



CSBG Tribal Network Update Session

April 16, 2020
3:00 - 4:30 PM (Eastern)



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)
TRIBAL TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**



Session Instructions

- Throughout the webinar, participants will be in listening mode only.
- During the webinar you may type in your questions via the Chat box on your screen.
- Access resources via the Resources box on your screen.





Agenda

- OCS Update
 - CSBG IM #157: CSBG Immediate Guidance on COVID-19 Response
- CSBG Tribal T/TA Program Resources
- Network COVID-19 T/TA Needs
- Q&As





Presenters

- **Isaac Davis**

OCS Tribal Program Specialist
Office of Community Services

- **Nicole Oxendine**

Director, CSBG Tribal T/TA Program
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OCS Update





CSBG Immediate Guidance on COVID-19 Response

Information Memorandum #157





CSBG Immediate Priorities

1) Staff Health and Well-Being

1) Continuity of CSBG Funding

2) Community Response to Urgent Needs





Staff Health & Well-Being

OCS will assist and support grantees as they protect the health and well-being of staff while also contributing to immediate and longer-term community response.

Salaries

- Grantees may continue to charge salaries and benefits to currently active CSBG awards consistent with grantee policies for unexpected or extraordinary circumstances.

Telecommuting or Alternative Work Locations

- Grantees may need to use telecommute arrangements or alternative work locations.



Staff Health & Well-Being (cont'd)

Remote Services

- During closures, grantees should continue to engage families and deliver services to the extent possible, on a remote basis.

Modified Hours

- Grantees may also temporarily modify hours of operations and explore temporary staffing support to help ensure continuity of operations.

Administrative Adaptations

- OCS supports necessary administrative adaptations to assure continuity of operations in an emergency.



Continuity of CSBG Funding

Availability of Funding

- OCS will prioritize the continuity of federal funding, including the \$1 billion in CSBG supplemental funding under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
- Grantees are encouraged to place a priority on the efficient and ongoing release of CSBG funding to support community-based services





Continuity of CSBG Funding (cont'd)

Reduced Administrative Burden

- Grantees are encouraged to expedite the release of funds where possible and appropriate.
- Grantees are encouraged to reduce the short-term administrative burden to allow a focus on addressing immediate community service needs.





Community Response to Urgent Needs

Robust & Flexible Responses

- Our mission is to meet the needs of all low-income individuals and families, including those with disabilities, seniors, low-income families (including those with a recent loss of income as a result of COVID-19), those without access to fresh food, or other immediate family needs.
- Needs within communities are likely to change on a daily basis throughout the COVID-19 response.





Community Response to Urgent Needs (cont'd)

Simplified Procedures

- OCS supports grantee efforts to simplify procedures to re-deploy available CSBG resources to address emergent community needs.
- This may include expedited amendments to CSBG Tribal Plans or blanket allowances to use CSBG resources for certain new purposes consistent with the CSBG Act.





Community Response to Urgent Needs (cont'd)

Reporting & Record-keeping

- OCS supports reducing immediate reporting requirements, requesting only the most essential information to outline immediate services and urgent needs, while allowing more detailed amendments to CSBG Tribal Plans at a later date.
- OCS recommends that grantees maintain the best possible records of expenditures and services delivered with CSBG resources at the community level to help ensure later reimbursement with any available resources.





CSBG & Community Relief Efforts

Coordination with Local Emergency Management

- Services and activities be conducted in a manner that is consistent with efforts to prevent disease transmission and efficiently manage the distribution of resources.
- Grantees must act in accordance with local public health and safety requirements and are encouraged to establish formal channels of communication with local health and emergency management authorities while offering support to meet local needs.





CSBG Grantees & Community Relief Efforts

Critical Role of CSBG

- While some grantees may experience a short-term interruption of services, it is expected that they can play a critical role in supporting low-income people in communities:
 - during immediate COVID-19 efforts to prevent or slow transmission (where individuals and families may not have access to critical resources), and
 - in recovery efforts to address the economic and community consequences of the outbreak.





CSBG Grantees & Community Relief Efforts

Priority Support Areas

Examples may include the following:

- Coordination and Delivery of Critical Services
- Access to Facilities for Urgent Needs
- Connection and Referral Grantees





CSBG Grantees & Community Relief Efforts

Coordination and Delivery of Critical Services

- Grantees may be serving as a central point for community-based services for low-income people before, during, and after crisis events.
- Significant adaptations may be needed to traditional service delivery approaches in the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.
- Grantees may coordinate with community partnerships and resources to support other relief efforts.
- CSBG can support families in accessing local, state, and federal relief.





CSBG Grantees & Community Relief Efforts

Access to Facilities for Urgent Needs

- CSBG-funded programs that have operable facilities may support supervised access to those facilities.
- The purpose of facilities may be adapted in cooperation with emergency management and public health professionals to provide critical resources in community-based settings.
- CSBG funds may be used for costs associated with the health and safety of facilities, such as costs for sanitation, gloves, and cleaning services. CSBG funds may also be used to make facilities usable and accessible.





