

STARK COUNTY, OHIO FY 2020

(July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021)

One Year Action Plan CDBG and HOME

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
B-20-UC-39-0005

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
M-20-DC-39-0204

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Consolidated Plan is a consolidation of various programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME program. Stark County is an "Urban County" under the CDBG program and a "Designated Consortium" under the HOME program. The County receives direct allocations of funding for both of these programs.

This one year action plan is for the second year of the FY '19 - '23 Consolidated Plan, making it the FY 2020 Annual Action Plan. It summarizes the activities that the County will undertake utilizing CDBG and HOME funding.

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.

In preparing the One-Year Action Plan, the County addressed those needs that met one of the three statutory objectives of the CDBG program: benefit to low- and moderate-income persons, elimination of slum and blighting conditions, or an urgent community development need.

Specific goals, objectives and outcomes include:

- Preservation of affordable housing;
- Provide targeted public services for low- and moderate-income persons;
- Providing technical assistance to micro enterprise businesses or potential businesses,
- Providing funding for a critical water main replacement, and
- Provide necessary funding to help replace an aged and outdated sanitary sewer system.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The Stark County Consortium has a record of excellence in both the CDBG and HOME programs. Project areas that have been selected for this Consolidated Plan include housing rehabilitation for low- and moderate-income households, provision of emergency housing rehabilitation, provision of fair housing counseling, prescription medication access and assistance for low- and moderate-income individuals, provision of vouchers for low-income persons/families for household items, emergency residences for the homeless, coordinated entry system for homeless persons/families, micro-enterprise development and infrastructure improvements.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Public notices were published for the initial FY 2020 CDBG application workshop that was held in August, 2019 in the three general circulation newspapers. Invitations were also mailed to all political subdivisions that participate in the CDBG program, along with non-profit agencies that have applied for funding in the past, current subrecipients and persons/agencies/businesses who expressed any interest in applying. The plan was presented to the Stark County Regional Planning Commission at its meeting on March 3, 2020. A public meeting was held on March 5, 2020 for the presentation of the upcoming proposed three-year funding plan.

For the FY 2020 HOME program, an application workshop was held in November of 2019, public notices were published in the three local general circulation newspapers and invitations were sent to those agencies that have received funding currently or in the past or who expressed interest in applying for funding. The one year funding program was presented at the same above mentioned Regional Planning Commission meeting and public meeting as the CDBG program.

A public hearing was held on March 18, 2020 and notices of this were mailed to all entities that submitted an application for either the CDBG or HOME program and a boxed ad was also published in all three local newspapers. The programs were presented to the Board of Stark County Commissioners.

At a regular meeting after the end of the public comment period, the Board of Stark County Commissioners adopted the FY 2020 CDBG and HOME programs, along with infrastructure projects for FY 2021.

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.

No public comments were received during the public comment period, being from March 12, 2020 to April 11, 2020, for the One Year Action Plan.

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

There were no comments or views that were not accepted during the 30 comment period or during the fiscal year.

7. Summary

FY 2020 is the second year of the 5-year Consolidated Plan period. For this reason, extensive consultations and coordination were not conducted this year. Please refer to Section AP-12 Participation "Citizen Participation Outreach" chart for a listing of consultations held during the FY 2019. Citizen involvement was also achieved through the CDBG and HOME application workshops in addition to the public meeting and public hearing as detailed in the previous section "#4: Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process."

The encouragement and opportunity for public involvement has also been described in detail in the current Stark County Citizen Participation Plan, adopted in June 2018. Throughout the plan, objectives to encourage public participation in the Community Development Department's Programs and Plans are outlined in detail. The Citizen Participation Plan can be found in Attachment 7.

Stark County Regional Planning Commission staff attends various meetings throughout the year where issues may be raised as they relate to areas of the Consolidated Plan, CDBG and HOME programs.

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

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

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	STARK COUNTY	Stark County Regional Planning - Comm Dev. Dept
HOME Administrator	STARK COUNTY	Stark County Regional Planning - Comm Dev. Dept

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The Board of Stark County Commissioners is the grantee of the CDBG funds and the lead entity for the HOME Consortium which includes the cities of Alliance and Massillon. The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) is under contract to the Board of Stark County Commissioners for the administration of the CDBG and HOME programs. The SCRPC works with the cities of Alliance and Massillon for the development of the HOME program.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is the contact for the Stark County Consolidated Plan.

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

1. Introduction

This section addresses the consultation efforts of the County in completing the Consolidated Plan One Year Action Plan.

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 this was the second year of the 5-year Consolidated Plan (FY '19 - '23), no additional consultations were held outside of the application process. The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) staff meets with any entity as requested or as the need arises to enhance coordination which has been stated in the Section AP-12 Participation "Citizen Participation Outreach" chart, which list all consultations held during the fiscal year.

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 Stark Housing Network, Inc. (SHN) was developed in late 2016/early 2017 and serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the Continuum of Care (CoC) operating as the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC: OH-508). The SHN is the central agency in Stark County working with the CoC and coordinating efforts which 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 SCRPC is in regular communication with the SHN in regard to their CoC work; especially with funding for HMIS through the SCRPC's CDBG funding allocation.

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 Canton is the only ESG recipient in Stark County. The City of Canton administers the ESG funding, while the Stark Housing Network, Inc. (SHN) works with the City of Canton to provide help with soliciting, reviewing, scoring, and allocating ESG funds.

2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority was consulted to provide information on public housing and its future plans for the AP-60 - Public Housing section of the FY 2020 Action Plan.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Stark Housing Network
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	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
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Stark Housing Network was consulted to provide information on homeless and other special needs activities and future plans for each for the AP-65 - Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities section of the FY 2020 Action Plan.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	STARK COUNTY FAIR HOUSING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing Other government - County Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Discrimination & Landlord/Tenant Help

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Stark County Fair Housing Department was consulted to provide information on barriers to affordable housing, housing discrimination, landlord/tenant issues, etc. and future plans for each for the AP-75 - Barriers to Affordable Housing section of the FY 2020 Action Plan.
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

The public meetings and public hearings were open to anyone who wanted to attend. There were no agency types that were not consulted or invited to attend the public meeting.

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	Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County	The homeless section of the One Year Action Plan was coordinated with the HCCSC through the Executive Director of the Stark Housing Network, Inc., which manages the CoC to ensure that goals and objectives are aligned.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

Stark County RPC implements the CDBG and HOME programs for Stark County under a contract with the Board of Stark County Commissioners. SCRPC coordinates the HOME portion of the Con Plan with the cities of Alliance and Massillon as the lead entity for the consortium.

Ongoing coordination takes place between Stark County and both the cities of Alliance and Massillon as members of the Consortium. Staff communicate on a regular basis regarding community needs, planning and programs. RPC staff operate the City of Alliance's rehab programs (both CDBG and HOME funded) and carry out City of Massillon Rehab Program inspections under contract to each of these cities.

Coordination with the City of Canton also takes place regularly on projects of mutual interest. During FY 2019, a HOME project which was previously jointly funded with both City of Canton and Stark County HOME funds, the Construction of the Arbor Ridge Permanent Supportive Housing Complex, was fully completed and occupied by qualified low-to moderate-income (LMI) tenants. Continued consultation and coordination take place as needed to ensure that the projects progress at an efficient rate.

Lynn Carlone, Katie Puleo, and Katie Phillips (prior to her resignation in October 2019) of the RPC's CD Department regularly participate in the Ohio Conference of Community Development.

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 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

Goals were established during the consultation and citizen participation process outline in the full 2019 - 2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

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)
1	Meeting with local community to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (4/18/19)	Village of Brewster-Mayor and Village Planner	CD staff met with village officials to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on a sanitary sewer replacement project. The project is nearly final design stage and is located in a qualified LMI CT/BG. After discussion, the village determined that will continue to pursue the project and plans to attend the upcoming CDBG workshop to be held this summer and submit an application for FY '20 CDBG funding.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
2	Meeting with local community to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (4/23/19)	City of North Canton-City Engineer	CD staff met with the city engineer to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on various projects located in the city engineer to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on potential projects located in the city's LMI census tract/block groups. At this time, it appears that at least 2 projects are currently in design phase. As such, the city plans to plans to attend the upcoming CDBG workshop to be held this summer and submit an application for FY '20 CDBG	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	

			funding and possible FY '21 CDBG funding.			
3	Meeting with local community to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (4/23/19)	Village of Minerva-Village Administrator	CD staff met with the Village Administrator to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on potential projects located in the village's LMI census tract/block groups (all in Carroll County). At this time, no projects are currently in development, but the village stated that if projects come about in the future, the village would plan on seeking CDBG funding, if qualified.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
4	Meeting w/local non-profit to discuss exploring the use of CDBG funds for adult daycare (5/14/2019)	JRC, local community non-profit organization	Community Development staff met with JRC's Tom Thompson, Executive Director, and Karen Shackelford, Director of Development, to discuss the use of CDBG funds to help with the already underway expansion/rehab of an adult daycare/early childhood education center located in the recently acquired Meyers Lake Ballroom facility. CD staff explained that JRC should explore applying for FY'20 public service funds, as CDBG funding cannot be allocated towards a project that is already under contract.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
5	Phone call with local non-profit to discuss exploring the use of CDBG funds for a homeowner workshop (5/31/2019)	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio, non-profit	Phone call between Aaron Brown, Director of Development at Habitat and CDBG staff about Habitat expanding a H.O.M.E. workshop program already taking place in the City of Canton, into the County at large, with the use of County CDBG funds. CDBG staff encouraged Mr. Brown to attend	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	

			the FY20 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.			
6	Meeting with Waynesburgs councilman to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure project (6/17/2019)	Village of Waynesburg-councilman	Community Development staff and Jeff Dotson, SCRPC Transportation Planner, met with Jeff Davis, councilman of Waynesburg to discuss a potential storm sewer project. Staff offered information on the application for both CDBG funds and OPWC funds. Staff encouraged Mr. Davis to attend the FY20 CDBG workshop in August 2019.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
7	Meeting with Stark County Sanitary Engineer to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (6/18/2019)	Stark County Sanitary Engineer	Community Development staff and Bob Nau, SCRPC Exec. Director, met with Jim Troike and Scott Ellsworth of the Sanitary office to discuss the use of CDBG funds for potential sanitary sewer projects throughout the County that would fall within qualified LMI census tracts. SCPRC staff encouraged Mr. Troike and Mr. Ellsworth to attend the FY 2020 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
8	Meeting with Stark County Engineer to discuss possible CDBG infrastructure projects (6/20/2019)	Stark County Engineer	Community Development staff and Bob Nau, SCRPC Exec. Director, met with Dave Torrence, Asst. Stark County Engineer, and another engineering office staff person to discuss the use of CDBG funds for potential county engineering infrastructure sewer projects throughout the County that would fall within qualified LMI census tracts. SCPRC staff encouraged Mr. Torrence to attend the FY20 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	

9	Conference call with non-profit interested in HOME funds (7/22/19)	National Church Residences (NCR) (non-profit)	Community Development staff discussed a potential project ideas with NCR in regard to the possible receipt of future HOME funding. NCR is unsure if they will remit FY20 HOME applications at this time, but will keep HOME funding in mind for future projects.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
10	Discussion with non-profit interested in HOME funds (8/19/19)	ICAN, Inc. (non-profit & CHDO)	Community Development staff discussed two potential project ideas with ICAN, Inc. in regard to the possible receipt of future HOME and/or CHDO funding. ICAN, Inc. plans to submit two FY 2020 HOME applications at this time.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
11	Application Workshop CDBG (8/28/19)	Non-targeted/ broad community	Attendees included representatives from the various CDBG political subdivisions and non-profit organizations interested in applying for CDBG funding from the FY 2020 - 2022 programs.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	RPC Website http://www.startco.org/region-al-planning
12	Application Workshop HOME (11/13/19)	Non-targeted/ broad community	Attendees included representatives from the various HOME political; subdivisions and non-profit organizations interested in applying for HOME funding from the FY 2020 program	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	RPC Website http://www.startco.org/region-al-planning

13	Discussion with non-profit interested in HOME funds (1/7/20)	ICAN, Inc. (non-profit & CHDO)	Community Development staff further discussed potential project ideas with ICAN, Inc. in regard to the possible receipt of future HOME and/or CHDO funding.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	
14	Meeting/consultation with City of Massillon interested in FY '20 HOME funds (1/27/20)	City of Massillon	Community Development staff discussed with consortium member, City of Massillon, to determine what the City wants to do with their FY 2020 HOME funding.	City of Massillon submitted a letter stating how they intended to allocate their FY'20 HOME funding.	No comments were not accepted.	
15	Meeting/consultation with City of Alliance interested in FY '18 HOME funds (1/27/20)	City of Alliance	Community Development staff discussed with consortium member, City of Alliance, to determine what the City wants to do with their FY 2020 HOME funding.	City of Alliance submitted a letter stating how they intended to allocate their FY'20 HOME funding.	No comments were not accepted.	
16	CDBG/HOME Public Meeting (3/5/20)	Non-targeted/ broad community	Those in attendance voted to endorse the propose FY 2020 - 2022 CDBG 3-year funding program and the proposed FY 2020 HOME funding program.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	RPC Website http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/regional-planning
17	CDBG/HOME Public Hearing (3/18/20)	Non-targeted/ broad community	The Board of Stark County Commissioners conducted a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the proposed FY 2020 - 2022 CDBG programs and the	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	RPC Website http://www.s

			proposed FY 2020 HOME program.			tarkco untyoh io.gov/ region al- plannin g
18	Governmental Law Seminar (2/29/20)	Non-targeted/ broad community	Community Development staff presented information in regard to the CDBG & HOME programs during a workshop for local governmental officials.	No comments were received.	No comments were not accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

Stark County receives HUD formula funding allocations from HUD under the CDBG and HOME programs. Neither Stark County nor its Consortium members receive a direct allocation of ESG funds. Competitive CoC (McKinney-Vento) funding is not a funding source of the County and is therefore not included in projected funding.

Anticipated Resources

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	1,365,380	115,000	0	1,480,380	3,879,988	Stark County CDBG funding experienced a 1.85% increase in FY 2020 CDBG funding from FY 2019. It is anticipated that funding levels will remain fairly steady in the future.

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	853,392	60,000	0	913,392	2,019,812	Stark County HOME funding experienced a 11.44% increase in FY 2020 HOME funding from FY 2019. It is anticipated that funding levels will remain fairly steady in the future.

Table 2 - 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

Stark County strives to fund programs/projects that maximize other funding sources as much as possible. Whenever possible CDBG infrastructure projects are leveraged with local funds and OPWC funds. HOME projects that are funded as part of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects bring match to the program. Additionally, large HOME-funded projects with multiple funding sources involved provide match as well. However, it has become more difficult to fund CHDO activities as the regulations have changed and a CHDO can no longer be a partner with a developer in a larger LIHTC project. There were no CHDO applications received for FY 2020. Therefore, it is the goal to help develop projects with the Stark County's only certified CHDO, ICAN, Inc. during the upcoming program year in order to utilize currently remaining available FY '19 and all FY '20 funding and pair with upcoming FY '21 CHDO funding to undertake an eligible, beneficial CHDO project next year.

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

It is not anticipated that any publicly-owned land within the Consortium will be used to meet the needs addressed.

Discussion

As part of both the HOME and CDBG applications, applicants are required to identify match and leveraged funds. Points are awarded to those projects that accomplish this. Stark County Consortium has a healthy carry-over (banked amount) of match funds due to the type of HOME activities that have been carried out through the years.

Program income identified above includes owner-occupied housing rehab loans that are repaid to both CDBG (revolving loan fund) and to HOME. Minor amounts of program income are realized from the sale of plans and specs for CDBG infrastructure projects.

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	Affordable Housing	2019	2023	Affordable Housing	County-wide City Wide - City of Massillon City Wide - City of Alliance	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$610,230 HOME: \$700,044	Rental units constructed: 5 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 48 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 6 Households Assisted
2	Public Services	2019	2023	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	County-wide	Public Services	CDBG: \$120,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 440 Households Assisted
3	Public Improvements and Infrastructure	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	County-wide	Public Improvements and Infrastructure	CDBG: \$381,014	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1122 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Homeless Assistance	2019	2023	Homeless	County-wide	Homeless Assistance	CDBG: \$64,640	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 670 Persons Assisted
5	Permanent Supportive Housing	2019	2023	Homeless	County-wide	Permanent Supportive Housing	CDBG: \$0 HOME: \$128,009	Rental units rehabilitated: 4 Household Housing Unit
6	Economic Development	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	County-wide	Economic Development	CDBG: \$31,420	Businesses assisted: 54 Businesses Assisted
7	Administration and Planning	2019	2023	Administration and Planning	County-wide City Wide - City of Massillon City Wide - City of Alliance	Administration and Planning	CDBG: \$273,076 HOME: \$85,339	Other: 1 Other

Table 3 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	Activities include CDBG funded Housing Rehabilitation Program Costs, Housing Rehabilitation Project/Activity Costs and Emergency Rehabilitation; and HOME funded Stark County Housing Rehabilitation, Alliance Housing Rehabilitation and Massillon Homebuyer and Housing Rehab Activities, and the construction of the HOPE Village Senior Rental project.
2	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	Funded projects include: Stark County Fair Housing, Beacon Charitable Pharmacy - Prescription Medication Access, and Habitat for Humanity - Hope ReStored Voucher Program.

3	Goal Name	Public Improvements and Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Two infrastructure projects are expected to be undertaken during FY 2020. This will be the Village of Brewster - Jefferson Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement and the North Canton - Pittsburg/Milton/Carosel Waterline Replacement. Contingencies are also included, which are the un-programmed funds to be used to pay for potential costs over runs and/or new projects that may come up during the program year.
4	Goal Name	Homeless Assistance
	Goal Description	Homeless Assistance activities include: Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence; CommQuest Services, Inc. - Family Living Center; and Stark County Mental Health Board- Coordinated Entry System.
5	Goal Name	Permanent Supportive Housing
	Goal Description	No HOME funded activities are currently planned for FY 2020, but fifteen percent (15%) of the overall FY 2020 HOME budget will be held/set-aside for a future qualified CHDO project.
6	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	Funded activity is the Kent State Stark - KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program.
7	Goal Name	Administration and Planning
	Goal Description	Overall administration and planning for both the CDBG and HOME programs to ensure compliance with HUD regulations.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

Stark County utilizes a three year funding program for CDBG funding. Applications are solicited and received yearly helping develop a rolling three year program for potential CDBG activities. FY 2020 is once again in the first year of the new three year funding cycle. Applications for the 3 year program were accepted during the Fall of 2019. CDBG applications were reviewed by the staff for eligibility and scored. Applications were then reviewed by a five member review committee and all scores are averaged to determine the proposed funding.

HOME applications are received on an annual basis. All HOME applications are reviewed and scored by the RPC staff.

Final recommendations on funding programs are reviewed by the Board of Stark County Commissioners, prior to a public hearing. The Board makes a final determination on funding following the publication of the draft program and the 30 day comment period.

#	Project Name
1	CDBG Administration
2	Comprehensive Planning
3	Housing Rehab - Full/Emergency Rehab
4	Housing Rehab - Direct/Program Operation
5	Fair Housing
6	Stark County Mental Health Board - Coordinated Entry System
7	CommQuest Services, Inc. - Family Living Center
8	Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence
9	Beacon Charitable Pharmacy - Prescription Medication Access and Assistance
10	Habitat for Humanity - Hope ReStored
11	Kent State Stark - KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program
12	Village of Brewster - Jefferson Ave Sanitary Sewer Replacement
13	North Canton - Pittsburg/Milton/Carosel Waterline Replacement
14	Contingencies
15	HOME Administration
16	City of Massillon Rehab/Homebuyer Activities
17	City of Alliance Housing Rehabilitation
18	Stark County Housing Rehabilitation
19	CHDO Set Aside
20	HOPE, Inc - HOPE Senior Village

Table 4 – Project Information

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

All CDBG and HOME funding applications are awarded on a competitive basis. Under the CDBG program, higher priority is given to those infrastructure projects that will be ready for commencement during the year of funding as well as those projects that have all funding sources committed. Priority is also given to eligible large-scale infrastructure projects that will serve a county need and collaborates with other county-wide and state-wide agencies resulting in direct and indirect benefits far outreaching the boundaries of the low-to moderate-income census tract it is located in. Highest priority for the HOME funding is viable CHDO projects, also those projects with all funding sources committed and ready for construction/expenditure of funds during the program year.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	CDBG Administration
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Administration and Planning
	Needs Addressed	Administration and Planning
	Funding	CDBG: \$183,076
	Description	To provide the overall administration of the CDBG administration for Stark County. This provides the day to day oversight of the CDBG program and its related elements.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	CDBG Administration is a project/service that benefits persons throughout Stark County.
2	Planned Activities	Day to day administration and oversight of the CDBG program and its work elements.
	Project Name	Comprehensive Planning
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Administration and Planning
	Needs Addressed	Administration and Planning
	Funding	CDBG: \$90,000
	Description	Long range and short range planning as it relates to the CDBG program, Consolidated Plan, and related work elements.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	

	Location Description	Comprehensive Planning is an activity/service that benefits persons throughout Stark County.
	Planned Activities	Long range and short range planning as it relates to the CDBG program, Consolidated Plan, and related work elements.
3	Project Name	Housing Rehab - Full/Emergency Rehab
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$370,230
	Description	Housing rehabilitation costs for eligible low-moderate income owner occupied households, within Stark County. The budget for FY 2020 combines a portion of the CDBG grant, \$255,230.00, and the housing rehab Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), being approximately \$115,000.00. Another \$240,000.00 will be utilized to operate the housing rehab program, which is detailed under the project name "Housing Rehabilitation Program Costs - Direct/Program Operation". CDBG housing rehab grants will be funded out of the FY 2020 grant, while the loan projects (full rehabs), when applicable, will be funded out of the RLF. All program earned from the RLF will revolve back into this program. The full rehab funds are given as a 50% grant and 50% deferred payment loan (0% interest) with the loan due and payable upon the property transfer. Maximum amount of a project is \$25,000 to bring the unit to Residential Rehab Standards when possible with the funds being used on those homes not qualifying for HOME funding due to the after rehab appraisal amount being too high or the unit not being able to be brought to code. This activity also includes the Emergency Rehab program which undertakes work deemed to be an emergency for eligible low-moderate income homeowners and also the Handicap Accessibility program. The maximum amount of an emergency rehab grant is \$15,000 with the amount over that being placed as a deferred payment loan with 0% interest; and the maximum amount of an accessibility rehab grant is \$20,000. The exception to this is for furnaces, and the full amount of the furnace is a grant.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	There are an estimated 34 low-to moderate-income families that will benefit from this proposed activity. These include 9 full rehabs, 18 emergency projects, 6 accessibility projects, and 1 septic/sewer project.

	Location Description	Housing rehab and emergency rehab projects will take place throughout Stark County, excluding the cities of Massillon and Alliance
	Planned Activities	Direct financial support of the loans/grants for low-to moderate-income, owner-occupied households. Amount of funding includes approximately \$115,000.00 from the Revolving Loan Fund.
4	Project Name	Housing Rehab - Direct/Program Operation
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$240,000
	Description	Provide for staffing of the housing rehabilitation loan/grant program and miscellaneous soft costs associated with the program; i.e. location surveys, title work, credit reports, pest inspections, advertising, etc.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Under contract to the Board of Stark County Commissioners, the Stark County Regional Planning Commission will provide administration, coordination and cooperation of the various housing rehabilitation programs.
	Location Description	Throughout Stark County's CDBG program area.
	Planned Activities	Undertaking of qualified single-family, owner-occupied housing rehab.
5	Project Name	Fair Housing
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$80,000
	Description	Provisions of fair housing services to all residents of Stark County's CDBG participating political units.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 170 families will benefit from the proposed activity.

	Location Description	Fair Housing services are provided throughout Stark County, excluding the cities of Massillon and Alliance.
	Planned Activities	The Stark County Regional Planning Commission will provide fair housing counseling, discrimination complaint investigation, landlord/tenant counseling and other fair housing services to the residents of the CDBG participating political units. The Fair Housing Annual Action Plan is included as an attachment to this document.
6	Project Name	Stark County Mental Health Board - Coordinated Entry System
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Funding will be utilized to fund personnel expenses associated with the Coordinated Entry System of the Stark County Homeless Hotline.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that approximately 250 low- and moderate-income people will benefit from this proposed activity
	Location Description	This project/service will benefit persons throughout Stark County, OH.
	Planned Activities	Activities performed by the personnel associated with the Coordinated Entry System of the Stark County Homeless Hotline includes oversight and supervision to the database/phone center specialists and the gathering of data from phone callers who are homeless or precariously housed, undertaking an initial assessment, providing them referral and service information and working with the area agencies to provide shelter.
7	Project Name	CommQuest Services, Inc. - Family Living Center
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$18,000
	Description	Provisions of housing/essential support services provided by the Family Living Center Homeless Shelter to homeless persons/families.

	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	There is an estimated 210 LMI families a year that will benefit from this proposed activity.
	Location Description	The Family Living Center is located in the City of Massillon, which serves all of Stark County.
	Planned Activities	The Family Living Center is a homeless shelter located in the City of Massillon, serving western Stark County. This is the only emergency shelter for homeless persons/families in the western portion of Stark County. CDBG funding will be utilized to assist with the operations of the facility.
8	Project Name	Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$16,640
	Description	Provision of staff costs related to the operations of the Emergency Residence in the City of Alliance.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that this project will benefit approximately 210 persons in a year throughout Stark County.
	Location Description	This public service is available to all Stark County residents.
9	Planned Activities	The funding is utilized to provide half of the Alliance Emergency Residence Office/Case Manager's salary, in order for this person to provide direct services to clients, provide case management, complete intakes and exits, and assist the homeless hotline staff and other various services.
	Project Name	Beacon Charitable Pharmacy - Prescription Medication Access and Assistance
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services

	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	Provision of funds to access the medication needs of the vulnerable LMI families as well as enrolling them in the appropriate medication services. Beacon Charitable Pharmacy was formally known as Prescription Assistance Network.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that this project will benefit 120 LMI persons.
	Location Description	This activity is to serve qualified Stark County residents.
	Planned Activities	Funding will be used to dispense low cost medications and enroll qualified individual and families in appropriate medication services. Funding will allow the Beacon Charitable Pharmacy to continue to expand their outreach into the County area.
10	Project Name	Habitat for Humanity - Hope ReStored
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	CDBG funding will be utilized to provide vouchers to qualified low- to moderate-income Stark County persons.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 150 LMI families will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	This project will benefit persons throughout Stark County, OH.
11	Planned Activities	The vouchers offer direct assistance by allowing LMI persons to purchase furniture and household items from Habitat for Humanity's ReStore.
	Project Name	Kent State Stark - KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program
	Target Area	County-wide

	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$31,420
	Description	Technical assistance to be provided to low-to moderate-income micro-enterprise businesses/potential businesses by the Kent State University Small Business Development Center.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 55 businesses will be assisted with potential business development.
	Location Description	This project takes place at the Kent State University - Stark Campus, in North Canton, and will encompass all CDBG participating jurisdictions.
	Planned Activities	The KSU Stark Campus Small Business Development Center will provide technical assistance to low-moderate income persons interested in developing a micro-enterprise business.
12	Project Name	Village of Brewster - Jefferson Ave Sanitary Sewer Replacement
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Improvements and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Improvements and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$441,959
	Description	CDBG funding (consisting of \$121,415.61 in FY '20 CDBG funding, and the reallocation of \$61,500.66 from contingencies the FY '17 grant, \$9,542.73 from contingencies from the FY '18 grant, \$249,500.00 from a non-commenced FY '19 public infrastructure project, for a total of \$441,959) will be utilized to help replace the sanitary sewer system in the Village of Brewster, in Stark County, OH. This would include the replacement of approximately 640 l.f. of existing sanitary main, along with the replacement of 3 manholes. The project will be located in Census Tract 7148, Block Group 1 = 47.42% LMA (Stark County exception criteria is 41.24%).
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from	This project will directly benefit 1,072 households within the LMA block group.

	the proposed activities	
	Location Description	The project will directly benefit those located along Jefferson Avenue SE, from 5th Street SE to 7th Street SE, as well as other indirect beneficiaries in the nearby area.
	Planned Activities	Project consists of replacing approximately 640 lineal feet of sanitary main, as well as replacing 3 manholes.
13	Project Name	North Canton - Pittsburg/Milton/Carosel Waterline Replacement
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Improvements and Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Improvements and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$249,950
	Description	CDBG funding in the amount of \$249,950 will be utilized to help replace approximately 2,800 lineal feet of waterline in the City of North Canton, in Stark County, OH. This would include the replacement of approximately 2,800 lineal feet of existing waterline, along with the replacement of all fire hydrants along the project length, as well as the installation of two new fire hydrants. The project will be located in Census Tract 7119, Block Group 1 = 59.94% LMA and Block Group 4 = 47.84% LMA (Stark County exception criteria is 41.24%).
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project will directly benefit approximately 50 households within the LMA block group.
	Location Description	The project will directly benefit those located along Pittsburg Avenue NW between Portage Street and Carosel Circle NW, including along the adjacent Milton Street from Pittsburg Avenue west to the dead end and along the adjacent Carosel Circle NW from Pittsburg Avenue east to the dead end, as well as other indirect beneficiaries in the nearby area.
14	Planned Activities	Project consists of replacing approximately 2,800 lineal feet of waterline, as well as replacing fire hydrants and installing two additional hydrants.
	Project Name	Contingencies
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Public Improvements and Infrastructure

	Needs Addressed	Public Improvements and Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: \$9,648.39
	Description	Un-programmed funds to be used to pay for potential cost overruns and/or new projects that may come up during the program year.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Funds will be utilized as needed for infrastructure project cost over-runs or to fund a new project that may come up during the program year.
15	Project Name	HOME Administration
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Administration and Planning
	Needs Addressed	Administration and Planning
	Funding	HOME: \$85,339
	Description	Overall administration of the Consortium's HOME program. This includes funding to the RPC for the overall administration.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	This project will benefit persons throughout Stark County, OH.
	Planned Activities	Day to day and overall administration of the Consortium's HOME program.
16	Project Name	City of Massillon Rehab/Homebuyer Activities
	Target Area	City Wide - City of Massillon
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$128,009

	Description	Use of HOME funding for homeownership and housing rehabilitation assistance to qualified low- and moderate-income single-family homeowners to bring their houses up to Residential Rehab Standards within the city of Massillon. Funding will also be used to provide down payment assistance to assist qualified persons in purchasing a home.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 9 LMI households will benefit from this activity, approximately 3 households will be rehabbed and 6 will be aided with Down Payment Assistance and housing rehab.
	Location Description	This project will benefit persons located in the City of Massillon.
	Planned Activities	HOME funding will be provided to low- and moderate-income qualified City of Massillon residents to help with single family, owner-occupied rehab and/or homeownership assistance. All units will meet Residential Rehab Standards upon completion.
17	Project Name	City of Alliance Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	City Wide - City of Alliance
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$121,608
	Description	Housing rehabilitation assistance to qualified low- and moderate-income homeowners in the City of Alliance. All units will meet Residential Rehab Standards upon completion of the rehab work.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 5 LMI households will benefit from the proposed activity
	Location Description	This activity will benefit persons within the City of Alliance.
	Planned Activities	HOME funding will be provided to qualified low- and moderate-income homeowners in the City of Alliance to assist with housing rehabilitation.
18	Project Name	Stark County Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	County-wide

