



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES/CSBG**

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor  
Rossana Rosado, Secretary of State

## Community Services - CSBG Update

### From the Director

A new two-year CSBG State Plan will be submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services on September 1, 2019. DOS will hold a public hearing on June 13, 2019 for public comment (more details to come). We invite CAAs to submit recommendations to the Division of Community Services in anticipation of this submission. We will also discuss the State Plan at the NYSCAA Regional Meetings.

In service,

Manny Rosa

### NYSCAA Regional Meetings

Date	Region and Agency	Meeting Location	Time	Registration Link
Thursday April 25, 2019	<b>Capital District:</b> Schenectady Community Action Program	913 Albany St Schenectady NY 12307	9:30 am - 12:30 pm	Registration has passed
Wednesday May 8, 2019	<b>Western Region:</b> Wyoming County Community Action	Wilmott Lodge at Asbury Camp, Chapman Ave, Silver Lake, NY 14549	10:00 am – 2:30 pm	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
Tuesday May 14, 2019	<b>North Country:</b> Adirondack Community Action	Heaven Hill Farm 302 Bear Cub Lane Lake Placid NY 12946	10:00 am - 2:30 pm	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
Wednesday June 12, 2019	<b>Central Region:</b> Cayuga Seneca Community Action	89 York Street, Suite 1 Auburn NY 13021	10:00 am - 2:30 pm	<a href="#">Register Here</a>
Tuesday June 25, 2019	<b>New York City:</b> Department of Youth and Community Development	123 William St New York NY 10038	10:00 am- 1:00 pm	<a href="#">Register Here</a>

### Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE) Regional Meetings

NYSERDA is holding regional meetings May-June. Registration and details available at [events.lifenys.org](http://events.lifenys.org)

## Passing the Baton

Pat Standish, Coordinator, Community Action Angels-NY



As some of you are already aware, Community Action Angels, known to many as Angel Action, was started in my home by a small group of friends and myself after the sudden death of my husband left me without income. Wyoming County Community Action stepped in to weatherize my home.

That one-time help not only allowed me to create a successful home-based business, it set me on a journey that changed my life and the lives of countless others. It was the help of Community Action that opened my eyes to the importance of volunteers and donors to assist agencies and staff devoted to lifting people out of poverty; to find a way to help those who were falling through the proverbial cracks and to create programs where none existed. It was in 1996 that the first call for Community Action Angel volunteers went out and the call continues to this day.

April is National Volunteer Month. It is a time set aside each year to celebrate the impact of volunteerism and their power to tackle family, agency and community challenges. It is when we recognize and thank those who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference. I think we can all agree that most organizations would not function as well without volunteers.

Historically, volunteerism is handed down from parent to child. However, recent research shows family volunteerism is on the decline. So, to insure a volunteer force in the future, it might well be our responsibility to hand off the baton of volunteerism to the next generation. This can only be done through the creation of meaningful, accessible volunteer opportunities for our younger citizens.

Despite their age, children can have a powerful and positive impact. In giving their time they learn valuable life skills, develop empathy and compassion, and gain a voice so their ideas and opinions are heard. More important, if we want children of the future to start on the right path, let's be sure to help get them involved and start volunteering today.

The philosophy of Community Action Angels is built around the "Circle of Giving". Nobody makes it through life entirely on their own merits. If we look around and within, everyone has a debt to repay and a reason to give back. Together we can work to inspire all people to volunteer with encouragement to start early. Let's show them what we need, how to do it and let them help.

The projects and programs developed by the CA Angels, and soon available for download on our new website, are designed so that all people young and old, can participate. The purpose of many are meant to encourage children to recognize their own privilege and how they can use it to help their peers less fortunate.

If your agency is interested in a workshop focused on youth volunteerism please contact Pat Standish, Coordinator, Community Action Angels-New York, Wyoming County Community Action at [pstandish@wccainc.org](mailto:pstandish@wccainc.org)

## Agency Spotlight: Opportunities for Otsego

The Building Healthy Families Program of Opportunities for Otsego, a Healthy Families America (HFA) affiliate, has received national accreditation as a provider of high-quality home visiting services to families who want to improve their child's health, nutrition and developmental outcomes.

## May is Community Action Month

Be sure to get your 2019 Community Action Month Toolkit and check out the Community Action Month Calendar here: <https://communityactionpartnership.com/community-action-month/>

## New Residential Smoke Alarm Requirements as of April 1

Starting April 1, all new or replacement smoke detectors offered for sale in NYS must either be powered by a sealed non-removable battery with a minimum battery life of 10 years or hard-wired to the building.

For more information on keeping homes safe, please review the Division of Consumer Protection's [Safety Tips for Today's Home](#).

## NYS Office of New Americans

Governor Cuomo recently announced the selection of 19 full-time Legal Counsels to be placed throughout the NYS regions. These legal counsels were chosen from the competitive bid put out by the NYS Office for New Americans (ONA). Through the statewide non-profit networks, these ONA Legal Counsels will have a parent Opportunity Center where they will be focused on ensuring the community is supported by attorneys that will be traveling to clients to provide direct representation, conducting legal seminars and workshops. The ONA Legal Counsels will also provide direct representation to immigrants using the "universal representation" model that serves any immigrant in New York State with legal representation with various cases and services and also providing translation and interpretation services for non-English-speaking new American clients.

For a full list of services provided by ONA Legal Counsel and the parent center for each region, please see the Governor's press release: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-selection-19-full-time-immigration-attorneys-help-immigrants-across>

**Immigrants in need of services can contact the New Americans Hotline: 1-800-566-7636 (9am-8pm, Monday to Friday, all calls are confidential, and assistance is available in 200+ languages).**

## Grant Opportunities

- Car seat distribution programs for low-income families, due 5/1/2019
- SAMHSA Employment, due 5/17/2019
- Innovative Projects for Early Childhood Education, LOI due 5/31/2019
- Grant writing trainings online and in NYC <http://www.foundationcenter.org/>

➤ For more information on these grants, check out the NYS Assembly's [Grants Action News](#)

The Newsletter Team invites everyone to share stories and pictures of interest via email. When sharing photos for the newsletter or for DOS social media, please also send completed Photo Release and Consent form.