

# **STATE CDC ASSOCIATIONS: WHAT THEY ARE, WHAT THEY ARE NOT, AND WHAT THEY CAN BE**

**Corianne P. Scally, Ph.D.  
University at Albany, SUNY**

**NACEDA Policy Summit  
March 30, 2009**

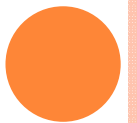
## SURVEY DESCRIPTION

- **PURPOSE OF STUDY:** to understand history, structure, strategies, accomplishments and challenges of state CDC associations.
- **POPULATION:** NACEDA membership list as of April 2008 = 22 orgs in 20 states
- **RESPONSE:** 12 (as of 3/24/09 )
  - 55% response rate by organization
  - 60% by state



# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE: DIVERSE IN HISTORY & STRUCTURE

- A mixture of **YOUNG** and **OLD**
- Result of **INDIVIDUAL** leadership & **GRASSROOTS** mobilization
- **MEMBERSHIP** of association:
  - On average, 85% of members are nonprofits, 10% from private sector, and 4% from public sector
  - Nonprofits maintain different membership status in 50% of associations
- Diverse **BOARD** membership: 68% from CDCs overall
  - 33% have only CDCs on Board
  - 25% have Boards where CDCs hold a minority

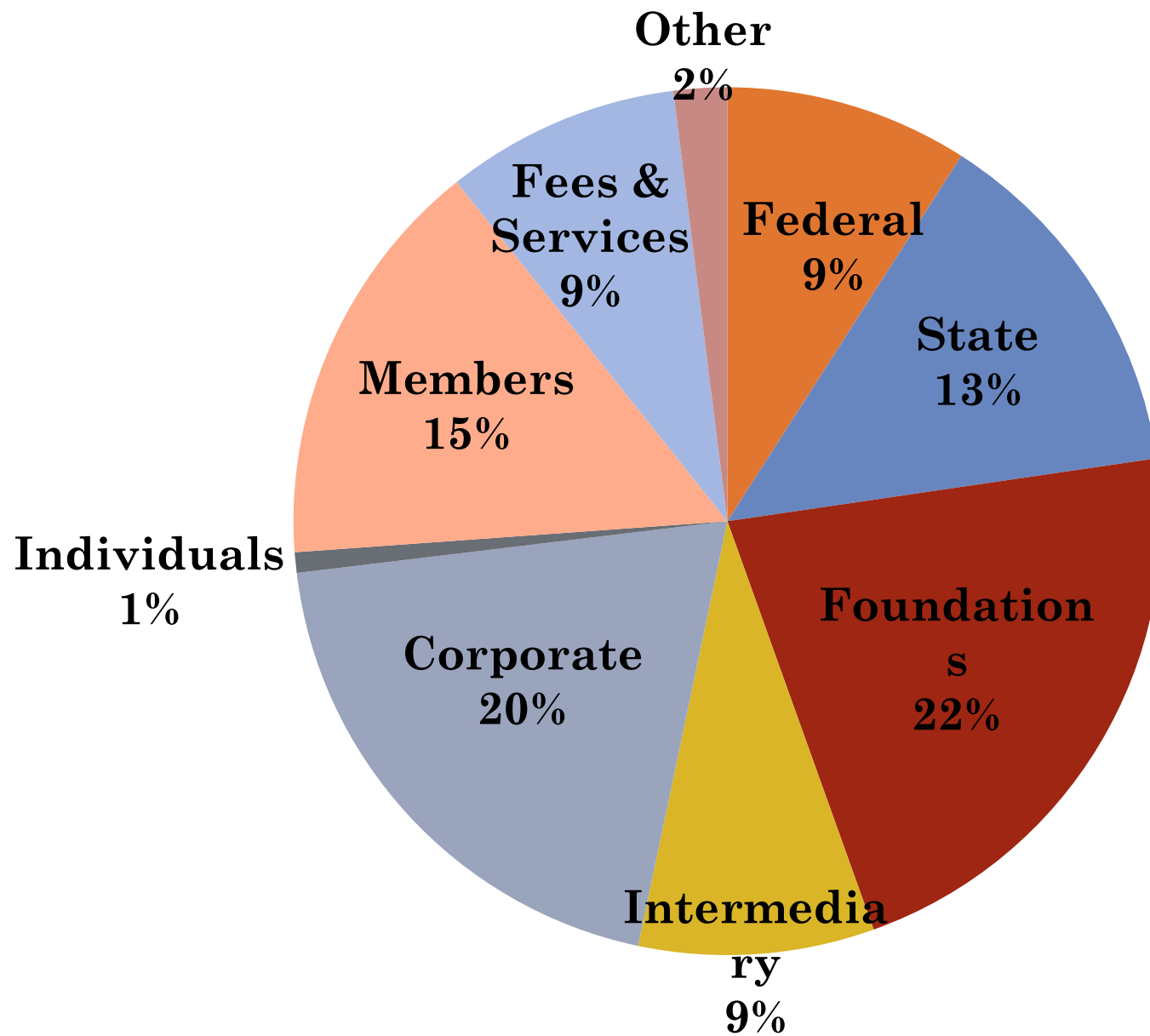


# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE: DIVERSE IN HUMAN & CAPITAL RESOURCES

- Executive Director **LEADERSHIP:**
  - 50% have been at org for 4 years or less
  - 50% of Associations have had only 1 Director; 60% of these have been at org for over 10 years
- Well-educated, but generally small, **STAFF:**
  - Highest degree held: Master's (100%)
  - Average # of paid staff is 5, but ranges from 1 to 15
- **OPERATING BUDGET**
  - 50% have budgets between \$500,000-\$999,999
  - 25% have budgets under \$250,000



# PERCENT OF FY07 BUDGET BY SOURCE



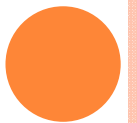
# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE: UNITED IN FOCUS & ACTIVITY

- Focused on **HOUSING**
- Providing **BENEFITS** to their members
  - Most frequently provided services: **training**, **legislative updates**, **newsletters** and **networking events**
  - 83% hold an **annual conference**
  - 75% conduct **research**; 42% produce reports at least annually
- Developing capacity through **TRAINING** members
  - Most frequently offered training: **housing development**
  - 67% train on housing finance at least once a year

