COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)

CSBG provides funds to Community Action Agencies, nonprofit organizations and units of general government to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities and empower low-income persons to become self-sufficient. CSBG is funded by the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (USHHS). TDHCA provides 90% of its CSBG funds to Texas Community Action Agencies while five percent of CSBG funds are awarded on a competitive basis for a variety of programs that fight poverty and provide disaster relief.

- USHHS allocates, by formula, to the States.
- In Texas, the Governor has designated the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to administer CSBG. In 2018, Texas received \$34.2 million dollars.
- TDHCA distributes funds, utilizing a formula which is primarily based on the poverty population of the counties served/service area by the subrecipient.
- There are forty (40) CSBG eligible entities, referred to as community action agencies, serving all 254 counties in Texas. CSBG eligible entities are primarily private non-profit organizations, but also include general units of local government (cities, counties, and council of governments). See attached map/list of Providers.
- In order to be eligible for services, the household income must be at or below 125% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- Eligible entities utilize CSBG funds to administer a broad array of services and programs. Services and programs include case management, education and employment programs, utility assistance, transportation, food pantries, and the coordination of services with other providers in the community.
- Annually, CSBG subrecipients assist approximately 320,000 unduplicated persons and assist approximately 1,200 persons to become self-sufficient.

Two ways to find and connect with a CSBG provider to see what services they can provide:

- 1) TDHCA Website: "Help for Texans" tab located at <u>http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm</u>
 - a) Follow the 3 easy steps
 - i) Step 1: Emergency & Homeless Services
 - ii) Step 2: Enter City or County
 - iii) Step 3: Click 'Find Help'
- 2) TDHCA Website: Listing of Eligible Entities by County located at <u>http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/community-affairs/docs/CA-Subrecipients.pdf</u>

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact Rita Gonzales-Garza at 512-475-3905 or <u>rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us</u>.

