

NASCSP Newsletter

May 2009

Message from our Chair

by Vaughn Clark



Think of this as “Oprah’s Favorite Things” column or *Time’s* “Short List” of weekly picks. I’m told the latest cultural trend in language is that “meta-hip” is the new “cool” (Look it up at urbandictionary.com). So, in an effort to bring you up-to-the-minute and culturally relevant information, here’s the *NASCSP Meta-Hip Happenings List* for May:

NASCSP is delighted to welcome **Arley Johnson** as Director of Government Affairs. Arley served for over eight years as Director of Programs in the WV Office of the Governor, and many of you know him for his work on the CSBG there. He has been an active association member, serving as Representative to the Board for Region III, and, most recently, as head of the Member Services Committee. He served as a Huntington, WV City Councilman for 5 years, as well as the Huntington, WV City Council Chairman, and 15th District Delegate to the West Virginia House of Delegates from 1994 to 2001.

As Director of Government Affairs for NASCSP, Arley will spearhead our advocacy efforts in both CSBG and WAP, bringing to bear his own considerable direct political experience. Arley’s background and skill set is uniquely suited to this new position. If you haven’t yet

experienced his masterful storytelling, be sure to ask him about how he came to work in public policy. Arley can be reached at 202/624-5880 or ajohnson@nascsp.org.

It is also with great pleasure that I introduce **Bob Scott** as the new Director of Weatherization Services at NASCSP. In this exciting and challenging ARRA ramp-up period, I’m confident Bob is just the man for the job. His specialized background includes 30 years of multilevel experience in WAP – from his early roots in a local agency, to his statewide training and later upper-level state management, to his willingness to share his expertise at training workshops. He also served as a WAP representative on many national and regional committees.

Bob has already played a significant leadership role in developing policy at NASCSP. As the WV WAP Director, Bob gained a solid familiarity with the complexities of state processes that will serve our membership well. In addition, I’ve had the privilege to serve alongside him on the board of directors, where most recently he served as WAP East Coast Vice-Chair. Bob can be reached at 202/624-5867 or rscott@nascsp.org.

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Finally, let me also congratulate all of you on your new addition! Yes folks, get out the cigars because we've expanded our family of partners. We've officially incorporated a new non-profit organization, *The National Alliance for Sustainable Communities*, which will research best practices and successful projects and take them to scale. Art Budros, a sociologist at Duke University who researches startup non-profit organizations says that "non-profits are seedbeds of technological innovation, creators of significant employment opportunities and economic growth, and the root cause of organizational diversity in modern societies." That's a description to live up to, but by partnering with state offices, the Alliance has an excellent opportunity to expand the laboratory role that states play in energy efficiency and income sustainability.

This new organization can pursue funding sources beyond the federal government so that the programs and services needed to effectively disseminate information, training, and technical assistance on successful anti-poverty activities can receive significant support.

We can all look forward to the achievements of this new organization and the opportunity it represents to increase the impact of our work by expanding our resources.

Stay tuned for more exciting developments at NASCSP as we continue to work to provide you with the most current and (dare I say?) meta-hip resources and assistance available for state CSBG and WAP directors.

Community Action Turns 45 Let's Celebrate

by John W. Edwards, Jr., Chair, Community Action Partnership

An anniversary of any length and of any sort is worthy of celebration and introspection. We celebrate anniversaries because of achievements made, challenges overcome and opportunities for the future. Through introspection, we bask in the glow of successes made despite any individual shortcomings and retool our commitment to the institution we have chosen.

Such celebration is warranted for May 2009 as we celebrate the 45th year of the Community Action movement in America. We must celebrate our accomplishments and successes and realize how fortunate we are to be in this business at this time in our lives. Community Action is for people, performed by people to help people change lives. The employees working in community action agencies, members of boards of directors, volunteers and customers should come together this month—May 2009—to celebrate the successes and accomplishments achieved by our antipoverty focus.

