

## **Community Services Advisory Council**

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds community action agencies for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals to become fully self-sufficient.

Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) is designated as the community action agency for Allegheny County. Allegheny County officials established an Administrative Board pursuant to the directive from PA Department of Community and Economic Development, the state agency that administers CSBG.

The Administrative Board is a tripartite advisory board to DHS. The tripartite composition of the board includes persons who are low-income, persons who represent organizations that serve persons who are low-income, and persons appointed by county officials.

An administrative board is responsible to ensure that each community action agency is a continuing and effective mechanism for securing broad community involvement in the programs supported under the act; that each community action agency establishes effective procedures by which persons who are low-income are able to influence the character of the programs affecting their interest; that each community action agency will engage the community to undertake activities in support of the community action program.

Administrative boards meet no less than quarterly with board vacancies filled within 90 days when at all possible. Board members are trained in the Community Services Block Grant purpose and requirements and ROMA (Results Oriented Management and Accountability), the management model used by community action.

Board members are to review and approve the annual CSBG work plan and budget, review program outcomes, meet organizational standards defined by CSBG, and review and comment on major changes in program priorities, direction or policies.

Additional information about the Community Services Advisory Council can be obtained by contacting the Office of Community Services at 412-350-6617.