

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Date:

Contact:
Phone number

WHITE HOUSE BUDGET SLASHES CORE FUNDING FOR YOUR (COUNTY/CITY NAME)
(INSERT LOCAL SERVICES – e.g. food services, Headstart) to be impacted

As Congress debates the Federal Budget, programs which fund services for low-income residents of (YOUR) county could be slated for dramatic reductions. Proposed cuts to Community Services Block Grants (CSBG), a critical source of funding for services provided to the low income community will have a direct and negative impact on thousands of families served by the (AGENCY NAME).

CSBG funding is the “glue” that pulls community services together into one viable, cohesive program, enabling (AGENCY NAME) to run its (INSERT YOUR PROGRAMS e.g. - Food Bank, Housing Programs), and other supportive services for those in need.

Important initiatives that help low-wage workers, their families and retirees protect their homes from foreclosure, receive transportation to medical appointments, train for a new job, eat a healthy, nutritious home delivered meal, and receive referrals, education and support for foster parents are now at risk due to the proposed CSBG cuts announced in President Obama’s budget proposal. If the CSBG funding is slashed as proposed, many of the agency’s programs and services will be reduced or eliminated.

Insert Your own Quotation – Sample: *“Congress needs to hear why these services are important to our community, and what will happen to people in the current economic crisis if their self sufficiency is eliminated,” states (Community Action Director NAME). “CSBG creates opportunities for all members of our community. CSBG helps people find jobs, get educated and become secure. However, a cut of this magnitude will mean severe losses to those in need in our community at a time when the need for our services has never been greater.”*

During the last two years, (AGENCY NAME) has seen a greater number of customers who have never needed services before. These include growing numbers of suburban and rural residents who have lost jobs and retirees who are struggling on fixed incomes.

(AGENCY NAME’s) many partners include (LIST HERE). “The loss of CSBG will impact our entire community. The ripple effect will be far-reaching because the impact of these programs is so deep and so strong. The CSBG funds allow us to pursue new ideas and initiatives to meet community needs,” said (NAME).

Without CSBG, (AGENCY NAME) ability to develop and build new programs and respond to emerging needs would be significantly reduced. CSBG-funded programs pay off many times over as they get people working and paying taxes, prevent expensive emergency shelter placements and keep low-income community residents off the unemployment and welfare rolls, at huge savings to taxpayers.

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