COE

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

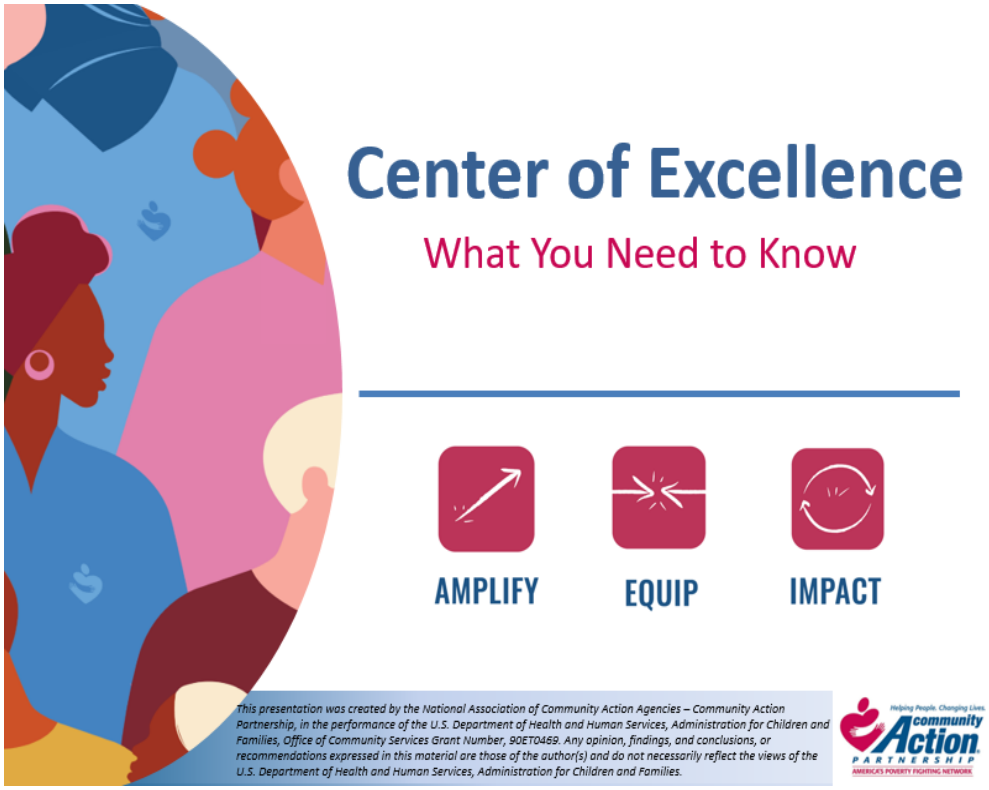
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Presenter's Guide

This document is intended to accompany the PowerPoint to communicate an introduction of the Center of Excellence (COE) to the Community Action Network.

Center of Excellence
National Community Action Partnership
www.communityactionpartnership.com/hcct

Slide 1



Insert your own logo and name/title of presenter.

Slide 2



Community Action Agencies are already doing innovative and transformative work, but we want to find those initiatives, figure out what makes them work, and package the information so other agencies can replicate them.

Slide 3

What is the COE?

- The COE's goal is to discover ***high-impact work*** that Community Action Agencies are doing by identifying and **highlighting** transformative work that strengthens families and builds resilient, supportive communities.
- By FY2022, the Network will be able to demonstrate ***over 100*** family-level and community-level strategies ***currently used throughout the Network***.
- The Network will show its potential to transform EVERY community by ***building capacity across all agencies*** to adopt these strategies and to develop other innovative and effective strategies.

Optional note on bullet 2: To date, the COE has received 65 initiatives. Initiatives can be submitted on a continuous basis.

Slide 4

COE values and principles

Core Values	Guiding Principles
Dignity	Sustainable independence
Society/Community	Support employment
Work	Individual empowerment
Responsibility	Government as catalyst
Impact	Community matters
	Evidence-based policy
	Individual/Family-centric design

More information on these guiding principles can be found on the Center of Excellence webpage: www.communityactionpartnership.com/hcct

