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Timothy R. Warfield

January 22, 2010

Dear Maine Community Action Network,

The Maine CSBG Report, recently developed by NASCSP, includes the following inaccuracy on page 2, "CAAs served 17% of Maine's families with incomes below the federal poverty level and 30% of families with incomes below 150% of the federal poverty level."

NASCSP will rectify this error by providing you with an updated PDF file of the Report. Moreover, labels with the revised version of the paragraph will be mailed to you to cover the original paragraph in the hard copies of the Report. We will also provide an electronic template of the labels in case your agency had more copies of the Report printed.

In order to ensure that a similar situation does not occur, we will be changing our process for developing State CSBG Reports. In the future, we will request that local agencies have the ability to review the Report, prior to final printing.

In response to individual questions raised regarding graphs on page 4, the information below should offer additional clarification.

The chart titled "Families by Poverty Status" located on the top of page 4 describes the poverty levels of your clients as described in the 2008 CSBG IS Report. The height of the block represents the number of families in each poverty level and the percentages relate to income as a percentage of the Federal Poverty Guideline. For example, the Federal Poverty Guideline in 2008 was \$21,200 for a family of four, so a family of four with an income of \$10,000 would be in the "Below 50%" category, while a family with an income of \$22,000 would be in the "101-125%" category. The chart also details how 28,000 families, or 46.7% of the families who reported, were below the Federal Poverty Guideline.

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The chart titled "Families by Source of Income" located on the bottom of page 4 includes 81,497 families, which would seem to conflict with the 66,635 families listed on page 3 (number who were served by CAAs). However, this graph reflects that one family can have multiple sources of income. For example, a family may include a father collecting Social Security and a daughter in the workforce, thus they would be listed twice on the graph.

Sincerely,

Mark Schmeissing

Research Assistant

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