

Joint House and Senate Finance Committees  
**Block Grant Public Hearing**  
Thursday August 18, 2011 at 1 PM  
Room 35 State House, Providence, Rhode Island  
Public Hearing – Block Grant Proposed  
Use and Distribution of Funds

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

A copy of the Block Grant Summary is attached for review.

Persons/organizations wishing to present testimony should inform the House Fiscal Advisory Staff prior to the hearing:

Representative Helio Mello  
Chairman, House Finance Committee

Senator Daniel DaPonte  
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

The Rhode Island State House is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Speakers Office at 222-2466 by Monday August 15, 2011

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

**A PROGRAM SUMMARY**

**AUGUST 2011**

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
Lincoln D. Chafee**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
Sandra M. Powell**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

### **WHAT IS IT?**

The Community Services Block Grant Act (CSBG) was enacted as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 and replaced the local initiative category of the former Federal Community Services Administration (CSA), which terminated September 30, 1981. The Coats Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1998 reauthorized and made improvements to the CSBG Act as well as the Head Start Act and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act. The purposes and goals of the CSBG Act are to provide services and activities that assist low-income individuals and families to become fully self-sufficient working through a network of Community Action Agencies (CAAs). Eligible activities and services include direct service to low-income individuals, as well as support for administrative and managerial functions to CAAs in order to insure management and organizational capability to carry out programs which may be funded under this block grant or other funding sources.

### **WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**

CAAs are local, nonprofit service organizations which, since 1964, have been providing social services to their communities and have also been serving as local, human resource delivery systems for many state services and programs including health programs, low-income energy assistance, food distribution, day care, elderly services, etc. State agencies have contracted and continue to contract with CAAs to provide these services in an efficient manner, since the CAA has an existing management and service delivery structure that allows a maximum of service provision.

Attachment A is the 2010 Annual Services Report, which describes services supported in part or whole by the Community Services Block Grant funding for each Community action Agency.

Attachment B is a list of the Community Services Block Grant National Goals and National Performance Indicators. The Community Action Agencies report outcomes annually, under the applicable goal and performance indicator.

Attachment C is the FFY 2010 CSBG information Survey Annual Report, section G, Client Characteristics.

CAAs are governed by Boards of Directors, which include elected public officials or their representatives from the service area of the CAA as well as representatives of business, education, religious, labor, and major interests in the community. Low-income residents of the area are also represented on the Boards.

### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Federal legislation mandates at least ninety percent (90%) of the CSBG funds be used for grants to CAAs. The legislation also allows five percent (5%) of the funds to be used for state administration of the grant and the remaining five percent (5%) of the funds to be used for Special CSBG Projects. There are no matching fund requirements applicable to this program.

## LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION

The eight designated CAAs have catchment areas that encompass the entire State of Rhode Island; therefore providing all eligible residents access to CSBG Programs (see Attachment D).

Distributions to CAAs in Federal Fiscal Year 2012 and 2013 will be made on the following basis:

1. a baseline amount distributed equally to support essential administrative and managerial functions and
2. the percentage of the incidence poverty in the service area of each agency as compared to the statewide incidence of poverty, derived from the United States Census Data.

## FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011 OVERVIEW

A legislative public hearing was held in August 2009 to provide an opportunity for public review and comment on the FFY 2010/2011 State Plan. The plan called for ninety percent (90%) of the monies received to be distributed to CAAs for services directed at low-income populations throughout the state. Five percent (5%) was retained by the Department of Human Services to support costs necessary to administer the CSBG Program on the statewide basis. The remaining five percent (5%) of the funds was utilized to fund statewide Community Action Agency special projects and activities.

The CAA Directors, the Rhode Island Community Action Association staff and the Department of Human Services continued to meet regularly to insure continuity of services and collaboration. The CAAs are participating in DHS efforts to modernize systems to more efficiently provide services for key social service programs. The Department continued to utilize the Special Projects Funds to provide partial support for the operations of the Rhode Island Community Action Association and to provide support for the modernization of the CAAs intake and data collection system.