Slide 5

The COE Project IS

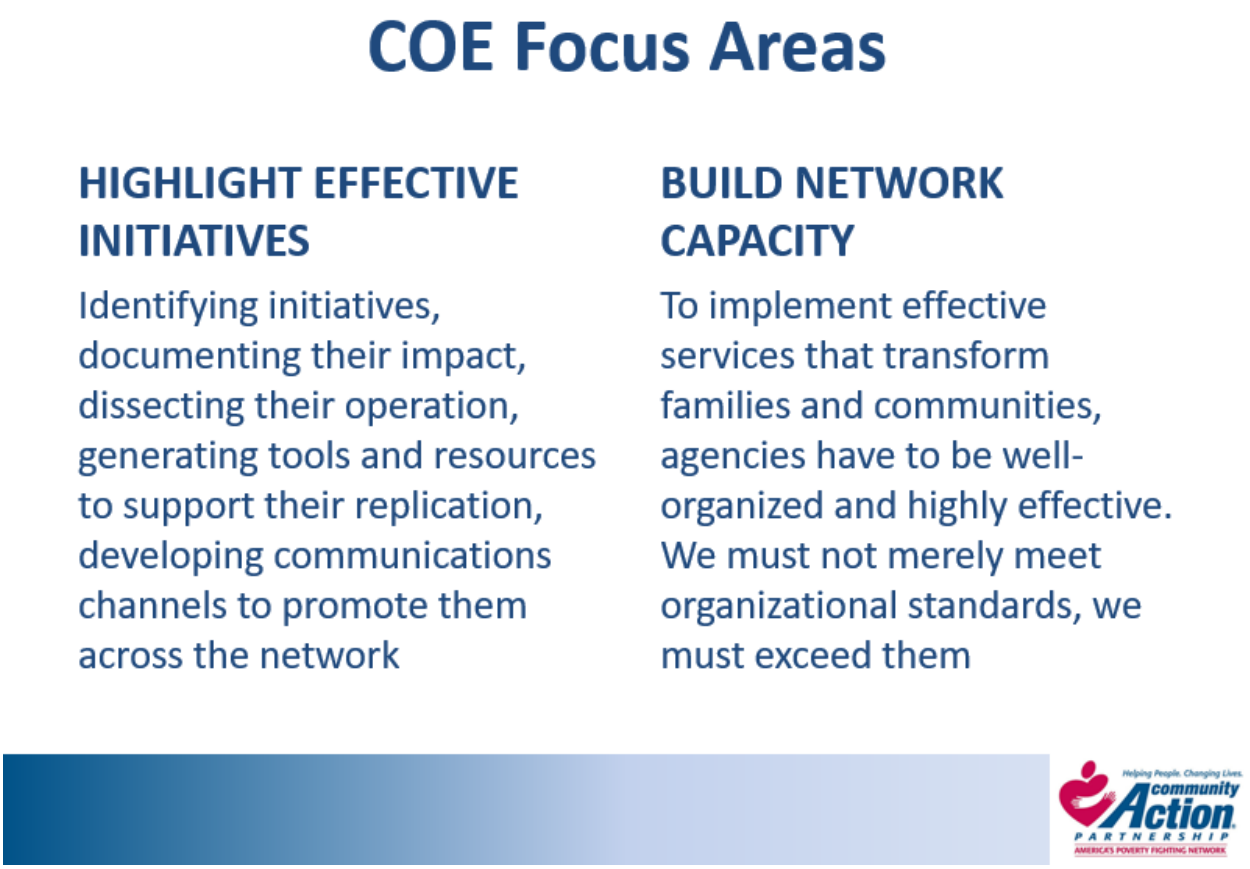
- An opportunity to highlight and disseminate the outstanding, high-impact work that is being done in the network
- A continuation of moving the network from compliance to excellence in Organizational Standards

The COE Project IS NOT

- A new reporting or compliance requirement (i.e. it does not *necessarily* relate to Module 3)
- A requirement to change what CAA's are currently doing
- A requirement that CAA's have to develop new community-level initiatives

