Navigating Fall 2025: Tools for Action

September 10, 2025

National Community Action Partnership
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Washington, DC 20036

www.communityactionpartnership.com



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.

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Agenda

- Fall 2025: Setting the Stage
- Government Funding
- Board Discussion Guides
- Scenario Planning Toolkits
- Policy Resources & NCAF Messaging
- Promise Power Ups!
- Questions & Contact

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Fall 2025



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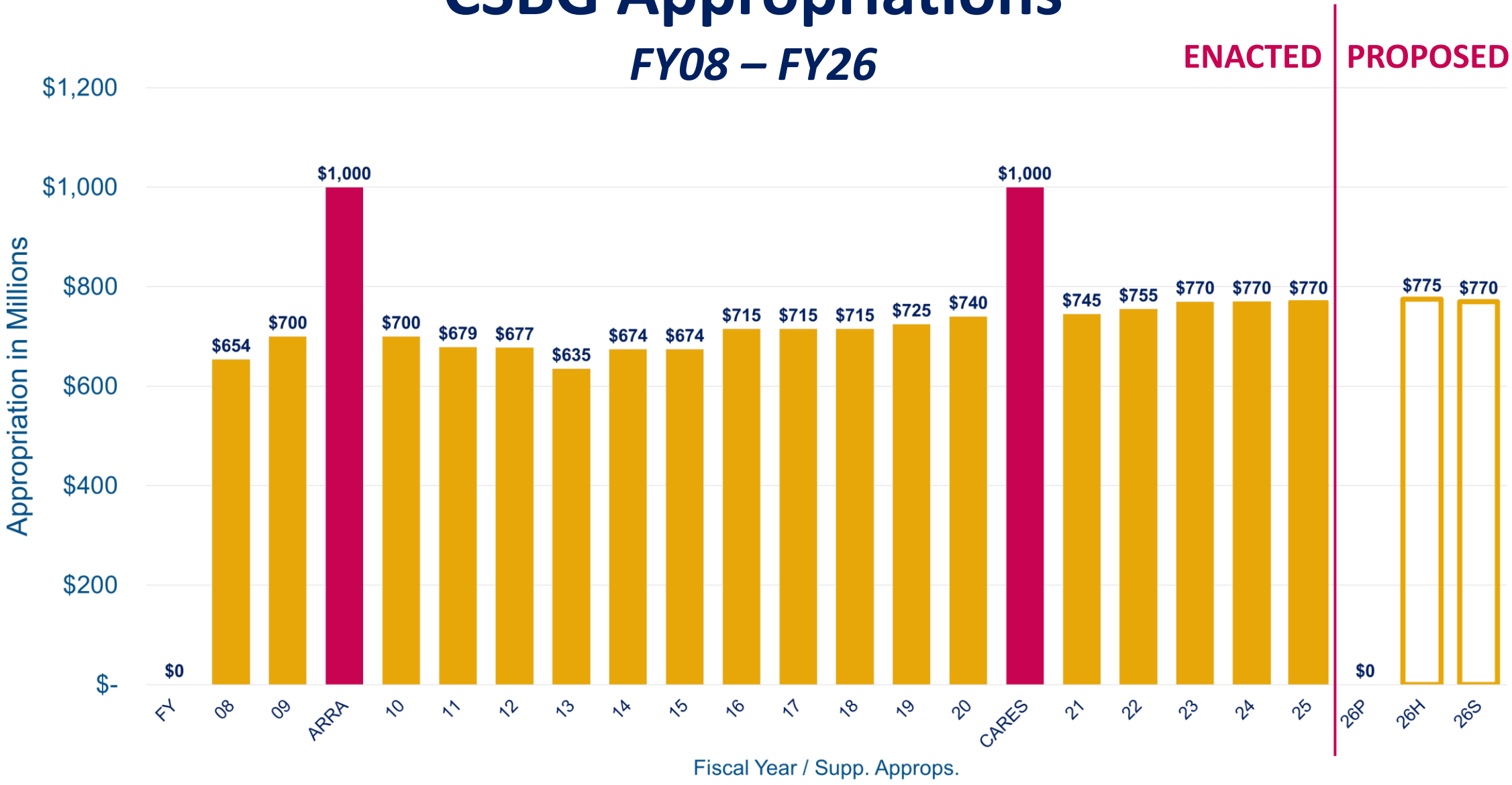
What Will Happen With Federal Funding?

- Government funding runs out **September 30**.
- ALL funding bills – even short-term funding through a **continuing resolution** – needs 60 votes in the Senate → at least 7 Democrats needed for approval.
- In March, Senate Democrats allowed a vote on the FY25 funding bill, prompting fierce backlash from the party's base.
- Funding committees are pushing for a short-term funding bill through November (possibly paired with three full-year funding bills); WH and House conservatives prefer funding through Jan-Feb.
- No chance all 12 funding bills will pass by 9/30 so if Congress does not reach a short-term funding deal, there will be a full or partial government shutdown.

National Community Action Partnership Appropriations Tracker ($ in millions) FY25 - FY26				
Account	**FY25**	**FY26 POTUS**	**FY26 H CTE**	**FY26 S CTE**
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	**$ 804.38**	**$ -**	**$ 810.38**	**$ 804.38**
• Core CSBG	*$ 770.00*	*$ -*	*$ 775.00*	*$ 770.00*
• Community Economic Development	*$ 22.38*	*$ -*	*$ 22.38*	*$ 22.38*
• Rural Community Development	*$ 12.00*	*$ -*	*$ 13.00*	*$ 12.00*
Head Start	**$ 12,271.82**	**$ 12,271.82**	**$ 12,271.82**	**$ 12,356.82**
• Cost-of-Living-Adjustment	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ 77.00*
• Quality Improvement	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ -*	*$ -*
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)	**$ 366.00**	**$ -**	**$ 195.00**	
• Core WAP	*$ 326.00*	*$ -*	*$ 180.00*	
• Training & Technical Assistance	*$ 10.00*	*$ -*	*$ 5.00*	
• Weatherization Readiness Fund	*$ 30.00*	*$ -*	*$ 10.00*	
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	$ 4,025.00	$ -	$ 4,035.00	$ 4,045.00
Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	$ 8,746.39	$ 8,746.39	$ 8,746.39	$ 8,831.39
Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS) (AmeriCorps)	$ 1,262.81	$ 108.00		
SNP for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	$ 7,597.00	$ 7,697.00	$ 7,697.00	$ 8,200.00
Child Nutrition Programs	$ 33,266.23	$ 36,269.40	$ 35,769.40	$ 36,285.90
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	$ 36,041.00	$ -	$ 35,268.00	$ 37,354.00
Public Housing	$ 8,810.78	$ -	$ 7,316.00	$ 8,382.00
HOME Investment Partnerships	$ 1,250.00	$ -	$ -	$ 1,250.00
Homeless Assistance Grants	$ 4,051.00	$ 4,024.00	$ 4,158.00	$ 4,530.00
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	$ 3,300.00	$ -	$ 3,300.00	$ 3,100.00
Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	$ 1,700.00	$ 1,700.00	$ 1,700.00	$ 1,700.00
TOTAL	**$ 298,705.25**	**$ 226,252.95**	**$ 295,569.40**	**$ 301,433.94**
Percentage +/-		**-24%**	**-1.05%**	**0.91%**

