



History of Community Action

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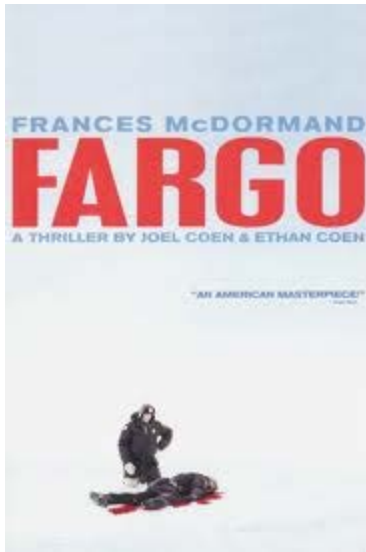
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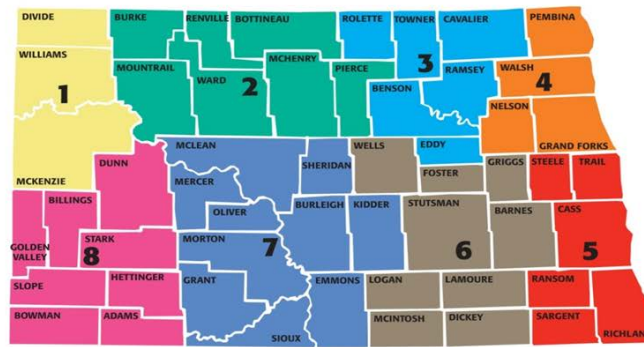
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Community Action Agencies in North Dakota



- Region 1 - Community Action Partnership - Williston/Dickinson
- Region 2 - Community Action Partnership - Minot
- Region 3 - Dakota Prairie Community Action - Devils Lake
- Region 4 - Red River Valley Community Action - Grand Forks
- Region 5 - Southeastern ND Community Action Agency - Fargo
- Region 6 - Community Action Program Region VI - Jamestown
- Region 7 - Community Action Program Region VII - Bismarck
- Region 8 - Community Action Partnership - Dickinson/Williston

Community Action Programs and Services

- Asset Development
- Head Start
- Backpack for Kids
- Housing
- Weatherization
- Sportsmen Against Hunger
- Shelter Plus Care
- Self-Reliance
- Representative Payee
- Budget and Money Management
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Food Program
- Medication Assistance
- Family Planning

*Programs vary by region. Visit www.capnd.org for more information.

Across the Nation



- Community Action Agencies have existed for 50 years; Some opened their doors in 1964.
- About 1,100 exist agencies across the nation:
 - ND - 7 SD - 4 MN - 36 MT - 10 CO - 38

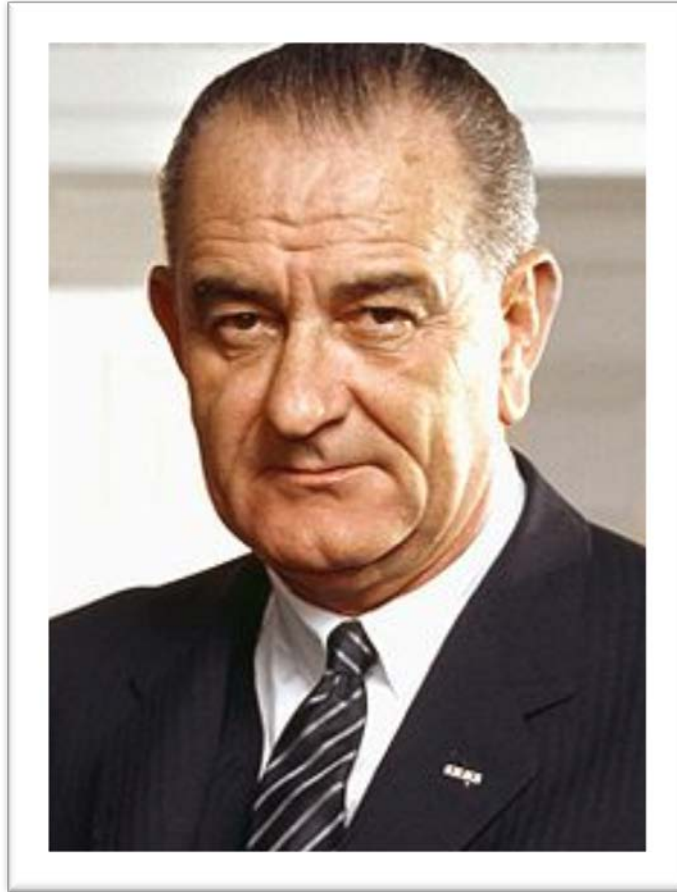
Who and What is NDCAP?!



