122.68 Powers and duties.

The community services division shall:

(A) Administer all federal funds appropriated to the state from the "Community Services Block Grant Act," 95 Stat. 511, 42 U.S.C.A. 9901, and comply with requirements imposed by that act in its application for, and administration of, the funds;

(B) Designate community action agencies to receive community services block grant funds;

(C) Disburse at least ninety-five per cent or such other higher maximum amount as may from time to time be designated by congress of the funds received in the state from the "Community Services Block Grant Act" to community action agencies that comply with the requirements of section 122.69 of the Revised Code and migrant and seasonal farm worker organizations that are not designated community action agencies but which provide the services described in division (B)(1) of section 122.69 of the Revised Code.

(D) Provide technical assistance to community action agencies to improve program planning, development, and administration;

(E) Conduct yearly performance assessments, according to criteria determined by development services agency rule, to determine whether community action agencies are in compliance with section 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(F) Annually prepare and submit to the United States secretary of health and human services, the governor, the president of the Ohio senate, and the speaker of the Ohio house of representatives, a comprehensive report that includes:

(1) Certification that all community action agencies designated to receive funds from the "Community Services Block Grant Act" are in compliance with section 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(2) A program plan for the next federal fiscal year that has been made available for public inspection and that details how community services block grant funds will be disbursed and used during that fiscal year;

(3) Information detailing how funds were expended for the current fiscal year;

(4) An audit of community services block grant expenditures for the preceding federal fiscal year that is conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles by an independent auditing firm that has no connection with any community action agency receiving community services block grant funds or with any employee of the division.

(G) Serve as a statewide advocate for social and economic opportunities for low-income persons.

Amended by 130th General Assembly File No. 25, HB 59, §101.01, eff. 9/29/2013.

Effective Date: 10-08-1984

122.69 Endorsement of community action agency.

(A) Any nonprofit agency or organization seeking designation as a community action agency by the community services division shall obtain the endorsement of the chief elected officials of at least two-thirds of the municipal corporations and the counties within the community to be served by the agency or organization.

(B) Any nonprofit agency or organization that receives the endorsement provided for in division (A) of this section shall be designated by the division as the community action agency for the community it serves and shall receive community services block grant funds for any period of time that the nonprofit agency or organization:

(1) Provides a range of services and opportunities having a measurable and potentially major impact on the causes of poverty in the community or those areas of the community where poverty is a particularly acute problem. These activities may include but shall not be limited to:

(a) Providing activities designed to assist low-income persons, including elderly and handicapped low-income persons, to:

(i) Secure and maintain meaningful employment, training, work experience, and unsubsidized employment;

(ii) Attain an adequate education;

(iii) Make better use of available income;

(iv) Obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment;

(v) Obtain emergency assistance through loans or grants to meet immediate and urgent individual and family needs, including the need for health services, nutritious food, housing, and employment-related assistance;

(vi) Remove obstacles and solve personal and family problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency;

(vii) Achieve greater participation in the affairs of the community;

(viii) Undertake family planning, consistent with personal and family goals and religious and moral convictions;

(ix) Obtain energy assistance, conservation, and weatherization services.

(b) Providing, on an emergency basis, supplies and services, nutritious foodstuffs, and related services necessary to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition among low-income persons;

(c) Coordinating and establishing links between government and other social services programs to assure the effective delivery of services to low-income individuals;

(d) Providing child care services, nutrition and health services, transportation services, alcoholism and narcotic addiction prevention and rehabilitation services, youth development services, and community services to elderly and handicapped persons;

(e) Encouraging entities in the private sector to participate in efforts to ameliorate poverty in the community.

(2) Annually submits to the division a program plan and budget for use of community services block grant funds for the next federal fiscal year. At least ten days prior to its submission to the division, a copy of the program plan and budget shall be made available to the chief elected officials of the municipal corporations and counties within the service area in order to provide them the opportunity to review and comment upon such plan and budget.

(3) Composes its board of directors in compliance with section (c)(3) of section 675 of the "Community Services Block Grant Act," 95 Stat. 1609, 42 U.S.C.A. 9904, except that the board shall consist of not less than fifteen nor more than thirty-three members;

(4) Complies with the prohibitions against discrimination and political activity, as provided in the "Community Services Block Grant Act";

(5) Complies with fiscal and program requirements established by development services agency rule.

Amended by 130th General Assembly File No. 25, HB 59, §101.01, eff. 9/29/2013.