CSBG Appropriations

FY08 – FY26

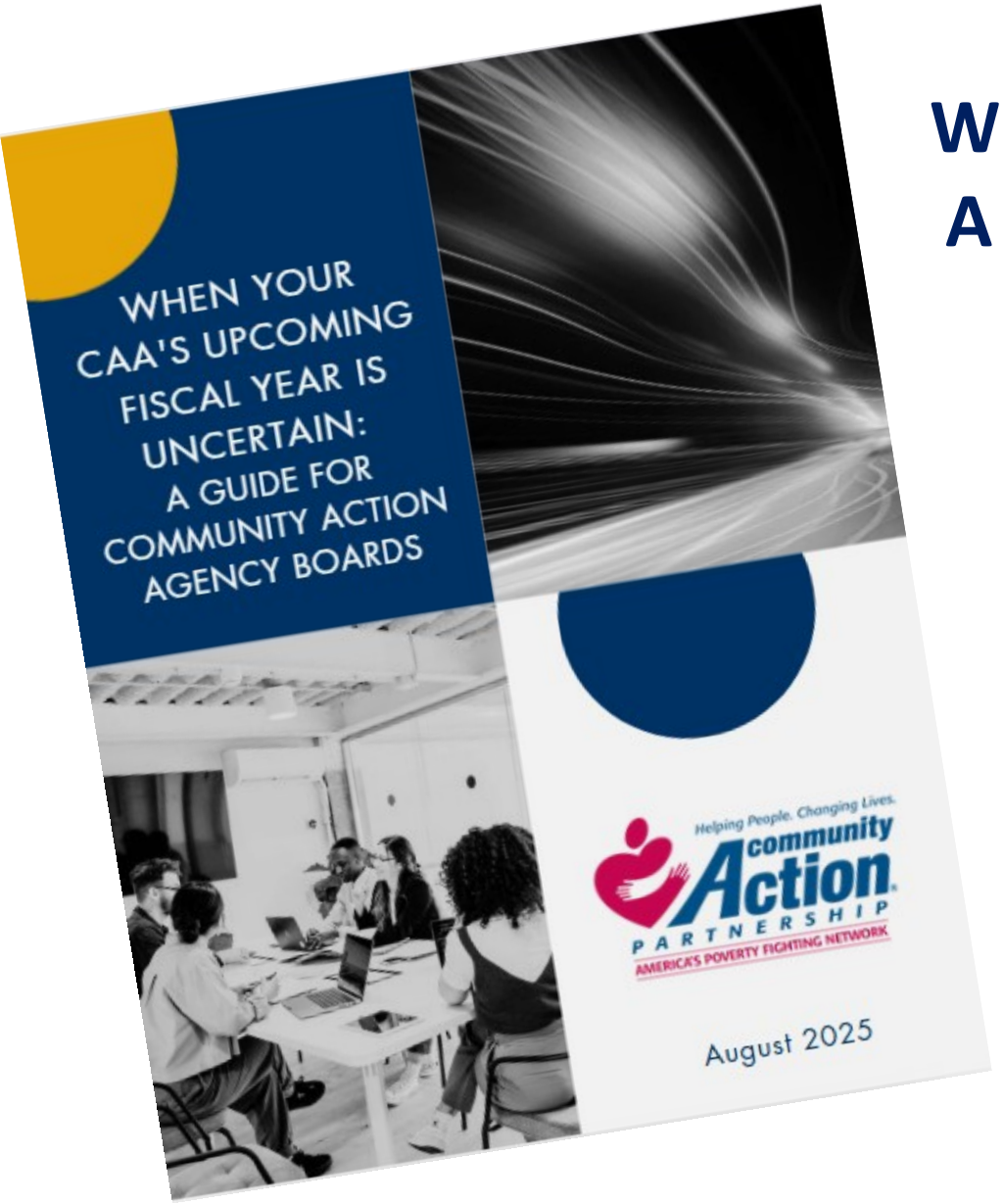


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Tools and Resources to Help you Navigate Fall 2025

- When the New Fiscal Year is Uncertain: A Discussion Guide for Boards
- Board Discussion Guide for Uncertain Financial Times
- Community Action Network Scenario Planning Toolkit
- NCAF Communities in Action Together Media Toolkit
- Community Action Promise Power Up

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When Your CAA's New Fiscal Year is Uncertain: A Guide for Community Action Agency Boards

This guide helps CAA boards lead effectively through funding uncertainty at the start of a new federal fiscal year. It centers on four priorities: prepare for strategic action, understand the landscape, plan for multiple scenarios, and elevate Community Action.

Access the Guide Here

Four Priorities for Operating Through Uncertainty

1

Prepare for Strategic Action

Boards must be proactive, ***making space*** for informed decision making and deeper strategic discussions.

Regular updates from leadership and clear communication can help board stay aware and act quickly when needed.

2

Understand the Landscape

Boards need a solid grasp of their agency's **finances** and the external funding environment, including penitential risks and unknowns.

Exploring likely scenarios help prepare the agency for whatever changes may come.

3

Plan for Multiple Scenarios

With clear priorities and insights, boards can **create plans and strategies** to reduce risk and prepare responses for different funding outcomes.

Defining roles and actions for delayed or reduced funding helps protect the agency

4

Elevate Community Action

Boards play a key role in **raising the CAA's profile** to strengthen support and protect its position.

Strategic engagement with elected officials and the community ensures your CAAs impact is understood amid shifting funding and priorities.

Boards are Ultimately Responsible For the Financial Wellbeing of the Organization



Boards need to understand the current financial landscape and financial risks the organization faces.

Access the Board Discussion Guide Here:

