1. DEPARTMENT

Human Services Department

2. SUBJECT

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) State Plan

3. PROGRAMS AFFECTED

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

4. ACTION

Final CSBG State Plan

5. BACKGROUND

The Human Service Department is required by the Federal Community Opportunity Accountability Training and Education Services (COATES) Reauthorization Act of 1998 to prepare and submit a State Plan to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Services (OCS) in order to receive a grant or allotment for the CSBG program. Notice of the proposed CSBG State Plan was published in the Human Services Register Vol. 38 No.17.

The proposed CSBG State Plan provided the content required by the Model State Plan (MSP) distributed by OCS on January 29, 2015. On May 20, 2015, OCS released a second version of the MSP. In correspondence that accompanied the second version, OCS acknowledged that some of the questions had changed, but encouraged States to continue with their processes already underway for State Plan submission based on the earlier version of the MSP. Furthermore, OCS anticipated that data developed for the earlier version of the MSP would conform to the final MSP format. The Department proceeded with its CSBG State Plan submission process, using the January version of the MSP.

A public hearing was held July 30, 2015 to receive comments on the proposed CSBG State Plan. One person attended. She had previously submitted written comments and did not provide further oral or written comments at the public hearing. This commenter suggested that the Communication Plan described in the proposed CSBG State Plan include the Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) performance management and measurement system, and that the CSBG State Plan also identify that three individuals had been certified as ROMA trainers during a 17 month period and had provided ROMA classes to approximately 60
individuals. The Department agrees with the comments. Section 9.9 of the final CSBG State Plan includes ROMA in the Communication Plan. Section 13.1a of the final plan mentions that three individuals had been certified as ROMA trainers and that ROMA classes had been provided to approximately 60 individuals.

The Department received written comments on the proposed CSBG State Plan from one other individual. She pointed out a typographical error in the Department’s response to Section 4.1, noted that a response checkbox had been missed in Section 14.5a, and suggested that the Department’s response to Section 6.4 be clarified to more specifically describe the circumstances under which the Department would initiate a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). The Department agrees with the comment concerning a QIP. Because the content of Section 6.4 of the final CSBG State Plan has been changed, more specific language concerning the circumstances that would result in a QIP has been added to Section 8.1. The Department has revised its response to Section 4.1, and has ensured that all required sections have responses.

The Final CSBG State Plan provides the content required by the May 20, 2015 version of the MSP. The data developed for the earlier version conform to the content of the May version. On July 29, 2015, OCS informed the States that the U.S. Office of Management and Budget had approved the May 20, 2015 version of the MSP.

VI. FINAL STATE PLAN

The Final CSBG State Plan is available on the Human Services Department website at: http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/income-support-division-plans-and-reports.aspx. If you do not have Internet access, a copy of the Final State Plan may be requested by contacting the Income Support Division’s Work and Family Support Bureau (WFSB) at 505-827-7251.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE

October 1, 2015

VIII. PUBLICATION

Publication of the final CSBG State Plan approved on August 27, 2015 by:

BRENT EARNEST, SECRETARY
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT