DCTA

DISTRESSED CITIES & PERSISTENT POVERTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

# DCTA Program Overview

Established in 2018 to build capacity of relatively small local governments that may not otherwise have direct access to HUD programs and TA resources

Primary goal to help local governments improve their fiscal health so they may be more successful in securing additional resources, completing projects, and meeting goals

TA may be available for a range of topics – including governance, management and administration; inclusive community engagement; program and grant administration and compliance, and partnership building

Focus on building capacity in ways that are sustainable (long-lasting) for the local government

# What is technical assistance?

HUD Definition: Guidance which enables recipients to overcome a lack of specific skills or knowledge and, by doing so, become more successful in meeting the needs of their communities. TA is the transfer of skills and knowledge to entities that may need, but do not possess, such skills and knowledge.

What does this mean in terms of DCTA?
- The TA provider works directly with program recipients (local governments and sometimes their partners) to make progress in identified focus areas.
- The recipient must be actively involved throughout the process. If the recipient is unresponsive, the TA must pause or terminate.
- Typical recipients are very low capacity and successful recipients decide to make DCTA a priority.
- The DCTA program cannot help a recipient if the recipient does not have capacity to engage and work with the TA provider.

# DCTA Team

TA Providers Bring Expertise and Resources* to Local Governments

- Local Initiatives Support Corporation https://www.lisc.org/
- Enterprise Community Partners https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/
- BCT Partners https://www.bctpartners.com/
- PFM https://www.pfm.com/

HUD Funds, Directs, and Oversees TA Providers

*A recipient typically receives TA from one primary provider. HUD determines the most appropriate provider based on local government needs and program resources.

# Eligibility Map

Navigate to your jurisdiction of interest or you can search for a jurisdiction in the search box in the upper right.

Only local governments that have been found eligible by HUD are included on the map.
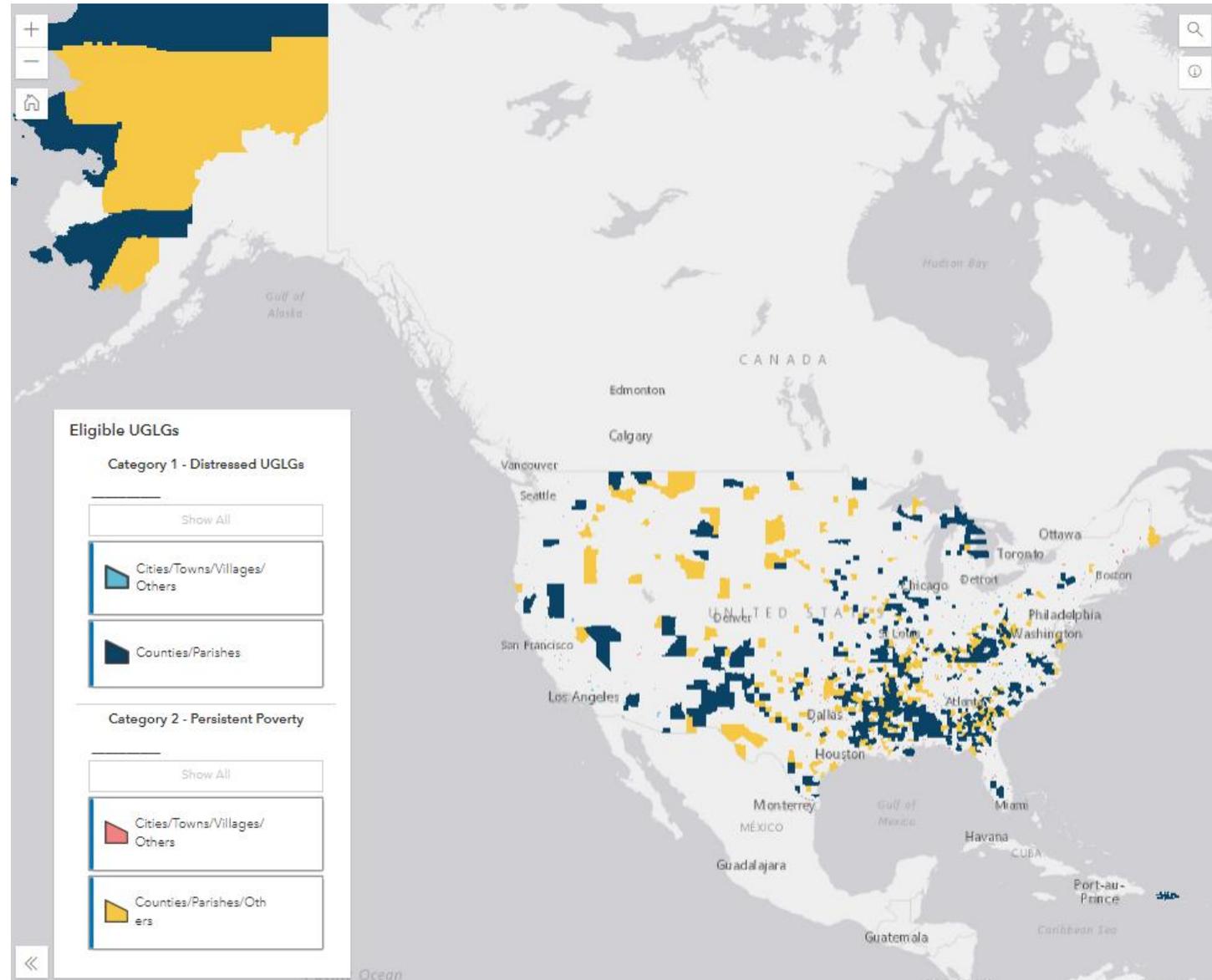
# Economically Distressed

