

THE CITY OF



**Community Planning
&
Economic Development
PY2020 Action Plan**

Year Two of 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan

City of Kalamazoo

Community Development Block Grant Program

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

Adopted by the Kalamazoo City Commission on –June 15, 2020

Minor Amendment Approved by HUD: January 8, 2021

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Action Plan

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

Introduction

Each year the City of Kalamazoo is required to submit an Action Plan to HUD. The intent of the plan is to identify how federal grant funds received by the City will be utilized during that program year to address the priority needs acknowledged in the City's Consolidated Plan. Program Year (PY) 2020 Annual Action Plan (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021) represents these second program year of the City of Kalamazoo's 2020 - 2023 Consolidated Plan, approved by the Kalamazoo City Commission on May 06, 2019. Minor amendment was approved by HUD on January 8, 2021 due to HUD adjusted budget correction.

The Action Plan constitutes the City's application to HUD for its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding allocations, which are the primary resources for addressing Kalamazoo's housing and community development needs. The City expects to use approximately **\$2,517,413**, in PY2020 funding through the **CDBG (\$1629,516) and HOME (\$528,810)** federal entitlement grants. The City and its Subrecipients will also utilize approximately **\$120,680, in anticipated program income** in PY2020. The City prior year CDBG unallocated funds in the amount of 114,587 allocated to PY2020. The City prior year HOME unallocated funds in the amount of 123,820 allocated to PY2020. The complete available budget to include unallocated funds for **PY2020 totals \$2,517,413**.

The Community Planning and Development Department will also report, to the extent possible, on other resources expected to be used in ways consistent with the Consolidated Plan. This includes both funds and resources of other organizations and agencies, local nonprofits, and for-profits which address the housing and community development needs of the City and its residents.

Decisions about the annual allocation of federal resources is based upon the 2020 - 2023 Consolidated Plan, which was developed after a thorough public participation process conducted both informally with community partners, stakeholders, neighborhood organizations and residents and formally via public hearings. The priorities, goals and objectives outlined in the Consolidated Plan were developed based on the feedback received during this public process, as well as the evaluation of housing, homeless, special needs

population, and other relevant community development data.

PY2020 ACTION PLAN

SOURCES			
CDBG Allocation		\$	1,629,516
CDBG Prior Years Unallocated Funds		\$	114,587
CDBG Anticipated Program Income		\$	120,680
HOME Allocation		\$	528,810
HOME Prior Year un/allocated Funds		\$	123,820
TOTAL 2019 FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$	2,517,413
USES			
Agency	Activity Name	Funding	
CDBG ADMINISTRATION² (20% Cap)			
City of Kalamazoo	Administration	\$323,007	\$ 323,007
CDBG - GENERAL			
	Code		
City of Kalamazoo	Enforcement	\$400,000	
City of Kalamazoo	Demolition	\$50,000	
		Total	\$ 450,000
CDBG PUBLIC SERVICE¹ (15% Cap)			
City of Kalamazoo Public Safety	Crime Prevention	\$150,000	
United Way of	Continuum of Care	\$20,000	
Fair Housing Ctr of SW Michigan	Fair Housing	\$20,000	
City of Kalamazoo	P&R Youth Development	\$11,500	
		Total	\$ 201,500

CDBG - AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Agency	Activity Name	Funding	
Community Homeworks	Critical Home Repair	\$95,000	
Senior Services	Minor Hm Repair -Seniors	\$150,000	
KNHS	Down Payment Assistance	\$105,000	
City of Kalamazoo	Code Repair Program	\$125,000	
City of Kalamazoo	Lead Grant Match	\$94,541	
Total			\$ 569,541
2020 Neighborhood Enhancement (NE)			
City of Kalamazoo	2019	\$114,587	
City of Kalamazoo	2020	\$85,349	
Total			\$ 199,936

CDBG - UNALLOCATED PROGRAM FUNDS

Agency	Activity Name	Funding	Total
City of Kalamazoo	2020 Unallocated	\$0	
Unallocated Prior Years Program Funds - Total			\$ -
TOTAL CDBG PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS			\$ 1,743,984
ANTICIPATED PROGRAM INCOME			

Agency	Activity Name	Funding Recom	Total
City of Kalamazoo CP&D	Small Business Revolving Loan	\$11,280	
Kzoo Neighborhood Housing Services	Minor/Emergency Roof Repair	\$95,000	
Community Homeworks	Critical Minor Home Repair	\$14,400	
Anticipated Program Income Total			\$ 120,680
Anticipated Program Income Total			

TOTAL CDBG FUNDING FOR PY2020		\$ 1,864,664
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HOME - 10% Adm, 15% CHDO			
Agency	Activity Name	Funding	Total
City of Kalamazoo	City of Kalamazoo Adm	\$52,892	
KNHS	Lease Purchase (CHDO 79,339)	\$205,000	
Tardani, Sole Proprietor	Rental Rehab	\$90,500	
HOME CURRENT YEAR TOTAL HUD ALLOCATION			\$ 348,392

HOME - Affordable Housing Project			
City of Kalamazoo	2020	\$180,537	

City of Kalamazoo	2019	\$123,820	
HOME - TOTAL FUNDS			\$ 304,357
TOTAL HOME FUNDING FOR PY2020			\$ 652,749
PROGRAM YEAR 2020 TOTAL			\$ 2,517,413

1Public Services activities are subject to a 15% cap

2 CDBG Planning and Administrative services are subject to a 20% cap

3HOME administration is subject to a 10% cap

4HOME-CHDO is subject to a 15% cap

5ESG administration is subject to a 7.5% cap

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 2				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public and Federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,619,516	120,680	114,587	1,854,783	5,736,621	These funds will leverage City dollars through public infrastructure investment and other City services. In addition, other State and Federal funds will be leveraged by City Subrecipients for housing activities.
HOME	Federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner Lease Purchases rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	528,810	0	123,820	652,630	1,476,438	HOME dollars will leverage additional HOME funds from MSHDA, as well as possible low income housing tax credits depending on the projects funded.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 2				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	Federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	0	0	0	0	0	The Continuum of Care will leverage City funds with MSHDA ESG funding if received.

