

2016 CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS



April, 2016

**Dan Horrigan, Mayor
City of Akron, Ohio**

**Jason Segedy, Director
Department of Planning and Urban Development
www.akronohio.gov**

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The City of Akron, Ohio has prepared an Annual Plan for 2016 that includes the budget for the 2016 federal Community Development Block Grant program, the HOME Partnership Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program. This Consolidated Action Plan addresses the housing needs of low-income families, homeless families and others with special needs that require supportive services. The plan includes a one-year budget for applying available resources to meet identified needs.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The City of Akron anticipates committing \$7,171,327 in total program funding including \$5,543,219 in Community Development Block Grant funds; \$1,122,889 in HOME funds and \$505,219 in Emergency Solutions Grant funds.

At least 70% of the Community Development funds are required to be used for activities that principally benefit low-income persons. All HOME funds and ESG funds will be used for activities that benefit low-income persons.

The City continues to support the rehabilitation of existing housing in specific areas through the Neighborhood Revitalization Area program and the Neighborhood Sustainability Area program. While new target areas are being selected, the City is combining rehabilitation assistance with Lead Abatement Assistance and the Healthy Homes Program in order to maximize productivity and address more items in need of repair in selected homes. The City also established a Roofing Assistance program to assist low-income homeowners with necessary repairs in order to keep their homes safe, warm and dry. While the City has felt the effects of vacant foreclosed homes and is working to selectively rehabilitate or clear vacant homes as appropriate cases arise, emphasis is also placed on rebuilding neighborhoods with pockets of new housing combined with rehabilitation assistance. Akron will afford property owners in these areas the opportunity to make an investment in each property to improve its outward appearance and make sure that its major systems - heating, electrical and plumbing - are in good working order.

The City will also continue to fund a number of programs that have proven their value such as supporting non-profit housing development, providing a Waiver Demolition program to assist property owners in removing deteriorated structures and Minor Home Repair to offer small-scale assistance (\$4,000) to low-income homeowners or the elderly on a fixed income to correct an emergency problem.

Within the central part of the City, Akron combines housing rehabilitation assistance with lead paint abatement activity. Akron (in partnership with Summit County and the City of Barberton) received \$3,389,272 in October 2015 to undertake lead abatement activities in homes with children under the age of 6. The City received an additional \$325,000 for preventative measures to address home safety hazards.

The City also allocates funding to a variety of programs primarily benefiting low-income residents including community service programs, community gardens, fair housing, the Neighborhood Partnership Program (matching grant funding for neighborhood-based initiatives), blight removal, new construction and assisting neighborhood businesses to improve their exterior appearance.

The City of Akron will receive a 2016 Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement of \$505,219. The City of Akron issued a request for proposals in October, 2013 to homeless service providers. Funding priorities are given to homeless shelters requesting rehabilitation assistance. Funds are also available to agencies for operating and essential services. Priority is given to agencies not receiving Continuum of Care Supportive Housing Program funds. The existing Continuum of Care continues to address needs of homeless and potentially homeless residents.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The overall goals of the community planning and development programs are to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and to extend economic development opportunities to low and moderate income persons. These are the goals that have been guiding Akron's process for a number of years. While the goals stay the same, the process can fluctuate based on funding levels, housing conditions in specific areas of the city, local needs and a variety of other factors. Existing conditions and past performance are constantly evaluated to develop the current action plan.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Each year the City of Akron convenes a meeting of interested citizens, community organizers, low-income neighborhood residents and others including affordable housing advocates, providers, social service agencies, homeless housing advocates, lending institutions and the Public Housing Authority to allow citizens an opportunity to present their views on community needs. The 2016 Annual Plan represents the second year of the five-year strategy 2015-2019. The public meeting for the 2016 Action Plan was held on September 10, 2015 at the Akron / Summit County Public Library.

Information is disseminated utilizing mailing lists, neighborhood based groups, block clubs, City Council newsletters and various print media outlets. Presentations are also made at ward meetings and community gatherings.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

The City of Akron Department of Planning and Urban Development conducts an annual meeting associated with the preparation of the next year's Consolidated Action Plan to gain public comment. This meeting was held on September 10, 2015 at the Akron / Summit County Public Library so comments could be incorporated into the 2016 Action Plan. Plan outlines were supported. Specific comments included questions on the timing of the City's submission, allocation amounts and possible funding cuts. Questions were raised about cuts to the City funding and would these also be felt at the State and County level? Job creation for area residents was also a concern.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

N/A

7. Summary

N/A

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	AKRON		
CDBG Administrator		Helen Tomic, Dept. of Planning and Urban Dev.	
HOPWA Administrator			
HOME Administrator		Helen Tomic, Dept. of Planning and Urban Dev.	
ESG Administrator		Helen Tomic, Dept. of Planning and Urban Dev.	
HOPWA-C Administrator			

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Helen Tomic, City of Akron Department of Planning and Urban Development, 166 South High Street Room 401, Akron, OH 44308. Phone 330-375-2090

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

1. Introduction

The City of Akron, Department of Planning and Urban Development (DPUD), is the lead agency in the coordination and management of the process and preparation of the Plan. The City will lead and coordinate the consolidated planning, submission and implementation process. The City will continue to be involved in activities over the coming year which enhance coordination between public and non-profit housing providers and private and public health and service agencies.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(l))

As in previous years, coordination and communication is ongoing between public and non-profit housing providers and private and public health and social service agencies. The City will continue to schedule regular meetings with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Homebuilders Association, neighborhood organizations, neighborhood residents, business associations and health and social service providers.