Questions to Spur Good Board Discussion

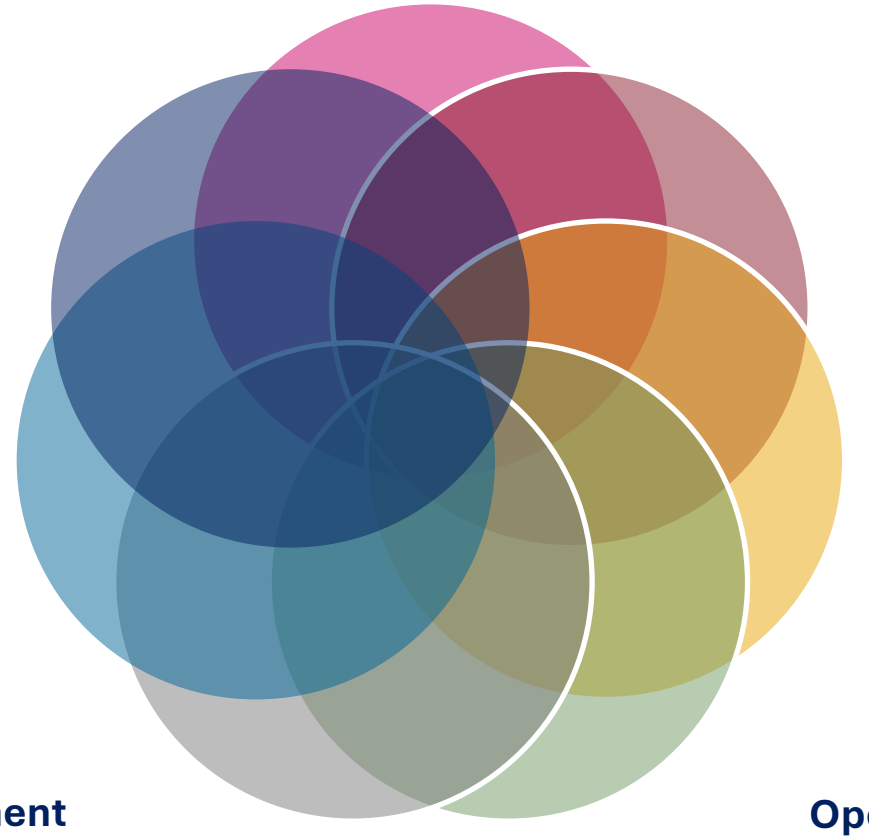
1. How do we ensure that the ***people and communities*** we assist are centered in our decisions?
2. What are our ***top three priorities*** right now?
3. How could we ***sustain our mission*** without our largest funding source?
4. What are the ***impacts on our community*** if we ***lose a major funding source***?
5. What kinds of ***risk*** and how much risk ***are we willing to tolerate***?
6. What ***opportunities*** do we see to grow or build revenue?
7. What does the ***Executive Director need*** from the Board?
8. What are our legal and financial ***liabilities***?
9. How do we ***protect*** the organization?
10. What are our ***assumptions about our funding***, and how might they need to change?

A Decision Filter establishes the criteria through which you will make decisions.

Financial Sustainability
(Short-term and long-term)

Ethical Alignment
(Adheres to org. ethical principles and values)

Mission Alignment
(Supports the organization's core purpose)



Alignment with Strategic Plan
(How it advances long-term goals)

Impact on Stakeholders
(Impact on beneficiaries, donors, etc.)

Risk Assessment
(Financial, reputational, operational, strategic)

Operational Impact
(Effects on day-to-day operations)

New FFY 2026:
Operating Without Contracts or Appropriations

- Sometimes, the organization may not receive its contract at the beginning of the FFY due to delays in federal appropriations or state or funder delays.
- A government shutdown may have impacts-May not be business as usual.
- While CAAs may be in the midst of running programs, ***operating without a contract is a significant financial risk to the organization***
  - If the contract is delayed or funding is unclear for the new FFY, your CAA may have to make the difficult choice of interrupting programming to minimize risk
  - ***Do you know how long your CAA can operate if funding is delayed?***
  - ***How are you ensuring the board is in alignment on program operations?***

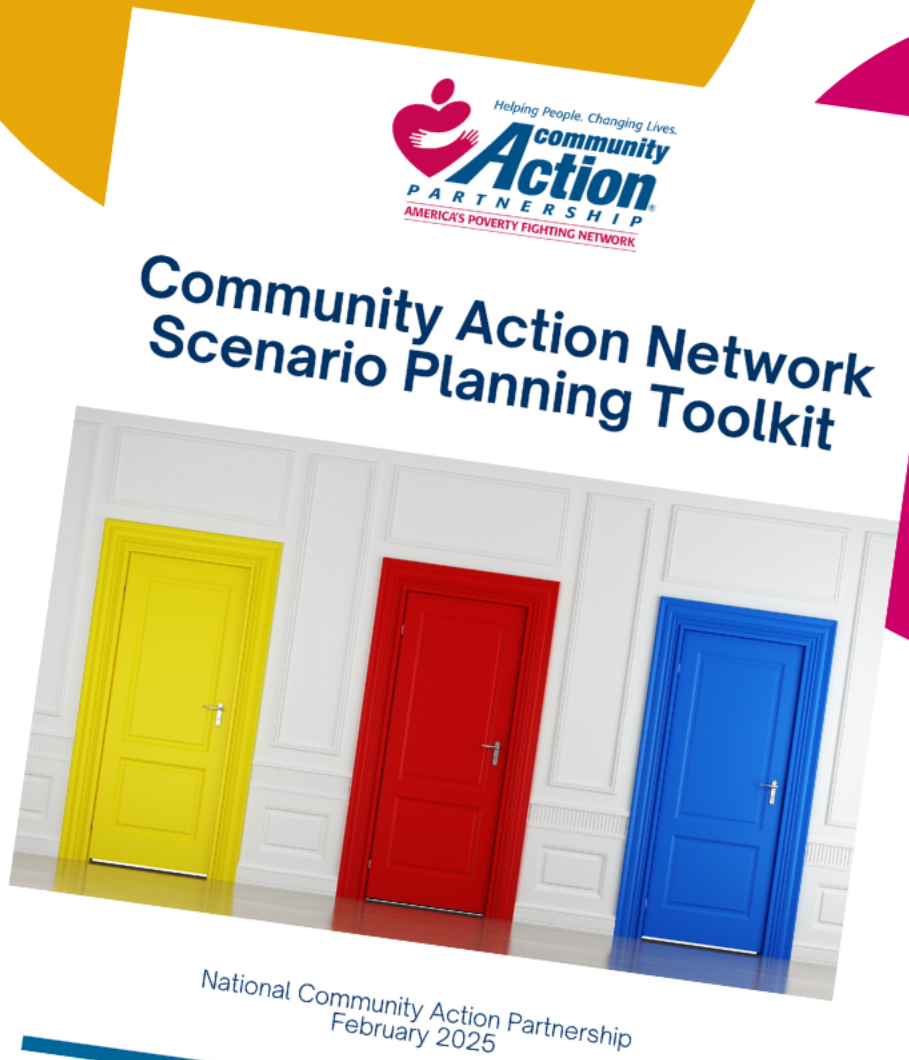
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NEW RESOURCE: NCAP'S SCENARIO PLANNING TOOLKIT

