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PROGRAM POLICY BULLETIN #15-07

DATE: May 11, 2015
TO: Public Organization Eligible Entities
AFFECTED PROGRAMS: Community Services Block Programs – Non discretionary
SUPERSEDES: # 09-02
SUBJECT: Public Agency Tripartite Board Requirements

POLICY SUMMARY: A public organization eligible entity must administer its CSBG program through one of the following in order to meet the Sec. 676B (b) (42 USC 9910) Tripartite Board requirements:

1. A tripartite board, as defined by 676B(b)(1); or
2. All CSBG sub-grantees of the public organization must have a tripartite compliant board, as described in Sec. 676B(a);
3. Through utilization of a County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), as defined in N.J.A.C.10:2 et.seq.; or
4. Another mechanism proposed by the public organization eligible entity and approved by the State that assures decision-making and participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of CSBG-funded programs.




DISCUSSION:

Sec. 676 B [42 USC 9910] of the CSBG Act defines the Tripartite Board requirements for CSBG eligible entities. Private nonprofit entities must comply with Sec. 676B(a), while public organizations must comply with Sec. 676B (b).

Pursuant to the Sec. 676B(b) requirements for public organizations, the eligible entity shall administer the CSBG program either via a tripartite board as defined in Sec. 676B(b)(1) or, as provided in Sec. 676B(b)(2), by another mechanism specified by the State to assure decision-making and participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of CSBG-funded programs.

Under the authority of Sec. 676B(b)(2), the State will allow public organization eligible entities to meet the tripartite board requirement by the following alternate mechanisms:

1. By ensuring that each of their CSBG sub-grantees have a tripartite compliant board, in conformity with the requirements of Sec. 676B(a); or
2. The public organization itself utilizes a Human Services Advisory Council, as constituted and defined in N.J.A.C. 10:2 et seq. (authorized by N.J.S.A. 30:1-12). A HSAC is a county-based planning, advisory, and advocacy organization dedicated to meeting the human service needs of the local community, and seeks to facilitate, coordinate and enhance the delivery of services through collaborative relationships within the county, and among the counties and private and State agencies. Their target populations are substantially equivalent to CSBG-eligible clients, and the mission, purpose and activities of HSAC councils are similar to those of CSBG tripartite boards; or
3. Finally, if the public organization eligible entity proposes a mechanism other than those specified in 1 or 2 above to meet the 676B Tripartite Board requirements, they may submit their proposal to DCA, which will evaluate same, and may approve the utilization of the alternate mechanism as long as it assures decision-making and participation by low-income individuals in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of CSBG-funded programs.

SIGNED: 
Patricia Swartz, Administrator
Office of Community Action
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