

Jefferson County  
2011 Letter of Interest  
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)  
SECTION 1 (Fillable Form/No Points)

**The goal of the Community Services Block Grant is to provide financial support for programs that have a measurable and potentially significant impact on the causes and effects of poverty. CSBG funds are limited to assisting individuals/families whose incomes do not exceed 125% of poverty level. The deadline for submission is 3:00 pm Friday, July 9, 2010. **PLEASE PROVIDE 1 HARD COPY AND 1 CD OF ENTIRE SUBMITTAL.****

1. Organization Name:

Address:

Contact Person for this Letter of Interest:

Phone:

E-Mail:

2. Mission Statement:

3. The applicant is a:

501(c)(3)

Housing Authority

Governmental Agency

Quasi-Governmental Agency

4. Amount of Funds Requested: \$

5. Which Jefferson County Goal does this project address?

a. Fiscally Responsible Government

b. Quality Customer Service

c. Safe Communities

d. Predictable Growth

e. Mobility Options

6. The focus of 2011 CSBG funds is in meeting National Goal #6: Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments, specifically within National Indicator 6.2, Emergency Assistance (see National Indicators Summary, attached, for further detail). Please briefly describe how your program will provide emergency services and ultimately help move people toward self-sufficiency.

Jefferson County  
2011 Letter of Interest  
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)  
SECTION 2 (Point Section)

**PLEASE LIMIT THIS SECTION TO 2 PAGES**

(you may use separate sheets of paper for this section)

1. Provide a 250 word abstract describing your project or program. *(30 points)*
2. Describe the problem and provide data/factual evidence and list sources. *(20 points)*
3. How will your proposal specifically address this problem? *(10 points)*
4. What are the outcomes that will indicate that you are addressing the problem? *(10 points)*
5. Describe who and why you targeted the population identified in your proposal; include things such as age, gender, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. *(10 points)*
6. How many people will be assisted through your project/proposal and what is the cost per served party? *(10 points)*
7. How will you collect data and measure effectiveness? Provide an assessment plan. *(10 points)*

Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Directors

# CSBG NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

## **GOAL 1: LOW-INCOME PEOPLE BECOME MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT**

### National Performance Indicator 1.1

#### **Employment**

The number and percentage of low-income participants in Community Action employment initiatives who get a job or become self-employed, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Unemployed and obtained a job
- B. Employed and maintained a job for at least 90 days
- C. Employed and obtained an increase in employment income and/or benefits
- D. Achieved "living wage" employment and/or benefits

### National Performance Indicator 1.2

#### **Employment Supports**

The number of low-income participants for whom barriers to initial or continuous employment are reduced or eliminated through assistance from Community Action, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Obtained skills/competencies required for employment
- B. Completed ABE/GED and received certificate or diploma
- C. Completed post-secondary education program and obtained certificate or diploma
- D. Enrolled children in before or after school programs
- E. Obtained care for child or other dependant
- F. Obtained access to reliable transportation and/or driver's license
- G. Obtained health care services for themselves or family member
- H. Obtained safe and affordable housing
- I. Obtained food assistance
- J. Obtained non-emergency LIHEAP energy assistance
- K. Obtained non-emergency WX energy assistance
- L. Obtained other non-emergency energy assistance (State/local/private energy programs. Do Not Include LIHEAP or WX)

### National Performance Indicator 1.3

#### **Economic Asset ENHANCEMENT and Utilization**

The number and percentage of low-income households that achieve an increase in financial assets and/or financial skills as a result of Community Action assistance, and the aggregated amount of those assets and resources for all participants achieving the outcome, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A.1. Number and percent of participants in tax preparation programs who qualified for any type of Federal or State tax credit and the expected aggregated dollar amount of credits
- A.2. Number and percent of participants who obtained court-ordered child support payments and the expected annual aggregated dollar amount of payments
- A.3. Number and percent of participants who were enrolled in telephone lifeline and/or energy discounts with the assistance of the agency and the expected aggregated dollar amount of savings

#### **Economic Asset Enhancement and UTILIZATION**

- B.1. Number and percent of participants demonstrating ability to complete and maintain a budget for over 90 days
- B.2. Number and percent of participants opening an Individual Development Account (IDA) or other savings account
- B.3. Number and percent of participants who increased their savings through IDA or other savings accounts and the aggregated amount of savings
- B.4. Of participants in a Community Action assets development program (IDA and others):
  - a) Number and percent of participants capitalizing a small business with accumulated savings
  - b) Number and percent of participants pursuing post-secondary education with accumulated savings
  - c) Number and percent of participants purchasing a home with accumulated savings
  - d) Number and percent of participants purchasing other assets with accumulated savings

## **CSBG NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

### **GOAL 2: THE CONDITIONS IN WHICH LOW-INCOME PEOPLE LIVE ARE IMPROVED**

#### **National Performance Indicator 2.1**

##### **Community Improvement and Revitalization**

Increase in, or safeguarding of, threatened opportunities and community resources or services for low-income people in the community as a result of Community Action projects/initiatives or advocacy with other public and private agencies, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Jobs created, or saved, from reduction or elimination in the community
- B. Accessible "living wage" jobs created, or saved, from reduction or elimination in the community
- C. Safe and affordable housing units created in the community
- D. Safe and affordable housing units in the community preserved or improved through construction, weatherization or rehabilitation achieved by Community Action activity or advocacy
- E. Accessible safe and affordable health care services/facilities for low-income people created, or saved from reduction or elimination
- F. Accessible safe and affordable child care or child development placement opportunities for low-income families created, or saved from reduction or elimination
- G. Accessible before-school and after-school program placement opportunities for low-income families created, or saved from reduction or elimination
- H. Accessible new or expanded transportation resources, or those that are saved from reduction or elimination, that are available to low-income people, including public or private transportation
- I. Accessible or increased educational and training placement opportunities, or those that are saved from reduction or elimination, that are available for low-income people in the community, including vocational, literacy, and life skill training, ABE/GED, and post secondary education

#### **National Performance Indicator 2.2**

##### **Community Quality of Life and Assets**

The quality of life and assets in low-income neighborhoods are improved by Community Action initiative or advocacy, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Increases in community assets as a result of a change in law, regulation or policy, which results in improvements in quality of life and assets
- B. Increase in the availability or preservation of community facilities
- C. Increase in the availability or preservation of community services to improve public health and safety
- D. Increase in the availability or preservation of commercial services within low-income neighborhoods
- E. Increase in or preservation of neighborhood quality-of-life resources

#### **National Performance Indicator 2.3**

##### **Community Engagement**

The number of community members working with Community Action to improve conditions in the community.

- A. Number of community members mobilized by Community Action that participate in community revitalization and anti-poverty initiatives
- B. Number of volunteer hours donated to the agency (This will be ALL volunteer hours)

#### **National Performance Indicator 2.4**

##### **Employment Growth from ARRA Funds**

The total number of jobs created or saved, at least in part by ARRA funds, in the community.

- A. Jobs created at least in part by ARRA funds
- B. Jobs saved at least in part by ARRA funds

## **CSBG NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

### **GOAL 3: LOW-INCOME PEOPLE OWN A STAKE IN THEIR COMMUNITY**

#### **National Performance Indicator 3.1**

##### **Community Enhancement through Maximum Feasible Participation**

The number of volunteer hours donated to Community Action.

Total number of volunteer hours donated by low-income individuals to Community Action (This is ONLY the number of volunteer hours from individuals who are low-income.)

#### **National Performance Indicator 3.2**

##### **Community Empowerment through Maximum Feasible Participation**

The number low-income people mobilized as a direct result of Community Action initiative to engage in activities that support and promote their own well-being and that of their community, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Number of low-income people participating in formal community organizations, government, boards or councils that provide input to decision-making and policy-setting through Community Action efforts
- B. Number of low-income people acquiring businesses in their community as a result of Community Action assistance
- C. Number of low-income people purchasing their own home in their community as a result of Community Action assistance
- D. Number of low-income people engaged in non-governance community activities or groups created or supported by Community Action

### **GOAL 4: PARTNERSHIPS AMONG SUPPORTERS AND PROVIDERS OF SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME PEOPLE ARE ACHIEVED**

#### **National Performance Indicator 4.1**

##### **Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships**

The number of organizations, both public and private, that Community Action actively works with to expand resources and opportunities in order to achieve family and community outcomes.

- A. Non-Profit
- B. Faith Based
- C. Local Government
- D. State Government
- E. Federal Government
- F. For-Profit Business or Corporation
- G. Consortiums/Collaboration
- H. Housing Consortiums/Collaboration
- I. School Districts
- J. Institutions of post secondary education/training
- K. Financial/Banking Institutions
- L. Health Service Institutions
- M. State wide associations or collaborations

### **GOAL 5: AGENCIES INCREASE THEIR CAPACITY TO ACHIEVE RESULTS**

#### **National Performance Indicator 5.1**

##### **Agency Development**

The number of human capital resources available to Community Action that increase agency capacity to achieve family and community outcomes, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Number of C-CAPs
- B. Number of ROMA Trainers

## **CSBG NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- C. Number of Family Development Trainers
- D. Number of Child Development Trainers
- E. Number of staff attending trainings
- F. Number of board members attending trainings
- G. Hours of staff in trainings
- H. Hours of board members in trainings

### **GOAL 6: LOW-INCOME PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL BY STRENGTHENING FAMILY AND OTHER SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS**

#### **National Performance Indicator 6.1**

##### **Independent Living**

The number of vulnerable individuals receiving services from Community Action who maintain an independent living situation as a result of those services:

- A. Senior Citizens (seniors can be reported twice, once under Senior Citizens and again if they are disabled under Individuals with Disabilities, ages 55-over)
- B. Individuals with Disabilities
  - Ages:
  - 0-17
  - 18-54
  - 55-over

#### **National Performance Indicator 6.2**

##### **Emergency Assistance**

The number of low-income individuals served by Community Action who sought emergency assistance and the number of those individuals for whom assistance was provided, including such services as:

- A. Emergency Food
- B. Emergency fuel or utility payments funded by LIHEAP or other public and private funding sources
- C. Emergency Rent or Mortgage Assistance
- D. Emergency Car or Home Repair (i.e. structural, appliance, heating system, etc.)
- E. Emergency Temporary Shelter
- F. Emergency Medical Care
- G. Emergency Protection from Violence
- H. Emergency Legal Assistance
- I. Emergency Transportation
- J. Emergency Disaster Relief
- K. Emergency Clothing

#### **National Performance Indicator 6.3**

##### **Child and Family Development**

The number and percentage of all infants, children, youth, parents, and other adults participating in developmental or enrichment programs who achieve program goals, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A.1. Infants and children obtain age-appropriate immunizations, medical, and dental care
- A.2. Infant and child health and physical development are improved as a result of adequate nutrition
- A.3. Children participate in pre-school activities to develop school readiness skills
- A.4. Children who participate in pre-school activities are developmentally ready to enter Kindergarten or 1st Grade
  
- B.1. Youth improve health and physical development
- B.2. Youth improve social/emotional development
- B.3. Youth avoid risk-taking behavior for a defined period of time
- B.4. Youth have reduced involvement with criminal justice system
- B.5. Youth increase academic, athletic, or social skills for school success

## **CSBG NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- C.1. Parents and other adults learn and exhibit improved parenting skills
- C.2. Parents and other adults learn and exhibit improved family functioning skills

### National Performance Indicator 6.4

#### **Family Supports (Seniors, Disabled and Caregivers)**

Low-income people who are unable to work, especially seniors, adults with disabilities, and caregivers, for whom barriers to family stability are reduced or eliminated, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Enrolled children in before or after school programs
- B. Obtained care for child or other dependant
- C. Obtained access to reliable transportation and/or driver's license
- D. Obtained health care services for themselves or family member
- E. Obtained safe and affordable housing
- F. Obtained food assistance
- G. Obtained non-emergency LIHEAP energy assistance
- H. Obtained non-emergency WX energy assistance
- I. Obtained other non-emergency energy assistance (State/local/private energy programs. Do Not Include LIHEAP or WX)

### National Performance Indicator 6.5

#### **Service Counts**

The number of services provided to low-income individuals and/or families, as measured by one or more of the following:

- A. Food Boxes
- B. Pounds of Food
- C. Units of Clothing
- D. Rides Provided
- E. Information and Referral Calls

## Stride - 2011 Letter of Interest - Jefferson County Community Services Block Grant

### 1. Provide a 250 word abstract describing your project or program. (30 points)

Stride is a community-based organization devoted to providing support services to low-income and homeless families in Jefferson County. Stride's focus is helping families enhance their strengths and capabilities leading to family stability and success. Since its inception, Stride has provided over 900 families with supportive services leading to self-sufficiency. In 1990, community agencies and individuals came together to form Stride to serve as the agency that would bridge the service gaps in the community that were preventing families from becoming self-sufficient and in 1991, Stride received its 501(c)(3) status. Stride was created to promote education and guidance to families facing hardships, some of which were and are dependent on government programs.

