



# Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation

Carl Rosenkranz, Executive Director

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Empowering People, Enriching Communities [www.oac.ac](http://www.oac.ac)

MARCH 26, 2019

## OZARKS AREA COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLUTION TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE PROPOSED FEDERAL BUDGET FOR FFY2020 AND ITS EFFECT ON OACAC PROGRAMS

Whereas, the Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) operates the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) in its ten county service area in Southwest Missouri that have been directly targeted for elimination in the President's Proposed FFY2020 Budget.

Whereas, OACAC's Mission is to enrich the lives of families and individuals within our communities by providing opportunities, offering assistance and empowering people to make positive change and these four programs provide a variety of services for low-income people to assist them in becoming more self-sufficient and in improving their quality of life.

Whereas, as an example, the OACAC Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) funded through the Corporation for National and Community Services (CNCS) in OACAC's ten county area and four other counties had over 60 Foster Grandparents who served in 34 volunteer stations for a total of 61,614 hours and helped 325 children improve reading and math skills with limited funding and staff in the 2017-18 program year.

Whereas, as an example, the OACAC Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) funded by the federal Department of Energy through the Missouri Department of Economic Development Division of Energy and LIHEAP provided free Weatherization services to improve energy efficiency, affordability, health and safety living conditions for 156 eligible low-income residents primarily with DOE funds and with other funding sources including LIHEAP funds that were transferred to the Weatherization Program in Missouri, providing an additional source of revenue to weatherize homes in the 2017-18 program year.

Whereas, as an example, the OACAC LIHEAP Program (both Energy Assistance and Energy Crisis), not an entitlement program, funded by DHHS through the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division allowed OACAC to provide services designed to address energy crises and target vulnerable low-income populations for 22,320 income eligible households in the 2017-18 program year.

Whereas, as an example, the OACAC Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) funded by DHHS through the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division operates ten Neighborhood/Community Centers in its ten county area which are the first point of contact for people seeking assistance in a variety of income eligible programs and activities including intakes, assessments and referrals, Life Skills classes, Back to School Fairs and Commodity Food and also provides the OACAC Reality Enrichment and Life Lessons (REALL) Program and the Vocational Opportunities Inspiring Children In Elementary (VOICE) Experience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OACAC will continue to focus on the work being done in our programs, and carry out our Mission because we believe that poverty is not a partisan issue and we believe in the value of assisting families and individuals to improve their quality of life. OACAC encourages all agencies and individuals to let your elected officials in Missouri and in Washington, D. C. know about the value of OACAC Programs and their economic and programmatic contributions to the communities in the OACAC ten county area in Southwest Missouri. We do not want people to have to make choices about basic needs regarding food, utilities, medicine, living conditions and anything else related to quality of life. In the event these four OACAC programs were eliminated, low-income people would be placed in very challenging positions regarding the need to do more with fewer resources, become self-sufficient overnight or suffer the consequences of not being able to maintain a decent quality of life.

This Board Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation's Board of Directors on Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

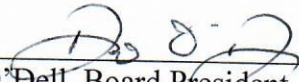


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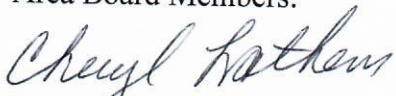



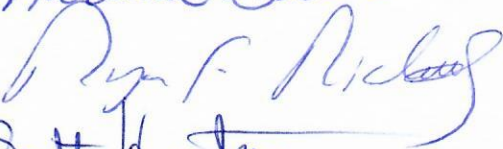

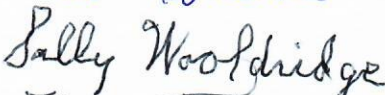
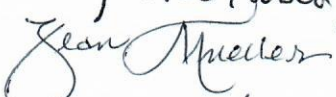




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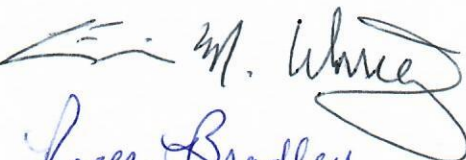