The Scenario Planning Toolkit equips CAAs and State Associations with curated tools and resources to navigate uncertainty.

Use the toolkit to:

- Assess and plan for key impact areas: financial, operations , programmatic, and community.
- Identify challenges, evaluate impacts, and develop strategies for changing conditions.
- Strengthen decision-making and organizational resilience by exploring multiple future scenarios.



Access the Toolkit Here:

Bringing the Possible Future into Focus

Scenario Planning can be used to model or forecast different possibilities to see their impacts on your organization or program

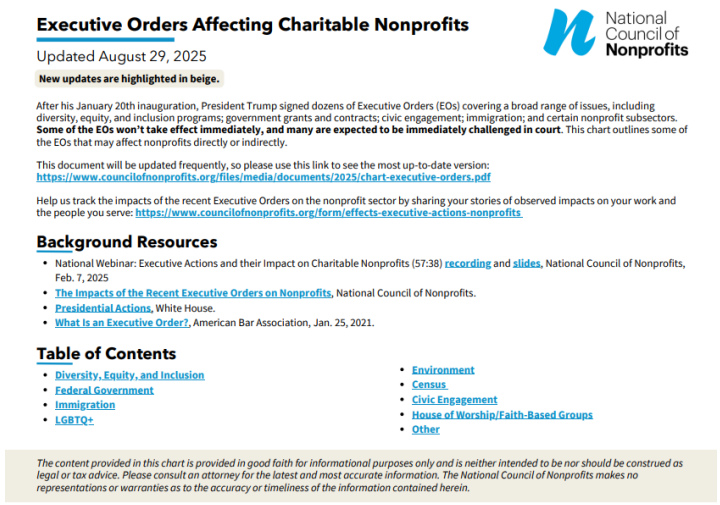
Once visualized, you can create strategies and action plans to implement if the scenario happens.

Scenario Planning typically focuses on financial, but also think about programmatic, operational, and community impacts.



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2025 Policy Trackers



Executive Orders Affecting Charitable Nonprofits

National Council of Nonprofits

Updated August 29, 2025

New updates are highlighted in beige.

After his January 20th inauguration, President Trump signed dozens of Executive Orders (EOs) covering a broad range of issues, including diversity, equity, and inclusion programs; government grants and contracts; civic engagement; immigration; and certain nonprofit subsectors. **Some of the EOs won't take effect immediately, and many are expected to be immediately challenged in court.** This chart outlines some of the EOs that may affect nonprofits directly or indirectly.

