A Dialogue On Community Action Anti-Poverty Strategies and Opportunities for Building Agency Capacity Through LCRC

Presented by:
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PLEASE ANSWER NOW

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST (#1) ISSUE FACING THE FAMILIES THAT YOU SERVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

(Write this on the stickies in the center of your table. Use the markers.)
AGENDA

• Learning Community Overview
• Network Engagement with Anti-Poverty Approaches
  – National Webinar Series
  – Open Learning Community Groups
  – “Follow” Any Group
• The Dialogue and Connecting the Dots
46.7 million people in America are living in poverty, 15.5 million of whom are children.
20 million live in deep poverty (at or below 50 percent of the poverty threshold). Those families living in deep poverty are more likely to remain poor than other people who experience poverty.
The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.
The “Heart” of Who We Are

We are in the Anti-Poverty Business—We Are the Experts!
The resource to help the CSBG Network build capacity related to “winning” at fighting poverty or improving outcomes for the families and communities that we serve.
How might we win more effectively?
How do we tell the story of our impact?
How might we replicate best “winning” practices?
Purpose: To analyze Community Action outcomes and identify effective, promising and innovative practice models that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty.

BUILD OUR CAPACITY TO FIGHT POVERTY!
As a network, we must be focused on the right issues to address poverty today. We have to be in tuned with the issues of today and reflect on and CREATE strategies that have Impact.

—Jeannie Chaffin
The Learning Community “In Action”!
What is the Learning Community?

The Learning Community is comprised of topical peer-to-peer Learning Community Groups (LCGs) which consist of a cadre of agencies that are currently working on a program or service delivery strategy related to a poverty related focus areas.
How does the Learning Community work?

Members attend meetings, virtually or in-person, and strategize ways to improve outcomes within Community Action Agencies.

Meetings may include:

1. Discussing “what works”
2. Sharing data findings
3. Solving problems
4. Offering support for implementing new ideas
5. Sharing best practices
How is the Learning Community structured?

• Comprised of “Learning Community Groups (LCGs)” focused on poverty related topics.
• Though members of each LCG will concentrate on the same topic, work activities they generate will be unique to the community they represent.
• Each LCG will be offered T/TA and guidance from peer experts and subject matter experts to help facilitate this process.
• LCG environment open and conducive to experimentation
• Eventually, LCG successes as well as lessons learned will be shared with the Network
Learning Community Groups (LCGs)

- Place-based Strategies for Community Revitalization
- Bundling Services to Improve Outcomes
- National Poverty Trends--Open
- Rural IMPACT--Rural Child Poverty (Closed)
- Decreasing Homelessness--Open
- Trauma Informed Approaches
- Financial Empowerment for Families
LCG Groups Defined

• **Increasing Financial Empowerment for Families** - Designing strategies to help families with low and moderate incomes stabilize their financial lives and rise above poverty.

• **Trauma Informed Approaches for Alleviating Poverty** - Understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma in antipoverty efforts.

• **Place-Based Strategies for Community Revitalization** - Developing and/or obtaining tools and resources to transform neighborhoods of concentrated poverty into neighborhoods of opportunity that support the optimal development and well-being of children and families.

• **Bundling Services to Improve Outcomes** - Affirming the existence of comprehensive, bundled services in the Network and identifying which bundle of services are most impactful for serving low-income families.
LCG Groups Defined

- **Decreasing Family Homelessness** - Increasing affordable housing in safe neighborhoods, and expanding shelter supports and other services leading to home ownership. (OPEN ENROLLMENT)

- **Health Intersections** - Collaborating with the health sector to strengthen anti-poverty outcomes for families. (CLOSED ENROLLMENT)

- **Poverty Trends** - A survey course on the causes and conditions of poverty today and its impact on Community Action. (OPEN ENROLLMENT)

- **Rural IMPACT** - A demonstration project working with 10 U.S. communities to make systems change in rural communities to implement a focused and intentional two generation approach to poverty. (ENROLLMENT COMPLETED)
Learning Community Members—433 And Counting!