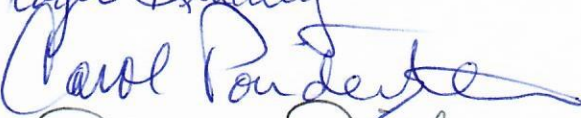
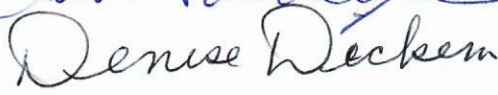
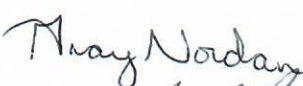



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AREA BOARD SIGNATURE PAGE

  
Dave O'Dell, Board President

Area Board Members:

Family Planning | Foster Grandparents | Head Start/Early Head Start | Housing Assistance  
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program | Neighborhood Centers | Weatherization Assistance

Serving Ten Counties:

Barry | Christian | Dade | Dallas | Greene | Lawrence | Polk | Stone | Taney | Webster  
Equal Opportunity Employer. All services provided on a non-discriminatory basis.

MEMORANDUM

TO: OACAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FROM: CARL ROSENKRANZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *CR*  
RE: PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR OACAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2019 RESOLUTION  
DATE: MARCH 22, 2019

OACAC's Mission is to enrich the lives of families and individuals within our communities by providing opportunities, offering assistance and empowering people to make positive change.

OACAC acts as an advocate for people who are eligible for our programs, people who mostly through circumstances beyond their control find themselves needing help across the wide spectrum of OACAC Programs.

The President's Proposed FFY2020 Budget for the year beginning October 1, 2019 includes substantial cuts in non-defense domestic discretionary programs. The President has again proposed to eliminate at least four OACAC Programs:

The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (the entire budget for CNCS would be eliminated)

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) primarily funded by the Department of Energy (DOE) through the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Division of Energy and a LIHEAP transfer of funds from the Missouri Department of Social Services along with other funding sources  
The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) through the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division

The Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) through the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division

The following information shows what OACAC Programs do and what would be lost in terms of dollars and the ability to assist people in need.

**FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM**

If funding was to end for the OACAC Foster Grandparent Program it would affect over 60 Foster Grandparents age 55 and older who offer one on one support to at-risk children and youth in a variety of locations in the OACAC ten county area and also in four more counties outside the OACAC area. Currently, the Foster Grandparent Program has 61 volunteers serving in 34 volunteer stations (80% are school based, including OACAC Head Start

Centers, with other volunteers serving in Boys and Girls Clubs, the Good Samaritan Boys Ranch and Developmental Disability Centers). There are two program employees. In the April 1, 2017-March 31, 2018 Program Year, OACAC's Foster Grandparents put in a total of 61,614 hours, helping a total of 325 children improve reading and math skills and accomplishing gains in social and/or emotional development. The OACAC Foster Grandparent Program received \$274,050 in federal funds and \$97,349 in matching in-kind and local funding dollars and services for the 2017-2018 program year. There is no program available to replace the federal funds that come to Missouri for this program.

### **WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

If funding was to end for the OACAC Weatherization Assistance Program, it would affect program employees and contract labor who have provided free Weatherization services to reduce the energy burden on eligible low-income residents in the ten counties served by OACAC. The Department of Energy (DOE) Program Year funding was from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 and the LIHEAP program year was October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018. During the 2017-2018 program year, OACAC weatherized 156 homes through funding sources including DOE, LIHEAP, Empire Electric (Liberty), Missouri Gas Energy (Spire), City Utilities, CDBG, AECI and Summit. The total funds expended were \$1,387,911.00. According to DOE, homes that have had weatherization services save an average of \$283 annually on their utility bill. For every \$1.00 spent on the Weatherization Program nationally, \$2.78 is returned to the local economy. Energy efficiency, affordability, health and safety are key elements of the program. There is no program available in the State of Missouri to replace the federal funds that come from DOE to Missouri or the transferred LIHEAP funds that the Weatherization Program receives. For the current 2018-2019 DOE and LIHEAP Program Years, OACAC was awarded \$1,313,287.00. Funding awarded from the other Weatherization Sources was \$261,407.00.