This document will be updated frequently, so please use this link to see the most up-to-date version: https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/files/media/documents/2025/chart-executive-orders.pdf

Help us track the impacts of the recent Executive Orders on the nonprofit sector by sharing your stories of observed impacts on your work and the people you serve: https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/form/effects-executive-actions-nonprofits

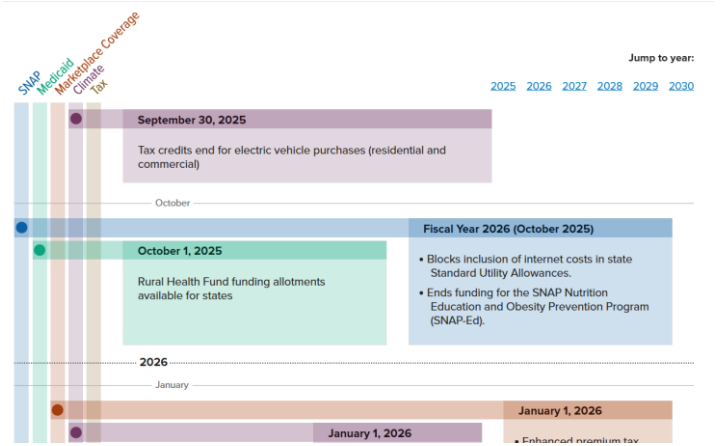
Background Resources

- National Webinar: Executive Actions and their Impact on Charitable Nonprofits (57:38) recording and slides, National Council of Nonprofits, Feb. 7, 2025
- The Impacts of the Recent Executive Orders on Nonprofits, National Council of Nonprofits.
- Presidential Actions, White House.
- What Is an Executive Order?, American Bar Association, Jan. 25, 2021.

Table of Contents

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Federal Government
- Immigration
- LGBTQ+
- Environment
- Census
- Civic Engagement
- House of Worship/Faith-Based Groups
- Other

The content provided in this chart is provided in good faith for informational purposes only and is neither intended to be nor should be construed as legal or tax advice. Please consult an attorney for the latest and most accurate information. The National Council of Nonprofits makes no representations or warranties as to the accuracy or timeliness of the information contained herein.



- CAPLAW - Immigrant Eligibility Resource Collection
- CAPLAW - Analysis of Trump Administration Executive Orders
- CBPP - FAQs on Impoundment and Presidential Actions
- Open OMB – Federal Budget Transparency
- Project 2025 Tracker
- How Budget Reconciliation Works – Center for American Progress
- Chart of Executive Orders – National Council of Nonprofits
- Impacts of Trump Administration Executive Orders – NLIHC
- PIF – Immigration Executive Action Tracker
- Just Security - Litigation Tracker: Legal Challenges to Trump Administration Actions
- CBPP – OB3 Megabill Implementation Timeline

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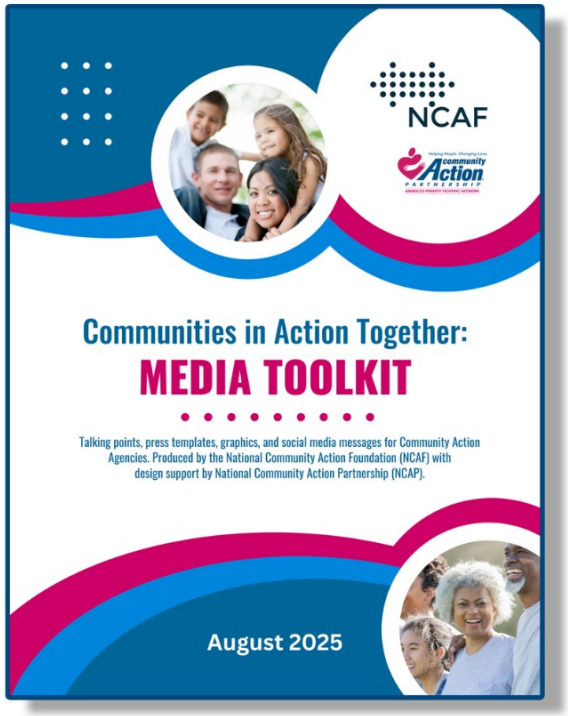
COMMUNITIES IN ACTION TOGETHER
MEDIA TOOLKIT

NCAF

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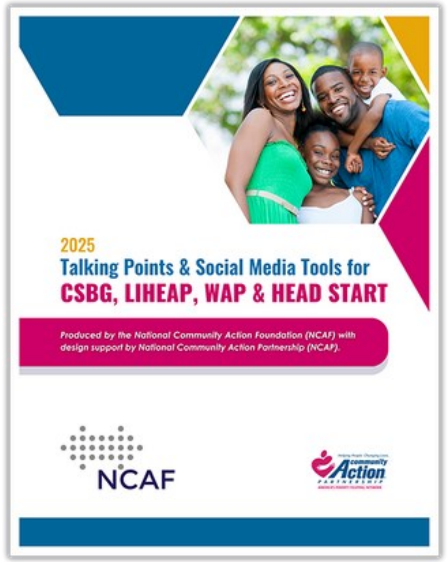
NEW Community Action ADVOCACY RESOURCE!