The City has worked hand-in-hand with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority and various partners on the Hope VI projects that have received funding (the CascadeVillage and Edgewood developments). In turn, the City also works with neighborhood residents, businesses, social service agencies, etc. when preparing the Renewal Plans for the project areas either associated with the Hope VI areas or individually selected areas (such as the Hickory Corridor / Cascade Locks Redevelopment Area). Where new housing is involved, the City works with both the Homebuilders Association and private builders as necessary. The City works closely with CHDO's to provide assistance and support in both new housing activities and housing rehabilitation.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Akron serves a dual role in the community. The City is the Collaborative Applicant for the Continuum of Care competition as well as the recipient of local ESGP funds. This role allows the CoC and City to coordinate HEARTH ACT requirements in a seamless process. The City and CoC members meet regularly to review systems of care for the homeless and HUD requirements. The City of Akron consulted and collaborated with Continuum of Care Community Committee in developing the policies

and procedures for the implementation of the new ESGP program rules. This process also included the development of performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum of Care projects (SHP and S+C). This collaboration will continue as we move forward and continue to collaborate to create a comprehensive policy and procedure manual for the Continuum of Care as a whole.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care recognize the need to develop performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum of Care projects. The City of Akron and the Akron/Barberton/Summit Continuum of Care prepare for the full implementation of the HEARTH Act. The City of Akron will continue to coordinate with the CoC to:

- * Establish a planning process to develop a ESG and CoC policies and procedures manual that that will identify a committee structure, meeting guidelines, roles and responsibilities, refine performance measures, and criteria for poor performers and
- * Investigate gap prioritization within the ESG and CoC and establishing a community process for determining relative priorities
- * Develop short-and long-term strategic goals in the establishment of permanent supportive housing and determine future of transitional housing programs. Establish ESGP performance measures and outcomes.
- * Adopt a written ESG and CoC plan

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>INFOLINE, INC.</p> <p>Services - Housing Services-homeless Regional organization</p> <p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HMIS</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Info Line, Inc. is a CoC partner agency. Info Line, Inc. is the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) administrative agency. The City and Info Line work closely to provide homeless data as to make policy and funding decisions as they apply to our homeless population. The City contracts with Info Line to provide a Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program. Info Line provides a Lifeline Program, a electronic telephone emergency alarm response system for seniors and disabled living alone; provides an Information & Referral Program, a twenty-four hour centralized information, referral and follow-up service which serves as a linkage between persons in need of human services and available non-profit and government services; and provides a Community Voice Mail Program, which provides a consistent telephone number and free access to a 24-hour, local, personalized voice mail service which directly links persons in crisis and transition to jobs, housing, healthcare and stability.</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

N/A

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	City of Akron	The City of Akron regularly consults with the Akron/Barberton Continuum of Care

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

- 1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation
Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

Every year the City of Akron convenes a meeting of interested citizens, community organizers, low-income neighborhood residents and others including affordable housing advocates, providers, social service agencies, homeless housing advocates, lending institutions and the Public Housing Authority to allow citizens an opportunity to present their views on community needs. These views based on comments are incorporated into the plan as necessary. Information will be disseminated utilizing mailing lists, neighborhood based groups, block clubs, City Council newsletters and various print media outlets.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
------------	------------------	--------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	--	---------------------

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Continuum of Care	Approximately 15 persons attended		N/A	
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community		No comments received	N/A	
4	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Approximately 40 persons attended	The Director of Habitat of Humanity Summit County and the Director of Rebuilding Together Northeast Ohio both spoke at the Akron City Council public hearing about the importance of the federal funds they receive annually from the City of Akron in achieving the goals of their organizations.	N/A	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c) (1, 2)

Introduction

The City of Akron anticipates committing \$7,171,327 in total program funding including \$5,543,219 in Community Development Block Grant funds; \$1,122,889 in HOME funds and \$505,219 in Emergency Solutions Grant funds. Additionally, the City anticipates receiving approximately \$100,000 in program income funds.

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	5,543,219	0	0	5,543,219	0	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,122,889	0	0	1,122,889	0
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	505,219	0	0	505,219	0

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The City utilizes CDBG funding to leverage other Federal and State funding, including State of Ohio OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) funds

and Moving OhioForward Demolition Grant Program funding, as well as additional Federal funding thru the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant program. All subrecipients are required to match programs funded with CDBG funds.

Under the HOME program, a 12.5% matching requirement will apply for 2016 funds. The City will utilize local funds (income tax, etc.) from the street improvements program for HOME funded neighborhoods as match. Matching funds from a Primary Jurisdiction (Akron) must be: 1) a permanent contribution to affordable housing; 2) from a non-federal source; and 3) provided by a broad array of public and private donors such as local and state agencies, charitable organizations/foundations, and private sector organizations.

Emergency Solutions Grants Program and Continuum of Care providers receiving assistance will be required to provide matching funds. These funds will come from a variety of federal, state, local and private sources.

HOMELESS PROGRAMS

Ohio Housing Finance Agency and Ohio Department Services Assistance made available a one-time capital fund to CoC's in Ohio to assist with ending homelessness. The Akron/Barberton/Cuyahoga Falls CoC received approximately \$3.0M. The CoC assessed local housing inventory to determine where the greatest needs are. The Review and Ranking Committee have prioritized the following needs:

Project Conversion – converting existing transitional housing to permanent supportive housing

- Renovation or repair of an existing agency-owned permanent supportive housing facility, transitional housing facility serving youths, battered women, chronically homeless and substance abuse, and emergency shelters
- New Permanent Supportive Housing

The CoC providers will continue to leverages services offered by the PATH funded Homeless Outreach program, the Community Referral and Resource Center operated by the Veterans Administration, and Supportive Service Outreach Staff. Additionally, CoC providers will seek matching and leveraging funds from the Ohio Department Services Agency – Office of Homeless and Supportive Housing Programs. Furthermore, funds will be sought from the Summit County Department of Job and Family Services and local foundations.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

The City will work with local non-profits to facilitate the construction of new homes on City-owned lots. The City will also utilize City-owned properties to meet program goals if suitable projects are identified.