## FISCAL YEAR 2012 & 2013 OUTLOOK

Federal Funding for CSBG in Fiscal Year 2012 and 2013 is unclear at this time. The Federal Office of Community Service (OCS) has directed States to submit State Plans based on Federal levels equal to Federal Fiscal year (FFY) 2011 funding levels. At this time the State has not received notice of it's specific funding level, therefore, we are estimating that at a minimum Rhode Island will receive funding equal to FFY 2011 in the amount of \$3,740,007 for CSBG activities. The CSBG Act through the reauthorization included the option of submitting a two year State Plan. The Department will continue to exercise this option and intends to submit a two year plan. The DHS plan submittal will assume funding equal to Federal Fiscal Year 2011 for both years.

The Department plans to continue to coordinate appropriate Departmental and Inter-Departmental programs and services through the Executive Office of Health and Human Services targeted to low income individuals and families with Community Action in order to ensure increased access to services. The Department established work groups in several topic areas with staff and community stake holders.

Subject to further adjustment to coincide with Rhode Island's final funding allocations, the Department proposes the following allocation of funds for FFY 2012 and 2013:

	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
1. Distribution to 8 CAAs	\$3,366,007	90% (minimum)
2. Retained by DHS	187,000	5% (maximum)
3. CSBG Special. Projects	<u>187,000</u>	<u>5%</u> (remainder)
	\$3,740,007	100%

For FFY 2012 and FFY 2013, the Department will continue to utilize a minimum of ninety percent (90%) of the total funds available for distribution by formula to the eight Community Action Agencies. Attachment E describes the proposed allocations by agency for FFY 2012 and FFY 2013. In addition, a maximum of five percent (5%) of the funds will be retained by the Department to support costs necessary to administer the CSBG Program on a statewide basis.

The Department will continue to utilize CSBG Project Fund to enhance the Community Action Agencies data collection systems, track success in achieving outcomes under the six national goals and continue to partner with the Office of Health and Human Services in their efforts to modernize and develop efficiencies in service levels.

