



COMMISSIONERS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Vince DiFilippo
Chairman

Jim Hertzler
Vice Chairman

Gary Eichelberger
Secretary

May 9, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Megan Silverstrim, Communications Specialist
717.729.7019

CUMBERLAND COUNTY LAUNCHES NEW COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Cumberland County, PA – At their public meeting today, the Board of Commissioners authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals as part of the newly implemented Community Support Program (CSP). The RFP seeks projects in the area of workforce development for consideration under the new program. The CSP program provides a focused, cost-effective and open means of supporting projects undertaken by organizations that are beneficial to the community, and align with County priorities. Over the past year, the County's leadership has worked closely with local United Ways serving the County and other stakeholders to develop an integrated community-based needs assessment to identify where County support is most needed. CSP adopts many best practices used by non-profit agencies in terms of the administration of grants and project management, including applications, reporting and accountability.

The priority focus area identified for the first year cycle is workforce development. Meetings were held with workforce development providers and stakeholders in the County, including local employers, to define an approach that would not be duplicative to existing efforts. The County has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) that represents the consensus of that group on how best to support improved outcomes for workforce development. It is structured to allow for creative approaches by groups, combinations of groups, alliances, etc.

The CSP model includes an advisory group comprised of the County's Chief Operations Officer and representatives of the County's Finance and Controller's Offices, as well as two At-large community members. This group will oversee the process of accepting and evaluating program applications for financial support, and will then make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for final approval of awards at a public meeting. Financial and in-kind contributions made through the Community Support Program are intended to help organizations chosen with securing resources necessary to impact positive outcomes for the community. In many cases, the support may come in the form of convening stakeholders in targeted areas of need to better coordinate the delivery of services.

CSP guidelines require applicants to submit a summary of their work in the targeted area of workforce development. Applicants will be asked to provide a program logic model, budget information, project budget and timeline, anticipated outcomes, and key metrics to evaluate performance. Applicants are also required to provide copies of their Charters, By-laws, IRS status, licensure and certifications, insurance coverage, and financial information. A pre-response conference call for interested applicants is scheduled

for May 20, 2016 at 10:00 AM. To pre-register for the pre-response conference call email commissioners.csp@ccpa.net.

Any financial support available through CSP is contingent upon the County's overall budget. Future announcements will be made prior to the open application period as part of the County's annual budget cycle. CSP is another effort by the County to improve efficiencies while also improving the quality of life for citizens, and providing more effective stewardship over the use of taxpayer funds. To learn more about the new Community Support Program and how to apply, visit online at www.ccpa.net/csp or email commissioners.csp@ccpa.net.

#