- Talking Points
- Letter to the Editor / Op-Ed Template
- Media Advisory Template
- Outreach Strategies
- Words to Use / Avoid
- Social Media Tip Sheet
- Social Media Messaging
- Sample Graphics



NCAF Messaging Toolkits

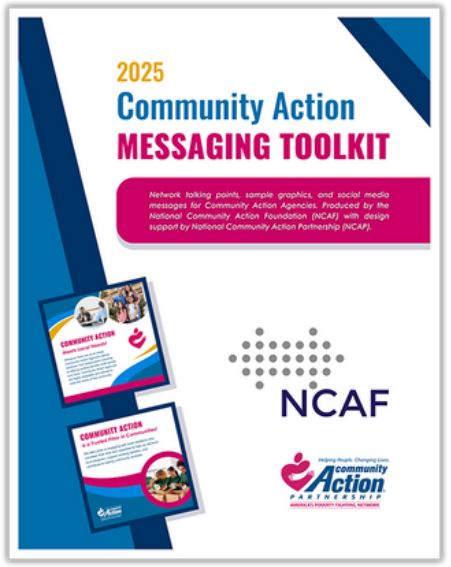
Talking Points & Social Media Tools for CSBG, WAP, LIHEAP & Head Start



This toolkit provides talking points, graphics, and social media messages that address the impact and necessity of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) as well as the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and Head Start.

Access the Talking Points Here:

Community Action Messaging Toolkit



This toolkit provides a collection of network talking points for communicating the critical importance of Community Action Agencies to local communities across the country.

Access the Messaging Toolkit Here:

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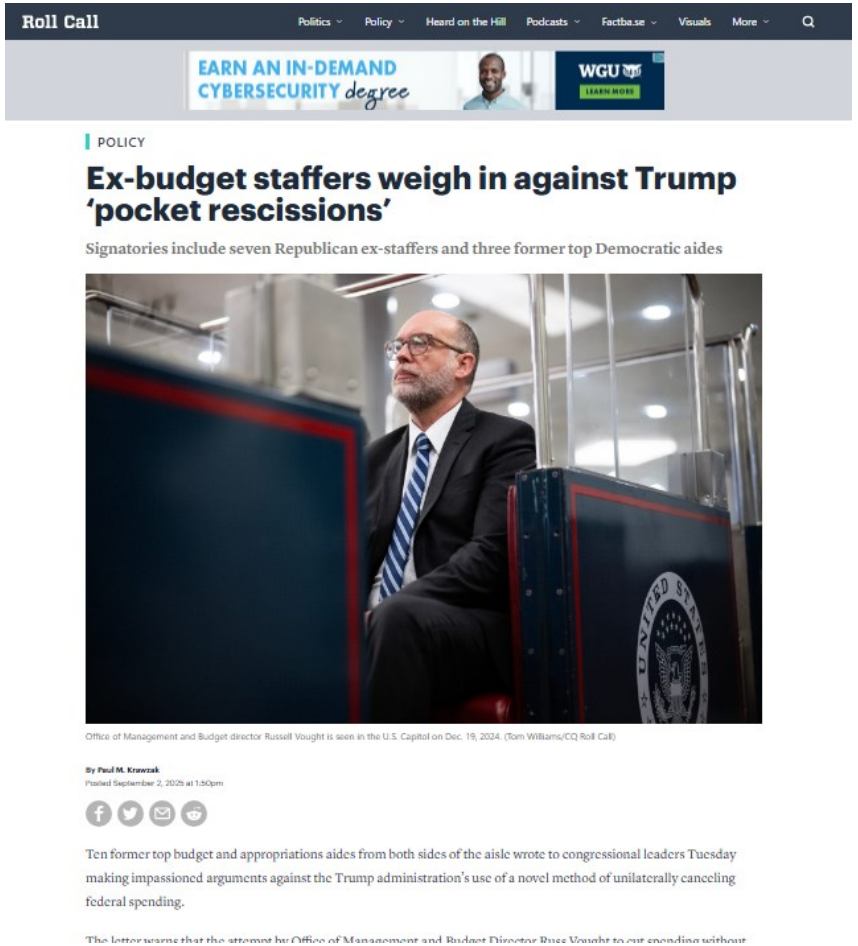


Engage with NCAF!

- Become a member (it's FREE!)
- Subscribe to CAPFacts
- Attend monthly Coffee Chats
- Check: NCAF – Take Action!
- Share info from your meetings with Members of Congress
- Call David to troubleshoot an issue

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General Policy Resources



- Congress.gov
- Federal Register
- Congressional Research Service (CRS)
  - Approps Bill Tracker
- National Conference of State Legislatures
  - Congressional Review Tracker
- National Council of Nonprofits
- PolicySource
- Roll Call – Policy Page
- The Hill

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15 MINUTE PROMISE POWER UP

The Entire Community Action Network Is Invited!