The mission and model of Community Action remains unchanged as it was created in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Community Action is an antipoverty movement. We have a stable mission to help people

attain skills, knowledge and secure opportunities for them to become self-sufficient. As we celebrate, let us rekindle the notion that our effectiveness is measured by the changes and improvements we achieve in communities across America for antipoverty purposes. Toward fulfilling this mission, we must maintain our focus on self-sufficiency and community revitalization by working in partnership with other organizations.

Community Action is a model that is worthy of replication, given our governance and oversight structure and the array of services and programs administered by agencies throughout America. Truly, this is worthy of celebration. While we celebrate, we should not rest on our laurels, for there is much work yet to accomplish.

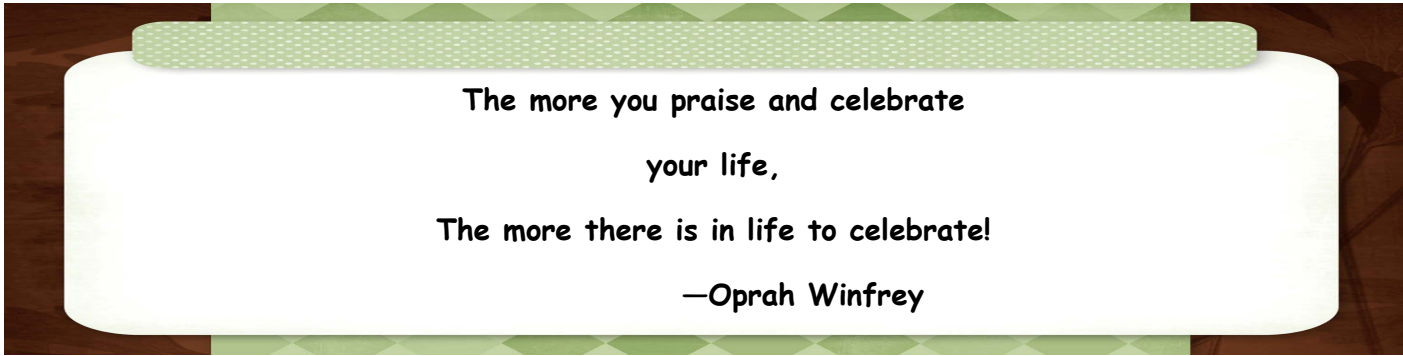
I encourage Community Action Agency leadership to utilize Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) principles, tools and techniques throughout agencies as we develop, plan, implement and evaluate our programs. I encourage the use of the Excellence Programs such as Pathways to Excellence to subscribe to the thirty-four (34) Community Action Standards of Excellence. I encourage the use of the Certified

Community Action Professional (CCAP) program. I encourage Community Action boards of directors to have the proper oversight and utilize training opportunities to better understand the complexities of their roles and responsibilities.

Right now, America is in a recession and Community Action can be a catalyst to generate change to reduce unemployment, enhance education and job training skills, improve communities and teach people how to save to acquire assets that appreciate in value. We have the

opportunity to help the Administration and Congress to look at Community Action as “the network” when they think of antipoverty initiatives and appropriations for such.

Today we celebrate and we should celebrate. It is also a time for introspection to retool ourselves and our organizations to root out poverty in America. I believe we have the capacity and will to achieve greater success in America. Happy birthday, Community Action!



LEGISLATIVE CORNER

by Jovita A. Tolbert and Rebecca Stewart



APPROPRIATIONS

Congress returns from its Memorial Day recess the week of June 1st. Upon its return, appropriators will begin the ground work needed to move fiscal 2010 spending bills. In fact, House Appropriations leaders expect to begin subcommittee markups as soon as Congress returns.

