending the conference. We hope to see you there!

#### • CSBG Tribal Grantee Spotlight:

A special thank you to Nancy Carnley at Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe for her wonderful CSBG Tribal Grantee Spotlight presentation! You can access the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian <u>presentation slides here</u>. View their program summary and past Grantee Spotlight program summaries on the <u>CSBG Tribal Online Resource Center</u>.

• We will continue to highlight the great work of our Tribal grantees during these live update sessions. If you would like to volunteer to share your program, please contact Lizette Rivera, CSBG Tribal Training & TA Program Coordinator at Lizette.rivera@luxcg.com.

## Tribal Resources & Upcoming Events:

- <u>Women Are Sacred 2019 Monthly Calendar</u> In honor of the new year, the <u>National Indigenous Women Resource Center (NIWRC)</u> released the <u>Women Are Sacred 2019 Monthly Calendar with Awareness Months &</u> <u>Days</u>. This unique, print-friendly, customizable calendar includes information is provided on awareness months and days including introductions, definitions, and resources, as well as, beautiful photographs, artwork, and images.
- Recorded Webinar on Community Needs Assessments

The <u>Community Action Partnership</u> released a pre-recorded webinar, originally recorded on November 2018, entitled <u>Effective Practices for Community Needs Assessments</u>. The webinar focuses on the community needs assessment process, featuring a discussion from two Community Action Agencies (CAAs) on their community needs assessment process, as well as real-life examples of their final community, needs assessment reports.

The Community Needs Assessment is a very important part of your <u>continuous planning</u> <u>cycle</u>. The beginning of the year is an excellent time to be thinking forward about your Community Needs Assessment process. You do not need to spend your CSBG funding from year to year in the exact same way. The goal is to address the community needs as defined by the community in that fiscal year. Please note the community Needs Assessment must be done at least every three (3) years.

• CSBG Tribal Network Newsletter Subscribe Today!

The CSBG Tribal Training & TA Program offers a free <u>monthly online newsletter</u> covering the latest CSBG resources, events, funding opportunities, and more. You can access the latest edition, as well as the archive of past editions, on the CSBG Online Resource Center. If you are not receiving this monthly newsletter or have staff that is not subscribed, please <u>subscribe today</u>.

- <u>CSBG Tribal Network Quarterly Update Session</u> Thank you so much to everyone for participating in the <u>Tribal Network Update Sessions</u>. Please keep a look out in your email for our Spring Update Session, which will be held in April 2019.
- CSBG Tribal Grantee Support Anytime

The Lux CSBG Tribal T&TA Team is here to assist you with any questions, resources, training, or connections that you may need.

- Nicole Oxendine, Director, <u>Nicole.Oxendine@luxcg.com</u>
- Lizette Rivera, Program Coordinator, <u>Lizette.Rivera@luxcg.com</u>
- CSBG Tribal T&TA Program, <u>tribalta@Luxcg.com</u>

In addition, the OCS Tribal Specialists are available to work with Tribal grantees.

- Sara Lee, CSBG Tribal Program Specialist, <u>sara.lee@acf.hhs.gov</u>
- Jane Golden, CSBG Tribal Liaison within OCS, jane.golden@acf.hhs.gov
- Niki Frazier, the DCA Senior Record Specialist, <u>nikita.frazier@acf.hhs.gov</u>

#### For questions or more information, please contact:

CSBG Tribal Training & TA Team at tribalta@luxcg.com or call directly at 301-244-3557