FY 2010 CSBG Bi-Annual Program Service Report - Period: 10/1/2009 - 9/30/2010										
Individuals (I) or Households (H) →	I-H	East Bay CAP	Blackstone Valley CAP	West Bay CAP	Providence CAP	Family Resources CAP	South County CAP	Comprehensive CAP	TRI Town EOC	Total
<b>1. EMPLOYMENT</b>										
ADULT JOB PROGRAMS	I	53		174	161	292	70		36	786
YOUTH JOB PROGRAMS	I	613	230		97	281	288	2,415	201	4,125
<b>2. EDUCATION</b>										
ADULT SELF-SUFFICIENCY	I	11					80	409	32	532
ADULT EDUCATION	I		66	45	89		56		131	387
AFTER SCHOOL CARE	I			105	146	30		101		382
DAY CARE (PRE-SCHOOL)	I		12		93		78	207		390
EARLY HEAD START	I	170			93			33	48	344
EVEN START FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM	H			304			40		23	367
GED	I		214		77	18	43	353	53	758
HEAD START	I	566		269	102		154	312	153	1,556
OTHER EDUCATIONAL	I		232		353			1,247	141	1,973
<b>3. INCOME MGT</b>										
INFORMATION & BUDGET COUNSELING	H				840	187	46	277	65	1,415
EARN INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)	H	750	437	509	142	571	247	206	232	3,094
APPLIANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	H	230	247	168	131		125	138	104	1,143
WEATHERIZATION	H	280	368	246	625		254	405	163	2,341
<b>4. HOUSING</b>										
HOUSING COUNSELING/PLACEMENT	H		151		690	23	204	103		1,171
HOUSING INFO & APPLIC'S	H			2	325			221		548
HOUSING MANAGEMENT	H		36		51			23		110
HOUSING PURCH/REPAIR/REH	H		48	419	16		18	2		503
<b>5. EMERGENCY</b>										
CLOTHING BANK	I	369		507	702	2,742		24		4,344
COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES	H				719		407	188		1,314
ROAD HOME/RENT/MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE	H	171	137	282	773	245	82	109	136	1,935
EMERGENCY SHELTER	H	23		144	297	105	254		46	869
FURNITURE	H		74	58	720	114	16	95	31	1,108
INFORMATION AND REFERRAL	I			2,381	440			301		3,122
HASBRO HEATING	H									0
UTILITIES ASSISTANCE	H		1,671	187	78	604	370		28	2,938
HASBRO HOMELESS PREVENTION	H									0
RESIDENTIAL EMERG. ASS. CHALLENGE	H									0
LIHEAP	H	5,288	8,085	3,860	10,680		2,995	2,416	3,350	36,674
RIFAC/BASIC NEEDS	H			242	190	243	489	246	183	1,593
<b>6. NUTRITION</b>										
COMMODITIES (All Programs)	H	3,110	2,666	2,146	6,957	4,967	1,999	3,802	709	26,356
WIC	I	4,473		2,107	735			1,824	1,135	10,274
<b>7. LINKAGES</b>										
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	I			10	7,206			899		8,115
GEN. INFORM/REFERRAL	I			33	1,844			1,305		3,182
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSEL	I				223	96		130	253	702
VOTER REGISTRATION	I				86					86
SEX ABUSE COUNSELING	I							168		168
TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS	I			166		603				769
<b>8. SELF SUFFICIENCY</b>										
CASE MANAGEMENT	I	1,437	817	3,649	1,358	243	845	1,006	1,340	10,695
<b>9. HEALTH</b>										
DENTAL	I	3,638						2,100	34	5,772
FAMILY HEALTH CENTER	I	5,323						10,532	3,027	18,882
PRESCRIPTIONS/RIPAE	I	88	49	51	1	38			82	309
SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT	I				543	61		158	133	895
<b>10. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT</b>										
TEEN PROGRAMS	I	70		21	1,237	36	209	266	58	1,897
RI TRAINING SCHOOL FOR YOUTH	I									0
RI DOC DISCHARGE PLANNING	I							1,234		1,234
YOUTH DIVERSIONARY	I			37		32	74	118	107	368
<b>11. SENIOR PROGRAMS</b>										
RSVP-ELDERLY PROJECTS	I	592	535	1,052	4,411		82			6,672
ELDERLY VICTIMS OF CRIME	I							39	42	81
FOSTER GRANDPARENTS	I	58								58
ELDERLY/ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ACCESS	I	1,039					45			1,084
SENIOR JOB & VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS	I									0
<b>SEASONAL PROGRAMS</b>										
ADOPT A FAMILY	H			142	374	1,140	34	139	16	1,845
HOLIDAY BASKETS	H			131	756	537	80	312	47	1,863
TOYS	I			879	2,312		320	1,162	986	5,659
<b>Sub Total Minimum Service Units</b>		28,352	16,075	20,326	46,673	13,208	10,004	35,025	13,125	182,788