House and Senate leaders want to pass all 12 fiscal 2010 appropriations bills before the start of the August recess. This would give them a total of eight weeks, excluding the one-week July Fourth recess, to complete work on all 12 appropriations bills. Congressional leaders also want to pass other major legislation regarding the health care system and climate change. The timing for consideration and passage of health and climate legislation, as well as the ability of leaders to reach agreements with Republicans to limit amendments to bills, will be a major determinant of whether or not Congress adheres to its appropriations timeline. Moreover, a great deal of attention will be focused on the \$17 billion in proposed cuts or

terminations the President recommended for budgetary savings. A number of lawmakers have expressed opposition to the proposed cuts and have vowed to protect the affected programs.

CSBG appears to be at least level-funded at \$700 million under the President’s proposed budget. WAP should be funded at \$220 million.

For detailed information on the President’s budget, please visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Overview/>.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009

HR 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, also known as Waxman-Markey, was approved in a vote of 33-25 by the House Energy and Commerce Committee on May 21, 2009 after four days of committee discussions and several weeks of negotiations

among Democrats. There is currently no schedule for bringing the legislation to the floor, though it is likely to come up in June or July. This legislation includes provisions for a cap-and-trade emissions scheme. The

proceeds from such a measure could possibly be used to sustain the Weatherization Assistance Program in the future.

Sources: Congressional Quarterly

2009 NASCSP ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MINNEAPOLIS AIRPORT MARRIOTT - BLOOMINGTON, MN

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

NASCSP Newsletter Online!



SPREAD THE WORD

Phase 2 of our transition from paper to electronic transmission is effective as of January 2009.

To continue receiving the newsletter, remind your colleagues to send their email addresses under the subject header

“online newsletter” to tjoyner@nascsp.org.

NASCSP Invites States to Join Our Online Trainings!

FY 2009 CSBG-IS Forms and Instructions Webinars

Meeting the training needs of our members is one of our top priorities and we've found a way to bring some of our most in-demand state training topics directly to you. Using technology available to everyone via the Internet, we are pleased to present Web-based CSBG training.

FY 2009 IS Survey: PART I

Date: 06.16.09

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 EST

Cost: FREE!

Visit the address below to Register!

<http://tinyurl.com/mq9get>

FY 2009 IS Survey: PART II

Date: 06.17.09

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 EST

Cost: FREE!

Visit the address below to Register!

<http://tinyurl.com/l4kuer>

What you get:

- Overview of FY 2009 reporting requirements,
- New CSBG ARRA-related reporting,
- Tips on avoiding common reporting errors,
- Network with peers, and
- Strategize on challenges.

...all for FREE!

This review has been created for those both new to and experienced with the CSBG IS.



Questions? Email Madelaine Criden at mcriden@nascsp.org or call

CSBG Spotlight: Achieving Economic Security & Well-Being through Asset Development

edited by Jovita A. Tolbert

Research has shown there is a clear connection between assets and well-being. As the value of a family's assets increase, the family has to worry about meeting their basic needs. This in turn allows families an opportunity to plan for long-term economic growth and stability. Moreover, in a free market economy, personal assets often serve as a safety net against unexpected economic crises.

Recognizing the above, the Experiment in Self-Reliance (ESR) Community Action Agency in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has recently grown its "ESR Saves" program into a larger *North Carolina (NC) Saves* program. Built on the "America Saves" national model, the *NC Saves* program participants deposit approximately \$20 per month into an interest bearing, no service charge savings account at one of ten participating banks in Forsyth County. Participants then receive case management, wealth coaching, and financial literacy counseling designed to change spending and saving habits. The objective is to encourage asset building, investment, and wealth accumulation. To encourage program completion, CSBG caseworkers work closely with *NC Saves* program participants to ensure realistic savings/spending goals are set and monitored through monthly bank statements and other means.