	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$150,427
	Description	Housing rehabilitation assistance to qualified low- and moderate-income homeowners in the County's eligible HOME areas outside the cities of Alliance, Massillon and the Village of Hills and Dales. Once rehab is completed, houses will meet Residential Rehab Standards. The funding for this program consist of HOME grant funds, \$90,427, as well as program income, \$60,000 resulting from the payoff of loans from the Stark County Rehab program to total \$150,427.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6 LMI households will benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	This activity will take place throughout Stark County, OH, except for the Cities of Canton, Massillon and Alliance.
	Planned Activities	HOME funding will be provided to low- and moderate-income qualified Stark County residents to assist with owner-occupied, single family housing rehabilitation. All units will meet Residential Rehab Standards upon completion of the rehab work.
19	Project Name	CHDO Set Aside
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$128,009
	Description	Funding is set aside for a future CHDO project. The project will be determined during a future program year.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Unknown at this time.
	Location Description	Unknown at this time.

	Planned Activities	Unknown at this time.
20	Project Name	HOPE, Inc - HOPE Senior Village
	Target Area	County-wide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$300,000
	Description	Funding will be utilized to help construct 40-townhouse units of affordable senior rentals in the Village of East Canton. Of the 40 proposed units, 24 of the units will be 1-bedroom and 16 of the units will be 2-bedroom. Target population will be those who are 55 years and older with incomes up to 60% of AMI. The project will ensure that these units are affordable for at least 20 years. The total project cost is \$7,187,473; 4.2% of which is funded from Stark County HOME funds.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is expected to assist 40 senior households, all of which have incomes up to 60% of AMI. It is expected that 5 units will be Stark County HOME units.
	Location Description	The project is located in the Village of East Canton along Wood St. N (Route 44), parcel #4001034.
	Planned Activities	The activity taking place is the construction of 40 affordable senior housing townhouse units, along with a centralized community building. The project is expected to provide long-term affordable housing for at least 20 years to the elderly. Five (5) units are expected to be Stark County HOME funded-units.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 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 County considers the entire eligible CDBG participating political units when allocating funding from the CDBG program. For FY 2020, under the HOME program, approximately 20% of the funds will be allocated to activities in the City of Massillon and 19% of the funds will be allocated to activities in the City of Alliance. 15% of the funding allocation will be set-aside for a future CHDO project which will take place in an eligible part of the County. The balance of project funding, 36% (outside of 10% administration) will be utilized in the balance of the consortium areas.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
County-wide	89
City Wide - City of Massillon	6
City Wide - City of Alliance	5

Table 5 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Stark County does not focus on a particular geographic area, as all CDBG projects are awarded on a competitive basis. HOME funding, as mentioned above is allocated back to the cities of Alliance and Massillon with the balance to the remaining County area. Again, activities funded under the County's HOME program are funded on a competitive basis.

Discussion

With funding being distributed over many political subdivisions within the County, scattered site housing rehabilitation has proven to be the best method of allocating the non-competitive funds. For other projects, a particular geographic area is not a focus, as long as the project qualifies in all funding requirements.

Massillon has specific target areas for their Housing Rehab program in an effort to make the most impact in a particular area of their city.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.420, 91.220(g)

Introduction

Stark County strives to make housing affordable to qualified residents of the Consortium. HOME funds have been utilized for housing rehabilitation, housing for persons with mental illness, and housing for formerly homeless families. Specifically, FY 2020 will see HOME funding that help contribute to the affordable housing market in Stark County by helping to create 40 new units of low-to moderate-income for elderly persons. This project, the HOPE Senior Village project will be built in the village of East Canton as an elderly affordable housing complex and five (5) units are expected to be Stark County HOME units.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	0

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	5
Rehab of Existing Units	54
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	59

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

Discussion

No funding is being allocated to tenant based rental assistance projects as these activities have become less effective over the years and Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) did not apply for funding for FY 2020. However, the County encourages discussion and future collaboration with SMHA and is optimistic that successful projects can be developed over time.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.420, 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) submits its annual plan to the Stark County Regional Planning Commission which then undertakes environmental reviews as needed. SMHA also requests a Certificate of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan. The RPC reviews the action plan for activities planned by SMHA to be undertaken within the CDBG participating political jurisdictions of the County's program.

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

In addition to minor and major renovations and general maintenance, SMHA also is committed to provide Reasonable Accommodations for approved request and provide a percentage of units which fully comply with Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS). SMHA will include a specified number of units to be converted so they fully comply with UFAS during our major renovation projects. By including vision, hearing and mobility accessible features in new development, SMHA will be in the position to satisfy the one hundred twenty-eight (128) units that are required by HUD to be mobility accessible.

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

SMHA's Resident Services department coordinates programs and activities for residents with a focus on education, self-sufficiency, health & wellness and community engagement. By working with local agencies and organizations, we are able to offer the following programs; summer food assistance, job and educational support, discounted YMCA memberships, youth mentoring and early childhood programs, resident council assistance, Christmas assistance, etc. A scholarship is also available for all SMHA public housing residents and Section 8 residents. Two awards are given each year in the amount of \$500. The Resident Services department provides referrals for emergency assistance, mental health counseling and other immediate needs that residents may have. It is our goal to provide quality opportunities for residents to engage in supportive services and become self-sufficient.