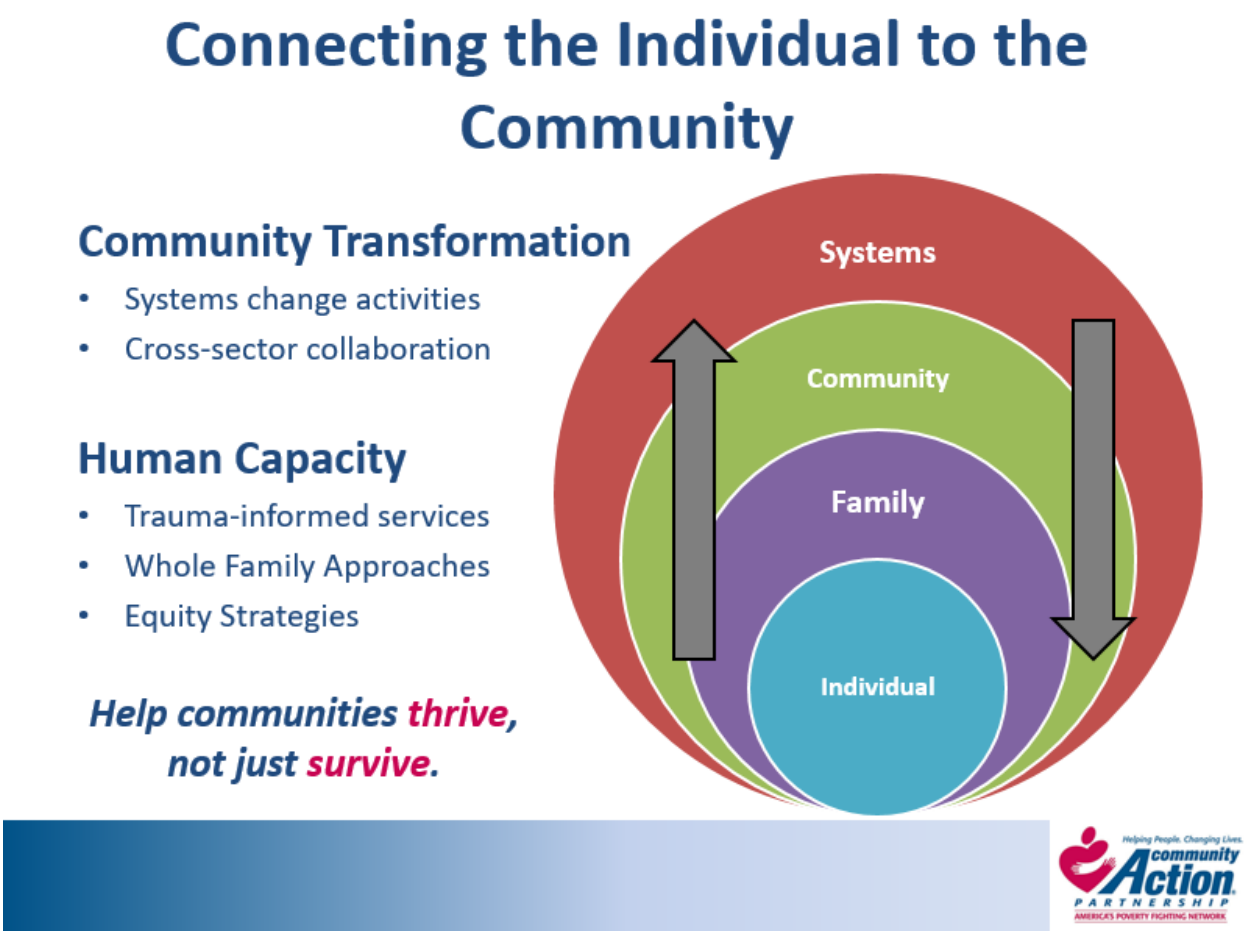
The COE Project is nothing NEW. It is all about highlighting, coordinating, and continuing the good work of Community Action. There are no requirements added for all agencies. CAAs may choose to opt in to be highlighted and resources and lessons learned will be available for all.

Slide 6



The COE has two primary focus areas. It's about highlighting the initiatives, but also about having the capacity to do the work and do it well. This includes, but is not exclusive to the CSBG Organizational Standards. Training and support to CAAs on the CSBG Organizational Standards does continue as a part of the COE, as well as striving to meet the Standards of Excellence, which are voluntary.

Slide 7



The name has two distinct but connected pieces.

Part of the goal of COE project is to move beyond providing one-time direct services for customers to an intentional, strategic system of services that building human capacity. Simultaneously, it's about collaboration and systems external to the CAA to transform communities so they can enable people to thrive, not just survive. In doing this, causes and conditions of poverty are addressed and people are able to move out of poverty with less reliance on public supports.

Note: Depending on the time or depth of information that you want to present as a facilitator, you could relate this back to the CSBG Act to bring it full circle and reiterate that this IS Community Action.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ocs/leg_title_iicommunity_services_block_grant_act_10271998.pdf

Slide 8



To be able to do this transformative work, we recognize CAAs will need further Training & Technical Assistance on these topics - from Organizational Standards compliance to Excellence. This is part of the purpose of the Center of Excellence.

(if participants as how this might benefit them, one example is a resource being developed for the entire network: a portfolio of organizational self-assessment tools that will be instructive for a CAA to identify areas to build capacity in, with corresponding tools to do so).

For more information on Organizational Standards, please visit or guide participants to: https://communityactionpartnership.com/organizational-standards/

For more information on ROMA, please visit or guide participants to view the ROMA Cycle: http://www.roma-nptp.org/resources/ROMA_Cycle.doc

However, you'll notice that this list of areas for capacity building does not explicitly say "Organizational Standards" or "Results Oriented Management & Accountability (ROMA)", but the items tie into these broader systems of accountability.