Discussion

N/A

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2015	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	Housing Assistance Owner Households	CDBG: \$1,280,000 HOME: \$295,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 180 Household Housing Unit
2	Rental Housing Rehabilitation	2015	2015	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	Rental Rehabilitation Assistance	CDBG: \$20,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 3 Household Housing Unit
3	Homeless Assistance	2015	2015	Homeless	Housing Program	Homeless Families and Individuals	CDBG: \$20,000 HOME: \$150,000 ESG: \$505,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 35 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1500 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Public Services	2015	2015	general supportive services to benefit low / moderate income individuals	Housing Program	Public Services	CDBG: \$480,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 24040 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 27540 Households Assisted
5	Public Improvements	2015	2015	Infrastructure improvements	Housing Program	Public Improvements	CDBG: \$175,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Households Assisted
6	Single-family New Construction	2015	2015	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	New Housing Construction	CDBG: \$100,000 HOME: \$650,000	Rental units constructed: 100 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 6 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Eliminate Slum and Blight	2015	2015	Non-Housing Community Development	Housing Program	Eliminate Slum and Blight	CDBG: \$1,350,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted Buildings Demolished: 90 Buildings Other: 32 Other
8	Economic Development Opportunities	2015	2015	Non-Housing Community Development	Housing Program	Provide Economic Development Opportunities	CDBG: \$375,000	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 15 Business

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Grants and loans for housing rehabilitation to homeowners
2	Goal Name	Rental Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Increase supply of decent, safe, sanitary rental housing by providing property owners with assistance to maintain existing housing to code.

3	Goal Name	Homeless Assistance
	Goal Description	Expand housing opportunities for homeless families and individuals
4	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	Provide supportive services to low / moderate income individuals
5	Goal Name	Public Improvements
	Goal Description	Maintain and repair streets and facilities vital to the residents of Akron
6	Goal Name	Single-family New Construction
	Goal Description	Increase supply of affordable ownership housing through assistance to housing development organizations for new housing construction
7	Goal Name	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Goal Description	Remove vacant, blighted housing that is infeasible to rehabilitate and which represents a threat to health and safety in order to preserve and protect property values and improve living conditions.
8	Goal Name	Economic Development Opportunities
	Goal Description	Provide financial incentives to businesses to improve property conditions and facades.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

Approximately 35 extremely low-income families, 193 low-income families and 48 moderate-income families will be provided affordable

housing.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The following projects will be undertaken to achieve goals in 2016.

#	Project Name
1	Owner Occupied Rehabilitation
2	Rental Rehabilitation Grants and Loans
3	Neighborhood Housing Acquisition
4	Waiver Demolition and Neighborhood Clearance
5	Neighborhood Relocation
6	Program Implementation
7	Neighborhood Public Improvements
8	Community Gardens
9	Homeless Facilities
10	Neighborhood Business Districts
11	General Administration
12	Urban Neighborhood Development Corporation (UNDC)
13	Various Home Repair Programs
14	Neighborhood Partnership Program
15	CDC / CHDO Housing Development
16	Exterior Paint Program
17	Community Services Program
18	Disability Modifications
19	Fair Housing
20	Business Incentives
21	Habitat for Humanity of Summit County
22	Section 108 Loan Projects
23	Homeless Rental Assistance

Table 8 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

The primary obstacle to addressing underserved needs is lack of funding. Allocation priorities are dictated by the reality of addressing many areas of need to a variety of essential programs.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	Project Name	Owner Occupied Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	CDBG: \$830,000 HOME: \$95,000
	Description	Provision of grants, loans and technical-assistance to owner-occupants of property for rehabilitation assistance in eligible areas.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 90 low-moderate income households
	Location Description	Housing program area based on qualified applicants
	Planned Activities	Grants, loans and technical assistance to owner-occupants.
2	Project Name	Rental Rehabilitation Grants and Loans
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Rental Housing Rehabilitation

Annual Action Plan
2016

	Needs Addressed	Rental Rehabilitation Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Provision of grants and low-interest loans for rehabilitation assistance to owners of rental properties located in eligible areas.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 low-moderate income households
	Location Description	Housing Program area based on qualified applicants
	Planned Activities	Grants, loans and technical assistance to the owners of rental property.
	Project Name	Neighborhood Housing Acquisition
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
3	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: \$365,000
	Description	Acquisition of blighted structures or vacant properties
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Acquisition of approximately 30 parcels (this includes vacant lots and structures)
	Location Description	Housing Program area
	Planned Activities	Acquisition of blighted structures or vacant properties
	Project Name	Waiver Demolition and Neighborhood Clearance
4	Project Name	

5	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: \$900,000
	Description	Asbestos assessment, asbestos abatement and demolition of blighted structures by owner request
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 90 structures will be demolished based on property owner requests
	Location Description	Housing program area
	Planned Activities	Removal of deteriorated homes, garages or businesses by owner request
	Project Name	Neighborhood Relocation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000
	Description	Relocation assistance for persons displaced due to the acquisition and demolition of blighted structures
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Provide relocation assistance to two property owners whose properties are identified for purchase in target areas
	Location Description	Housing Program area

	Planned Activities	Relocation assistance for persons displaced due to the acquisition and demolition of blighted structures
6	Project Name	Program Implementation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation Rental Housing Rehabilitation Homeless Assistance Public Services Public Improvements Single-family New Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households Rental Rehabilitation Assistance Homeless Families and Individuals Public Services Public Improvements New Housing Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,490,000
	Description	Administration expenses related to rehabilitation and development activities. Additional costs are associated with meeting Lead-Based Paint (LBP) regulations; costs include training, technical assistance, assisting contractors toward meeting lead-safe rehabilitation standards and LBP assessment, rehab and clearance. Costs also include normal processing costs associated with credit reports, title reports, recording fees, duplication and equipment purchase.
	Target Date	12/31/2016

