

In Washington

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand
PO Box 273
Lowville, NY 13367

Sen. Charles Schumer
313 Hart Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Rep. William Owens
14 Durkee St., Suite 320
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Rep. Christopher Gibson
136 Glen Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

In Albany

Sen. Elizabeth Little
Clinton County Government Center
137 Margaret Street, Suite 100
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward
7559 Court Street, Room 203
PO Box 217
Elizabethtown, NY 12932
Or
Dolan Building, 140 Glen Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

Assemblywoman Janet Duprey
202 US Oval
Plattsburgh, NY 12903

Why is this program essential to fund? What happens to Head Start, LIHEAP, WAP etc if these agencies go away? Why is a Democratic President, who said he does not want to balance the budget on the backs of the most vulnerable willing to do away with this program?

*The story cannot be how great ___ CAP is, it has to be about who will be affected. How many people do you serve? What services will they lose? What projects and facilities depend on CSBG-funded development staff, planners, partners, etc.

*Point out that President Obama singled out this program in the State of the Union, while also saying that it is important not to balance the budget on the backs of our most vulnerable. Community Action serves those living 125% below the poverty line, the very definition of the nation's most vulnerable.

*How many nonfederal dollars come to your agency? Emphasize that because of a small federal investment your CAP is able to multiply that ___ times in your community.

*Think about the role your CAP played in a local economic crisis (a plant closing, massive home foreclosures, etc) and use this as an example of your vital role in the community.

*Think of the most popular program in your community that CSBG played a role in starting. Stress that without those flexible dollars that create innovative local responses to needs would not have been possible.

*We consistently see the word, "opportunity" or "economic opportunity" in Republican talking points. Use these phrases whenever you can to drive home the point that providing economic opportunity is exactly what Community Action does.