Stride uses individualized case management and other supportive services to help families become self-sufficient. Stride services focus on the long-term goal of family stability and self-sufficiency. Stride accomplishes this through life skills, employment training and connecting families to educational and community resources that are tailored to meet each family's unique needs and abilities. Stride focuses on solution-based case management that builds on family strengths. Stride offers families housing assistance, financial assistance, emergency support services interventions, tutoring and support of after school programs for the children of participants. Stride also offers group sessions on domestic violence and conflict management, financial literacy classes, Individual Development Accounts (IDA's) to help families build assets, homeownership programs and free, refurbished computers for families promoting access to technology to assist in advancement in schools and in their careers.

### 2. Describe the problem and provide data/factual evidence and list sources. (20 points)

During these economic times, people across the nation are experiencing job loss, wage, hour and benefit cuts, and increasing prices for homes, rent, food, and basic needs. According to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, Colorado's current unemployment rate is 8% and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics although housing costs have decreased slightly, food and energy costs continue to increase. According to the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative 2009 Point in Time Survey, homeless families have increased in Jefferson County, since 2007 and many of these families are first-time homeless. Over 11,000 are homeless in Colorado and 46.3% are families.

Families that in the past have been able to maintain stability are increasingly becoming homeless and needing to access services that they have not needed to access in the past. As more and more families continue to experience instability, the capacity of existing service agencies in Jefferson County to serve all of those in need is reduced and services have become even more limited. Additionally across the board cuts in funding for programs that service those in need is increasing the numbers of families in crisis and reducing available services for those families.

For the families participating in Stride's programs and experiencing crisis situations, this means that they are less able to recover because the needed services are just not available.

### 3. How will your proposal specifically address this problem? (10 points)

Through Stride being able to provide additional emergency support service interventions of food, clothing, rent and utility assistance, car repair and transportation to families participating in Stride programs will reduce the need in the community for services. Access to emergency supportive services through Stride will help families quickly recover in times of crisis, not burden already overburdened community agencies and help families maintain their path to self-sufficiency effectively reducing their need for services in the community over the long run. Stride not only

provides the financial mechanisms for families to recover in crisis situations but also provides the on-going support for families to maintain that recovery and improve their overall stability.

4. What are the outcomes that will indicate that you are addressing the problem?  
(10 points)

**Family Self-Sufficiency Program**

1. 80% of current families will meet or exceed the goals of their self-sufficiency plan
2. 90% of current families will be employed or actively involved in education, job training, or job search activities
3. 70% of Stride Self-Sufficiency Program families will successfully graduate, by maintaining stable, full-time employment.

**Transitional Housing**

1. 80% of current families will meet or exceed the goals of their self-sufficiency plan
2. 90% of current families will be employed or actively involved in education, job training, or job search activities
3. 50% of Stride Homeless Program families will successfully graduate, by obtaining permanent housing and increasing their income.

5. Describe who and why you targeted the population identified in your proposal; include things such as: age, gender, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. (10 points)

Stride works with low-income and homeless families with an adult (18 years of age or older) head of household and dependent children in Jefferson County. Demographics of Stride participants are Jefferson County Residents who are 90% single mothers, 33% Caucasian, 40 % Hispanic, 12% Black, 3% Native American and 6% other. The majority are previously homeless and 100% are below the median income.

6. How many people will be assisted through your project/proposal and what is the cost per served party?(10 points)

Stride will provide thirty families emergency supportive service intervention at a cost of approximately \$250.00 per family.

7. How will you collect data and measure effectiveness? Provide an assessment plan. (10 points)

Stride's evaluation methodology relies primarily on actual outcome statistics – is the client working, how much she/he is earning, etc., has the client achieved permanent housing. On a quarterly basis, program staff gathers client-based information that is then evaluated against Stride's objectives. Quarterly progress on Stride's objectives is reviewed by case management and management staff and used to develop strategies to address families who are having difficulty meeting Stride's objectives. Case managers meet with clients regularly and track the family's needs.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Directors