- Established in 1976
- Assist all seven agencies
- Poverty Research, Poverty Trainings, Needs Assessments
- Liaison to National Office and Partners
- Region VIII RPIC Lead Agency

History of Community Action

It all started with
Lyndon B. Johnson



President Johnson 1964

- In 1964, 35 million Americans, nearly 20% of the population, lived in poverty
- Announced in his State of the Union Address that his administration was committed to wiping out poverty.

“This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America.”

Johnson’s Greatest Challenge:

“The challenge of the next half century is whether we have the wisdom to use that wealth to enrich and elevate our national life, and to advance the quality of our American civilization.”

Most Significant Social Legislation Since the Social Security Act

- Johnson proposed a major piece of legislation which became the **Economic Opportunity Act of 1964**
- He knew that the “War” needed to focus on the underlying causes of Poverty and he outlined his vision for a Great Society
- In February 1964, Johnson charged Sargent Shriver with drafting the legislation that would serve the Great Society
- The legislation passed and was signed on August 20, 1964
- Same year as the Civil Rights Act and Head Start Act

A delivery vehicle was needed at the local level

- The community participation and governance model was incorporated
- “Maximum Feasible Participation of the Poor” was a goal in needs determination, program planning, program delivery and governance
- The EOA defined a model local delivery entity called a Community Action Agency

The Mission of the CAA

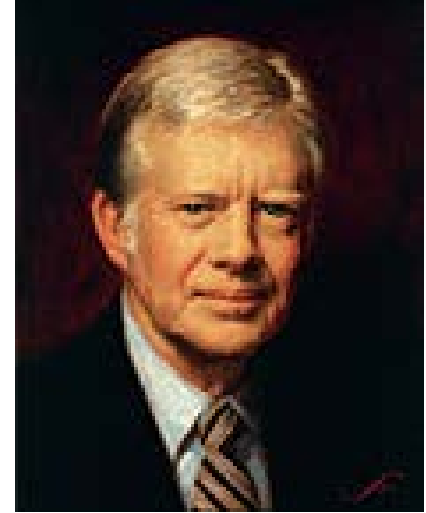
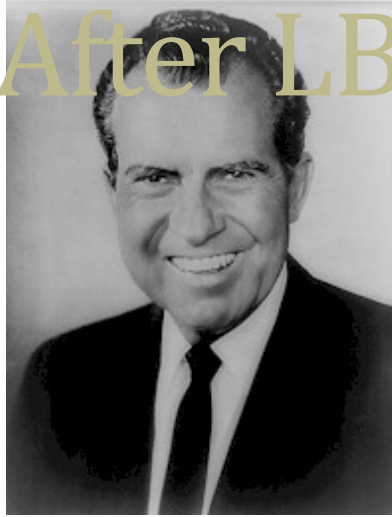
The EOA defined the purpose of a Community Action Agency in 1970:

“...to stimulate a better focusing of all available local, State, Private, and Federal resources upon the goal of enabling low-income families, and low-income individuals of all ages, in rural and urban areas, to attain the skills, knowledge, and motivation to secure the opportunities needed for them to become self-sufficient.”