Table 1 - 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.

Often, additional resources are leveraged by our Subrecipients and partners to complete a project. These leverage funds often come from the State of Michigan through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority or through foundations like the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. However, these funds are not known until the Subrecipient submits an application through the City's competitive application process.

Community Development Block Grant funds will leverage additional resources as follows:

- Public Infrastructure projects will be supported with additional City and State infrastructure dollars.
- Code enforcement, crime prevention and youth services will leverage additional City general fund dollars. Subrecipients of the City will leverage Michigan State Housing Development Authority and other State funds, as well as nongovernmental funding to expand the scope of rehabilitation assistance.

HOME Investment Partnership Funds will leverage additional public and private investment:

Homeownership investment will be supported by other agencies such as the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and community foundation grants.

- Rental projects may leverage additional funding from HUD; the Federal Home Loan Bank programs; the application of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits; private equity investment, private construction and acquisition financing; and other private sources.
- HOME match requirements will be achieved through the donation of property, labor and materials, as well as payments in lieu of taxes for affordable housing developments in the City.

Acceptable Sources of HOME Match

- Local or State general revenues
- Housing trust funds
- Foundations, donations
- Program income from HODAG, RRP or UDAG only after grant closeout
- Value of waived taxes, fees, or charges
- Appraisal value of land or real property not acquired with Federal Funds.
- Difference between appraised value and acquisition cost if property is acquired with Federal funds.
- Grant equivalent of below market
- Interest rate loans to the project
- The cost of investments, not made with federal resources, in on and off-site infrastructure that is directly required for the affordable housing assisted with HOME funds.
- Federal Home Loan Bank grants
- Value of donated material or labor

- Direct cost of supportive services that facilitate independent living or as part of a self-sufficiency program.
- Direct cost of homebuyer counseling for families that complete a HOME assisted purchase.

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

No publicly owned land will be utilized.

Discussion

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

#	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Affordable Housing	2020	2023	Affordable Housing	City-wide low-income households CDBG-Eligible Census Tracts	Acquisition of Existing Units Administration of Programs Production of New Units Public Services Rehabilitation of Existing Units Rental Assistance Down Payment Assistance	CDBG: \$569,541	Household Housing Units SS/CH-Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 123 Lead Reduction Units 10 Code Enforcement Program 15 Down Payment Assistance - 12 Demolition 3 Code Enforcement: 1100

#	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Affordable Housing	2020	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide low-income households CDBG-Eligible Census Tracts	Public Services	CDBG: 150,000	Household Housing Unit Crime Prevention
							HOME: \$295,500	Rental Unit Added: 4 KNHS Affordable Housing – 3

	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Homeless Assistance NO PY2020 ESG ALLOCATION ESG Services are based on award	2020	2020	Homelessness--	City-wide low-income households	Homeless Emergency Shelters Homeless Prevention	CDBG: \$20,000	Public Service dollars to assist CoC in the administration of ESG program

#	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Neighborhood Enhancement	2020	2020	Non-Homeless Community Development	Core Neighborhoods low-income households CDBG-Eligible Census Tracts	Neighborhood Improvement	CDBG: \$200,00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 28884 Persons Assisted. Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit:

#	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Youth Development	2020	2020	Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-wide low-income households CDBG-Eligible Census Tracts	Administration of Programs Public Services	CDBG: \$11,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: Anticipated Assisted 340 Persons

Table 2 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	Improve the amount of decent and affordable housing in the City of Kalamazoo by supporting the maintenance, rehabilitation and development of accessible owner and renter occupied housing.
2	Goal Name	Create New Homeownership Opportunities-Down payment Goal
	Goal Description	Use HOME Program funds to assist first-time homebuyers to afford down payment expense.
3	Goal Name	Maintain habitability for elderly homeowners
	Goal Description	Help the elderly maintain and retain their homes through the provision of home repairs.
4	Goal Name	Make the City more livable for people w/disabilities
	Goal Description	Assist people with disabilities, landlords, and advocates in the areas of housing and housing rights; perform accessibility improvements in public facilities.
5	Goal Name	Promote community development through planning
	Goal Description	Perform citywide comprehensive community development planning to help formulate long-term development and policy objectives for the City.

6	Goal Name	Demolition of blighted properties
	Goal Description	Improve neighborhood quality through the elimination or improvement of blighted properties.
	Goal Description	Improve the amount of decent and affordable housing in the City of Kalamazoo by supporting the maintenance, rehabilitation and development of accessible owner and renter occupied housing.
7	Goal Name	Homeless Assistance
	Goal Description	<p>Work towards ending homelessness within Kalamazoo County by supporting the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness implemented through the Kalamazoo County Continuum of Care by providing services and support to the City’s homeless population.</p> <p>Funds will be used to invest in proven strategies to reduce the number of homeless individuals on the streets. Agency funded activities will include canvassing for clients, engaging clients, accessing or providing emergency and crisis intervention services, assessing clients, crisis intervention counseling, case management, providing access to any available entitlements, benefits, housing or other resources, direct provision of and/or referrals and linkages to health and/or behavioral health Services, and transportation of clients. The City will require funded agencies to specifically focus on chronically homeless individuals.</p>
8	Goal Name	Neighborhood Enhancement
	Goal Description	Advance the sustainability of the Community Development Block Grant neighborhoods identified in the Consolidated Plan through the continuation of City services and redevelopment of key neighborhood improvements.
9	Goal Name	Youth Development
	Goal Description	Develop well-adjusted and productive youth through supporting youth programs and activities that provide recreational opportunities to low- and moderate-income people by funding staff to coordinate and manage programs at park facilities and the creation/improvement of parks and playgrounds.

