



History of Community Action



History of Community Action Agencies:

Background: Pre-1964

Beginning

Churches were the main source of hope to those less fortunate.

Mid-1800s

The Industrial Revolution brought about the development of the settlement house.

1929

The Great Depression brought about the creation of a Social Security program and Unemployment insurance system.

1954

Brown v. Board of Education led to an expansion of federal policy-making.



History of Community Action Agencies:

1960-1963

*January 20,
1961*

Inauguration of John F. Kennedy.

*Mobilization
for Youth*

Mobilization for Youth was model of Community Action

*New
Haven
Project*

New Haven Project was a model of Community Action

*November
1963*

JFK's last cabinet meeting and assassination.



History of Community Action Agencies:

1964-1974

January 8,
1964

President Lyndon B Johnson declared a "War on Poverty" in his State of the Union address

August 20,
1964

The Economic Opportunity Act was passed creating the federal Office of Economic Opportunity

1967

Green and Quie Amendments

1973

President Nixon attempts to dismantle OEO/CAA network.

EOA of 1964

Foundation of Community Action

Economic Opportunity Act of 1964

“Although the economic well-being and prosperity of the United States have progressed to a level surpassing any achieved in world history, and although these benefits are widely shared throughout the Nation, poverty continues to be the lot of a substantial number of our people. The United States can achieve its full economic and social potential as a nation ***only if every individual has the opportunity to contribute to the full extent of his capabilities and to participate in the workings of our society.*** It is, therefore, the policy of the United States to eliminate the ***paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty*** in this Nation by opening to everyone the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the Opportunity to live in decency and dignity.

It is the purpose of this Act to
Strengthen, Supplement, and Coordinate efforts in furtherance of that policy.”



History of Community Action Agencies:

1974-1981

*January 4,
1974*

Community Services
Administration (CSA) is
created

*August 9,
1974*

Gerald Ford becomes 38th
President after President
Nixon's resignation.

*January 20,
1977*

Jimmy Carter becomes 39th
President.

*January 20,
1981*

Ronald Reagan becomes
40th President.



History of Community Action Agencies:

1981-1989

1981

Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act of 1981 passes.

CSBG Begins

The Economic Opportunity Act was consolidated and was replaced by the Community Services Block Grant

September 30, 1981

The CSA was removed, and the Economic Opportunity Act was rescinded.

1981

NCAF is founded and David Bradley becomes CEO.



History of Community Action Agencies:

1989-2001



January 20, 1989

George H.W. Bush becomes
41st President.



January 20, 1993

Bill Clinton becomes 42nd
President.



1994

MATF is created by the OCS.



October 27, 1998

Community Services Block
Grant 1998



History of Community Action Agencies:

2001-2017

January 20, 2001

George W. Bush becomes
43rd President.

9/11

September 11, 2001,
America is attacked. War in
the Middle East begins.

2007-2009

The Great Recession occurs,
and ARRA is passed in 2009.

January 20,
2009

Barack Obama is elected
44th President.



History of Community Action Agencies:

2017-Present Day



Donald Trump becomes 45th
President



COVID-19, CARES Act



Joe Biden becomes 46th
President



Community Action is still
fighting the War on Poverty.