7	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
	Project Name	Neighborhood Public Improvements
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Improvements
8	Funding	CDBG: \$175,000
	Description	Capital improvements to upgrade sewers, curbs, sidewalks, street trees and street repair or replacement where necessary
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Families in target areas will be positively impacted by infrastructure improvements
	Location Description	Housing Program area
	Planned Activities	Completion of activities that are already underway
	Project Name	Community Gardens
8	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000

9	Description	Supporting community garden initiatives in the City of Akron
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 60 applicants will participate in gardening on City-owned lots on assigned parcels. Most participants are either renters or own property with limited sunlight, poor soils, etc.
	Location Description	7 designated City-owned lots in low mod areas
	Planned Activities	City-owned lots are utilized as gardens for individual or family use.
	Project Name	Homeless Facilities
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Homeless Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Families and Individuals
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000 ESG: \$505,000
10	Description	Expenses related to homeless-based housing facilities in Akron. Funds to be used for provision of shelter, rehabilitation, operating expenses, essential services and the implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Benefit approximately 1,500 homeless individuals or families seeking shelter
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Provision of shelter and assistance for homeless persons
	Project Name	Neighborhood Business Districts

	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	Property / business owners make facade and exterior improvements to their properties for the overall benefit of the low/moderate income neighborhood
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 property owners seeking matching grant assistance with exterior improvements to their business property
	Location Description	Previously designated Neighborhood Business District program areas
	Planned Activities	Offer matching grant assistance to businesses in qualified areas for exterior improvements.
	Project Name	General Administration
11	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation Rental Housing Rehabilitation Homeless Assistance Public Services Public Improvements Single-family New Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Economic Development Opportunities

12	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households Rental Rehabilitation Assistance Homeless Families and Individuals Public Services Public Improvements New Housing Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,000 HOME: \$25,000
	Description	Planning and Administration Activities in order to provide the most efficient service to the community. This includes program planning, design, policy development and implementation organization of financial functions, trouble shooting program evaluation and modification as needed to efficiently deliver the services and assistance programmed in the Consolidated Plan.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
	Project Name	Urban Neighborhood Development Corporation (UNDC)
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Single-family New Construction
	Needs Addressed	New Housing Construction
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000

	Description	Construction of new single-family homes by a community-based development organization
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 families seeking affordable, new single-family homes
	Location Description	Housing program area
	Planned Activities	Construction of new, affordable single-family homes by a community-based development organization
13	Project Name	Various Home Repair Programs
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	CDBG: \$400,000
	Description	Minor-home repair programs to address health and safety for elderly and disabled very-low income homeowners. Eligible repair items include roofing, plumbing, heating, electrical, porches, gutters and downspouts.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 70 very low income individuals, families or elderly persons receive assistance in maintenance of safe, dry and warm housing
	Location Description	Housing Program area
	Planned Activities	Minor-home repair programs to address health and safety for elderly and disabled very-low income homeowners. Eligible repair items include roofing, plumbing, heating, electrical, porches, gutters and downspouts.
14	Project Name	Neighborhood Partnership Program

15	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Matching grants utilized by community and neighborhood development organizations for small projects which build neighborhood collaboration
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	80 persons including children will benefit from neighborhood sponsored activities
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Grants for neighborhood groups for after-school programs, mentoring programs, beautification programs, etc. based on applications and ideas submitted by neighborhood organizations.
	Project Name	CDC / CHDO Housing Development
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation Rental Housing Rehabilitation Single-family New Construction
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households Rental Rehabilitation Assistance New Housing Construction
	Funding	HOME: \$750,000

	Description	Non-profit Development of housing. Participants include, East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation (EANDC), Mustard Seed Development Center, Nazareth Housing Development Corporation, and Westside Neighborhood Development Corporation (WENDCO).
	Target Date	12/31/2016
16	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Develop 100 new rental units and 10 purchase/rehab units to provide affordable housing.
	Location Description	Housing Program area
	Planned Activities	Non-profit development of housing
	Project Name	Exterior Paint Program
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Non-profit organization performs exterior paint program utilizing volunteers
	Target Date	12/31/2016
17	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Five families will have their homes painted by volunteers
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Exterior paint program for five homes
	Project Name	Community Services Program
	Target Area	Housing Program

18	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$350,000
	Description	Various service programs to benefit low and moderate income clientele (education, health, security, the arts and fair housing).
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Assist approximately 45,000 residents with a wide range of community service programs
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Provide community service programs in the fields of education, health, security, the arts and fair housing to benefit Akron residents.
	Project Name	Disability Modifications
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Provide housing modifications for people with a disability.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 disabled homeowners will receive housing assistance
	Location Description	City-wide

Planned Activities	
19	Provide housing modifications for people with a disability.
Project Name	Fair Housing
Target Area	Housing Program
Goals Supported	Public Services
Needs Addressed	Public Services
Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
Description	Support fair housing activities
Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Assist approximately 6,500 persons with fair housing services
Location Description	City-wide
Planned Activities	Provision of fair housing services
20	
Project Name	Business Incentives
Target Area	Housing Program
Goals Supported	Economic Development Opportunities
Needs Addressed	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
Funding	CDBG: \$175,000
Description	Business assistance based on job creation.
Target Date	12/31/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Assistance to 5 business owners resulting in job creation
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Assistance to business owners resulting in job creation.
21	Project Name	Habitat for Humanity of Summit County
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Single-family New Construction
	Needs Addressed	New Housing Construction
	Funding	HOME: \$100,000
	Description	Non-profit development of housing for low-income families.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 low-income families will be assisted
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Construction of new homes for low-income families.
22	Project Name	Section 108 Loan Projects
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: \$1

