



**Wisconsin Community Action Agencies Contribute to Economic Recovery
And Provide Needed Services to Families**

Updated Report for 15 Month Period Ending September 30, 2010

Community Action Agency Results with Stimulus Funds

574 Jobs Created

An additional 426 Jobs Retained

Services to over 120,000 Wisconsin Residents

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), signed into law by President Obama on February 19, 2009, is designed to jumpstart the U.S. economy, create or save millions of jobs and address national needs - while supporting unprecedented levels of transparency, oversight and accountability.

Wisconsin's 16 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and UMOS (the United Migrant Opportunity Services):

- Are local organizations with a mission to help low-income households become economically self-sufficient and, in the process, help local communities grow and nurture their economic health.
- Are fully committed to making ARRA work in their communities and fully engaged in that effort.
- As a network of agencies constitute one of the state's largest non-governmental recipients of stimulus funding.

Wisconsin CAAs received contracts and federal ARRA funding from State agencies after passage of the State of Wisconsin Biennial Budget beginning July 1, 2009.

Wisconsin's Community Action Agencies and UMOS have **created 574 jobs** during the fifteen months of ARRA funding (through September 30, 2010) of which 386 jobs were directly paid with ARRA funds. In addition, CAAs utilized ARRA funds to retain or "save" another 426 jobs in their communities. Many of these jobs are employment specialists, housing counselors, community service advocates, weatherization auditors and installers – jobs that in turn **provide important needed services to over 120,000 low-income people & victims of this economic recession.**

CAAs received federal ARRA funds from State Agencies that administer on-going federal program funds. The following is a brief summary of CAA accomplishments with major programs:

Community Services Block Grant

- A total of 60,829 Wisconsin residents received help and assistance from ARRA CSBG funds through their Community Action Agency during the 15 month period ending 9/30/2010. These households were provided badly needed safety net assistance as well as economic opportunity to the unemployed. Agencies have seen increased numbers of families at food pantries, homeless shelters, and free clinics.
- Agencies utilize the funds to address critical community needs as prioritized by their agency's Board of Directors including:
 - Providing safety net services helping families stay in their homes: Helping struggling homeowners avoid foreclosure; helping renters avoid eviction; preventing utility shut-offs; providing budgeting and financial literacy services; etc.
 - Expanding agency "job and business development" efforts to help low-income and other entrepreneurs create small businesses--sometimes in "green" technologies or as trained weatherization sub-contractors.
 - Expanding the Community Action Skills Enhancement Program—helping low-wage workers get good jobs with benefits.
 - Providing CSBG ARRA funds to other private non-profit organizations to provide needed services to families in their communities. CAAs provided funding in this manner to 55 other local organizations throughout the State.
- The number of persons receiving various services from Community Action Agencies utilizing CSBG ARRA funds are as follows:

– Employment or Training Services	3,507 persons
– Business Development Services	333
– Housing Services	4,329
– Emergency food	24,392
– Health Care services	2,421
– EITC/tax prep/financial literacy	9,493
– All other services	16,354
- ARRA provides Wisconsin about \$12 million for the Community Services Block Grant. Total federal funding under ARRA for CSBG is allocated by formula to the States and, in turn, to Community Action Agencies. (For comparison purposes, Wisconsin received \$8 million in Federal Fiscal Year 2010 for CSBG.)
- CAAs in Wisconsin and nationally are showing great accomplishment with job creation and job retention utilizing CSBG ARRA funds. The White House "recovery.gov" website shows that CSBG ranks 8th out of over 200 ARRA programs creating a total of 18,432 jobs as of September 30, 2010 across the US. Wisconsin CAAs successfully completed CSBG ARRA funded activities on 9/30/2010.

Weatherization Assistance Program:

- Community Action Agencies are the backbone of the federal Weatherization Assistance Program in Wisconsin and have been so for more than 30 years. 13 CAAs operate the program in their communities and produce more than half of the total housing units weatherized by the set of 21 program operators in the state.
- **A total of 9,885 housing units were weatherized by the 13 CAP agencies utilizing ARRA and other funds, out of a statewide total of 16,032 housing units**, during the 15 months ending September 30, 2010. ARRA provided funding for 6,498 of the units weatherized by CAP agencies (and 10,610 of the units weatherized by all 21 program operators).
- The ARRA funds for the weatherization program at CAP agencies created 212 jobs and retained an additional 168 jobs during the 15 month period.
- Using ARRA funds, Community Action Agencies have established 170 sub-contracts in Wisconsin with local contractors, businesses, vendors, and partners performing weatherization work.
- ARRA provides Wisconsin \$141.5 million over two years for the Weatherization Assistance Program—from a total federal allocation of \$5 billion. In Wisconsin, the ARRA funds are administered by the State Division of Energy Services together with other federal funds and State Public Benefits funds. The State issued contracts to CAAs and to other weatherization program operators effective July 1, 2009 following passage of the State Biennial Budget.

Accountability and Transparency:

Community Action Agencies are **locally governed, non-profit corporations**, answerable to a Board of Directors comprised of representatives of local government, community and low-income persons. CAAs have been the epitome of **efficient, transparent, accountable** operation during their 40+ years of existence. The very nature of their Board structure keeps them accountable to their local community. CAAs undergo yearly audits conducted by independent auditing firms. In addition, the State of Wisconsin Office of Recovery and Reinvestment as well as other State Departments are conducting field visits and site monitoring of agency operations and programs.

For a copy of this report and for additional information on WISCAP and Community Action Agencies visit www.wiscap.org

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Cumulative Report for the Quarter Ending: 6/30/2010

15 Agencies Reporting 4th Quarter 2 Agencies reporting 3rd quarter a/o 8/02/10	<u>CSBG ARRA Funds</u>	<u>Weatherization ARRA Funds</u>	<u>All Other ARRA Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jobs Created, Total	227	183	96	505
Jobs Created/ Paid with ARRA funds	120	139	92	351
Jobs Created/Induced by ARRA funds	107	44	4	154
Jobs Retained, Total	115	89	75	279
Jobs Retained/Paid with ARRA funds	57	68	73	198
Jobs Retained/Induced by ARRA funds	58	21	1	80
# of Persons Assisted, total	102,779	1,740	29,262	133,781
Employment or training services	1,881	0	199	2,080
Business Development	709	0	0	709
Housing	4,431	1,740	6,895	13,066
Emergency Food	30,483	0	12,165	42,648
Health Care	2,023	0	48	2,071
EITC/tax preparation/financial literacy	9,332	0	218	9,550
All Other Persons Assisted	53,920	0	9,737	63,657
# of Organizations Assisted	48	2	65	115
NPOs/CBOs provided ARRA funds	42	2	28	72
Ec. Development Projects Assisted	6	0	37	43
Weatherization Detail				
# of Units Completed		2,766		2,766
# of Sub-contracts with vendors		137		137
# of vehicles purchased or leased		36		36
Equip/materials/supplies purchased		2,015,498		\$2,015,498
Amount of ARRA Funds Expensed	\$8,386,943	\$23,307,520	\$8,657,491	\$40,351,954
List Major ARRA-Assisted Projects/Activities				