Local governments that meet at least one of the following criteria are eligible to receive assistance under the DCTA program.

Reminder: not all eligible local government requests will be approved due to limited program capacity

An annual average unemployment rate of 9 percent or more over the past 3 years
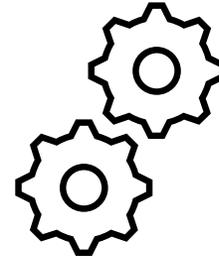
A noncollege poverty rate of 20 percent or more as of the most recent 5-year ACS survey

A population decline of 5 percent or more between 2010 and the most recent 5-year ACS survey

# Experiencing Persistent Poverty

Local governments with census tract(s) experiencing persistent poverty are eligible to receive assistance under the DCTA program.

Nonprofit partners of local governments are also eligible to receive technical assistance.

A census tract with a poverty rate of 20% or higher over the past 30 years.

This is currently calculated using poverty rate estimates from the 2000 Decennial Census, the 2006-2010 5-Year ACS, and the 2015-2019 5-Year ACS datasets. HUD uses a crosswalk to translate the 2000 estimates into the 2010 census tract geographies, as some census tracts have been altered.

# DCTA Process

```
┌─────────────────────┐     ┌─────────────────────┐     ┌─────────────────────┐
│  Local government   │────▶│    HUD reviews      │────▶│ Approved requests   │
│ requests assistance │     │  request and meets  │     │   start with a      │
│                     │     │     with local      │     │  capacity needs     │
│                     │     │    government       │     │ assessment (CNA)*   │
└─────────────────────┘     └─────────────────────┘     └─────────────────────┘
                                                                   │
┌─────────────────────┐     ┌─────────────────────┐     ┌─────────────────────┐
│  CNA determines     │────▶│  Local government   │────▶│    HUD and TA       │