- Bundling Services to Improve Outcomes—22 Agencies Enrolled; 53 Followers
- Increasing Financial Empowerment for Families—18 Agencies Enrolled; 40 Followers
- Trauma Informed Approaches to Alleviating Poverty—11 Agencies Enrolled; 51 Followers
- Place-Based Strategies for Community Revitalization—5 Agencies Enrolled (process still open for additional agencies); 44 Followers
- Decreasing Family Homelessness—10 Agencies; 37 Followers
- Poverty Trends—10 Agencies; 47 Followers
- Health Intersections—38 Followers
- Rural IMPACT—47 Followers
Meet the Subject Matter Experts!

Paige Teegarden—Bundling Services
Duane Yoder—Bundling Services
Mary Virtue—Bundling Services
Dana Jackson—Place-Based Strategies
Kori Hattemer—Financial Empowerment
Jim Masters—National Poverty Trends
Allen Stansbury—National Poverty Trends
Barbara Mooney—Resources
Catherine Marshall—Resources
Sharon McDonald—Homelessness
Elena Cohen—Trauma Informed Approaches
Learning Community Groups
Phases 1-4

- Formation
- Knowledge Building
- Piloting
- Practice Transformation
LEARNING COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK

Formation—January-March 2016

- Develop understanding of the Learning Community model
- Build Rapport with Peers
- Clarify goals and produce Draft 1 of Work plan
Knowledge-Building--April-August 2016

• Engage in “deep dive” related poverty focused topic
• Share information/knowledge related to research and practice
• Engage in peer-to-peer learning
• Targeted T/TA provided by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and peers to support the work plan development process
• Produce final draft of work plan
LEARNING COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK

Piloting—September-March 2017

- Implement and evaluate programs and strategies
- Provide and receive peer T/TA
- Track outcomes
- Identify T/TA and resources to support the CSBG network related to the focus area
Practice Transformation--April-August 2017

- Share results of the agency projects
- Promote promising practices to the larger CSBG Network
- Strategize ways to build the CSBG Network’s capacity related to the poverty related focus areas.
Become a “FOLLOWER”

How to “Follow” a LCG without joining?
To follow the activities and resources created and shared among Learning Community Groups, without becoming an active member of the group, there are a few options:

• Visit the online application [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lcrc2016](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lcrc2016) but you will only be required to enter your contact information, that you would like to be FOLLOWER, and then it will jump to a selection of which groups you are interested in following

• Follow the Partnership’s twitter accounts [@CAPartnership](https://twitter.com/CAPartnership) and [@NatTrainingCtr](https://twitter.com/NatTrainingCtr) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) page and look for #CAPlearning for updates

• Register for the Partnership’s [T/TA enewsletter](https://www.cappartnership.org) to get general monthly updates
The LCRC National Webinar Series will focus on themes related to the specific LCRC focus areas will be used as a tool for disseminating information and lessons learned to the broader CSBG network

Upcoming Sessions will focus on:
- Two Generation Approaches
- Bundling Services
- Toxic Stress and Trauma
- Poverty Trends
- Homelessness
CSBG T/TA Resource Center

- www.csbgtta.org
- Many more toolkits, webinars, and print resources
- Consultant Bank
- Training Calendar
- Discussion Forum
- Shared Calendar
- Individual registrations for Board and Staff
WHAT IS THE BIGGEST (#1) ISSUE FACING THE FAMILIES THAT YOU SERVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
IF YOU HAD THE RESOURCES, WHAT WOULD YOUR AGENCY DO TO ADDRESS YOUR BIGGEST ISSUE?
IN YOUR EXPERIENCE, WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS THAT ARE LIMITING ACCESS TO RESILIENCE FOR YOUR CUSTOMERS/CLIENTS?
WHAT ONE SYSTEMS LEVEL CHANGE MIGHT HELP YOUR AGENCY ACHIEVE IT’S GOAL(S) FOR FAMILIES MORE EFFECTIVELY?
LCRC…
What the Network can continue to expect!!

- Promising, proven and/or best practices
- Innovative methods of addressing poverty
- Experimentation
- Implementation of new ideas
- Access to resources to support “Anti-Poverty Approaches”
- Lessons learned from the field
- Increased accumulated knowledge
- Improved data collection
- Shared learning and mentoring
- Rapid solution development
2016 Annual Convention
Building Resilience: The Promise and Practice of Community Action

SAVE THE DATE!

Austin, TX
August 30-September 2, 2016
JW Marriott
#Promise2016

www.communityactionpartnership.com
Questions?

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