Table 3 – 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):

Below are an estimated number of extremely low-income, low-income and moderate-income families the City will be assisting:

- 4 rental households at or below 80% of area median income with new affordable rental housing; 20% of these units will be further restricted to households at or below 50% of area median income.
- 12 households at or below 80% of area median income with homebuyer assistance.
- 3 households at or below 80% of area median income with new housing for ownership.
- 138 households at or below 80% of area median income with owner occupied rehabilitation.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Kalamazoo continues to conduct meetings to address its goals and needs. Goals and needs to be addressed are either carried out by the City or through one of its Subrecipient nonprofit partners.

#	Project Name	
1	CDBG Planning and Development	
2	Code Enforcement	
3	Demolition	
4	Fair Housing of SW Michigan	
5	Parks & Recreation - Youth Program	
6	Public Safety - Neighborhood	
7	Community Homework's - Critical Home Repair	
8	Senior Services - Home Repair for the Elderly	
9	United Way - Continuum of Care - CDBG	
10	KNHS - Down Payment Assistance	
11	Code Enforcement Repair	
12	Neighborhood Enhancement – Targeted Neighborhood – Edison Neighborhood	
13	HOME Program Administration and Planning	
15	KNHS – Lease Purchase/Homeownership	
16	Tardani Rentals	
17	Affordable Housing Program	

Table 4 – Project Information

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

The reasons for allocation priorities results from the City of Kalamazoo completing an extensive outreach process as part of the development of the 2020-2023 Consolidated Plan. This outreach was evaluation against the data collected for the plan; the realities that the City must consider when determining priorities like yearly budgets, staff capacity, etc.; and what other funders are doing in the community. Based on this evaluation, a set of priorities were established, and these priorities were vetted by the Community Development Act Advisory Committee and adopted by the City Commission as part of the 2020-2023 Consolidated Plan.

Obstacles to addressing underserved needs are due to the reduction of financial resources, which experience several obstacles in helping those most in need. More innovative and creative partnerships and funding schemes will need to be considered as these obstacles, particularly funding is likely to continue.

The need for permanent affordable supportive housing continues to be a concern for persons experiencing homelessness and other special needs populations. The gap between the number of affordable units and those in

need continues to be significant for the City and the region.

The development of new affordable housing, particularly with supportive services, is a goal of the Continuum of Care. Partnerships with the City of Kalamazoo, local nonprofit housing providers and Michigan State Housing Development Authority, is needed to develop an affordable housing strategy. The City will continue to invest in affordable housing through both the CDBG and HOME grant programs.

Providing services, particularly housing, to the chronically homeless continues to be a challenge in Kalamazoo. The small numbers of people with complex, unmet needs who experience homelessness are frequent users of shelters and emergency health care. They often have long histories of homelessness and untreated or poorly managed mental illnesses and addictions. Their frequent stays in county or city jails, shelters, hospitals, etc., result in extraordinarily high costs in multiple public systems, but fail to improve the outcomes for the individuals or their communities.

To have a more proactive approach to homeless prevention, the Continuum of Care developed the Systems of Care team that established work groups to address the needs/barriers of those that may become homeless. The team works to promote the adoption of evidence-based and promising program practices in support of a Housing First philosophy of care. They prioritize Continuous Quality Improvement in service delivery and educate and inform members on national and community best practices.

In general, the City, particularly the Department of Community Planning and Development, are making an effort to strengthen its relationship with county partners. The Kalamazoo County Department of Health and Community Services houses the Kalamazoo County Community Action Agency, which provides programs and services to help low-income households achieve greater economic self-sufficiency. Working towards intergovernmental cooperation could result in joint community development projects, data sharing and best practices.

CAP-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 of Kalamazoo has chosen to focus CDBG funds where at least 51 percent of the residents are considered low and moderate income by HUD. These neighborhoods and Census tracts are:

- 67.9% Eastside – 1.00
- 67.9% Central Business District – 2.01
- 80.5% Northside – 2.02 and 3.00
- 68.7% Douglas/Stuart – 5.00
- 72.85 Vine – 6.00
- 68.5% Edison – 9.00, 10.00 and part of 11.00
- 55.5% Southside – 11.00
- 52.1% Oakwood – 16.03

HOME funds are intended to be used throughout the City.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-wide low-income households	44%
CDBG-Eligible Census Tracts	56%

Table 5 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically.

The focus of CDBG funding in these areas was not only because of eligibility under HUD rules. Many of the core neighborhoods have additional socioeconomic reasons that warrant concentrating resources. Approximately 56% percent of individuals residing in the City of Kalamazoo are living below the federal poverty level. This is almost double the rate of individuals living below the poverty level for the State of Michigan and Kalamazoo County. While the City is experiencing higher rates of poverty, only three Census tracts meet HUD’s definition of

“racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPs).” An area must have a non-White/Caucasian population of 50 percent or more and poverty rate that exceeds 40 percent to be considered concentrated.

The three Census tracts are 1.00 (Eastside) and 2.02 and 3.00 (Northside). The Eastside Neighborhood has a poverty rate of 47.5 percent and 76.3 percent of the population is of minority status. The Northside Neighborhood (2.02 and 3.00) averages a poverty rate of 45.4 percent and a minority population of 92.1 percent.

The core neighborhoods also have much older housing stock. Approximately 90 percent of the homes were built prior to 1979, which raises the risk of lead-based paint. Over 90 percent of the homes in Census tracts 2.02 (Northside), 6.00 (Vine), 9.00 (Edison), and 16.03 (Oakwood) were built before 1979. According to the 2012 American Community Survey, approximately 60 percent of the homes found in the CDBG eligible census tracts were built prior to 1939. The advanced age of the housing stock indicates a need for continued maintenance, lead based paint removal, weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades.