	Description	Projects utilizing HUD Section 108 Loans and repayments of Section 108 Loans.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
	Project Name	Homeless Rental Assistance
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Homeless Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Families and Individuals
	Funding	HOME: \$150,000
	Description	Rental assistance to prevent families from becoming homeless.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	35 persons will be assisted with rent payments to prevent homelessness
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Assistance with rent payments to prevent homelessness.
23		

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

The City provides assistance City-wide with a concentration of spending in City-designated areas. Historically, the City has chosen a targeted-neighborhood approach for housing rehabilitation. The basis for allocating investments geographically is based on income levels, with most of the assistance directed to low-income areas. Areas are chosen based on both income levels and existing conditions. This includes not only the age, value and condition of the housing stock, but also owner occupancy rates, household income and other demographics. The City realizes that in certain homes, deteriorated conditions make rehabilitation infeasible. Acquisition, clearance and new construction will be pursued in conjunction with rehabilitation activities to benefit the entire surrounding area.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Housing Program	100

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City has found that a targeted approach creates more of a visual impact in a more compact area than spreading out assistance in a less centralized area. Due to both financial constraints and staffing constraints, the City is now serving residents on more of an application basis than a strict targeted approach. This allows the City to serve residents in need throughout the City. The City continues to support the rehabilitation of existing housing by combining rehabilitation assistance with Lead Abatement Assistance in order to maximize productivity and address more items in need of repair in selected homes. While the City has felt the effects of vacant foreclosed homes and is working to selectively rehabilitate or clear vacant homes as appropriate cases arise, emphasis is also placed on rebuilding neighborhoods with pockets of new housing combined with rehabilitation assistance for properties that do not need to be removed. The City is in the process of selecting target areas that will include acquisition of blighted properties, clearance, new housing construction and housing rehabilitation. Akron will afford property owners in this area the opportunity to make an investment in each property to improve its outward appearance and make sure that its major systems - heating, electrical and plumbing - are in good working order.

The City will also continue to fund a number of programs that have proven their value such as supporting non-profit housing development, providing a Waiver Demolition program to assist property owners in removing deteriorated structures and Minor Home Repair to offer small-scale assistance to low-income homeowners or the elderly on a fixed income to correct an emergency problem.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The provision of affordable housing in Akron through rehabilitation also can be addressed through local non-profit development corporations in the City of Akron. Assistance is targeted to different income groups including very low-income households (50% of median income or below) and low-income households (80% of median and below). The City supports non-profit housing organizations through CDBG and HOME funds.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	35
Non-Homeless	236
Special-Needs	5
Total	276

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	35
The Production of New Units	106
Rehab of Existing Units	135
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	276

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority owns and manages over 4,600 dwelling units in its public housing program. The City of Akron works closely with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority in an ongoing effort to improve public housing in the City of Akron.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority utilizes approximately \$24 million for Section 8 rental assistance each year. This activity is funded through HUD directly and not through the City of Akron. In addition, approximately \$4 million is provided through other types of HUD housing assistance payments or rent subsidy. The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority utilizes around \$10 million each year in HUD funds to rehabilitate their public housing units.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

AMHA invites residents to regularly scheduled meetings and encourages participation. Educational information regarding homeownership is distributed and available.

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority offers two self-sufficiency programs to prepare recipients of public housing benefits for careers, economic independence and homeownership. Both programs have waiting lists. In addition, AMHA offers other programs such as the HUD funded ROSS (Resident Opportunities for Self Sufficiency) Resident Service Delivery Model Grant, Home Ownership Grant and Family Stability/Prevention, Retention and Contingency Program through the Summit County Department of Jobs and Family Services.

The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Home For Me Homeownership program assesses mortgage readiness of HCV program candidates. Qualified participants are prepared for the responsibilities of home ownership and are evaluated for issuance of a homeownership voucher to purchase a home. Supportive programs for public housing residents include budgeting, credit counseling, homeownership classes and educational information.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

Discussion

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The City of Akron is receiving a 2016 Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement of \$505,219. The City of Akron issued a request for proposals in October, 2015 to homeless service providers for distribution of 2016 funding. Funding priorities are given to rapid re-housing programs, emergency shelters and transitional housing providers.

Funds are also available to agencies for rehabilitation, operating and essential services.

The City of Akron is the lead entity for the Continuum of Care planning process. The CoC receives approximately \$4,000,000 annually through the SuperNOFA Continuum of Care process. These funds are primarily used for permanent supportive housing for the disabled, transitional housing and supportive services.

The Akron / Summit County Continuum of Care intends to incorporate an eligibility module into the Homeless Management Information System (H.M.I.S.). This new module will allow service providers to access additional community services during the client intake process and assist the client on how to access services. Community organizations have already developed resource manuals to assist individuals and families in locating appropriate services. Street Cards, or “quick guides” that explain available services to people on the street, are available at local agencies and libraries.

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care are looking at housing opportunities that could be adapted to meet the Housing First model. Select organizations have applied for and received funding for several permanent supportive housing programs for chronically homeless single men and women following the traditional “housing first” model. Future housing projects will adopt the housing first model as determined by program capacity.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

As in the previous year, the City is continuing to work in the Summit County Continuum of Care to identify the causes of homelessness and assist individuals to overcome the hardships that are causing episodes of homelessness. The goal of ending homelessness is ambitious and several approaches are necessary. The Akron / Summit County Continuum of Care will focus on the following key elements to reduce homelessness:

Establish/develop resources within our community to fund homeless prevention;

Strengthen homeless prevention programs within the community;

Expand outreach services to the homeless by creating teams to specifically target subpopulations;

Improving coordination and access to services;

Expand availability of affordable housing within the community;

Improve access to affordable housing for homeless persons;

Work with the needs of special sub-populations;

Evaluate role of faith-based organizations;

Improve job placement linkages.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City issues an annual RFP to all homeless prevention and rapid re-housing providers. emergency and transitional housing providers. The City's first priority is rapid re-housing and homeless prevention. At the same time, the City is still committed to assuring that the community's facilities for the homeless provide decent, safe and sanitary residence.

