

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

VE

BLOCK GRANTS - MAINE

STATE LIBRARY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

FY '87

COMMUNITY SERVICES
BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE

STATE OF MAINE

AUGUST 23, 1986

Prepared by:

Division of Community Services
Executive Department
Nancy A. Boothby, Director

FEB 17 1987

I. SUBMISSION OF STATE PLAN

Pursuant to Section 675(d) of Subtitle B of Title VI, and Section 1742 of Subtitle C of Title XVII, of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 as amended by the Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1984, the State of Maine submits this State Plan to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The State Plan describes how Maine will carry out the assurances contained in Section 675(c) of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act, and the proposed use of block grant funds to be made by the State, as required by Section 1742. State administration of the block grant will be effective for Fiscal Years 1987 and 1988, October 1, 1986-September 30, 1988.

II. DESIGNATION OF ADMINISTERING AGENCY

Governor Joseph E. Brennan has designated and authorized the Division of Community Services (DCS), Executive Department, State of Maine, to be the single administering agency for the FY '87 CSBG program in the State of Maine. The Division of Community Services has been designated as the State agency responsible for responding to the needs and concerns of low-income people (Maine Community Services Act, as amended, Attachment #1). He has also authorized the Director of DCS to make on his behalf such subsequent certifications of assurances as may be required in the administration of CSBG in Maine.

The address is as follows:

Nancy A. Boothby, Director
Executive Department
Division of Community Services
State House Station #73
Augusta, Maine 04333

The Division of Community Services will delegate responsibility for activities under CSBG to sub-grantees which are designated Community Action Agencies according to Maine's CSBG Rules (Attachment #2) and Sub-grant agreements (Attachment #3).

DCS will make available to sub-grantees opportunities for training and technical assistance and will provide program management guidance including, but not limited to, monitoring and evaluation, policy development and needs assessment techniques, management information systems development, and regulation of financial management including audit requirements. DCS requires all sub-grantees to enter into a contractual agreement with DCS to perform CSBG activities according to the conditions described in the approved State Plan and in compliance with Federal law, HHS regulations and the State's Community Services Block Grant Rules adopted under the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

III. LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS

In accordance with the Federal requirement of Section 655 (b) of the Community Services Block Grant Act that State legislatures conduct public hearings on the proposed use and distribution of CSBG monies, the Maine House and Senate Appropriations Committees held a hearing on May 17, 1985. State of Maine FY'86 block grant budgets resulting from the hearing were signed into law by Governor Joseph E. Brennan and can be found in Chapter 49, Private & Special Laws 1985 (Attachment #4).

IV. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

For Fiscal Year 1987, not less than 90 percent of the funds allotted to the State under Section 674 will be utilized to make grants for the purposes described to the twelve organizations which have been officially designated as Community Action Agencies under the provisions of the Maine CSBG Rules, Section 1.3 (Attachment #2). Not more than 7% of the CSBG funds shall be granted to organizations which were not eligible during the previous fiscal year.

Funds will be distributed to those Community Action Agencies on the basis of an equitable formula that provides an equal base allocation of 20% of available funds. The remainder is allocated in conformance with the CSBG Rules, Section 1.10.

The Division of Community Services will not expend more than 5% of its allotment under Section 674 for its administrative expenses at the State level.

Maine does not intend to transfer funds under Section 674, for the provisions set forth in this subtitle to services under the Older Americans Act of 1965, the Head Start Program, the Energy Crisis Intervention Program or the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program. It does intend, however, to set aside a discretionary fund not to exceed 5% of its allotment.

V. GOALS

Maine has established the following as goals for the FY'87 Community Services Block Grant program. Maine intends:

- A. To deliver financial support, training, and technical assistance to Maine's 12 Community Action Agencies consistent with the mandated purposes of the Community Services Block Grant program.
- B. To coordinate and establish linkages between governmental and private efforts facilitating the efficient delivery of services to low-income people.

- C. To encourage and enhance the participation of low-income people in funding decisions, program evaluations and project development.
- D. To carry out statewide assessments of those management systems which were established to provide social services, identifying barriers and obstacles which block the achievement of greater self-reliance for low-income people.
- E. To provide to community based organizations statewide support and resources for the creation of innovative methods of addressing unmet needs faced by low-income people in each service area.

VI. GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS

The entire geography of the State of Maine is served by the twelve Community Action Agencies (Attachments #5 & #6). In addition to the CSBG, the Division of Community Services also administers the Low Income Energy Assistance Program, the Low Income Weatherization Program, the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program and State Head Start. Most of the programs are sub-granted to the twelve Community Action Agencies.

Overall, the basic characteristics of individuals that may be served are those persons and families in the State of Maine whose income falls at or below 150% of the official poverty line established by the Director of OMB.

VII. ACTIVITIES TO BE SUPPORTED

Governor Joseph E. Brennan has agreed that the funds available under this grant program will be utilized as set forth in Section 675(c) of the Act:

- A. To provide a range of services and activities having a measurable and potentially major impact on causes of poverty in the community or those areas of the community where poverty is a particularly acute problem;
- B. To provide activities designed to assist low-income participants including the elderly poor
 - 1) to secure and retain meaningful employment;
 - 2) to attain an adequate education;
 - 3) to make better use of available income;

- 4) to obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment;
 - 5) to obtain emergency assistance through loans or grants to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs, including the need for health services, nutritious food, housing and employment related assistance;
 - 6) to remove obstacles and solve problems which block the achievement of self-sufficiency;
 - 7) to achieve greater participation in the affairs of the community; and
 - 8) to make more effective use of other programs related to the purposes of this subtitle.
- C. To provide on an emergency basis for the provision of such supplies and services, nutritious foodstuffs, and related services, as may be necessary to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among the poor.
- D. To coordinate and establish linkages between governmental and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of such services to low-income individuals.
- E. To encourage the use of entities in the private sector of the community in efforts to ameliorate poverty in the community

VIII. USE OF FUNDS FOR FY '86

A description of how the State has met the goals, objectives and needs in the use of funds for FY'86 as identified in the report prepared for FY'86 is found in Attachment 7.

IX. ASSURANCES

The State will carry out the assurances contained in Section 675 (c) of the Community Services Block Grant Act in accordance with the Rules and the Sub-Grant Agreements (Attachments #2 & #3).

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Notice of a hearing on the Draft Plan was placed in Maine's major daily newspapers stating that copies were available at DCS for public review. Copies were sent to all interested parties of record and to others upon request. A copy of the published notice is found at Attachment 8. All comments received were considered in developing the Plan.