Some of the programs created under EOA

- VISTA
- Job Corps
- Neighborhood Youth Corps
- Head Start
- Adult Basic Education
- Family Planning
- Community Health Centers
- Economic Development
- CDCs
- Foster Grandparents
- Legal Services
- RSVP
- Neighborhood Centers
- Summer Youth Programs
- Congregate Meal Preparation

After LBJ



The Nixon Years: 1969-1974

The Nixon years presented a strange mixture for the EOA, OEO, and Community Action.

Nixon attempted to:

1. develop a guaranteed minimum income for low-income people,
2. de-fund the Community Action Agencies and
3. dismantled the Office of Economic Opportunity

- Nixon transferred a number of programs from OEO to other federal departments to administer
- He also proposed no funding for the CAA section of EOA
- Nixon developed Public Employment Programs and price controls – but became distracted by Viet Nam and Watergate probe
- Nixon did not veto EOA but also did not support increases in funding for key programs
- Nixon resigned and Gerald Ford became President

Ford came along....

- CAA were not a priority for him and he paid more attention to the complaints against CAAs from local politicians
- During President Gerald Ford's administration, the **Equal Opportunity Act was terminated** and was replaced by the **Community Service Act**
- Overall funding of CAAs was basically flat or below inflation during this period

The repeal of the Equal Opportunity Act and the replacement by the Community Service Act had a profound impact on Community Action Agencies.

- The language in the Legislation changed from Opportunity to Services
- Some say that this was a compromise to decrease emphasis on “change” and “advocacy” so that CAAs could survive
- The important point is that Community Action Agencies **were** continued in the legislation with their original structure and role

Regan's Omnibus Reconciliation Act ends Community Services Act

- The House of Representatives supported Regan's proposed budget and zeroed out CSA and Community Action funding
- The National Community Action Foundation, through its director, David Bradley, and support of key Senators, negotiated a compromise with the Administration
- Funds in the resulting Community Services Block Grant were to be administered by the States and an office was created in HHS to transfer funds to States

What is the name of the State office in North Dakota?

Department of Commerce
Division of Community Services
Tran Doan

North Dakota State Office

The 90s



Clinton's administration implemented the most significant changes in welfare policy since the Great Society.



Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House, supported the largest increase in Community Action funding ever while supervising the cuts in many other federal social programs.

Through it all, CAAs continued to perform

- Though CAAs failed to be expanded by the Nixon, Ford, Carter or Reagan administrations (and fought for their very continuation) the CAA network has proven to be committed and adaptable
- The CAA network has been a major local implementer of government programs but have also developed local programs and have long standing local community support
- CAAs continue to be service providers, social entrepreneurs, advocates and collaborators

Government Performance and Results Act of 1993

“The purposes of this Act are to improve Federal **program effectiveness and public accountability** by promoting a new focus on results, service quality, and customer satisfaction and to help Federal managers **improve service delivery**, by requiring that they plan for meeting program objectives and by providing them with information about program results and service quality.”