OTHER PROGRAMS NOT LISTED ABOVE

Name of the Program	I or H	East Bay CAP	Blackstone Valley CAP	West Bay CAP	Providence CAP	Family Resources CAP	South County CAP	Comprehensive CAP	TRI Town EOC	
Adolescent Boy's Shelter	I									
Boiler Replacements	H									0
Community Service Volunteers	I									0
Drug Screening	I							149		149
Early Intervention Program	I					225				225
Early Start Program	I									0
Family Care Community Partnership	H					77				77
Family Life Education (Parenting Classes)	I					23				23
Financial Stability - UW								124		124
First Connection Infant Toddler Home Vis Scr						104				104
Flood Recovery - RI								132		132
Food Stamp Applications	H									0
Foster Family Support Program	I					66				66
Health Education	H									0
Homeless prevention								34		34
Housing Education	I									0
Income Tax Returns Completed						1,014				1,014
Lead Program	I									0
Long Term Parent Aide Program	H									0
Mayors Fuel Fund (Cranston only)	H									0
NRI Visitation Ct for Fam w Child In State Care						9				9
Parent Education	H									0
Pawtucket Youth Center	I									0
Permanent Housing Program	H									0
Property Tax Preparation	I					160				160
Providence Youth Center	I									0
Rental/Mortgage Assistance (other than EHAP)	H									0
Specialized Residential (Foster) Care Program	I									0
TANF Big Help								188		188
United Way Housing	H									0
Warwick West Warwick Youth Centers	I									0
VOCA	I									0
Other Programs Total Minimum Service Units		0	0	0	0	1,678	0	627	0	2,305

	East Bay CAP	Blackstone Valley CAP	West Bay CAP	Providence CAP	Family Resources CAP	South County CAP	Comprehensive CAP	TRI Town EOC	Total
Grand Total of Minimum Service Units	28,352	16,075	20,326	46,673	14,886	10,004	35,652	13,125	185,093

SENIOR MEALS	M	65,814		115,200						181,014
--------------	---	--------	--	---------	--	--	--	--	--	---------

## Community Services Block Grant National Goals and National Performance Indicators

Goal Number	Goal	NPI Indicator Number	National Performance Indicator (NPI)
1.	Low-income people become more self-sufficient.	1.1	Employment
		1.2	Employment Supports
		1.3	Economic Asset Enhancement and Utilization
2.	The conditions in which low-income people live are improved.	2.1	Community Improvement and Revitalization
		2.2	Community Quality of Life and Assets
		2.3	Community Engagement
		2.4	Employment Growth from ARRA Funds
3.	Low-income people own a stake in their community.	3.1	Community Enhancement through Maximum Feasible Participation
		3.2	Community Empowerment Through Maximum Feasible Participation
4.	Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved.	4.1	Expanding Opportunities Through Community-Wide Partnerships
5.	Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results.	5.1	Agency Development
6.	Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments.	6.1	Independent Living
		6.2	Emergency Assistance
		6.3	Child and Family Development
		6.4	Family Supports (Seniors, Disabled and Caregivers)
		6.5	Service Counts

Rhode Island

Section G: Program Participant Characteristics

Number of Agencies Reporting: 8

2a. Total Non CSBG resources Reported in Section F TOTAL

2b. Total amount of CSBG Funds allocated

Total Resources for FY 2010 (2a + 2b)

\$96,728,481	ARRA ONLY	\$11,395,945
\$3,461,896		\$4,463,656
\$100,190,377		\$15,859,601

3. Total unduplicated number of persons about whom one or more characteristics were obtained	124,645
4. Total unduplicated number of persons about whom no characteristics were obtained	3,477
5. Total unduplicated number of families about whom one or more characteristics were obtained	73,377
6. Total unduplicated number of families about whom no characteristics were obtained	1,471

7. Gender

	NUMBER OF PERSONS*
a. Male	47,382
b. Female	74,186
TOTAL*	121,568

13. Family Size

	NUMBER OF FAMILIES***
a. One	26,752
b. Two	14,524
c. Three	11,375
d. Four	7,975
e. Five	3,601
f. Six	1,561
g. Seven	558
h. Eight or more	177
TOTAL***	66,523

8. Age

	NUMBER OF PERSONS*
a. 0-5	8,935
b. 6-11	12,640
c. 12-17	12,807
d. 18-23	13,508
e. 24-44	34,778
f. 45-54	14,886
g. 55-69	12,346
h. 70+	14,378
TOTAL*	124,278