### **LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

If funding was to end for the OACAC LIHEAP Program (both Energy Assistance and Energy Crisis Intervention programs) which has assisted eligible low-income households who have an energy related crisis in the OACAC ten counties, the following statistics will serve as an example of what would be lost.

October 1, 2017- September 30, 2018 Program Year: LIHEAP program staff assisted 22,320 households and the program paid out \$6,176,843.00.

Current 2018-2019 Program Year: LIHEAP program staff has assisted 15,900 households and the program has paid out \$3,854,052.00.

January 1, 2018-May 31, 2018 Program Year: The Springfield Project Share utility assistance program assisted 397 households and the program paid out

\$104,522.00.

Current 2019 Program Year: Project Share has assisted 210 households and has paid out \$60,690.00.

October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018 Program Year: Donated funds were used to assist 45 households and OACAC paid out \$17,617.00.

Current Program Year: Donated funds were used to assist 8 households and OACAC paid out \$605.00.

There are no programs available in the State of Missouri through general revenue funds to replace the estimated \$70M that comes from the federal LIHEAP Program. Also, since 10% of the LIHEAP allocation, up to \$7M, is being transferred to the State Weatherization Assistance Program annually that source would also be lost if the LIHEAP Program was eliminated.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

If funding was to end for the OACAC Community Services Block Program it would affect CSBG with its ten Neighborhood/Community Centers and employees who assist eligible families and individuals who are in need of OACAC programs' services or related agencies' services as well as being assisted by other programs through CSBG. The total CSBG funds expended were \$1,849,922.00 for the 2017-2018 Program Year. The loss of funding would have a negative economic impact (payroll, occupancy costs of ten centers and money spent in the OACAC communities for examples). The loss of funding would also impact the many collaborative efforts that the Centers have undertaken to help strengthen local communities. The impact of the loss would be felt in such areas as health, unemployment, housing, education and social services. There would be fewer resources in the rural counties that are a part of the OACAC Network and fewer programs for families who need help to meet basic needs.

OACAC Neighborhood/Community Centers support and enhance existing programs, establish and/or participate in community partnerships in each county to better coordinate the flow of services to people in need of assistance, leverage additional resources and establish new projects.

Assistance is available for emergency and non-emergency needs. There is no program available in the State of Missouri to replace the Community Services Block Grant funds that OACAC receives.

Here is what a dedicated Central Office staff and Neighborhood/Community Centers staff did with CSBG funded programs and services in the October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018 Program Year:

Poverty Simulations: 16 held reaching over 700 community attendees.

Reality Enrichment and Life Lessons (REALL) Simulations: 50 simulations.

Vocational Opportunities Inspiring Children in Elementary (VOICE)

Experiences: 134 experiences.

We were able to reach 9,133 students through REALL and VOICE.

Families served through the ten Neighborhood/Community Centers: 3,901.

Household members served through intakes: 3,440.

Life Skills: There were 201 Life Skills Workshops held in our Centers with over 2,480 in attendance.

426 Hours of Case Management was provided to 51 families.

Back to School Fairs: 781 children assisted with clothing, shoes and school supplies.

Commodity Food: 1,587 families served. 3,215 individuals served.

Dade County Food Mobile: 1,599 families served. 3,394 individuals served.

Not a duplication.

Emergency Funds (donated funds and fundraising efforts by County Board members) provided assistance to 589 families in the amount of \$45,834.23.

Slightly over CSBG Income Guidelines: 8 served by Emergency Funds not CSBG.

We applied for 17 grants and were awarded 12 which enabled us to assist families with services not covered by CSBG.

There are a total of 83 employees directly working in the four programs I have just described.

I hope that this gives you an idea as to the impact of just four of OACAC's seven programs. As you review this Memorandum and the content of the Board of Directors 2019 Resolution, please feel free to use any of this information to let people know about the purpose and value of our programs. We do make a difference in people's lives.