

NEWS RELEASE

Local assistance programs to be impacted
White House budget slashes core funding
for Community Action Partnership

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The proposed federal budget that cuts funding by 50 percent for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) will have a direct and negative impact on thousands of families served by the Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area. For nearly 47 years, Community Action Partnership has worked to build, enhance and support the Dayton community. This local work is now at risk due to the proposed CSBG cuts announced in President Obama's budget proposal.

If the CSBG funding is slashed as proposed, many of the agency's programs and services will be reduced or eliminated. CSBG provides the core funding that supports locally controlled programs that meet community needs. These include initiatives that help low-wage workers, their families and retirees protect their homes from foreclosure, receive transportation to medical appointments, train for a new job, eat a healthy, nutritious, home delivered meal, and receive referrals, education and support for foster parents.

"CSBG creates opportunities for all members of our community," said Tim Donnellan, President & CEO of the Community Action Partnership of the greater Dayton Area. "CSBG helps people find jobs, get educated and become secure. However, a cut of this magnitude will mean severe losses to those in need in our community at a time when the need for our services has never been greater."

During the last two years, the agency has seen a greater number of customers who have never needed services before. These include growing numbers of suburban and rural residents who have lost jobs and retirees who are struggling on fixed incomes.

Without CSBG funding, CAP facilities that provide training classes, safe, positive activities for youth and shelter the homeless, will reduce their hours or close.

As its name implies, Community Action Partnership works with many organizations to provide vital programs and services such as free tax filing assistance, congregate meals for the elderly, work boots and clothing needed for a new job, vouchers for safe and secure housing for low-income families, and referrals to additional services.

CAP's many partners include the University of Dayton, the Community Senior Citizens Center in Greenville, the Greene County Department of Job and Family Services, and the Preble County Metropolitan Housing Authority. Community Action Partnership also has an outstanding record of fiscal responsibility and regulatory compliance, having passed many program audits.

"The loss of CSBG will impact our entire community," said Donnellan. "The ripple effect will be far-reaching because the impact of these programs is so deep and so strong."

"The CSBG funds allow us to pursue new ideas and initiatives to meet community needs," said Donnellan. "Without CSBG, our ability to develop and build new programs and respond to emerging needs would be significantly reduced. CSBG-funded programs pay off many times over as they get people working and paying taxes, prevent expensive emergency shelter placements and keep low-income community residents off the unemployment and welfare rolls, at huge savings to taxpayers."

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