The purposes of GPRA 1993

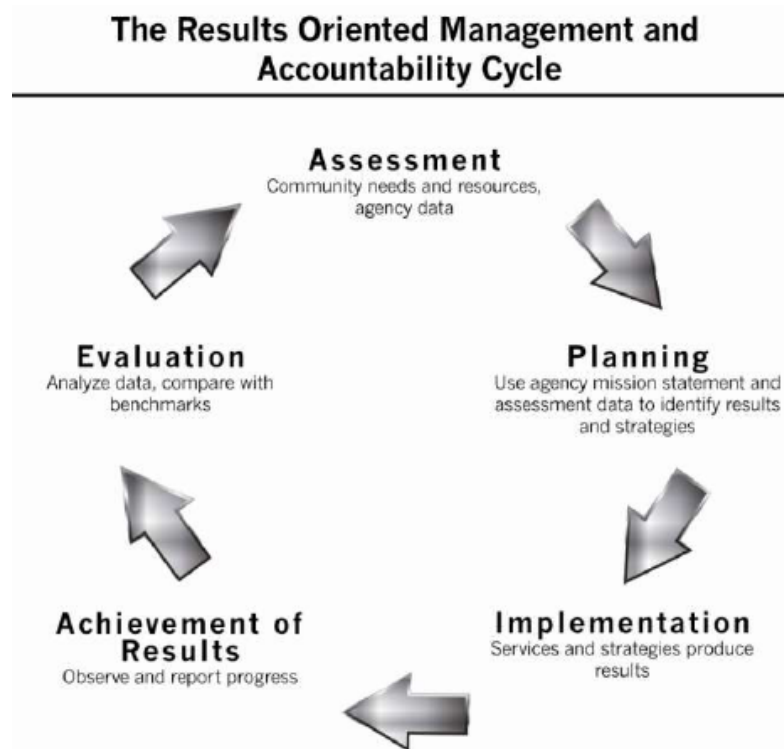
- Establish **performance goals**
- Express such goals in an objective, quantifiable, and measurable form
- Describe the operational processes, skills, technology, and the human capital, information, or other resources required to meet the performance goals
- Establish **performance indicators**
- Provide a basis for comparing the actual program results with the established performance goals
- Describe the means to be used to verify and validate measured values
- **ROMA** was created and mandatory National Indicators for all agencies by in 2005

1994 - ROMA Introduced

Helps agencies identify cost-effective strategies for reducing gaps in services, improve the capacity of CAAs to partner with innovative community and neighborhood-based initiatives, and help communities better understand the agency's goals and achievements.

1. History of Community Action
2. Mission and Community Assessment
3. Developing Results-Oriented Plans
4. Implementing the Plan
5. Evaluating Performance Using Outcomes and Indicators
6. Observing Achievement of Results Using Scales and Matrices
7. Understanding the Logic Model

ROMA Cycle



The ROMA Cycle graphic was developed by the National Peer to Peer (NPP) ROMA Training Project, based on guidance regarding Core Activities for States and CSBG Eligible Entities provided by OCS Information Memo 49. From *Planning for Results* © 2006, J. Jakopic and B. Mooney, Community Action Association of PA. Curriculum developed with funding from the US Department of Health and Human Services – Office of Community. Use is permitted with this footer. All other rights reserved.

Reauthorization of CSBG

- In 1998 the legislation continued CAAs under Title II of the “Community Opportunities, Accountability and Training and Educational Service Act of 1998.” This is the legislation under which we operate today (continuing resolution).
- This legislation responded to requirements imposed by the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993

CAAs in the Millienium

- **2001** – OCS provides direction on the first mandatory reporting which incorporated ROMA principles
- **2005** – Implementation of the National Performance Indicators
- **2009** – President Obama issues a renewed focus on RESULTS



2011- A New Strategy for Excellence

Other key elements of President Obama's administration:

- **Emphasis on place-based services to address the causes and impacts of poverty**
- **Increased accountability for performance**
- **Promotion of evidence-based practices to achieve results**

History of Community Action

1973 – Economic Opportunity Act was terminated and replaced with the Community Services Act of 1974

1981 – Community Services Act replaced with the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act

1993 – Congress passed the Government Performance and Results Act in response to emphasis on accountability

1994 – Six National Goals were added to the CSBG Act
Introduction of ROMA to the CAA Network

1998 – Reauthorization of the CSBG Act

2001 – OCS provides direction on the first mandatory reporting which incorporated ROMA principles

2005 – Implementation of the National Performance Indicators

2009 – President Obama issues a renewed focus on RESULTS

6 National Goals

1. Low-Income People Become More Self-Sufficient (Family)
2. Low-Income People, Especially Vulnerable Populations, Achieve Their Potential by Strengthening Family and Other Supportive Systems (Family)
3. Partnerships Among Supporters and Providers of Services to Low-Income People are Achieved (Agency)
4. Agencies Increase Their Capacity to Achieve Results(Agency)
5. The Conditions in Which Low-Income People Live are Improved (Community)
6. Low-income People Own a Stake in Their Community (Community)

6 National Goals – Family Level

Low-Income People Become More Self-Sufficient (Goal 1)

- Persons maintained employment for at least 90 days.
- Persons increased earned income.
- Household resources increased from non-employment sources.