The City of Akron will use a portion of ESGP funds along with State and HOME funds to continue the Home Again Program. Home Again was initially funded through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds for financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The City will continue to access these funds in 2014 to meet the housing needs of homeless persons currently residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The Continuum of Care network has created discharge planning policies for youth, health institutions, mental health facilities and corrections institutions to reduce the risk of homelessness. The Rapid Re-housing program (Home Again) is available for all occupants of emergency or transitional shelters and to those on the verge of becoming homeless (due to foreclosure or eviction). The intent of the Home Again Program is to provide temporary financial assistance, housing relocation, and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless, or who would be homeless *but for* this assistance. Program focuses on individuals and families that can remain stably housed after this assistance ends.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The City of Akron and the Akron/Summit County/Barberton Continuum of Care in place to address the immediate needs of families and individuals at risk of becoming homeless. As in the previous year, in 2016 agencies will continue to provide short-term (and in many cases one-time) rental / mortgage assistance, assistance in paying utility bills and food assistance. Legal services are available to those at risk of eviction or foreclosure. These resources are limited and are quickly depleted due to heavy demand, but the community has a strong network of organizations that work closely to maximize assistance available to clients. The Summit County Department of Jobs and Family Services Prevention, Retention and Contingency Program will continue to provide short-term benefits and services to low-income families.

Discussion

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family
Tenant-based rental assistance
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds
Total

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing– 91.220(j)

Introduction

The provision of affordable housing is one of the City's three main priorities for the CDBG program. In its five year strategy, the City of Akron was required to assess the effects of public policies impacting upon the availability of affordable housing, and set forth a plan to remove or ameliorate their negative effects.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

As in the previous year, specific actions or reform steps to be taken over the coming year to remove or ameliorate these negative effects are as follows:

- a) Provide adequate land for a variety of housing types through review by Zoning and Land Use and Development Guide Plan updates.
- b) Work to eliminate obsolete and prescriptive building code requirements.
- c) Continue educating the public on the need for affordable housing and promote a diversity of affordable housing programs.
- d) Continue the practice of one-stop permitting.
- e) Coordinate with local, state and federal agencies in implementing programs that support affordable housing (e.g. State of Ohio Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Summit County Land Reutilization program and federal programs such as HOPE VI, etc.).

Discussion

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The following actions will be undertaken in 2016.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

As in the previous year, the primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is lack of funding. The City is combining CD funding with Lead Hazard Reduction Program funding to provide more assistance to low-income families with children under the age of six at high risk of lead poisoning. The City also initiated an emergency roofing assistance program based on identified needs in the community.

Rehabilitation activities will also be concentrated in Neighborhood Sustainability Areas. Areas for this program are under consideration. Sustainability Areas are targeted to areas of 75-100 homes that are considered "tipping point" areas - neighborhoods that are relatively stable but could decline without intervention.

The City Minor Home Repair Program is offered citywide. A Senior Home Improvement Paint program is offered in the Greater Westside Council of Block Clubs (GWCBC) service areas of Wards 3 and 4. With the initiation of Lead Base Paint Regulations, the program participants must be able to meet all of the regulations necessary to meet lead-safe clearance.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The provision of affordable housing is one of the City's three main priorities for the CDBG program. In its five year strategy, the City of Akron was required to assess the effects of public policies impacting upon the availability of affordable housing, and set forth a plan to remove or ameliorate their negative effects. The specific actions or reform steps to be taken as part of that plan over the coming year to remove or ameliorate these negative effects are as follows:

- a) Provide adequate land for a variety of housing types through review by Zoning and Land Use and Development Guide Plan updates.
- b) Work to eliminate obsolete and prescriptive building code requirements.
- c) Continue educating the public on the need for affordable housing and promote a diversity of affordable housing programs.
- d) Continue the practice of one-stop permitting.

e) Coordinate with local, state and federal agencies in implementing programs that support affordable housing (e.g. State of Ohio Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Summit County Land Reutilization program and federal programs such as HOPE VI, etc.).

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Akron will continue to combine housing rehabilitation assistance with lead paint abatement activity. The greatest incidence of lead based paint is found in housing built prior to 1978. The greatest at risk population for lead based paint poisoning (or elevated blood lead levels) are children under the age of 6. Low-income homeowners with children six years old and under who are at risk for lead poisoning are eligible for Lead Grant assistance. The City of Akron utilizes both CDBG and HOME funds combined with Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program assistance (awarded to the City of Akron in 2009, 2012 and 2015). Over 90% of the City's homes were constructed before 1980 and, of Akron's 54,000 families, over twenty percent of them have children under the age of 6. City officials have estimated that up to 40 percent of children in some inner-city neighborhoods are threatened and 1 in 10 Akron children are affected by lead base paint. The Summit County Health Department continues to promote screening and intervention to children less than six years old to identify elevated blood levels. Screening initiatives are performed by the Health Department, WIC Clinics, Children's Hospital Medical Center and other area health care providers.

