Community Action Partnership of Solano, Joint Powers Authority
# Community Services Block Grant
## 2018 Annual Allocation

### Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding be used to fund existing programming?**  CSBG funds may **not** be used to fund existing programming.  It may, however, be used to fund a distinct expansion of existing programming. If you are proposing an expansion, you must clearly demonstrate how you will provide either new or different program services and/or how you will serve more people with CSBG funding. Please make this clear in every section of your CSBG project application.

- **My organization didn't receive CSBG funding last year, that makes my proposal a "new" project, right?**   Even if you have not received CSBG funds in the past, if the project you are proposing involves services that your organization already provides through other sources of funding, your project will not be considered "new" unless the proposed project services and activities are very clearly distinct, separate, and different in nature from your existing program operations.  If you are instead proposing to increase or enhance services your organization already provides, your project may be considered an "expansion" of existing programming.

- **My program or project didn't exist prior to receiving CSBG funding; how do I apply for a "continuation" of that CSBG funding?**  If the project you are proposing is for continuation of services provided in prior years through receipt of non-renewable CSBG funding, you are technically applying for a "new" project each year you apply for CSBG funding.  Your application should clearly indicate that without CSBG funding these program services do not exist.

- **What if my agency has another funding source for services but would prefer to use CSBG instead, and/or the other funding source for services will be ending?**  CSBG funds may not be used to supplant non-Federal funds that are available to fund proposed services.  As such, you may not replace your existing non-federal funding source with CSBG funding through the 2018 allocation process.  However, if your non-federal funding source is no longer available to fund the proposed services because, for instance, it was non-renewable or one-time funding, then you may be able to apply for a "new" project in the CSBG allocation.

- **How can my project application best reflect whether my proposal is for a new project or for an expansion of an existing project?**  Please ensure you select the appropriate box in **Part I. Project Identification** of the Project Application and ensure that all of your narrative responses reflect that selection.  For example, if you select that you are proposing a "new" project, then narratives describing services and activities should make it clear that these are new services that your organization does not already provide.  If you select that you are instead proposing an expansion of existing services, narrative responses should consistently identify how you will expand or provide additional service through CSBG funding.