The *NC Saves* program adheres to new thinking and research regarding moving individuals from poverty to economic security. Its aim is to increase net worth to create economic mobility and general well-being. It brings low-income individuals and families into self-sufficiency not by consumption, but rather by savings and investment. Success is measured then by an increase in both income and assets. Using Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) to project program outcomes, ESR set a goal of sixty (60) *NC Saves* program participant families achieving economic security within the program's first year of operation. In 2007, this goal was met and exceeded as a remarkable seventy-one (71) out of ninety-seven (97) families

achieved economic security. This amounts to a seventy-three (73) percent success rate in the midst of what has become a tough economic recession.

ESR works with over twenty community partners to make this program successful. The diverse mix of partners includes the following members of the community served by ESR: the NC Department of Health & Human Services, the American Red Cross, the Sunnyside Ministry and the Winston-Salem Central Library. CSBG funds support the general administration of the *NC Saves* program and help to leverage the more than eight other funding sources used to provide direct services. For additional information on the *NC Saves* program, visit: www.eisr.org.

Sources: 2007 CSBG Information Systems Survey; Household Wealth in Freefall, Center for American Progress, <http://tiny.cc/HouseholdWealth>; Credit Matters: Low Income Asset Building Challenges in a Dual Financial Services System, Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University, <http://tiny.cc/CreditMatters>.

Self-reliance

**is the only road to true freedom,
and being one's own person
is its ultimate reward.**

— Patricia Sampson

WAP CORNER:

2009 Department of Energy Northeast Region Weatherization Conference

by Rebecca Stewart

The 2009 Department of Energy (DOE) Northeast Region Weatherization Conference, held in beautiful Lake Placid, New York on May 18th through 21st, was a resounding success. The Adirondack backdrop and overwhelming enthusiasm of the participants combined to create an environment of mutual support and learning. The legacy of the Olympics held there in 1932 and 1980 as well as the tremendous natural beauty made the area an ideal setting for the conference.

The hosts of the conference, the New York State Weatherization Directors' Association (NYSWDA) began planning the conference before the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 appropriated \$5 billion to the Weatherization Assistance Program and catapulted the program to the forefront of national consciousness and energy policy. With over 500 registrants, the event was incredibly well attended and held the distinction of being the first Weatherization conference since the ARRA funds became a reality. The planning committee, which included seven state Weatherization agencies, the Department of Energy, and six other agencies and organizations, put on a deeply informative and well attended conference, despite the lure of an idyllic Adirondack spring. Bob Scott, the new Director of Weatherization Services, made his debut appearance as a representative of NASCSP and we continue to be excited to have him on board.

The sweeping vista of Lake Placid from the grand, lodge-like hotel where the conference was held seemed a fitting setting for a gathering of Weatherization professionals, with the additional prestige and importance the program has garnered in the last few months. The morning of May 18th opened with a Plenary session where Commissioner Deborah VanAmerongen from the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal and Jean Diggs from the Department of Energy welcomed participants and enumerated the many issues facing the WAP today and the challenges ahead in fulfilling the mandate of President Obama and Congress to significantly Ramp Up operations.

Tracks were divided into Program Management, Field/Diagnostics, Health and Safety, and General Attendance. Jean Diggs and Holly Ravesloot, both from DOE, conducted a very informative session on "The Federal Perspective" which consisted mostly of questions and answers. While additional guidance is awaited from the Agency, especially in the eagerly awaited Davis-Bacon ruling, Ms. Diggs and Ms. Ravesloot did an admirable job of clearing up misunderstandings and confusion. Other sessions ranged from "Zonal Pressure Diagnostics" to "How to Advocate for Weatherization" to "Air Sealing Strategies - How to Prioritize and Optimize Efforts." There were also several well-attended short courses and demonstrations which included a range of technical courses like Recommended Energy Auditor Tools and Equipment and Dense Pack Cellulose Techniques. BPI credit was available for many of the courses.

A dinner held at the historic Olympic Center was a highlight of the event. The speaker was Dave Silk, a member of the 1980 "Miracle On Ice" hockey team that defeated the Soviet Union en route to an Olympic Gold Medal. One of 10 underclassmen to make the team, Silk scored the first Olympic goal for the United States. His humorous and self-deprecating manner made for a riveting retelling of the historic event and the surroundings, while surprisingly cramped for an Olympic facility, were inspirational.