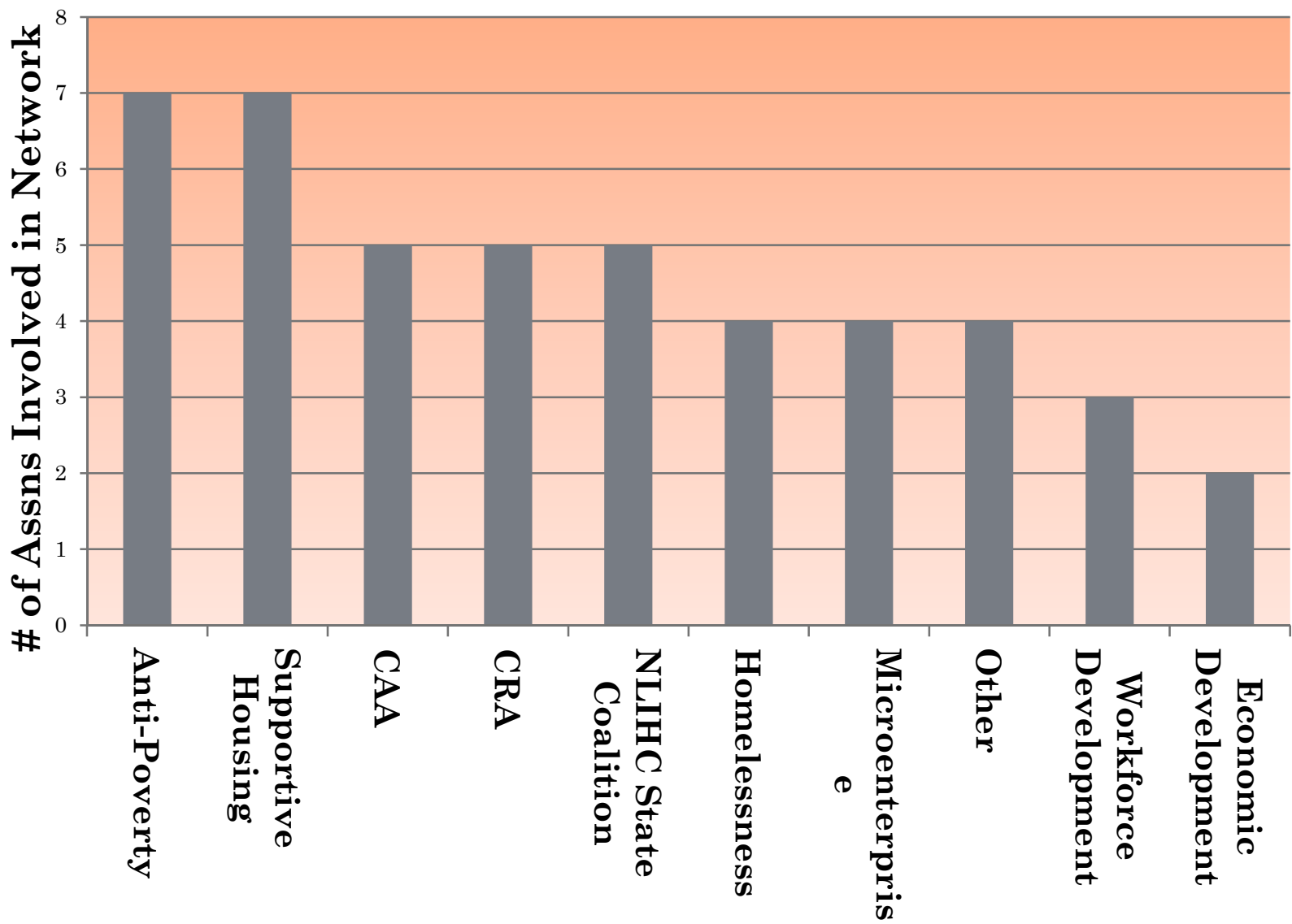


# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE: POLITICALLY ENGAGED

- **COMMUNICATE** at least once a quarter with:
  1. Administrative staff (100%)
  2. Legislative reps & staff (75%)
  3. Governor's office (50%)
- Provide **INPUT** at least quarterly on:
  - Proposed policies, legislation, and program regulations
  - Suggesting alterations to existing programs
  - Requesting increases in existing state funding
- Win significant state **LEGISLATION**
  - 67% played a lead role in winning recent legislation
  - Another 25% played a supporting role



# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE: NETWORKED WITH COALITIONS