The City of Akron has incorporated the Environmental protection Agency's (EPA) Lead –Based paint Renovation, Repair, and painting program (RRP) requirements and the HUD Title X Lead Rule into their Housing Rehabilitation program. EPA's 2010 Lead Rule requirements apply to anyone who is paid to perform work that disturbs paint in housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. The RRP mandates pre-renovation educational requirements and, effective April 22, 2010 requires the following:

- Firms must be certified
- Renovators must be trained
- Lead-safe work practices must be followed

The City of Akron maintains a list of active contractors working in Akron's housing rehabilitation program and/or other HUD funded programs such as the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program, and ensures that all current State lead licenses are maintained. The City of Akron holds an annual meeting to ensure that active contractors qualify for participation in the competitive bidding process and have all necessary up to date licenses. The City of Akron will continue to provide local training opportunities to contractors to ensure certifications and licenses are current. The City of Akron maintains XRF equipment for the Housing rehabilitation staff to perform the mandatory testing of Lead Based paint; also known as LIRA (Lead inspection/ Risk Assessment). The City of Akron conducts Lead

clearances of property rehabilitated, to ensure the property meets clearance requirements. Currently our program staff includes 5 certified lead abatement risk assessors and lead abatement contractors. All contractors that work on City funded jobs are EPA certified ; their company's firms are registered with EPA. If undertaking lead abatement work, contractors and workers have the appropriate licenses. Akron has actively pursued grants to assist in the reduction of lead based paint in Akron homes built before 1978, and which are occupied by low income households who have children under the age of 6 living in the property or who visit on a frequent basis (as defined by HUD). Akron currently operates the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program. This program provides , on average, \$10,000 in lead grant funds to assist the property in the reduction of lead hazards. In addition, federal Community Development Block Grant funds are also made available to assist in lead remediation.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Akron will continue to implement an antipoverty strategy over the coming year in the following programs. These programs contribute to the removal of households from poverty status through provision of supportive services and transitional housing with support services.

Community Services Program

The City of Akron will use CDBG funds over the next year to offer service programs to residents in the fields of education, health, security, the arts and fair housing. Organizations citywide have submitted proposals in order to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Akron.

Affordable Housing

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) - The City is supportive of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authorities Family Self-Sufficiency Program, which provides supportive services to participating families to reach their goal of economic independence and self-sufficiency.

Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO's)

The City contributes CDBG funds for operating expenses to non-profit Community Housing Development Corporations. The East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation is active in planning and constructing low income housing tax credit projects and offers home maintenance and budgeting training for its participants. WENDCO is planning purchase/rehab/resale home projects and new housing in FY 2015.

Crime Prevention

Areas of poverty are often associated with high crime. The City is making a comprehensive effort utilizing federal, state and local funds to undertake community policing. The City encourages and

supports neighborhood block watches within our Housing Program.

Transitional Housing

The City of Akron supports the provision of housing for the homeless with CDBG/ESG funds. The City encourages the continuation of existing emergency shelters while also encouraging transitional housing with supportive services as part of the Continuum of Care. The goal is to integrate homeless individuals back into the community. The intent of emergency housing is to serve as a stepping-stone to, first, transitional housing and then on to affordable permanent housing. Organizations applying for funds must commit to participate in the Continuum of Care process.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

In the five-year strategy, the City describes the institutional structure, including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions through which it will carry out the affordable and supportive housing strategy. The City also assesses existing strengths and gaps in that delivery system and sets forth a plan for improvement. The following steps will continue to be implemented over the coming year to eliminate identified gaps and strengthen, coordinate, and integrate the institutions and delivery systems:

- a) Pursue other funding sources for affordable housing as they become available.
- b) Develop an approach to coordinate social services with housing treatment areas.
- c) Hold quarterly meetings with AMHA to help ensure coordination on programs and monitor progress.
- d) Pursue developing and expanding programs with lenders who serve the Akron area.
- e) Continue work with non-profit housing developers.
- f) Serve on committees/boards involved in housing and social service delivery.
- g) Hold public meetings to inform citizens of housing programs.
- h) Conduct meetings with non-profit developers.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

Coordination and communication is ongoing between public and non-profit housing providers and

private and public health and social service agencies. The City will continue to schedule regular meetings with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Homebuilders Association, neighborhood organizations, neighborhood residents, business associations and health and social service providers.

The City works hand-in-hand with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority and various partners on the Hope VI projects that have received funding (the CascadeVillage and Edgewood developments). In turn, the City also works with neighborhood residents, businesses, social service agencies, etc. when preparing the Renewal Plans for the project areas either associated with the Hope VI areas or individually selected areas (the Hickory Corridor / Cascade Locks Redevelopment Area). Where new housing is involved, the City works with both the Homebuilders Association and private builders as necessary.

The Continuum of Care is an extensive network of health and social service agencies, shelter providers and City and County officials working together to combat homelessness. The Continuum of Care adopted a set of committees and sub-committees structure. These committees will meet regularly to network and identify solutions to specific identified needs and assist in the preparation of the annual Continuum of Care application.

Discussion

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	4,200
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	4,200

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	85.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

N/A

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

The City of Akron operates HOME funded Purchase, Rehab, Resale program. The City may provide a developer's subsidy to participating non-profit CHDOs (Provider) to effectively reduce the homebuyer's monthly housing costs. The non-profit Provider secures from the homebuyer a mortgage in the lesser amount of the original purchase price of the property or a fixed amount. Depending on the period of affordability, the mortgage is reduced by a fixed percent (%) for each year of occupancy of the property by the homebuyer. The percentage (%) the mortgage is prorated is directly related to the affordability period. The mortgagee is the Provider. In the event of mortgage default by the homebuyer, within the effective duration of the mortgage, funds recovered are regarded as program income. This option also allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

The City of Akron funds three activities with HOME funds. These include homeowner housing rehabilitation, CHDO Housing development (purchase, rehab, resale) and new construction or rehabilitation of Rental properties (Lease/purchase) in conjunction with Low Income Housing Tax

Credits.

