

# A Door to Opportunity

By Sharon C. Goodson

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) has not been reauthorized by the U.S. Congress since 1998. A strong anti-poverty vehicle, CSBG funding provides local access to opportunity for more than 45 million families living in poverty in communities across the United States. This funding, when leveraged with other local, state, and private resources, opens a door to opportunity and access to the American dream.

The leadership of Community Action Agencies across the southeast must embrace the **Community Economic Opportunity Act, H.R.1655**. We applaud the bipartisan effort which believes in local leadership, while providing access to the valuable resources needed to create jobs while opening the door to endless opportunity.

President Lyndon B. Johnson said, "we must open the doors opportunity. But we must also equip our people to walk through the doors."

Community action agencies have and will continue to equip poverty stricken families with the tools needed to become productive, tax paying citizens.