Slide 9

The Center of Excellence (COE)

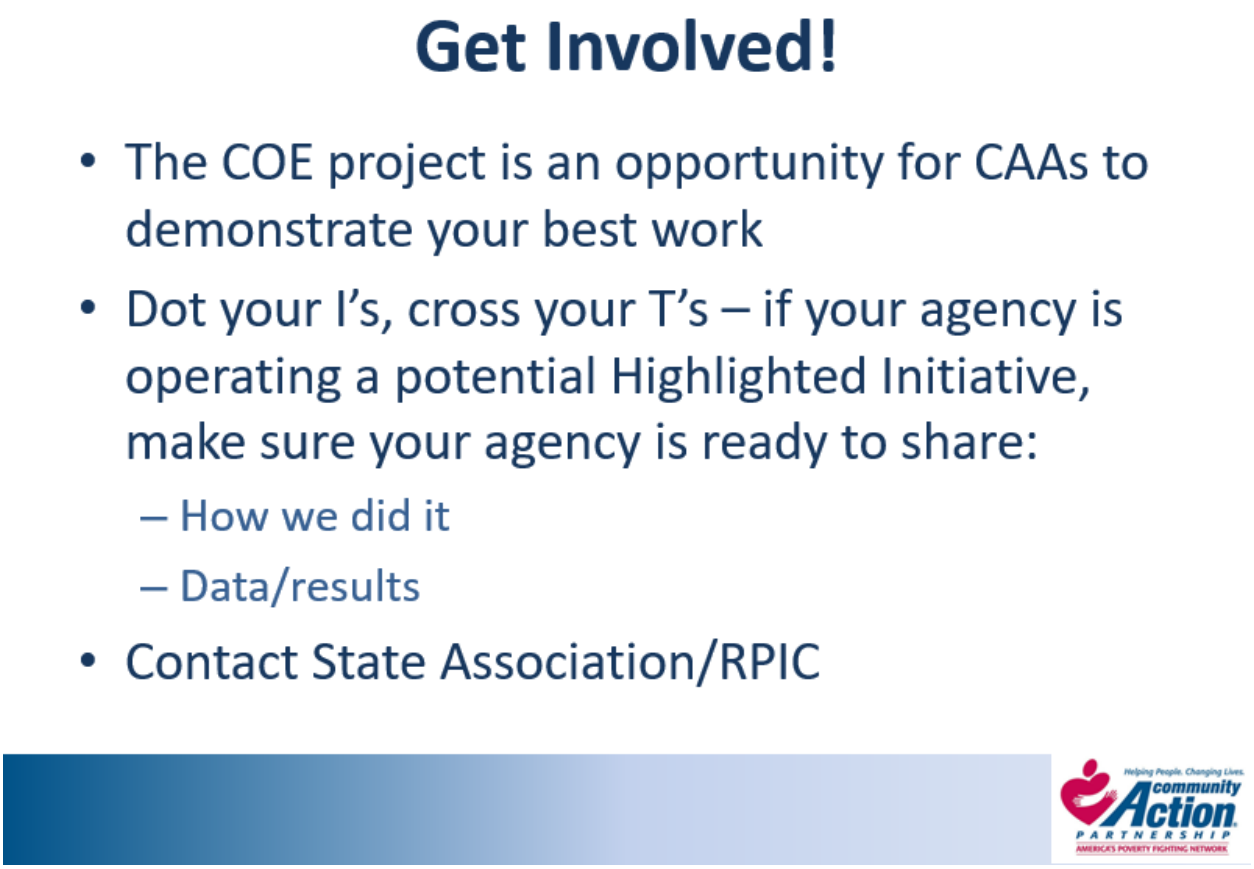
The Community Action Partnership is in a co-operative agreement with the Office of Community Services to serve as the Center of Excellence (COE). As such, the Partnership is working to support the ***development of definitions, tools, assessments and other resources*** to support RPICs, states and local agencies throughout a 3-year period.

Contact us at any time!

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The Partnership Team is leading the Center of Excellence. They remain in service to the network's needs and coordinate with other national partners, the RPICs, and OCS in this effort.

Slide 10



A Call To Action: tell them what they can do to get involved.

Here, feel free to edit specific to your state or RPIC. (i.e. What is your State/Region's process for soliciting initiatives? SurveyMonkey? Other collection process? Include that here as appropriate)

Note: Highlighted initiatives will be reviewed according to selection criteria – this process can be discussed with interested CAA's in a follow-up meeting/webinar/discussion.

Slide 11



Refer to accompanying COE Common Questions document to aid in answering questions or distribute directly to your audience.

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