2018-2019 OCS Report Review Feedback Continued:

Annual Report FY 2019 data was originally due by March 30, 2020. This was the first year where data entered into CSBG Reporter would be exported and directly uploaded to the Federal database. In the middle of 2019, OCS announced that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) process for clearance of reporting requirements would expire in January of 2020, and therefore a new process would need to be undertaken to allow for submittal of our data for FY2019. This was discussed in several communications from OCS, two of which are attached here and here. This process was not completed until April of 2020, and the FY2019 Annual Report was submitted by our office to OCS on July 17, 2020.

Near the end of September, OCS did provide substantive feedback to us on the Annual Report submittal. They sent back over 150 questions for clarification on the agency data that had been submitted in CSBG Reporter. We were given about two weeks to collect information on those questions and resubmit for FY2019. We realize that the data submitted is from over a year ago at this point, so we are asking agencies to do their best to correct data for this request. All agencies received these clarification requests from their Agency Representative in our office, and we have received many of them back. Once we have completed the update of information to OCS, we will be putting together a webinar to go through the primary questions asked and ways to avoid them in the future.

The most important thing will be that we will be able to complete review of your FY2020 data (currently being completed) and request any clarifications in our immediate feedback. So that should allow for an easier correction, closer to the time of collection. We also have very good information on what the main confusions have been in the submittal of the Annual Report for these last two years, and we will continue to find/create Training/Technical Assistance on the Annual Report. We know that the Instruction Manuals through NASCSP are useful tools, but we can continue to improve this process. Thank you for your work to clean up the data for FY2019, and we look forward to providing you feedback on your FY2020 data soon. For this current year of FY2021, we should be much closer to having a highly accurate and more useful Annual Report for all of us.