│ focus and scope of  │     │   and TA provider   │     │ provider conduct    │
│  future direct TA   │     │ engage in capacity  │     │    follow-up        │
│                     │     │    building TA      │     │                     │
└─────────────────────┘     └─────────────────────┘     └─────────────────────┘
```
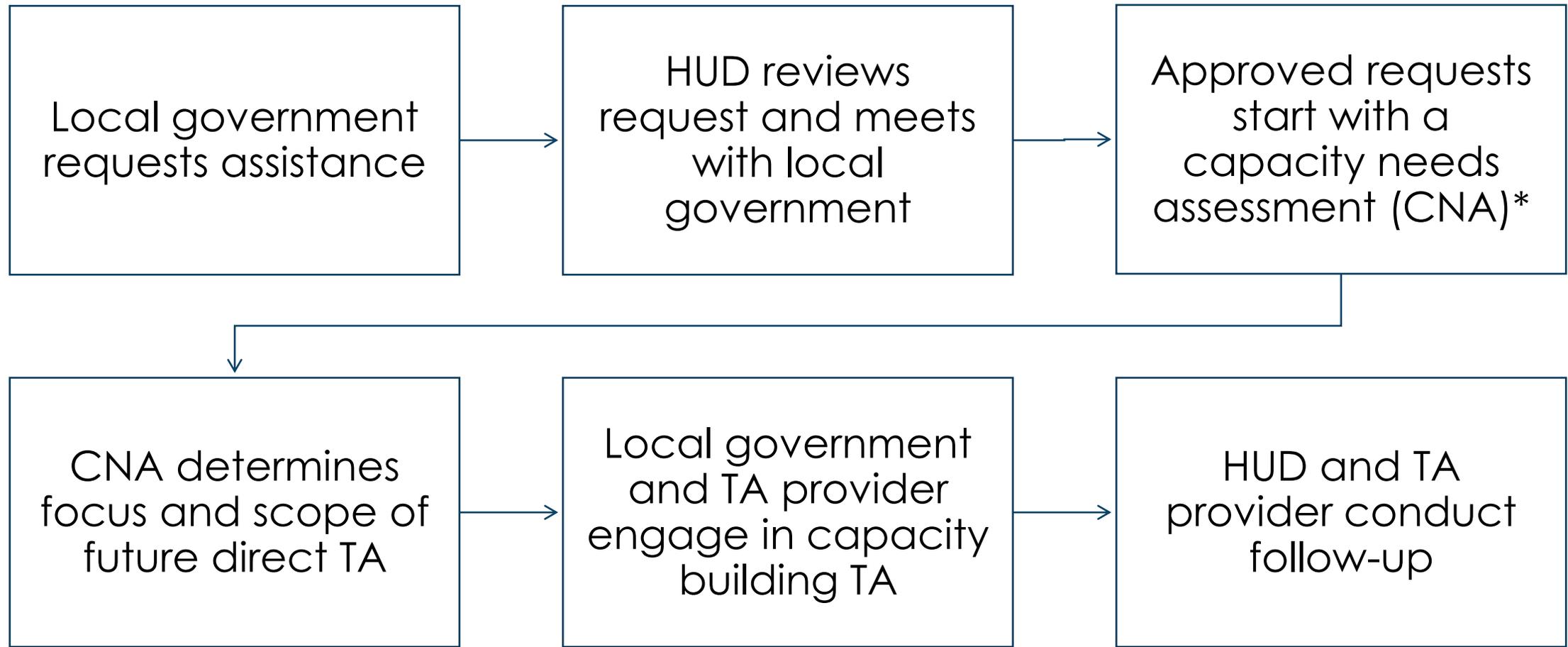
*Some local governments have very specific and targeted TA needs when they request TA.
If this is the case, it may be possible to receive direct TA without a completed CNA.

# Example Table

| Challenge or Opportunity<br><br>*Identified by recipient (local government)* | Assessment<br><br>*TA Provider assesses capacity in specific areas based on the identified challenge or opportunity* | TA Activities<br><br>*Tailored capacity building support is provided to pursue the opportunity or address the challenge* | Desired Outcome<br><br>*A goal the recipient is working towards with the TA* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Opportunity: state CDBG-DR funds will be made available through a competitive process | • Fiscal health<br>• Financial management practices<br>• Community background | • Support in remedying recent adverse financial audit findings.<br>• Training in grant management.<br>• Support in reviewing funding opportunities and drafting a competitive application. | Local government receives CDBG-DR funds for identified project. |
| Challenge: chronic disinvestment in downtown | • Existing partnerships<br>• Community assets<br>• Demographics<br>• Planning documents<br>• Economic development history | • Assist in development of local program to support small business owners.<br>• Provide guidance on strategy for attracting larger employers. | Establish a coalition of local businesses and organizations invested in improving downtown.<br><br>Secure funding for main street store façade restoration. |