Low-Income People, Especially Vulnerable Populations, Achieve Their Potential by Strengthening Family and Other Supportive Systems (Goal 6)

- Persons reduced or eliminated an emergency need.
- Persons improved or maintained nutrition.
- Persons obtained access or links to services.

6 National Goals – Agency Level

Partnerships Among Supporters and Providers of Services to Low-Income People are Achieved (Goal 4)

- Agencies form and maintain partnerships or collaborations to improve community planning.
- Agencies form and maintain partnerships or collaborations to achieve specific family outcomes.

Agencies Increase Their Capacity to Achieve Results (Goal 5)

- Agency staff obtained credentials that improve their capacity to achieve results.
- Agency Program Management includes the ability to set realistic targets and meet results.

6 National Goals – Community Level

Conditions in Which Low-Income People Live are Improved (Goal 2)

- Investment in the community benefits low-income people.
- The quality of life in low-income neighborhoods is improved.

Low-income People Own a Stake in Their Community (Goal 3)

- Low-income people participate in advocacy activities.
- Low-income people participate in social or volunteer activities.
- Low-income people own businesses or homes in their communities.

National Performance Indicators

- Used to organize and report outcomes
- Enable greater aggregation and national reporting (IS Report)
- All related to the six national goals
- Measure incremental progress toward achieving each of the larger goals

National Performance Indicators

- 1.1 Employment
- 1.2 Employment Supports
- 1.3 Economic Asset Enhancement and Utilization
- 2.1 Community Improvement and Revitalization
- 2.2 Community Quality of Life and Assets
- 2.3 Community Engagement
- 2.4 Employment Growth from Recovery Act Funds
- 3.1 Civic Investment
- 3.2 Community Empowerment through Maximum Feasible Participation

National Performance Indicators

- 4.1 Expanding Opportunities through Community-Wide Partnerships
- 5.1 Agency Development
- 6.1 Independent Living
- 6.2 Emergency Assistance
- 6.3 Child and Family Development
- 6.4 Family Supports (Seniors, Disabled, and Caregivers)
- 6.5 Service Counts

Why Community Action Works

Operate with flexibility, immediacy, and coordination to:

1. Help and encourage children and youth
2. Support the working poor
3. Support the poor facing crisis
4. Sustain and honor the elderly
5. Strengthen the whole family
6. Strengthen the whole community

CAAs promote self-sufficiency, not dependency. We have effective and unique approach:

1. Tri-partite Board structure
2. Leverage other resources
3. Low administrative costs
4. Volunteer support
5. Community and family programs

What did CAA do in 2012?

National

\$658.05 CSBG Allocation

- 32,453,562 Barriers Addressed
- 16,048,756 People Served
- 4,623,937 Children
- 2,394,823 Seniors
- 44 Million Volunteer Hours
- \$6.91 leveraged for every \$1 CSBG
- 1,045 CAA Agencies

North Dakota

\$3.3 CSBG Allocation

- 68,962 Barriers Addressed
- 21,467 People Served
- 6,122 Children
- 4,630 Seniors
- 53,000 Volunteer Hours
- \$1.03 leveraged for every \$1 CSBG
- 7 CAA Agencies

NDCAP Resources

1. <http://www.capnd.org/resources/>

- Four Cornerstones, Four Directions curriculum
- Debt calculators
- Mortgage amortization calculators
- Where to go for Help in NoDak

2. **Printed Materials**

- IDA, SAH, Agency Brochures
- Where to go for Help in NoDak

3. **YouTube Videos**

- <http://youtu.be/j6oBolu6dW8> (Poverty in NoDak)
- http://youtu.be/UtnDVzi_nzg (IDA Commercial)
- <http://youtu.be/oToqQFDv0nU> (IDA Commercial)

Thank You!

Who do I call with questions?

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