Come to **Connect**,
Be **Inspired**.
Activate **Hope**
Receive **Power.**

SIGN UP FOR THE SEPTEMBER 15TH MEETING TODAY!

2:00pm ET / 1:00pm CT /
12:00pm MT / 11:00am PT

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ED/CEO Roundtables: Responding to the Shifting Landscape

Join NCAP for a continuation of the Roundtable series for current Community Action Executive Directors and CEOs. The Roundtables are designed to provide space for an engaging session where EDs and CEOs will have the opportunity to participate in confidential small group discussions with peers. These Roundtables provide an opportunity to discuss emerging issues, get updates on available tools and resources, and learn effective strategies from your peers. **The Roundtables are exclusively for Executive Directors and CEOs, and pre-registration is required.**



Roundtable 1: Rural CAAs
Date: Wednesday, September 17th
Time: 4:00pm ET | 3:00pm CT | 2:00pm MT | 1:00pm PT

Roundtable 2: All CAAs
Date: Thursday, September 18th
Time: 2:00pm ET | 1:00pm CT | 12:00pm MT | 11:00am PT

Registration Link: https://ncap.users.membersuite.com/home

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NCAP is here to support CAAs



We offer a range of assistance to help CAAs think strategically and stay ready to act. NCAP staff can:

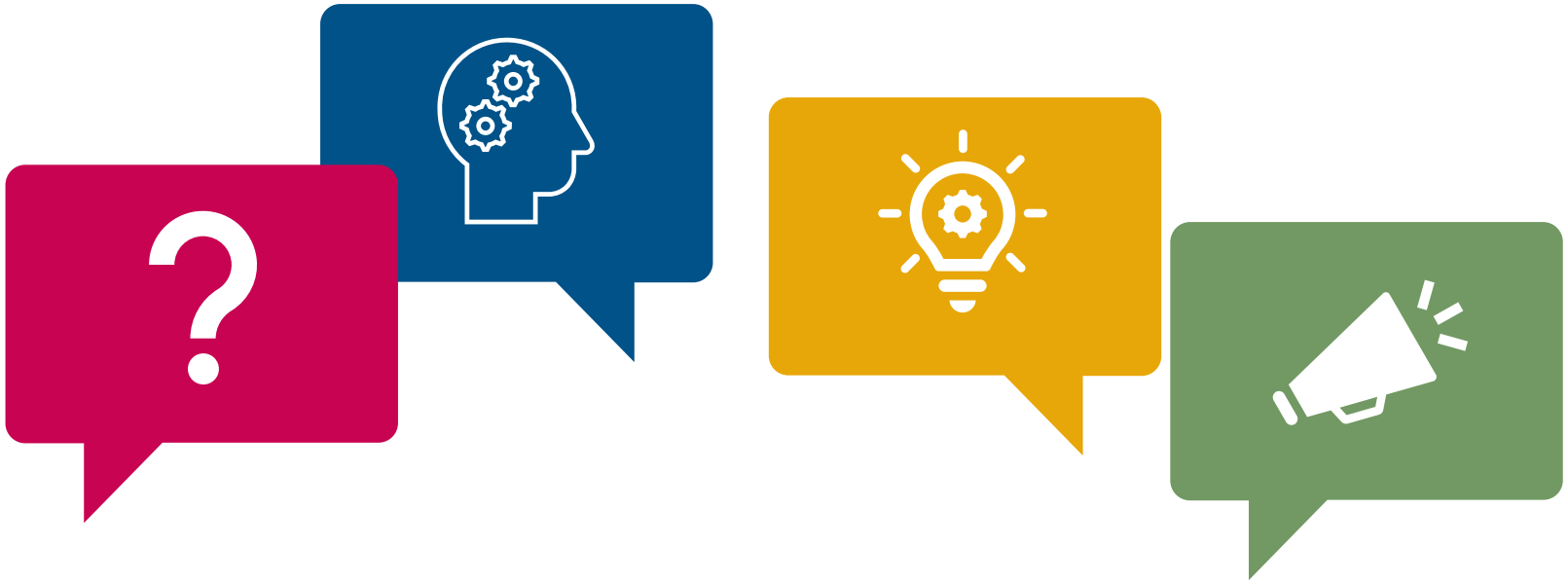
- **Join virtual board or committee meetings** to facilitate discussions on organizational priorities, scenario planning, and board readiness
- **Provide in-person technical assistance** or facilitate meetings and retreats for deeper engagement *(Note: travel and professional service costs would be covered by the CAA)*
- **Connect you to tools, templates, and guidance** tailored to your CAA's needs

Contact us at

CSBG@communityactionpartnership.com

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Questions & Discussion



Thank You!



Contact us at CSBG@communityactionpartnership.com

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