CSBG Grantees & Community Relief Efforts

Connection and Referral

- Even if some facilities are inoperable or compromised for immediate support services, program staff may work with public health and emergency management authorities to provide staff resources.
- CSBG staff resources can help deliver support to families in meeting their basic needs, including nutrition, health and mental health support, and in sharing information regarding alternative or supplementary non-government organization (NGO) providers and non-profit organizations for immediate aid.





Eligibility Determination

- The CARES Act authorizes Tribes to revise the income limit for eligibility ceiling from 125 to 200 % of the FPL for CSBG services furnished during fiscal years 2020 and 2021.
- Tribes have substantial discretion in defining the procedures for determining eligibility, including timeframes for review and necessary documentation.
- In an emergency circumstance, grantees may consider circumstances where individuals may have become low income as a result of the emergency, and may establish appropriate procedures based on individual and family needs.





Eligibility Determination

- Grantees are encouraged to streamline their eligibility determination process for the duration of the national public health emergency.
- Grantees may consider establishing emergency procedures to assist affected individuals or families who may not have necessary documentation for certain emergency needs, such as food assistance.
- Emergency procedures may include flexibility in accepting signed statements from the family attesting to necessary eligibility information in order to meet immediate emergency needs.





National Health Resources

- Grantees are encouraged to work closely with their state and local public health authorities on issues related to preparing for and responding to COVID-19 in your organization and community.
- CSBG IM #157 includes links to best federal guidance in a number of areas, including: prevention in group settings, high-risk and special populations, domestic and international travel, and FAQs.





Mental Health Needs

- Children, families, and social services staff may experience heightened stress, anxiety, and even trauma related to the consequences of this emergency situation.
- Responses may vary by the individual, and a short-term priority may be remotely delivered support for coping and adaptive functioning while simultaneously planning for additional services and supports.
- IM #157 provides links to the following resources:
 - Disaster Distress Helpline - 1-800-985-5990
 - National Child Traumatic Stress Network
www.nctsn.org





Funding & Allowable Costs

- OCS is working to distribute CARES Act supplemental funds as expeditiously as possible.
- Additional guidance specific to CARES Act supplemental funds will follow this funding release.
- In the interim, CSBG grantees should place an immediate priority on re-programming existing resources to meet the highest priority needs.





Funding & Allowable Costs (cont'd)

- CSBG funding may be used to support emergency response consistent with statutorily allowable activities.
- Grantees are not required to request a federal waiver to utilize existing CSBG funding to support disaster response and assistance to eligible low-income individuals and families.



Technical Assistance Consultation

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CSBG Tribal T/TA Program

COVID-19 Resources



CSBG Tribal Online Resource Center

**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
TRIBAL RESOURCE CENTER**

HOME COVID-19 ABOUT GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT TRAINING CENTER NEWS CALENDAR CONTACTS SUBSCRIBE

CSBG Tribal Network COVID-19 Latest News & Resources

CSBG application instructions, tools, templates, and other resources.

Calendar of upcoming webinars, update sessions, and other training events.

Monthly newsletter with the latest CSBG news, funding opportunities, and events.



COVID-19 Latest News & Resource Page

The screenshot shows the website for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Tribal Resource Center. The header includes a navigation menu with links for HOME, COVID-19, ABOUT, GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT, TRAINING CENTER, NEWS, CALENDAR, CONTACTS, and SUBSCRIBE. A blue banner below the header reads "COVID-19". The main content area is titled "CSBG Tribal Network COVID-19 Latest News & Resources".

April 1: CSBG Latest News & Resources
April 1, 2020
On April 1, the CSBG Tribal Training & Technical Assistance Program released another special email announcement to the CSBG Tribal [...]

March 27: Latest News & Resources
March 27, 2020
On March 27, the CSBG Tribal Training & Technical Assistance Program released another special email announcement to the CSBG Tribal [...]

Save The Date: Live Q&A For CSBG Tribal Grantees
March 26, 2020
Please join the Office of Community Services (OCS) and the CSBG Tribal T/TA team for a Live Q&A Session for CSBG Tribal [...]

Updates & Resources: CSBG FY20 Award Letters & COVID-19 Emergency Services
March 19, 2020
Dear CSBG Tribal Network, As we navigate this COVID-19 pandemic, we are sending you our heartfelt best as you tend to your communities. [...]

More Latest News & Resources
CSBG Tribal Network Latest News & Resources Archive

Logos for partner organizations are displayed at the bottom: ANA (Administration for Native Americans), CAPLAW (Community Action Program Legal Services, Inc.), community Action PARTNERSHIP (Helping People. Changing Lives.), and NASCSP (National Association for State Community Services Programs).



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CSBG Tribal T/TA Needs

How can we help?





Q & A





Lux Consulting Group, Inc. is proud to serve Native American communities as the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Tribal Training & Technical Assistance Program provider.

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