Effective Date: 10-08-1984

122.70 Board of directors of community action agency - powers and duties.

The board of directors of a community action agency shall:

(A) Select, appoint, and may remove the executive director of the community action agency;

(B) Approve contracts, annual program budgets, and policies of the community action agency;

(C) Advise the elected officials of any political subdivision located within its service area, and state and federal elected officials who represent its service area, of the nature and extent of poverty within its community, and advise them of any needed changes;

(D) Convene public meetings to provide community members the opportunity to comment on public policies and programs to reduce poverty;

(E) Annually evaluate the policies and programs of the community action agency according to criteria determined by development services agency rule;

(F) Submit the results of the evaluation required by division (E) of this section, along with recommendations for improved administration of the community action agency, to the community services division;

(G) Adopt a code of ethics for the board of directors and the employees of the community action agency;

(H) Adopt written policies describing all of the following:

(1) How the community action agency is to expend and distribute the community services block grant funds that it receives from the division under sections 122.68 and 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(2) The salary, benefits, travel expenses, and any other compensation that persons are to receive for serving on the community action agency's board of directors;

(3) The operating procedures to be used by the board to conduct its meetings, to vote on all official business it considers, and to provide notice of its meetings.

(I) Provide for the posting of notices in a conspicuous place indicating that the code of ethics described in division (G) of this section and the policies described in division (H) of this section are available for public inspection at the community action agency during normal business hours.

Amended by 130th General Assembly File No. 25, HB 59, §101.01, eff. 9/29/2013.

Effective Date: 09-29-1995

122.70 Board of directors of community action agency - powers and duties.

The board of directors of a community action agency shall:

(A) Select, appoint, and may remove the executive director of the community action agency;

(B) Approve contracts, annual program budgets, and policies of the community action agency;

(C) Advise the elected officials of any political subdivision located within its service area, and state and federal elected officials who represent its service area, of the nature and extent of poverty within its community, and advise them of any needed changes;

(D) Convene public meetings to provide community members the opportunity to comment on public policies and programs to reduce poverty;

(E) Annually evaluate the policies and programs of the community action agency according to criteria determined by development services agency rule;

(F) Submit the results of the evaluation required by division (E) of this section, along with recommendations for improved administration of the community action agency, to the community services division;

(G) Adopt a code of ethics for the board of directors and the employees of the community action agency;

(H) Adopt written policies describing all of the following:

(1) How the community action agency is to expend and distribute the community services block grant funds that it receives from the division under sections 122.68 and 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(2) The salary, benefits, travel expenses, and any other compensation that persons are to receive for serving on the community action agency's board of directors;

(3) The operating procedures to be used by the board to conduct its meetings, to vote on all official business it considers, and to provide notice of its meetings.

(I) Provide for the posting of notices in a conspicuous place indicating that the code of ethics described in division (G) of this section and the policies described in division (H) of this section are available for public inspection at the community action agency during normal business hours.

Amended by 130th General Assembly File No. 25, HB 59, §101.01, eff. 9/29/2013.

Effective Date: 09-29-1995

122.701 Designating new or rescinding former designation.

(A) Prior to designating a new community action agency or rescinding a community action agency's designation, the community services division shall:

(1) Determine whether a community action agency is in compliance with section 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(2) Consult with the chief elected officials of political subdivisions located within a community action agency's service area, and, in designating a new community action agency, obtain their endorsement of the agency in accordance with division (A) of section 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(3) Hold at least one public meeting within a community action agency's service area for the purpose of allowing citizens to comment on the community action agency's delivery of services;

(4) Evaluate the proposed service area of the community action agency, and, as may be necessary, modify the boundaries of the service area so that low-income persons in the area are adequately and efficiently served.

(B) After providing notice and hearing pursuant to sections 119.01 to 119.13 of the Revised Code, the director of development services:

(1) May rescind the designation of a community action agency after finding that the agency is not in compliance with any or all of the provisions of section 122.69 of the Revised Code;

(2) Shall rescind the designation of a community action agency upon notification from the chief elected officials of more than one-half of the municipal corporations and the counties within a community currently served by a community action agency that such agency is not endorsed by them and after finding that the agency is not in compliance with section 122.69 of the Revised Code.

Any agency whose designation is rescinded pursuant to this section may appeal from an order rescinding such designation pursuant to section 119.12 of the Revised Code.

Amended by 130th General Assembly File No. 25, HB 59, §101.01, eff. 9/29/2013.

Effective Date: 10-08-1984

122.702 Hearings on use of community services block grant funds.

The general assembly shall conduct public hearings each year on the proposed use and distribution of community services block grant funds, as required by section 675(b) of the "Community Services Block Grant Act," 95 Stat. 1609, 42 U.S.C. 9904.

Effective Date: 10-08-1984