

Community Services Block Grant Fact Sheet

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2026

PURPOSE

To provide assistance to states and local communities, working through a network of Community Action Agencies (CAAs), for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals to become fully self-sufficient.

In Connecticut, the Department of Social Services (DSS) administers the block grant and uses these federal resources to support services and activities for individuals and families with low incomes that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities.

FUNDING

Federal law requires that at least 90% of the funds made available to the state be administered through grants to organizations that meet the statutory definition of “eligible entities.” In Connecticut, there are currently nine CAAs, each with a specified service area, that qualify as eligible entities under federal law and are thus designated to receive CSBG funding.

Federal funding for FFY 2026 has not yet been finalized; the federal funding allocation for Connecticut for FFY 2026 is estimated to be **\$9,235,789**, which is equal to the state’s final FFY 2025 allocation. This plan proposes to expend \$10,341,803, which includes \$1,106,014 in federal block grant carryforward funds.

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES’ BOARD REQUIREMENTS

- **Maintain Tripartite Composition:** At least 1/3 public officials (or designees); at least 1/3 low-income individuals or representatives (democratically selected); and remaining members from major groups and interests in the community served.
- **Maintain Size:** Minimum 15 and maximum 51.
- **Roles/Responsibilities:** Tripartite Board must fully participate in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of the program(s) to serve low-income communities.

MONITORING AND PAYMENTS

- **Monitoring:** DSS conducts on-site and remote monitoring reviews which include but are not limited to: CSBG triennial review; client file, data, and financial reviews; annual Center of Excellence Organizational Standards review; and Community Action Plan reviews.
- **Payments:** DSS issues quarterly payments based upon the receipt and approval of required financial and statistical reports.

CSBG EXPENDITURE DOMAINS: CAA expenditures must fall within at least one of the following ten domains:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employment 2. Education and Cognitive Development 3. Income, Infrastructure, and Asset Building 4. Housing 5. Health and Social/Behavioral Development (includes nutrition) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement 7. Services Supporting Multiple Domains 8. Linkages (e.g., partnerships that support multiple domains) 9. Agency Capacity Building 10. "Other" (e.g., emergency management/disaster relief) |
|--|---|