All units receiving HOME Program subsidies are required to comply with a designated affordability period as required in §92.254(a)(4). The affordability period of any project is contingent upon the amount of per unit subsidy received and may be five, ten, or fifteen years long.

Recapture Provision for Owner Rehabilitation

The City of Akron currently operates a HOME funded owner rehabilitation program. The City provides grants and deferred loans to each eligible homeowner to assist with the rehabilitation. The deferred loan assistance amount must be repaid immediately upon the occurrence of any transfer of any interest, right or title in the property, or refinance of said property, or upon any default of the mortgage of the same date on the real property first written above, by which a note is secured. This option allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions.

Recapture Provision for non-profit CHDO/ Homebuyer Purchase, Rehab, Resale

The City of Akron operates HOME funded Purchase, Rehab, Resale program. The City may provide a developer's subsidy to participating non-profit CHDOs (Provider) to effectively reduce the homebuyer's monthly housing costs. The non-profit Provider secures from the homebuyer a mortgage in the lesser amount of the original purchase price of the property or a fixed amount. Depending on the period of affordability, the mortgage is reduced by a fixed percent (%) for each year of occupancy of the property by the homebuyer. The percentage (%) the mortgage is prorated is directly related to the affordability period. The mortgagee is the Provider. In the event of mortgage default by the homebuyer, within the effective duration of the mortgage, funds recovered are regarded as program income. This option also allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions.

Resale Provisions for Rental

The City uses HOME dollars to develop new and rehabilitate existing rental properties through nonprofit developers usually in conjunction with Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

Under a resale option, by contrast, an owner is obligated to resell the home to another income-eligible homebuyer. The sale must be at a price affordable to the purchaser, although the owner is also allowed to realize a fair return on the sale.

Our non-profit partner agencies are required to place deed restrictions as required under the HOME Program and delineated in 24 CFR Part 92 regarding the maintenance of affordability to convey fee title to any subsequent buyer within the prescribed period of affordability. The deed restrictions name the Director of the Department of Planning and Urban Development, City of Akron, Ohio or his/her agent, as the responsible party in determining conformance with the deed.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

If the City uses HOME funds to refinance existing debt for a project involving multi-family housing, the City will follow models and FHA guidelines for refinancing as supplied to the City by HUD. The City will not develop standards of its' own for refinancing.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.220(I)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

See Akron / Barberton / Summit County Continuum of Care Regional Homeless Services Coordination Plan (attached)

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

After reviewing options for centralized intake and coordinated assessment being successfully managed in other parts of the state, the Akron/Barberton/Summit County Continuum of Care began meeting in 2012 to explore and plan for a centralized intake/coordinated assessment process. A subcommittee of the CoC was created with the goal of creating a system that would work for the majority of agencies and clients in Summit County. Calls are now received at a centralized phone bank (Info Line) and then a referral procedure is used to forward the client and documentation directly to the homeless agency.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

The City solicits proposals from all interested parties and allows approximately 60 days to return proposals. The City follows several policies in its review of ESGP proposals - the City will provide assistance to a wide variety of shelters. Priority is given to homeless prevention and rapid re-housing programs. A second consideration will be given to emergency and transitional shelters. An emphasis is also placed on rehabilitation of structures and the purchase of furniture and equipment along with the support of existing shelters which continue to meet documented need over the funding of new shelters. Consideration is also given to agencies achieving established local performance measures. Nonprofit organizations receiving assistance will be required to provide matching funds. These funds will come from a variety of federal, state, local and private sources.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

Akron meets homeless participation requirements. The Akron/Barberton/Summit County Continuum of Care continues to engage homeless/formerly homeless individuals to participate in the point-in-time count, Project Homeless Connect, to serve on agency boards and other critical CoC events/processes so we may address the changing needs of our homeless individuals/families. One homeless/formerly homeless individual works with each team on the unsheltered count of homeless persons.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care recognize the need to develop performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum of Care projects (SHP and S+C).

Listed below are basic performance standards identified by the City of Akron and the Continuum of Care. The City of Akron and CoC will continue to their collaboration to further developing these standards.

For Emergency Shelters the following are required; households served, new households served, 90% of clients will meet with a case manager within 48 hours of their intake, 90% of clients will meet with case manager weekly to discuss housing goals, life skills goals, job readiness goals and referrals, 70% of the clients entering emergency shelters and who have successfully completed the program will attain safe housing following their stay, 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults) and 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 16 to 61).

For Transitional Housing the following are required; households served, new households served, increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional housing to permanent housing to at least 78%, increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 51%, 90% of clients will meet with the case manager within 48 hours of intake, 90% of clients will complete a comprehensive service plan within two weeks of their intake, 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults) and 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 18-61).

For Rapid Re-Housing the following are required; households served, new households served, 75% of households will maintain housing for at least 6 months, 90% of clients will meet with case manager within two weeks of referral from central intake, 90% of clients will meet with case manager twice a month, 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults), 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 18-61).

For Homeless Prevention the following are required; households served, new households served, at least 75% will maintain or obtain housing for at least 6 months and <5% of those who obtain housing will return to shelter.

For Permanent Supportive Housing the following are required, households served, new households served, increase the percentage of homeless persons staying in permanent housing for at least 6 months to at 78% and increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 20%.

For Central Intake the following are required; at least 30% of those contacting the central point of access will be directed to other community resources, at least 80% of those referred to and qualify for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing will be housed, and 100% of clients will be assessed for housing options.

H.M.I.S. Performance Standards apply to all agencies receiving the following: Emergency Solutions Grant Program, Supportive Housing Program (Continuum of Care) and Shelter Plus Care (Continuum of Care) unless exempt by Federal or State law. Live data will be entered into H.M.I.S. as part of the

normal intake process within a 2-day period of time and all HUD-required data elements will not exceed five percent (5%) null responses.

Discussion

Attachments