DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The North Dakota Department of Commerce Division of Community Services was established to provide technical assistance to local governments and state agencies in the areas of community and rural planning and development, policy research and development and grant program implementation.

PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

STATE ENERGY PROGRAM — Promoting Energy Conservation and Efficiency
The State Energy Program provides a range of energy conservation-related opportunities, including energy education, installation of energy efficient measures, transportation initiatives (alternative fuel vehicles and fueling systems) and renewable energy technologies (small scale wind turbines and solar technologies). The program’s state energy plan is supported by financial and technical assistance through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT — Developing Vibrant and Sustainable Communities
The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), provides financial assistance to local governments in the form of grants and loans for public facilities, housing rehabilitation and economic development projects. The primary beneficiaries of these projects must be very low and low-income individuals.

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS AND CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANTS — Working to End Homelessness
The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and the Continuum of Care Grant are programs of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Emergency Solutions Grant and ND Homeless Grant (NDHG) provides financial assistance to facilities and programs to identify sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons, as well as those at risk of homelessness, and provide services to help them quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing homelessness. The North Dakota Department of Commerce currently awards grant funds directly to emergency/homeless shelters and agencies throughout the state for activities like operational expenses (utilities, insurance, furnishings, appliances, etc.) and essential services (case management, medical, laundry, transportation, etc.), homeless prevention, rapid rehousing and the Homeless Management Information System.

FACTS

85,699 people impacted by CDBG and CSBG
12,137 families and youth served by homeless grants
134 CDBG and home funds rehabbed homes
30 ESG assisted and 31 NDHG recipients

UPDATED 12/28/2020
WEATHERIZATION/LIHEAP — Increasing Energy Efficiency for Low-Income Persons
The Weatherization Assistance Program and the LIHEAP Weatherization Program impact low-income individuals across the state to:
- Increase energy efficiency in homes
- Strengthen the health and safety of the home
- Reduce total residential energy expenditures
- Provide conservation measures
Since 2001, more than 10,000 homes have been equipped with energy-conserving measures. They are programs of the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

HOME PROGRAM — Creating Affordable Housing
The HOME Program is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development program, designed to create partnerships among government entities and the private sector to make affordable housing available to low-income persons. The program has two primary activities: homeowner assistance and rental production/assistance. This is accomplished through five basic areas:
- Homeownership assistance
- Homeowner rehabilitation activities
- Rental rehabilitation or production
- Security deposits
- Rental assistance

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT — Fighting Poverty in North Dakota
The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program assists communities in implementing anti-poverty programs. The program administers funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the state’s seven Community Action Agencies (CAAs), providing various services to low-income persons, including:
- Emergency assistance
- Money management
- Housing counseling
- Self-sufficiency services
- Case management and outreach
- Referral services

For more information, contact Bonnie Malo at bmalo@nd.gov