# Local governments may learn more and request TA via the DCTA webpage on HUD.gov and the HUD Exchange
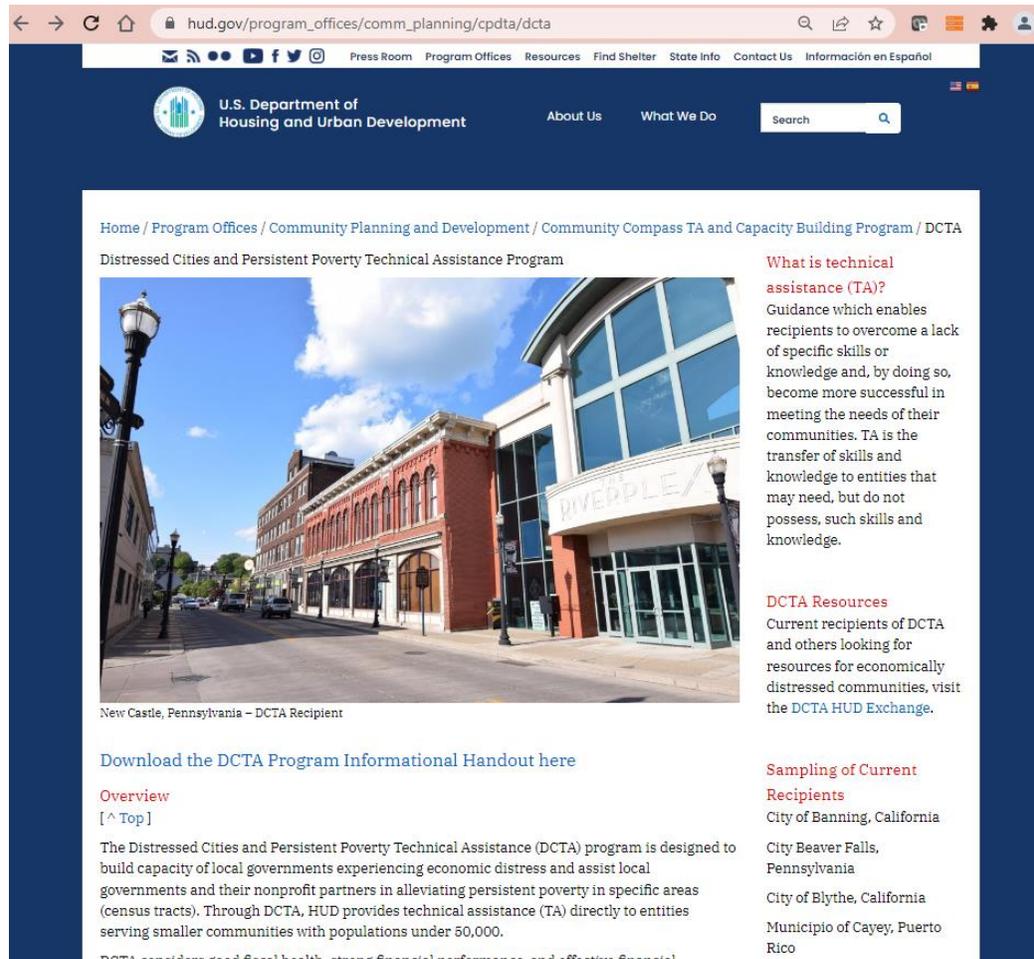


https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cpdta/dcta

https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/dcta

# Questions and Discussion

Lea Anderson, DCTA Program Manager
Lea.e.anderson@hud.gov

Brian Stromberg, DCTA Assistant Program Manager
Brian.stromberg@hud.gov