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Good morning Chairman Martin, Chairman Kearney, Chairman Moul, Chairman Freeman and all members of the House and Senate Local Government Committees. I welcome this opportunity to present you with some of the activities and best practices that our Community Action Agency network provides for Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens.

In federal fiscal year 2019, Pennsylvania received \$30,279,000 and averages about that same amount each year. In previous years, with similar funding levels, the CAA's leveraged an additional \$485 million to assist more than 786,000 low income constituents. Agencies provide services, coordination or partnership for initiatives such as Head Start, early childhood education, housing and shelter, family development, workforce development, emergency food provision, micro-enterprise and the list goes on.

The beauty of this network lies in its ability to assess local needs and determine the approach and strategies to meet those needs either through the provision of services or through the necessary community collaborations and partnerships. In 2018, more than 5,700 unemployed low-income people obtained a job and nearly 1,000 obtained an increase in employment income. Additionally, more than 9,000 people obtained pre-employment skills and competencies required for employment and received training program certificates. More than 10,000 organizations worked in partnership with the CAAs to promote family and community outcomes with over 1 million volunteer hours donated to CAAs.

CSBG is a federal funding source, although modest, that provides a "glue" creating capacity for agencies to maintain local operations and services which can ameliorate the causes and conditions of poverty. These agencies receive CSBG federal funding as the foundation for the wide variety of services, local collaborations, partnerships, and the improvements they provide. This federal funding source also enables them to leverage other federal, state, and local funding, which facilitates community action agency response with multi-faceted approaches to promote community revitalization across the commonwealth.

One of our CSBG funded agencies has joined us today to share with you the work they are doing. I would like to introduce Susan Moore, CEO, Community Action Association of Pennsylvania.