



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Office of Community Services | 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201  
www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs

## Social Services Block Grant

### Dear Colleague Letter

**DCL#:** ACF-OCS-SSBG-DCL-2024-05

**DATE:** February 13, 2024

**TO:** Social Services Program Officials, Stakeholders, Community Partners

**SUBJECT:** HHS Recruits Lived Expert Consultants in Child Wellbeing Program Areas

**ATTACHMENT(S):** [Children's Interagency Coordinating Council Social Media Flyer](#)

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#### Dear Colleagues:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) established the Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CICC) to improve coordination and transparency in child policy across federal agencies, with a focus on issues such as child poverty and wellbeing. The council was established under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023.

The CICC is recruiting individuals with lived experience in areas such as child care, adoption assistance, child protective services, child welfare programs, and services for children with disabilities. Individuals selected will serve as expert consultants by participating in working groups and forums. These efforts aim to develop fair and inclusive policies that address the needs of parents, children, and their communities. State and territory human services administrators, stakeholders, and community-based partners are encouraged to join in this recruiting effort, by sharing the information below with local service providers and other partners.

#### **Lived Experience Expert Consultant Details**

CICC seeks a diverse group of 20 individuals with direct, firsthand experience with poverty to inform and support the work of the council. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and available up to 20 hours total from March 2024 through December 2024. Lived experience experts will be compensated for their time and effort. Individuals who are selected also will receive training and support for optimal participation and representation.

Interested applicants are welcome to attend one of two informational sessions slated for Tuesday, February 13, 2024 from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm EST ([please click here to register](#)) or Thursday, February 15, 2024 from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm EST ([please click here to register](#)). For a copy of the informational session

recording or technical assistance with the application, individuals can reach out to Gislene Tasayco at [gtasayco@air.org](mailto:gtasayco@air.org). **The application deadline is Friday, February 23, 2024, at 5 pm EST.**

**Help Spread the Word on Community Recruitment for Council**

Please share this request for participants with your child wellbeing networks. Attached is a flyer/image to accompany social media messages.

**Sample social media messages:**

1. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is looking for people with lived/living experience with poverty to consult for the new federal Children's Interagency Coordinating Council! Please share and apply now! Check out [bit.ly/CICCLivedExpert](https://bit.ly/CICCLivedExpert) for more information. #livedexperience #childpoverty #childwellbeing #livedexpert
2. Are you a person with direct, first-hand experience with poverty as a child, parent, and/or caregiver? Are you interested in the topic of reducing child poverty and improving child well-being? The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) invites you to apply to this new consulting opportunity with the new federal Children's Interagency Coordinating Council. Please share and apply now! Check out [bit.ly/CICCLivedExpert](https://bit.ly/CICCLivedExpert) for more information. #livedexperience #childpoverty #childwellbeing #livedexpert
3. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) new federal Children's Interagency Coordinating Council is recruiting lived experience expert consultants! Check out the recruitment details at [bit.ly/CICCLivedExpert](https://bit.ly/CICCLivedExpert). Application deadline is February 23, 2024. #livedexperience #childpoverty #childwellbeing #livedexpert

**Resources for Additional Information on CICC Initiatives:**

- **Learn More About CICC:** <https://youth.gov>
- **Report to Congress:** [2023 Annual Report](#)
- **Quarterly Public Newsletter:** Please visit <https://youth.gov/subscribe-cicc-newsletter> to sign up for the newsletter.

Thank you for sharing this message as we work together to build a more inclusive and equitable approach to child wellbeing initiatives.

**Sincerely,**

**Yolanda J. Butler, PhD  
Senior Advisor  
Social Services Block Grant  
Office of Community Services**