It appears that neighborhood disparities in accessing community assets exist between the more affluent neighborhoods in the City and many of the core neighborhoods. The Edison and Northside Neighborhoods struggle with poor performing schools, have higher percentages of poverty and persons receiving public assistance. Not unexpectedly, these same neighborhoods tend to have lower participation in the labor market, lower percentage of persons employed and lower percentage of persons with either a high school or bachelor’s degree. Access to employment centers may be more problematic because of difficulties accessing the transit system or limited financial means to own and maintain a car.

HOME funds are intended to be used throughout the City. HOME funds are predominately utilized to develop affordable housing. Dispersing affordable housing throughout the City helps to prevent concentrating low income residents within one neighborhood. ESG funding was not a part of the City of Kalamazoo allocation for 2020 . However, the City of Kalamazoo will use public services to fund ESG administrative efforts throughout the City of Kalamazoo. Many of the homeless shelters are located within downtown Kalamazoo or the core neighborhoods.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

As housing costs continue to rise, the City will utilize CDBG/HOME funding to develop safe, decent, affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households. CDBG/HOME funds will primarily be utilized for the development of single-family housing for ownership, multi-family housing for rental, rehabilitation of existing units and down payment/closing costs assistance for first time homebuyers.

For PY2020, the following goals are expected:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	125
Non-Homeless – Direct Financial Assistance	12
Special-Needs	2
Total	139

Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
The Production of New Units	4
Repair of Existing Units	148
Acquisition of Existing Units	7
Total	159

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The table describes the one-year goals for the CDBG/HOME Program as required by 91.220(g). It describes the term affordable housing to be defined in 24 CFR 92.252 for rental housing and 24 CFR 92.254 for homeownership. This table does not include the 10 homes that will be supported through Down Payment Assistance (DPA).

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Kalamazoo does not have public housing.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

Discussion

N/A

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

Introduction

The City of Kalamazoo continues to invest future federal funds to projects providing benefits to very low- and low-income persons who are homeless or have special needs. During the public outreach process, the city reconfirmed that homelessness is a major issue the community faces. For this reason, the city will allocate federal funds to the Continuum of Care and will give priority to affordable housing projects that provide housing units to homeless persons.

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.

The goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including reach out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs are as follow:

Housing Resources, Inc. and Goodwill Industries sponsor a weekly Community Housing Information Hour.

Participating organizations include but are not limited to the Department of Health and Human Services, and Kalamazoo Community Mental Health. The services include coordinated entry screening for households experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness, information and referral, and screening and assessment.

Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services support a Housing Recovery Center, which assists individuals with finding and maintaining affordable housing. One of the services the Recovery Center offers is outreach to people living in emergency shelters and places not meant for human habitation. Ultimately, the outreach is to provide homeless individuals with the services they need and to help them find permanent and supportive housing.

Catholic Charities Dioceses of Kalamazoo utilizes a street outreach program grant from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant has enabled Catholic Charities to meet homeless youth at their point of need. The street outreach program allowed Catholic Charities to build upon and expand their current drop-in center services to have staff available on the street at designated times, seeking out youth who most need their services.

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

To support outreach efforts to homeless persons, City of Kalamazoo staff and citizens are encouraged to participate in the annual point-in-time (PIT) count. Staff and residents have participated in the count in previous years.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Gryphon Place 2-1-1 provides 24-hour information and referral services to residents in need of help to Kalamazoo continuum of care organizations. These individuals are then presented through a Community Housing Matching Process (CHaMP) within 5 business days and matched with available housing resources that best meets their needs and prioritizes our community's most vulnerable citizens.

Persons with greatest need are referred to Housing Resources, Inc. the Lead Agency/Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (HARA) for housing assessment and development of the Community Housing Assistance Plan (CHAP). Those with an urgent need are referred to area emergency shelters where the CHAP is developed in consultation with the HARA.

The HARA schedules the Housing Assessment visit within two days of initial contact. The HARA Housing Resource Specialist creates the CHAP utilizing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and prioritizes strength-based case management principles. Resources are provided based on need and may include case coordination, financial assistance, landlord/tenant education/engagement, linkage to community partner resources, and referrals to mainstream service providers.

Emergency shelter services, with the goal of rapid re-housing, are provided to homeless households. These services include a shelter diversion assessment, shelter entry with the goal of rapid exit, financial assistance in the form of rental subsidy, and tenant-landlord engagement. Emergency shelters with rapid re-housing services have the goal of achieving sustainable permanent affordable housing.

The City of Kalamazoo will continue to provide ESG funds through the Kalamazoo County Continuum of Care to support emergency shelter and transitional housing needs upon funding. Exact outcomes will not be known until an allocation is made from HUD.

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

Moving towards prevention, the Continuum of Care is currently utilizing over 1,100 vouchers to help in the fight to alleviate homelessness in the City of Kalamazoo. The Housing Assistance and Resource Agency (HRI) was given an increase in funding this year from MSHDA ESG monies to help more individuals stay in their housing to bring down the amount of people evicted or foreclosed upon in 2020.

The Continuum of Care funded agencies have also worked diligently in developing a standardized process of entry along the “no wrong door” premise. The new system will consolidate paperwork and essentially create a centralized bureaucracy that will eliminate confusion and remove multiple barriers to entry for those seeking housing in the City of Kalamazoo.

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 Kalamazoo County Multi-Purpose Collaborative Body passed a resolution to work cooperatively with the Kalamazoo Continuum of Care to ensure a discharge policy for persons leaving publicly funded institutions or systems of care.

There are strong "guidelines" about discharge from the State hospitals and from the mental health unit at Borgess Hospital. Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services employ hospital liaisons to work with individuals prior to release to create a "person centered plan" which includes next steps after discharge. Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services also funds a jail liaison position to connect people in jail with appropriate mainstream, Medicaid funded mental health services.

The Continuum of Care Planning Policy regarding discharge follows:

Foster Care: Local foster care providers are required to adhere to Michigan's laws, policies, and procedures applicable to adult and child foster care placement and discharge. Young adults (ages 18-21) transitioning out of foster care to independent living are assisted in finding suitable and sustainable living arrangements. They may be provided first month's rent, security/utility deposit, and monies to purchase household goods, food, and supplies. Discharge is guided by a needs assessment and the information collected in a Individual Service Plan.

