

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

NASCSP President and Board of Directors Announces New Executive Director

Seasoned Policy Expert to Join Association Following National Search

Washington, D.C. Oct. 19 – The National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSP) is pleased to announce the selection of Cheryl Williams as the organization's next executive director. The recruitment of Williams, an experienced nonprofit leader and public policy expert, follows a national search led by Good Insight, an executive search firm based in Washington, D.C.

Williams will begin her tenure at NASCSP on December 1 and will be introduced to the NASCSP membership at the Annual Training Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 24-28.

“Cheryl is perfectly positioned to further our mission to help our members enable social and economic mobility and energy efficiency in low-income communities at the state level,” said Beverly Buchanan, president of the NASCSP Board of Directors and CSBG Manager, Arkansas Department of Human Services. “Her experience in advocacy and government relations will strengthen and expand NASCSP’s reach in pivotal ways.”

Williams’ leadership comes at a crucial time. With federal investments including the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, states are poised to deliver essential and significant benefits in support of low-income communities. She will guide NASCSP as it supports state administrators to adapt to these exciting challenges.

“NASCSP is an essential partner to state CSBG and WAP offices through its first-class training and technical assistance, research, thought leadership, and advocacy,” said Williams. “I could not be more excited to join an organization dedicated to supporting state officials and am looking forward to working with our members, partners, and other stakeholders to create meaningful and lasting change in communities and people’s lives all across America.”

NASCSP embarked on the search for a new Executive Director in May 2022. The process was guided by a search committee co-chaired by Matt Fitzgerald, NASCSP Board Vice President and Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, Virginia Department of Social Services and Jeff Heino, NASCSP Weatherization Program Chair and Weatherization Policy Manager, Wisconsin Division of

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Stuart Campbell, CSBG Program Chair, *MD*
Jeff Heino, WAP Program Chair, *WI*
Jeannie Chaffin, Interim Executive Director

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Energy, Housing & Community Resources. NASCSP board members Rhea Woods, Region III CSBG Rep, LA; Stephanie Insinna-Sahondo, Region IV WAP Rep, CO; Troy Cucchiara, Region III WAP Alternate Rep, NM; and Leslie Taylor, Region V CSBG Alternate Rep, CA also served on the search committee. Jeannie Chaffin, President of Jeannie Chaffin, LLC, former presidential appointee in the US Department of Health and Human Services, and state human services official, has served as Interim Executive Director since March 2022 supporting the Board of Directors and staff during the transition period.

“On behalf of the NASCSP Board of Directors, I extend sincere gratitude to our search committee colleagues, Jeannie, and the entire NASCSP staff for their stellar efforts to advance the organization during this leadership transition and for stewarding this successful process,” said Buchanan.

About Cheryl Williams

Cheryl Williams is a seasoned executive with more than 20 years of public policy and operations experience in the federal government and nonprofit sector.

As Vice President of the Women’s Congressional Policy Institute, Williams provided strategic leadership to bring together women policymakers and trusted partners to advance issues important to women and girls, develop the next generation of women leaders, and foster a more effective and representative democracy.

Previously, Williams served as Associate Director of Government Affairs for the United Negro College Fund, where she advocated on behalf of historically black colleges and universities and to increase access to higher education for students with low incomes. As senior legislative assistant to Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, she was a trusted advisor on voting rights, women’s health, labor and employment, education, and appropriations, among other issues.

She earned her bachelor’s degree from Spelman College and her law degree from American University. A native Washingtonian, Williams serves on the boards of Everyone Home DC and the CKA SAVE Project. She also is a longtime volunteer with Food and Friends and SisterMentors.

About NASCSP

Formed in 1978, **NASCSP** is a 501(c)(6) membership-based nonprofit that advocates for and enhances the partnership between federal and state governments to alleviate poverty and achieve economic security for families across the country. NASCSP's members are state administrators of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). By extension, NASCSP also reaches a network of State Community Action Associations, local Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and Weatherization Assistance providers who work nationwide.

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NASCSP helps state administrators effectively empower families with low incomes to reach social and economic mobility and health and wellbeing through an extensive array of services that include weatherization, energy assistance, childcare, nutrition, employment, job training, and housing in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

NASCSP provides training, technical assistance, research, analysis, and legislative/regulatory voice to CSBG and WAP offices, CAAs, and state associations to increase their capacity and support their collective work.

About Good Insight

With a mission to connect good causes to great leaders, Good Insight is an executive search firm and governance consultancy serving the social sector. They plan leadership transitions, recruit talented senior executives, and strengthen boards of directors. Good Insight focuses on leadership searches for small and mid-sized nonprofits with a nationwide reach. To learn more, visit www.good-insight.org.

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