Ultimately, the conference was a resounding success. The depth of knowledge and experience of the attendees was truly humbling, as was the grandeur of the Adirondacks. Many thanks to the Planning Committee and NYSWDA, for again showing us how Weatherization Works!



**If nothing ever changed,
there'd be no butterflies.**





2009 NATIONAL WEATHERIZATION
TRAINING CONFERENCE

JULY 20-23, 2009 | INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

www.energy.gov/weatherization/conference/

Weatherization Works

Registration

Deadline:

July 1, 2009

Indiana Convention Center

100 South Capitol Avenue

Indianapolis, Indiana

U.S. Department of Energy

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Visit the **NEW ROMA I.ORG**



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www.roma1.org

Your Resource for Results Oriented Management and Accountability Tools, Techniques, and Practices

UPCOMING EVENTS

OKACAA SUMMER CONFERENCE

June 3-5, 2009
Cherokee Resort Conference Center
Catoosa, Oklahoma
plaub@okacaa.org

2009 NATIONAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION MEETING

June 14-15, 2009
DoubleTree Portland-Lloyd Center Hotel
Portland, Oregon
www.neada.org

NATIONAL ENERGY AND UTILITY AFFORDABILITY CONFERENCE

June 15-17, 2009
DoubleTree Hotel-Portland Lloyd Center
Portland, Oregon
www.neuac.org

4TH ANNUAL CONNECTING MARRIAGE RESEARCH TO PRACTICE CONFERENCE: THE BLACK FAMILY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

June 16-18, 2009
University of North Carolina - Friday Center
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
www.aahmi.net

11TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FATHERHOOD CONFERENCE: MAXIMIZING FATHER ENGAGEMENT, CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF FATHER'S DAY IN AMERICA

JUNE 16-19, 2009
Tremont Plaza Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland
www.npclstrongfamilies.com

20TH ANNIVERSARY ENERGY FAIR

June 19-21, 2009
Custer, Wisconsin
www.the-mrea.org

2009 CAPLAW NATIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

June 23-25, 2009
Seattle Sheraton Hotel
Seattle, Washington
www.caplaw.org

2009 SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR HEAD START PROGRAMS

BASIC SKILLS I & 2 FOR ENTRY LEVEL WORKERS
June 23-26, 2009
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley, California
www.cencomfut.com

WIPFLI'S 10TH ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE FOR GRANT-FUNDED PROGRAMS

July 6 - 10, 2009
Caesars Palace
Las Vegas, Nevada
www.gfpinvegas.com

2009 NATIONAL WEATHERIZATION TRAINING CONFERENCE

July 20-23, 2009
Indiana Convention Center
Indianapolis, Indiana
www.eere.energy.gov/weatherization/conference

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES' LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

July 20-24, 2009
Pennsylvania Convention Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
303/364-7700

SOUTH-BY-SOUTHWEST 2009 HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START SUMMER CONFERENCE

July 21-23, 2009
South Padre Island Convention Center
South Padre Island, Texas
956/399-9944

24TH ANNUAL TEXAS HEAD START ANNUAL CONFERENCE

July 26-29, 2009
 Sheraton Hotel
 Dallas, Texas
www.txhsa.org

2009 ACEEE SUMMER STUDY ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN INDUSTRY

July 28-31, 2009
 The Conference Center Niagara Falls
 Niagara Falls, New York
www.aceee.org/conf/09ss/09ssindex.htm

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR HEAD START MANAGEMENT

July 29-31, 2009
 Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf
 San Francisco, California
www.cencomfut.com

GOENERGY 2009

August 9-12, 2009
 Rhode Island Convention Center
 Providence, Rhode Island
www.govenergy.gov

2009 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM EVALUATION CONFERENCE