Health Care: Discharge planning assessment, planning, and follow-up procedures are managed by providing a multi-disciplinary team approach to patients with post-hospital needs. Discharge Planning is the vehicle which moves the patient to the proper level of post-hospital care and/or to the proper facility.

The regional Veteran's Administration (VA) serves 14,000 veterans per year, half of whom are from the local area. The hospital follows a set of discharge criteria when releasing patients into the community. VA social workers and case managers assess and work with the patients who are homeless to find them appropriate shelter before their release.

Mental Health: The Kalamazoo County Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services agency follows the dictates of Section 330.1209b of the Mental Health Code, which states that "the community mental health services program will produce in writing a plan for community placement and aftercare services that is sufficient to meet the needs of the individual."

Veterans: The regional Veteran's Administration (VA) follows a set of discharge criteria when releasing patients into the community. VA social workers and case managers assess and work with the patients who are homeless to find them appropriate shelter before their release. The VA works with emergency shelters, other homeless housing, and

supportive services providers in the Continuum of Care to assure suitable placement is achieved after discharge.

The rental assistance through Housing Resources, Inc. and Catholic Family Services may support individuals leaving an institutional setting. In addition, the ESG funds that will be allocated through the Continuum of Care will assist with rapid re-housing and homeless prevention.

Discussion

In addition, Kalamazoo county conducts a 24-hour count of those who are experiencing homelessness in our community annually. The Point-in-Time Count is intended to provide a snapshot of Kalamazoo Count’s homeless population. It is one way to collectively understand the scope and breadth of homelessness in our community. The count is an important effort that ensures the voices of people experiencing homelessness are heard and efforts are made to provide appropriate services. It also helps communities develop more effective plans and measure progress toward ending homelessness.

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

Barriers to affordable housing are varied and complex. Possible barriers to the development or retention of affordable housing are public policies, particularly those of the City. Such policies include land use controls, zoning ordinances, building codes, and policies that affect the return on residential investment. In addition to public policies, larger social issues and outside forces impact the ability to access affordable housing. Social issues like poverty and lack of employment, and outside forces like reductions in Federal and State funding to develop new housing, present a barrier to affordable housing.

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.

The following information reviews some of the barriers in Kalamazoo:

Land Use Controls

Most of the available land in the City has been developed. There are only a small number of large vacant tracts of land that remain, thereby limiting the future development of residential units. There are a number of smaller parcels that are vacant and suitable for infill construction of residential units. A number of vacant or underutilized commercial buildings are also prime locations for redevelopment, with residential use being at least a component of the use.

A barrier to the development and redevelopment of these infill sites is environmental contamination. Particularly in many of the lower income neighborhoods, many of the properties that are available for redevelopment are environmentally contaminated primarily due to overuse of the site or an adjacent site. Clean-up of these sites can be very costly, thereby limiting the ability to attract new business and housing to these sites. It is much easier and cheaper to develop “green fields” in the unpolluted, outlying communities than it is to develop the “brownfields” in the City.

Zoning Ordinance and Subdivisions

Recognizing that Zoning can serve as a barrier to housing options and affordability, the City of Kalamazoo is undertaking a Zoning Code rewrite and an update to the Zoning Map. These changes are designed to increase the quantity and location of housing types throughout the City.

The City’s existing Zoning Ordinance permits multifamily housing in five of the eleven residential zoning districts. In addition, duplexes are permitted in two other districts in which multifamily residential is not permitted.

Additionally, the City of Kalamazoo Zoning Ordinance allows for multifamily development in several commercial districts to allow for mixed use and to encourage walkability.

Housing and Building Codes

The City of Kalamazoo enforces the Michigan Building Code, which is standard among municipalities in the State.

Concerns have been raised that the rental certification program is a barrier to affordable housing because it adds an additional cost to the management of rental properties. However, in a city where over half of the residential units are rental, a program of this type is necessary to not only maintain the health, safety and welfare of those who rent in Kalamazoo, but to maintain or improve property values in City neighborhoods.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City will utilize a variety of strategies and support from community partners to help address barriers to affordable housing. Generally, the City utilizes 50 percent or more of the total HUD grant award towards housing activities. These funds will help to increase the supply of affordable housing, as well as helping those in affordable units to remain housed. In addition, the City has encouraged, through the competitive application process, that housing providers form partnerships in the hopes of avoiding duplication of services that would allow assistance to larger numbers of low-income households. Most of these partners also provide needed social services that help households with long term housing sustainability.

The City of Kalamazoo's code enforcement and anti-blight effort is funded with CDBG. One of the enforcement teams' main purposes is the identification and resolution of blighted housing units, which can be made available for low-income households, thereby increasing the number of affordable housing units in the City.

The City of Kalamazoo has also provided CDBG funding to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation for capacity building and technical assistance of housing, Community Housing Development Organizations and/or neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations operating within Kalamazoo. The capacity and productivity of these organizations are important elements in addressing current barriers to the provision of affordable housing.

The Kalamazoo Brownfield Redevelopment Initiative has been a tremendous resource in addressing the issue of contaminated properties that may have the ability to be redeveloped. Using captured tax revenue, the Brownfield Initiative has purchased many contaminated properties throughout the City. They then prepare these sites for redevelopment by removing the contamination. The properties are put back on the market and resold without the environmental contamination.

Some additional actions planned over the five-year period of the Consolidated Plan are:

- Focus CDBG funding on substandard housing and/or deferred maintenance of affordable housing units, particularly in the Eastside, Edison and Northside Neighborhoods.
- Pilot a housing repair program for low-income homeowners that receive code violations.
- Lead Hazard Removal. The City of Kalamazoo has been awarded a Lead Based Hazard Reduction grant. Purpose is to identify, and control lead based hazards. Focus is on homes with children under six year of age.