14. Source of Family Income

	NUMBER OF FAMILIES
a. Unduplicated # of Families Reporting One or More Sources of Income***	49,450
b. Unduplicated # of Families Reporting Zero Income***	18,695
TOTAL (a. and b.)***	68,145
c. TANF	8,707
d. SSI	6,991
e. Social Security	13,283
f. Pension	3,821
g. General Assistance	826
h. Unemployment Insurance	4,703
i. Employment + Other Sources	7,568
j. Employment Only	16,367
k. Other	4,842
TOTAL (c. through k.)	67,108

9. Ethnicity/Race

I. Ethnicity

	NUMBER OF PERSONS*
a. Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin	20,207
b. Not Hispanic, Latino or Spanish Origin	98,881
I. TOTAL*	119,088

II. Race

a. White	77,342
b. Black or African American	9,560
c. American Indian and Alaska Native	1,235
d. Asian	5,185
e. Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	108
f. Other	8,203
g. Multi-race (any 2 or more of the above)	3,317
II. TOTAL*	104,950

10. Education Levels of Adults #  
(# For Adults 24 Years Or Older Only)

	NUMBER OF PERSONS*
a. 0-8	12,090
b. 9-12/Non-Graduates	16,428
c. High School Graduate/GED	15,382
d. 12+ Some Post Secondary	6,695
e. 2 or 4 yr College Graduates	4,194
TOTAL**	54,789

15. Level of Family Income  
(% of HHS Guideline)

	NUMBER OF FAMILIES***
a. Up to 50%	29,999
b. 51% to 75%	3,373
c. 76% to 100%	7,760
d. 101% to 125%	5,397
e. 126% to 150%	4,633
f. 151% to 175%	14,764
g. 176% to 200%	2,781
h. 201% and over	2,172
TOTAL***	70,879

11. Other Characteristics

	NUMBER OF PERSONS*		
	Yes	No	Total
a. Health Insurance	79,067	33,996	113,063
b. Disabled	11,394	101,847	113,241