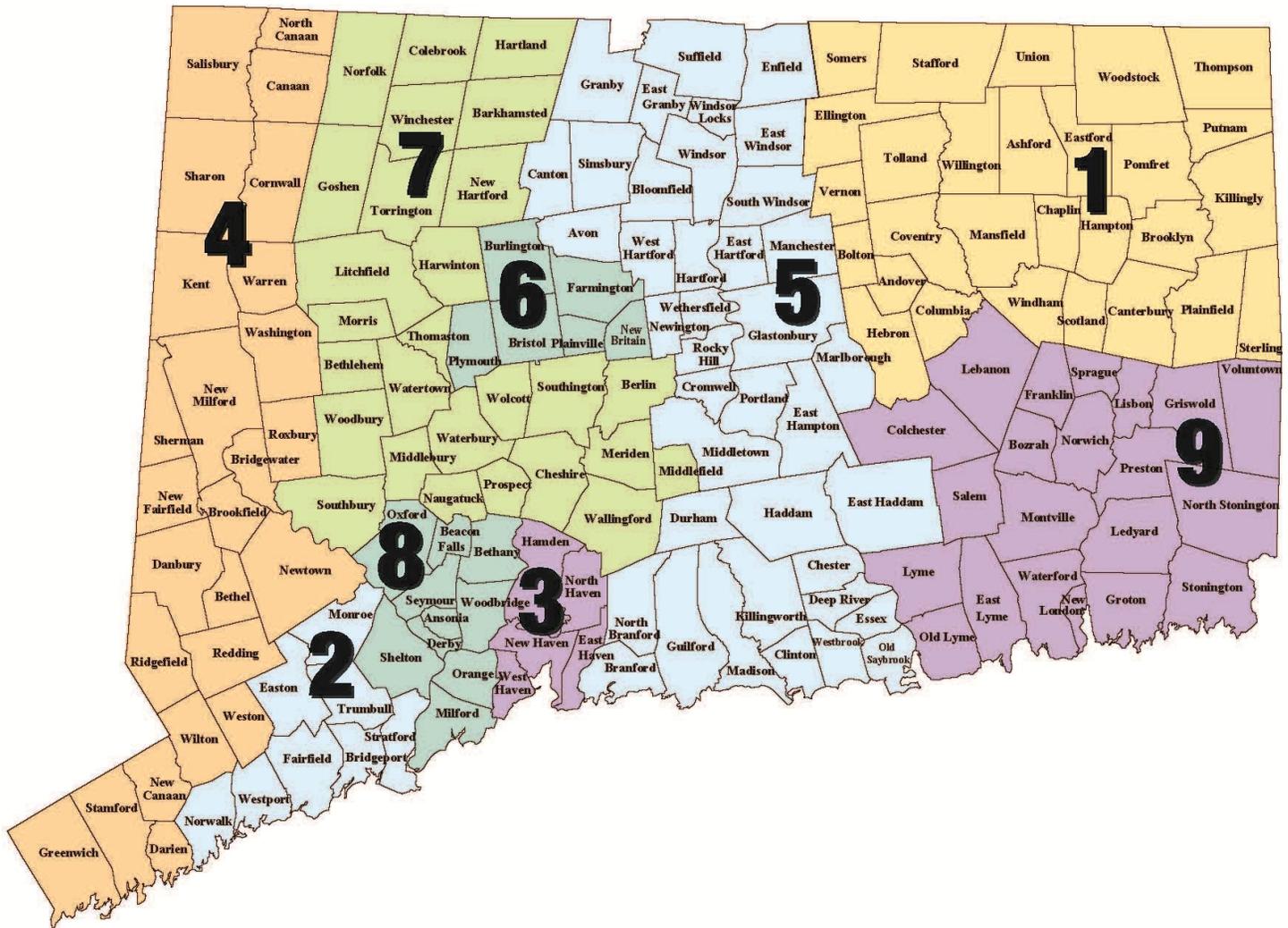
INCOME ELIGIBILITY:

Households must have annual incomes at or below 125% of the federal poverty level (\$40,187.50 for a family of 4), unless explicitly exempted from the income requirement in the approved allocation plan.

125% Federal Poverty Level Guidelines	
Household Size	Annual Amounts 2025*
1	\$19,562.50
2	\$26,437.50
3	\$33,312.50
4	\$40,187.50
5	\$47,062.50
6	\$53,937.50
7	\$60,812.50
8	\$67,687.50

* Source: Federal Register, Vol.90, No.11, January 17, 2025

Connecticut's Community Action Agency (CAA) Network Service Map*



1. Access Community Action Agency (Access)
2. Alliance for Community Empowerment, Inc. (ALLIANCE)
3. Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH)
4. Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut, Inc. (CAAWC)
5. Community Renewal Team, Inc. (CRT)
6. Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. (HRA)
7. New Opportunities, Inc. (NOI)
8. TEAM, Inc.
9. Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA)

* Map provided by the CT Association for Community Action

FFY 2024 Activity



CT CSBG NETWORK RESOURCES

For every \$1 of CSBG, the CT Network leveraged **\$25.22** from federal, state, local and private sources.

\$10,093,793 in CSBG funds were expended in support of the core activities of the CT CSBG Network

\$18.56	Federal
\$ 4.63	State
\$ 0.31	Local
\$ 1.72	Private
<hr/>	
\$25.22	Total

CT's CAA Network's non-CSBG funding totaled \$254,265,041.

CLIENTS SERVED

CT CAAs provided services to 238,713 low-income individuals.

12% of families served by the CT CAA Network lived between 51% - 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG).

50% of families served by the CT CAA Network lived below 50% of the FPG.

All data from the FFY 2024 CSBG Annual Report (pending HHS approval).