Discussion

Most of these partners also provide needed social services that help households with long term housing sustainability. The nonprofit partners receiving funding to assist with affordable housing in PY2020 are:

- Community Homeworks
- Senior Services, Inc.
- Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services

The Kalamazoo Brownfield Redevelopment Initiative has been a tremendous resource in addressing the issue of contaminated properties that may have the ability to be redeveloped. Using captured tax revenue, the Brownfield Initiative has purchased many contaminated properties throughout the City. They then prepare these sites for redevelopment by removing the contamination. The properties are put back on the market and resold without the environmental contamination.

The City of Kalamazoo will continue to support development for PY2020 as follow:

- Work with local nonprofit housing providers on the development of new and/or rehabilitated housing. Encourage variety in housing types like duplexes, townhomes, 4-unit apartments to provide a wider range of rents and mortgage costs.
- Improve financial options for Kalamazoo residents to increase homeownership and homeowner maintenance by working with local lending institutions and nonprofits to develop loan types and/or underwriting requirements that would allow for nontraditional home loans.
- Work with local nonprofit housing providers to provide homeowner subsidies to help low-income families with down payment assistance.

Improve access to quality rental housing in Kalamazoo through continued support of tenant based rental assistance programs. In addition, consider the development of a program where vacant and/or tax foreclosed properties are sold to landlords who maintain exceptional rental properties and will rehabilitate the home for rental use. Work with local nonprofit housing providers on free and/or reduced-cost financial literacy for households from the Eastside, Edison or Northside Neighborhoods. Focus CDBG funding on substandard housing and/or deferred maintenance of affordable housing units, particularly in the Eastside, Edison and Northside Neighborhoods

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The City of Kalamazoo recognizes that the needs of Kalamazoo residents extend beyond housing and infrastructure. These needs include reducing lead-based paint hazards, reducing poverty, developing institutional structures, and enhancing coordination between public and private social service agencies. The following is a list of actions that the City of Kalamazoo intends to implement over the next fiscal year to achieve success in addressing the housing and community development needs of low to moderate income residents.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

The City recognizes the significance of taking actions to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, reduce lead-based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families and enhance the coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. The paragraphs below address the actions being undertaken by the City.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing.

In PY2020, the City will continue to place an emphasis on affordable housing as part of the competitive grant application process. A total of five nonprofit organizations will receive CDBG and HOME funding to expand new and maintain existing affordable housing. Approximately **\$770,500** (CDBG/HOME) of the total funds provided to the City will be used towards the improvement of affordable housing in the City.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards.

Lead based hazards in the City of Kalamazoo remain a significant concern in light of the City's desire to rehabilitate older housing stock to maintain affordable housing. According to the U.S. Census, 89 percent of the owner-occupied and 74 percent of renter-occupied housing in the City was built prior to 1980, and of which, 26 percent of owner-occupied and 12 percent of renter-occupied have children present.

The City of Kalamazoo has been awarded a Lead Based Hazard Reduction grant. Purpose is to identify, and control lead based hazards. Focus is on homes with children under six year of age. The specifics of the grant are as follows.

- Grant period is 2020 – 2023
- Grant award is \$1,999,362. We were awarded full amount of request.
- Number of houses - 72 60% homeowner/40% rental
- Grant was written in collaboration with Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services
- Grant uses approximately \$200,000 of future CDBG funding as a match.

The City also continues to include lead hazard reduction strategies into repairs on rental properties inspected under the City Housing Code. The City inspects all rental properties at least once every three years. When potential or existing problems are located, inspectors require appropriate remedial action. In addition to the lead-based paint disclosure rule of 1996, the City of Kalamazoo requires its Subrecipients to comply with the September 15, 2000

regulation, “Requirements for Notification, Evaluation and Reduction of Lead Based Paint Hazards in Federally-Owned Residential Property and Housing Receiving Federal Assistance.”

Two single-family homes will be completely rehabbed with PY2020 funds. The removal of lead-based paint, if found, will be a requirement of these rehabilitations. In addition, the City plans to utilize **\$100,000 to demolish** blighted residential structures in the City. It is likely that these homes may contain lead-based paint because they tend to be older structures where lead is more prevalent. The removal of approximately three structures will reduce the chances of a household living with lead contamination.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families.

For PY2020, the City of Kalamazoo will continue to work towards helping those in poverty access affordable housing. In addition, the City has developed a Section 3 preference policy to promote the procurement of Section 3 businesses. The intent is to improve the economic circumstances of local low-income business owners and residents.

Approximately one third of the City lives below the federal poverty. That number increases beyond 50% in several of the core neighborhoods that also have the highest concentration of people of color. The City of Kalamazoo has initiated Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK) to address poverty. SPK is a bold and ambitious plan to transform our community into a place where every child and every adult thrives and prospers. In 2014, the City Commission voted to make the reduction of poverty, especially among children one of its top priorities. This Commission priority was substantiated by the community through the Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 engagement process and the resulting Strategic Vision and Master Plan. More than 3,500 community voices gave input on the opportunities and challenges the City faced. As a result of those voices the following goals were laid out in the Strategic Vision – Shared Prosperity, Connected City, Inviting Public Spaces, Environmental Responsibility, Safe Community, Youth Development, Complete Neighborhoods, Strength through Diversity, Economic Vitality and Good Governance. Shared Prosperity aligns most closely with the Strategic Goals of Shared Prosperity, Complete Neighborhoods, Youth Development, Strength through Diversity and Economic Vitality.

SPK is guided by a coalition made of an Organizing Committee and goal teams. The Organizing Committee is responsible for convening stakeholders for conversations and accountability around recommendations to meet the goals set forth in the plan. There are three teams each one focusing on a specific SPK goal. The members of the teams include both service providers and residents. They teams are intended to meet 4-6 times a year to share information, actions/programs to be presented to the Organizing Committee. SPK budget, plans and initiatives will have final approval by the City Commission before implementation.