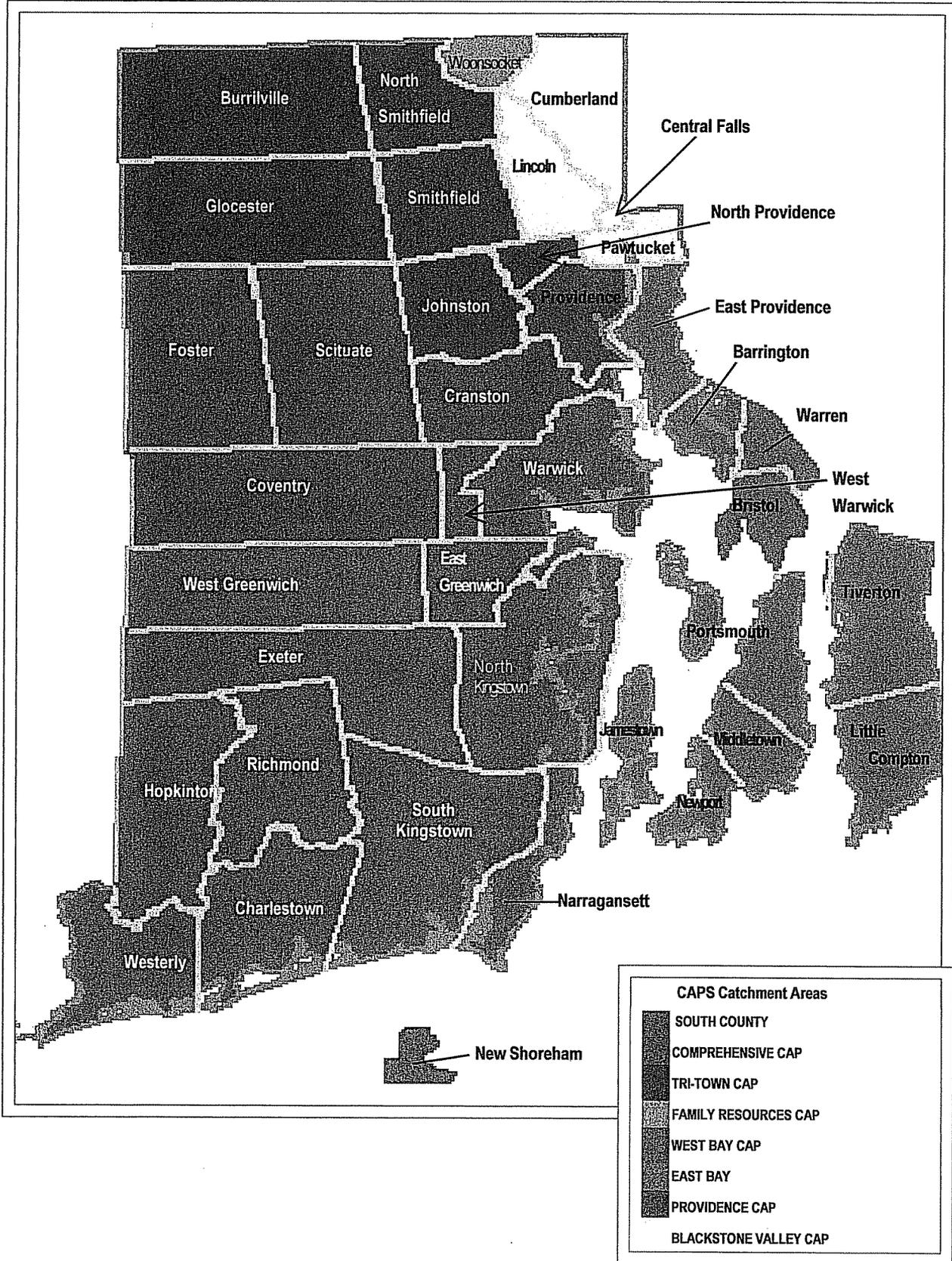
16. Housing

	NUMBER OF FAMILIES***
a. Own	15,515
b. Rent	39,726
c. Homeless	1,575
d. Other	4,851
TOTAL***	61,667

12. Family Type

	NUMBER OF FAMILIES***		NUMBER OF FAMILIES***
a. Single Parent/Female	21,342	d. Single Person	25,095
b. Single Parent/Male	2,421	e. Two Adults/No children	4,989
c. Two Parent Household	9,682	f. Other	4,294
TOTAL***		TOTAL***	67,823

# Community Action Agency Catchment Areas



## PROPOSED FFY 2012 AND FFY 2013 FUNDING

## CSBG ALLOCATION

Agency	Population 2010 Census	Persons Below Poverty	*Percent 2010 Census	Allocation- Base Only	Allocation- Poverty Only	Total CSBG FFY12 ALLOCATION	Total CSBG FFY13 ALLOCATION
Blackstone Valley	146,200	19,958	16.825%	\$90,000	\$445,202	\$535,202	\$535,202
Comprehensive CAP	124,804	8,328	7.021%	\$90,000	\$185,772	\$275,772	\$275,772
Eastbay CAP	175,203	13,417	11.311%	\$90,000	\$299,292	\$389,292	\$389,292
Providence CAP	159,737	40,910	34.489%	\$90,000	\$912,578	\$1,002,578	\$1,002,578
South County CAP	128,448	8,719	7.350%	\$90,000	\$194,494	\$284,494	\$284,494
Tri-Town	116,102	8,434	7.110%	\$90,000	\$188,137	\$278,137	\$278,137
Westbay CAP	126,812	9,963	8.399%	\$90,000	\$222,244	\$312,244	\$312,244
Family Resources CAP	42,074	8,889	7.494%	\$90,000	\$198,287	\$288,287	\$288,287
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,019,380</b>	<b>118,618</b>	<b>100.000%</b>	<b>\$720,000</b>	<b>\$2,646,007</b>	<b>\$3,366,007</b>	<b>\$3,366,007</b>

\*US Census Bureau, 2005 - 2009 5 year American Community Survey.