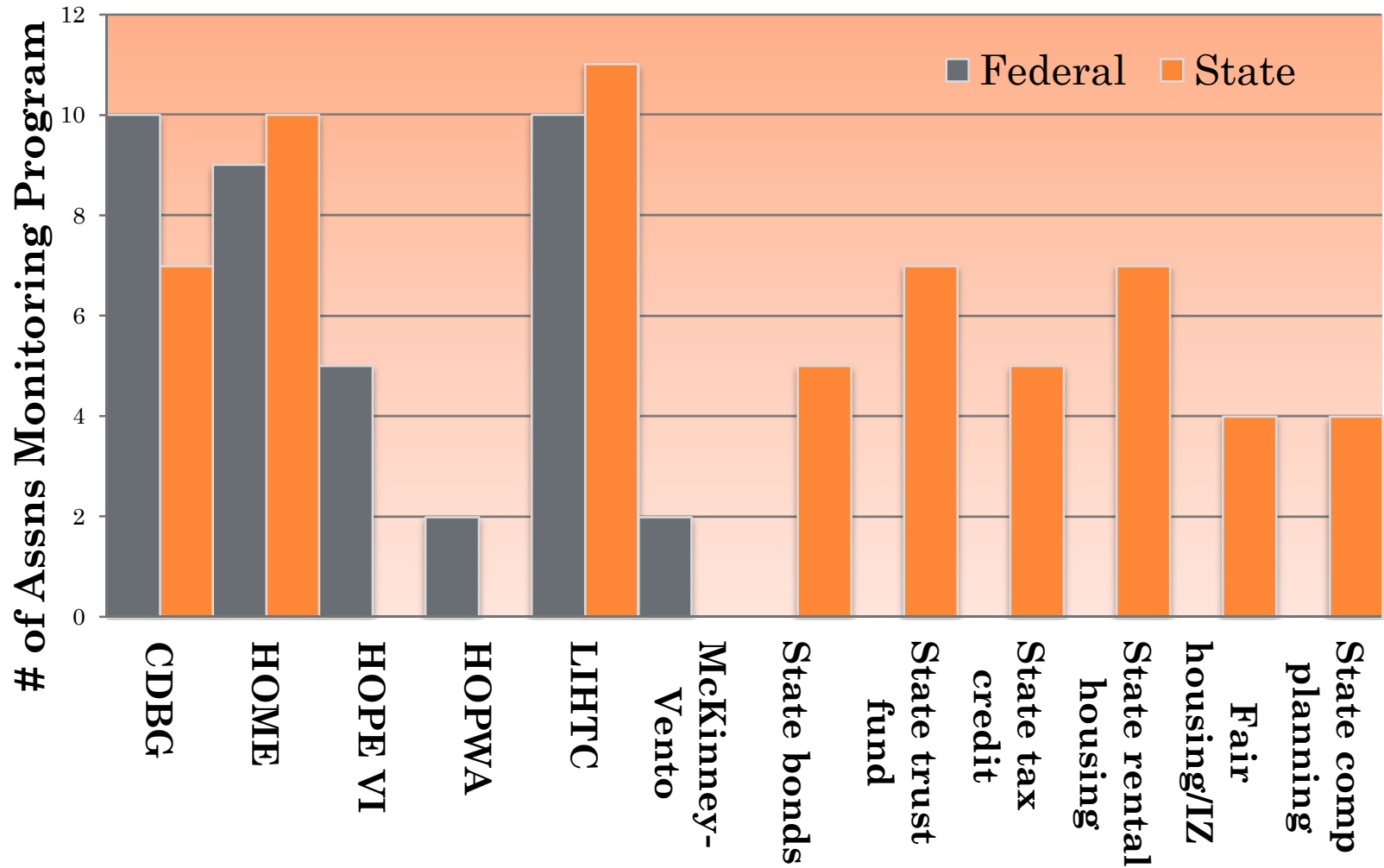


# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE: NETWORKED WITH MIHCs

- 67% are part of a statewide **MULTI-INTEREST HOUSING CAMPAIGN** (MIHC)
  - Most common partners: financial institutions (75%), social service providers (75%), and homebuilders (63%)
  - Least common partners: elected officials (38%), federal and county agencies (25%)
- These campaigns have produced **RESULTS**:
  - Increased **public awareness** of housing crisis (88%)
  - New **legislation & funds** (38% each)

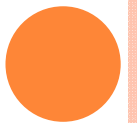


# WHAT ASSOCIATIONS ARE (AND ARE NOT?): MONITORING PROGRAMS



## WHAT THEY ARE NOT

- All operating **IN FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS** to CDCs
- **THE ONLY ADVOCATES** for housing issues at the state level
- **WINNING SUPPORT** from state departments and agencies with more indirect connections to housing and community development



## WHAT THEY CAN BE

- **SECURING SUPPORT** for project-based funding, program-specific training, and project-based TA
  - Less promise for/success with general operating support & capacity building
- **DEFENDERS** of CDCs and the work they do
  - 58% provide research seldom, if at all
- Recognized by states as **THE VOICE** for their membership



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Corianne P. Scally, Ph.D.**

**Department of Geography & Planning**

**University at Albany, SUNY**

Arts & Sciences 218

1400 Washington Avenue

Albany, NY 12222

(518) 591-8561

[cscally@albany.edu](mailto:cscally@albany.edu)