SPK has three goals that work is being planned and implemented on simultaneously. They are 1) Promote the health growth, development and learning of children 2) Increase access to good jobs; and 3) Promote strong families. SPK also has four targeted populations. They are 1) Families of color 2) Families at or below poverty level and those not earning a living wage; 3) Families in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty and 4) Individuals with criminal records.

The combination of aspirational goals and community engagement has led SPK to focus on three particular neighborhoods that encompass five census tracts within the city—Eastside, Edison, and Northside—for targeted action projects.

The goals for this Affordable Housing Plan and SPK are closely aligned. Both plans address the following:

- Low to mod income residents
- Low to mod income and racially concentrated areas of the City/Census tracts
- Housing/Found in the Strong Families goal in SPK
- Youth development

The City of Kalamazoo is integrating HUD funding with private funding to address these shared goals.

In addition, the City has an approved Section 3 Preference Policy support local low-income businesses and residents, improving their financial stability.

The city will also provide loans to for profit organization willing to partner with the City to address Affordable Housing.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure.

The City of Kalamazoo has strengthened relationships in the past few years with local funders and nonprofit organizations. A more coordinated effort to project implementation is a priority discussed among the major stakeholders in the community. To that end, the Program Officers Network of Kalamazoo was organized. The Director of Community Planning and Economic Development will attend their meetings during the 2020 program year. The goal is to allow foundations like Kalamazoo Community Foundation, the Gilmore Foundation and Arcus Foundation to work together towards improving grant coordination and the local distribution of grant funds.

For PY2020 United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region with replace Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). The Action plan will be updated to reflect this change along with efforts to coordinate housing and community development efforts through the Sustainable Communities Initiative.

The City will host bi-monthly meetings with the core CDBG-eligible neighborhoods during PY2020. The executive directors of each neighborhood organization attend the meetings along with representatives from City departments like Public Safety, Public Services, Parks and Recreation, and Community Planning and Development. The meetings focus on neighborhood issues, the coordination of services, updates on City improvements, etc. The intent is to provide an open forum for neighborhood leaders to work cooperatively with the City on addressing neighborhood needs.

The City, particularly the Department of Community Planning and Development, could benefit from stronger relationships with our county partners. The Kalamazoo County Department of Health and Community Services houses the Kalamazoo County Community Action Agency, which provides programs and services to help low-income households achieve greater economic self-sufficiency. The City will work towards more intergovernmental cooperation in PY2020 to work towards joint community development projects, data sharing and best practices.

Actions Planned to Enhance Coordination between Public and Private Housing and Social Service Agencies

The City of Kalamazoo has indicated that the priority needs to be addressed during the five-year period of this Plan are affordable housing, homeless assistance, neighborhood enhancement and youth development. The institutional structure for the neighborhood enhancement and youth development priorities is internal to the City and has no gaps to providing services. The affordable housing priority could benefit from a stronger relationship with the Southcentral Michigan Community Action Agency. Community Planning and Economic Development staff at the City plan to engage with the housing programs staff to review possible areas of partnership that will improve affordable housing outcomes.

The development of new affordable housing, particularly with supportive services, is also a goal of the Continuum of Care. Partnerships with the City of Kalamazoo, local nonprofit housing providers and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority will need to be an affordable housing development strategy. The City will continue to invest in affordable housing through both the CDBG and HOME grant programs. The development of new units will continue to be considered based on successful financial statements and plans.

To have a more proactive approach to homeless prevention, the Continuum of Care developed the Systems of Care team. The Team works to promote the adoption of evidence-based and promising program practices in support of a Housing First philosophy of care. They prioritize Continuous Quality Improvement in service delivery and educate and inform members on national and community best practices.

The Continuum of Care Director has also empowered the Allocations and Accountability Team to be a much more vocal and essential team to the health and sanctity of the operation of the Continuum. This will come with voting members being able to directly inquire to the leadership of the funded agencies about operations and performance and then holding the agencies accountable for their actions. This is also the impartial team that decides how Continuum of Care funding received from HUD will be allocated to the funded agencies or any others applying for funding.

Discussion

As the City continues to develop public policy to address these needs, it will keep close communication with internal and external stakeholders, participate in conferences and staff development, and provide assistance to assure coordination among private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies.

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

Introduction

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

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(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	\$120,680
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	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	\$120,680

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.	76%

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:

The City does not plan any other forms of investments except for those identified in Section 92.205 of the HOME Investment Partnership Program Final Rule.

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:**

Per the requirements of 24 CFR 92.254, the City will require Subrecipients and developers to recapture all, or a portion of, the HOME investment if the homeowner decides to sell the house within the affordability period at whatever price the market will bear. The homebuyer may sell the property to any willing buyer. However, the sale of the property during the affordability period triggers repayment of the HOME funds utilized when it was originally purchased.

- **Reduction during the Affordability Period (Forgiveness):**

The Subrecipient or developer will forgive the direct HOME subsidy during the time of the affordability period. The total amount of the direct HOME subsidy will be equally divided among the years of the affordability period. For example, a \$40,000 direct HOME subsidy would be equally forgiven over the 10 year affordability period, reducing by \$4,000 each year.

Forgiveness will only be given to the homebuyer for each year they occupy the home as their primary residence.

- **Amount of Repayment and Net Proceeds:**

Net proceeds are defined as the sale price minus superior non-HOME loan repayments and any closing costs. If there are no net proceeds or insufficient proceeds to recapture the full amount of HOME investment due, the amount subject to repayment must be limited to what is available from net proceeds.

- **Homebuyer Agreement**

Recapture of the HOME investment and forgiveness over time is required to be detailed in the Homebuyer Agreement signed by the homebuyer and recorded on a deed restriction with the County Clerk/Register of Deeds.

