



What is Community Action?

- Founded by the 1964 Economic Opportunity Act as part of the “War on Poverty”
- Grassroots effort based on local needs



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Needs Assessment Priority Areas



- Meet basic needs and move towards self-sufficiency
- Priority service areas have been determined by the Community Needs Assessment and Community Needs Survey
 1. Food Assistance/Access to Food
 2. Health/Dental Care Access (may not be reimbursable through Medicaid/care)
 3. Employment Services
 4. Education
- Programs focusing on senior (55+) and youth (>25) services are encouraged

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Funding Requirements



- Clark County
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Policies and Procedures
- Quarterly and Year-end Reports

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Funding Restrictions



- Funds cannot be used for:
 - Rent Assistance
 - Services reimbursable through Medicaid/care
 - Construction, Rehabilitation or Maintenance
 - Purchase of Assets
- Funds cannot be subcontracted
- Services provided to income eligible households

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Federal Poverty Limits



- Maximum income limits are 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- Limited funding available for programs serving households earning 126-200% FPL.

2015 HHS Poverty Guidelines for Clark County
Annual Income by Family Size

Persons in Family/Household	100 Percent of Poverty		125 Percent of Poverty		150 Percent of Poverty		200 Percent of Poverty	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
1	\$11,770	981	14,713	1,226	17,655	1,471	23,540	1,962
2	16,930	1,328	19,913	1,669	23,895	1,991	31,850	2,655
3	20,090	1,674	25,113	2,093	30,135	2,511	40,180	3,348
4	24,250	2,021	30,313	2,526	36,375	3,031	48,500	4,042
5	28,410	2,368	35,513	2,959	42,615	3,551	56,820	4,735
6	32,570	2,714	40,713	3,393	48,855	4,071	65,140	5,428
7	36,730	3,061	45,913	3,826	55,095	4,591	73,460	6,122
8	40,890	3,408	51,113	4,259	61,335	5,111	81,750	6,815

For each additional family member add \$4,160

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 80, No. 14, January 22, 2015, p. 3236.

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RFA Funding

- Approximately \$475,000 per year
 - Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
 - Human Services Fund
- Two year, 2016-2017 Contract
 - Contracts will be renewed at the same amount for 2017, as funding permits
- Minimum request of \$40,000

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Accessing the Online Application

- Agencies **cannot** access Clark County funding opportunities by going directly to the ZoomGrants website.
- Accessible by:
 - Email link sent to stakeholders
 - Online through Clark County's website
 - <http://www.clark.wa.gov/community-action/applications.html>

The screenshot shows the Clark County website's 'Applications' page. The page title is 'Applications' and the sub-header is 'Community Funds - Community Action Programs'. The main content area contains information about the 2015-2016 Request for Applications (RFA) process, including a deadline of Monday, June 15, 2015. A blue arrow points to the 'Applications' link in the left-hand navigation menu.

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Application Hints



- Speak to a Neighbor
 - Avoid Acronyms, Jargon
- Focus on the Program
- Read Everything
- Answer Questions
- Avoid Cutting & Pasting
- Utilize the Library
- Work on “True” Collaborations Now
- “Refresh” Often
 - Through ZoomGrants, not browser

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Library of Information



A library of reference documents is provided on the Clark County website and under the Library tab of the application in ZoomGrants.

Documents include:

- 2015 Poverty Guidelines
- Best & Emerging Practices
- Clark County 2014 Needs Assessment
- Community Action Definitions
- Letter of Collaboration Reference and Example
- National Performance Indicators
- RFA Timeline

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Pre-Application

- Program Eligibility
- Administrative Review
- Upload to Documents Tab
 - Organizational Chart
 - Single audit (OMB A-133), if required to conduct
 - Management letter, if received
 - E-Verify MOU www.dhs.gov/E-Verify
 - Required initially & with new hires

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Application

- May begin as soon as pre-app is approved
 - Will be approved by July 15th
- Clearly Indicate Outcomes vs. Outputs
- Answers to Questions will inform future contracts, if awarded.
- Note:
 - Character Limits
 - Required Documents

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Coordinate vs. Collaborate



	What it is...	What it isn't...
Communication Memo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer of information • Interpreting messages • Level of Understanding • Listening • Tool for the other three C's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argument • Results-oriented • Only the facts
Coordination Referrals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared objectives • Understanding of roles and responsibilities • Acting together • Efficiency of action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient results • Redundant/overlapping
Cooperation Partnership, MOU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work or act together for a mutual benefit • Requires compliance in order to work in harmony • Jointly controlled/negotiated effort • Challenges norms and assumptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same benefit for all involved • Change in roles or activities • Strategic insight
Collaboration Creating a New Project or Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change – process of shared creation • Using information to create something new • Generates insight • Thrives on differences • Results oriented • Evolving and dynamic • "Giving up" old ways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consensus • Exchanging information • About the process of relationships

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Collaboration



- Seeking letters of Collaboration Only
- Points for Letters of "True" Collaboration between program & self-sufficiency entity
- Higher points for Collaborations with:
 - Chemical Dependency
 - Mental Health
 - Physical Health

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Leveraging Funds



- Includes Financial and In-kind Resources
- Leveraged Funds Should be Secured as of Application Submission Date
- Scored Question

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Budget



- Specify 2016 Revenue From All Sources
 - Local, state and federal
 - Committed, Conditional & Proposed Revenue
- Specify 2016 Costs by Line item
 - Personnel
 - Operating Costs
 - Supportive Services
 - Administration (11%)

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Important Dates



Pre-applications Due	Tuesday, June 30
Pre-application Approval	No later than Wednesday, July 15
Proposals Due	Monday, August 10
Review/Evaluation Period	August-October
Proposal Presentations	Tuesday, October 13
CAAB Recommendations	Tuesday, November 10
Contract Negotiations	November-December
Contract Execution	January 1, 2016

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Evaluation & Selection



- Internal administrative review
 - Agency staff turnover
 - Weaknesses identified in prior onsite reviews
 - Cash flow
 - Audits
- Evaluation and Recommendations from County Staff and Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB)

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Stakeholders List



- Contact Janet Snook to be added to the stakeholder list
 - Notified of changes to this RFA
 - Informed of future funding opportunities
- Janet.Snook@clark.wa.gov

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Questions?



- All questions must be submitted in writing to Rebecca Royce at Rebecca.Royce@clark.wa.gov
- Responses will be posted to the website within two business days
 - <http://www.clark.wa.gov/community-action/applications.html>
- Questions answered up until two business days prior to Pre-application and Application deadlines

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