August 12-14, 2009
 The Hilton Portland & Executive Tower
 Portland, Oregon
www.iepec.org

OWHAC HOUSING AND ENERGY CONFERENCE

August 18-21, 2009
 Biltmore Hotel
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
plaub@okacaa.org

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL TRAINING CONVENTION

September 2-5, 2009
 Philadelphia Downtown Marriott
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
www.communityactionpartnership.com

2009 ANNUAL NASCS SP CONFERENCE

Sept. 15-18, 2009
 Minneapolis Airport Marriott
 Bloomington, Minnesota
nascsp@gove.org

OKACAA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 16-18, 2009
 Marriott NW Expressway
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
plaub@okacaa.org

THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION'S 39TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

September 23-26, 2009
 Walter E. Washington Convention Center
 Washington, DC
www.cbcfinc.org

COMMUNITY ACTION OF REGION VI 2009 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

October 7-9, 2009
 Wyndham Hotel
 North Little Rock, Arkansas
www.caaregionvi.org

2009 REGION VI HEAD START ASSOCIATION TRAINING INSTITUTE

November 4-6, 2009
 Albuquerque Hilton
 Albuquerque, New Mexico
www.nmhsa.net

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ENHANCED BUILDING OPERATIONS

November 17-19, 2009
 Austin, Texas
www.esl.tamu.edu

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO

November 18-21, 2009
 DC Convention Center
 Washington, DC
www.naeyc.org

OKACAA WINTER CONFERENCE

December 9-11, 2009
Hilton Southern Hills
Tulsa, Oklahoma
plaub@okacaa.org

NATIONAL CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL POLICY FORUM AND TRAINING

January 25-27, 2010
Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill
Washington, DC
www.ncsea.org

2010 NASCSP MID-WINTER TRAINING CONFERENCE

February 22-26, 2010
Hyatt Regency Bethesda
Bethesda, Maryland
nascsp@gove.org

THE CONGRESIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION'S 40TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

September 22-25, 2010
Walter E. Washington Convention Center
Washington, DC
www.cbcfinc.org

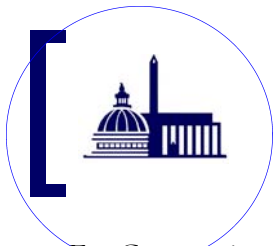


NASCSP NEWS

NASCSP is saddened by the sudden passing of *NASCSP* member **Zack Hamlett**, Director of the North Carolina DHHS Office of Economic Opportunity, as the result of a car accident. There will be a memorial service for **Zack** on Wednesday, June 3, 2009, 12 noon at St. Paul AME Church - Edenton Street, Raleigh, NC. Visitation will be 11:30-noon on Wednesday.

Funeral Arrangements are being handled by Haywood Funeral Home, 2415 S Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27603 - (919) 832-2835.

The address for **Zack's** wife, **Eleanora Tate**, is 213 Dwelling Place, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545.



National Association for State Community Services Programs

NASCSP Board Training Manual & DVD Now Available!

For Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to perform well, sound governance is critical. Effective performance by the board helps ensure that objectives are realized, resources are well managed, important relationships are nurtured, and the interest of low-income, public, and private stakeholders are reflected in decisions.

Through research, learning events, and consultation, a unique board training manual and DVD has been developed, for board members and executive directors, to strengthen the governance capacity of CAA tripartite boards. The board training manual includes sample by-laws, conflict of interest policy, evaluation tools and much, much More! The DVD provides an in-depth tutorial of the board governance process.

This training manual and DVD are available for only \$49.99!
To order, please contact Cindy Homol at:
nascsp@gove.org



NASCSP IN MINNESOTA



IT'S TIME...MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND
THE 2009 NASCSP ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MINNEAPOLIS AIRPORT MARRIOTT
SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2009
PLAN TO BE THERE!!!!

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NASCSP Mission:

“Building capacity in states to respond to poverty issues.”