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 period of affordability is detailed in either the Subrecipient or developer agreement with the City of Kalamazoo. The agreement also requires the Subrecipient or developer to ensure compliance with the affordability period by placing a covenant or deed restriction that runs with the property and is recorded with the County Clerk/Register Office. A copy of the recorded document is provided to the homeowner and the City of Kalamazoo.

Per the requirements of 24 CFR 92.254, the Subrecipient or developer will recapture all or a portion of the HOME

investment if the homeowner decides to sell the house within the affordability period at whatever price the market will bear. The homebuyer may sell the property to any willing buyer. However, the sale of the property during the affordability period triggers repayment of the direct HOME subsidy provided to the homeowner when it was originally purchased.

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:**

The City of Kalamazoo does not utilize HOME funds to secure existing debt for multifamily

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

1. **Include written standards for providing ESG assistance provided the City is funding at a later time during the year.**

HUD did not allocate funding for this program for PY2020. However, \$20,000 (CDBG) is to be awarded to CoC for administrative support for homeless assistance.

Source of Funding. All CoC programs are funded by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 and administered by HUD; some ESG funds are passed through to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). McKinney-Vento programs provide outreach, shelter, transitional housing, supportive services, rent subsidies, and permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness and/or at risk of homelessness.

- Additionally, in 2009, Congress passed the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act to consolidate HUD homelessness programs (Supportive Housing Program, Shelter Plus Care, and Moderate Rehabilitation/Single Room Occupancy). The Hearth Act amended and reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act, and is intended to further assist people in regaining stable, permanent housing and supports a coordinated intake process, effective data collection, performance measurement and program evaluation systems.
- The dollar amount of available funding is determined competitively for the Continuum of Care Program Competition and by formula to each jurisdiction (State of Michigan, Kalamazoo City and County) for the Emergency Solutions Grants program. The CoC and the City of Kalamazoo combine their Emergency Solutions Grants, funded by MSHDA and HUD, respectively, into a single application process.
- Funding is subject to federal appropriations, state and local allocations and terms of the relevant Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA); *funding is not guaranteed by the CoC, City of Kalamazoo, HUD or MSHDA until grant agreements are finalized and executed.*

Eligible Uses of Funding. CoC and/or ESG funding as available will be awarded for projects that provide:

- Homeless outreach, assessment, and prevention; Emergency shelter (ES); Transitional housing (TH); Permanent housing with supportive services (PSH); Permanent Housing-Rapid-Rehousing (PH-RR)Permanent housing only (PH); Supportive services only (SSO), and Planning, HMIS, and Grant Administration.

Ineligible Uses of Funding

Funds cannot be allocated to any organization that:

1. Does not comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of local, State and Federal civil rights laws (see CoC Fair Housing Policy); or
2. Requires participation in religious activities as a condition for receiving services; or

3. Does not comply with the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs – Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity Final Rule (2012 Equal Access Rule).

CoC Collaborative Applicant - Information to be updated due to current transfer of CoC from LISC to United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region.

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

The Continuum of Care formalized a “No Wrong Door” countywide Coordinated Community Assessment System in 2009. *Gryphon Place 2-1-1 provides 24 hour information and referral services to residents in need of help to Kalamazoo continuum of care organizations.* . These individuals are then presented through a Community Housing Matching Process (CHaMP) within 5 business days and matched with available housing resources that best meets their needs and prioritizes our community's most vulnerable citizens.

Persons with greatest need are referred to Housing Resources, Inc. the Lead Agency/Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (HARA) for housing assessment and development of the Community Housing Assistance Plan (CHAP). Those with an urgent need are referred to area emergency shelters where the CHAP is developed in consultation with the HARA.

The HARA schedules the Housing Assessment visit within two days of initial contact. The HARA Housing Resource Specialist creates the CHAP utilizing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and prioritizes strength based case management principles. Resources are provided based on need and may include: case coordination, financial assistance, landlord/tenant education/engagement, linkage to community partner resources, and referrals to mainstream service providers.

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 of Kalamazoo currently renews funding for nonprofit agencies carrying out ESG-funded emergency shelter activities, provided that the contractual obligations have been met and project outcomes have been successful. The City may choose to reduce or eliminate funding to an agency that does not meet contractual obligations, or that administers a project that fails to meet outcome goals. If an existing program does not fit with the City's objectives, the agency may be asked to change its program design. The City may also transition to a competitive RFP process. The City does not plan to initiate other large ongoing ESG-funded emergency shelter programs. The City of Kalamazoo currently subcontracts all ESG funding to Housing Resources, Inc., which administers the ESG Program

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.

In order to meet the requirements under § 576.405(b), the City of Kalamazoo have partnered with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (the local CoC Board). The local CoC Board and its multiple subcommittees each include participation by multiple people with lived experience of homelessness. One CoC Board subcommittee (the Community Advisory Forum) specifically provides a solutions-driven forum for those with lived experience of homelessness and front-line service workers to listen and support each other. It also brings consumers, providers and interested community members together to share information, and identify emerging issues and trends. For PY2020 the City of Kalamazoo did not receive funding for ESG. However, the City provided fund Local Initiatives Support Corporation in the amount of 20,000 through its CDBG allocation.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

ESG-funded projects in the City of Kalamazoo.

Through on-site and desk monitoring, the reviewer can determine whether the program participant's performance meets program requirements and improve program participant performance by providing guidance and making recommendations. The specific purposes of monitoring are to:

- Validate the accuracy of information presented by the program participants;
 - Follow-up on problems identified during the monitoring visit;
 - Determine compliance for those activities where there is sufficient information to make eligibility and/or national objective determinations;
 - Evaluate the reasonableness of judgments made for those activities that necessarily involve high levels of program participant judgment;
 - Ascertain the Subrecipient's ability to ensure that activities carried out meet compliance requirements;
 - Verify the accuracy of the program participant's records; and,
- Identify apparent causes of any problem(s) and offer recommendations for corrective actions.

Discussion

For program year 2020 the Department of Housing and Urban Development did not fund Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).