SMHA's Section 8 Department continues to provide referrals for housing counseling and direct assistance for their program participants in order to assist in their pursuit of homeownership.

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

The PHA at the present time is not designated as troubled.

Discussion

SMHA is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for approved requests and to satisfy the 128 units required to be mobility accessible by HUD. They also provide referrals to other agencies for financial assistance to residents that meet eligibility requirements, and they provide a variety of programs and services for SMHA residents and their children.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)

Introduction

The Stark Housing Network, Inc. (SHN) is the collaborative applicant for the CoC funds in Stark County. The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) works closely with the SHN on homeless issues within the county.

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 Homeless Hotline, aka Homeless Navigation, is a coordinated entry system for referral and/or placement with homeless housing and service providers in the county. The CoC also has a Coordinated Entry Committee, which guides policy direction and decision-making, and has refined the coordinated entry system. The initial assessment is conducted via the Hotline phone intake, which connects qualified callers to the appropriate homeless provider agency(s). This includes all eligible participants seeking shelter and/or housing, with the end goal of identifying callers who could be best served through diversion, and most appropriate referrals for those who cannot. The CoC oversees the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the database used to capture the data of individuals and families that access the homeless system, to help ensure more coordinated assessment, entry, and tracking. After assessment, the CoC provider community assists participants with completing applications to the most appropriate housing programs. The CoC providers continue to work on building strong relationships with local landlords in order to locate appropriate and affordable housing for participants.

Current CoC homeless programs include six shelters in Stark County, one transitional housing facility, several PSH units and programs, homeless prevention services and three rapid re-housing programs operated by two different agencies. Case workers at each facility provide further assessment of needs and link participants to services including: health, mental health, substance treatment, education, and employment. In addition to homeless outreach and assessment through dedicated homeless programs, outreach is also done through local community health workers, local healthcare facilities, mental health providers, substance recovery programs, law enforcement, public schools (homeless liaison), United Way's 211 help line, and the faith-based community. Persons who are identified by case managers as needing in-depth mental health, medical, or substance abuse assessment are referred to the appropriate program.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

All eligible persons who do not qualify for diversion or homeless prevention will be referred to shelters, or motel vouchers (provided by community agencies) when shelters are full, to address their emergency

need of having a safe place to stay. An in-depth participant assessment will examine the factors that led to homelessness and determine if the participant is suitable for rapid re-housing or permanent supportive housing. Shelters now provide case management with individualized plans detailing how a participant's causes for becoming homeless are addressed, and the steps that will be taken to exit the participant into permanent housing. The number of homeless persons has decreased however, the CoC continues to be challenged by a shortage of emergency shelter beds. In addition, due to a lack of subsidized and affordable housing units, many homeless remain in shelters beyond 90 days, adding to the need for additional shelter beds.

Transitional housing is best suited to those in transitional life stages such as transition-age youth, families with young children, persons fleeing domestic violence, ex-offenders, the under educated, and those lacking certain skills. However, as HUD has moved away from funding new transitional housing programs, the CoC has pursued and is currently operating additional rapid re-housing programs that could also serve persons typically assisted through transitional housing, with the potential to achieve self-sufficiency in open market housing within 12 months. Rapid re-housing typically targets families and individuals who are in a crisis state of homelessness and who should be able to sustain themselves after a minimal amount of assistance. Rental assistance is typically provided for on a declining sliding scale over a 12 month period, along with security deposits and housing inspections. Case management is generally provided prior to housing placement and up to 6 month following an exit from the program, with linkages to other mainstream services.

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

Improving the initial intake assessment process is key to reducing the time in which persons and families experience homelessness. As the CoC assessment process has become more sophisticated and the housing placement process improved, homelessness should decrease even among more challenging sub-populations.

Fast housing placement for the most vulnerable is another key component in shortening the period of homelessness. As noted previously, the rapid re-housing program provides a fast transition for individuals and families directly into housing. Rapid re-housing targets those who have already been evicted, who are living in shelter or who are literally homeless. Rapid Re-Housing also targets participants who have some form of income and who need minimal assistance and case management, ideally up to 3 months. The CoC recognizes that the fast transition will be dependent on the needs of the participant (e.g. time for obtaining education and/or job training), as well as availability of affordable housing and employment opportunities that provide enough income to enable the

participant to pay rent.

While the CoC has expanded the rapid re-housing program, one challenge with expanding rapid re-housing and serving participants with more barriers to employment and self-sufficiency is identifying landlords willing to rent to participants who may need up to 24 months to gain financial independence, and who are willing to rent their units at affordable rates to households who will be required to exit the program when they reach 30% AMI. Because Stark County does not have a large stock of safe, decent sanitary units that are affordable, the CoC will continue attempting to build partnerships with landlords and developers to address this issue.

Participants who have severe and possibly life-long barriers to attaining self-sufficiency are referred to PSH. A long term goal of the CoC is to ensure that there are a sufficient number of PSH units to immediately refer and place persons into a unit as needed to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living more rapid, thus shortening the period of time that they experience homelessness.

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.

While the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) focuses on funding rapid re-housing, funding for homeless prevention in Stark County comes from private foundations, the United Way, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The CoC is in a collaboration with these entities. Both rapid re-housing and homeless prevention programs are in key positions to identify individuals and families who are “at-risk” of becoming homeless. The ESG jurisdiction (City of Canton) and homeless prevention provider agencies target participants who are at risk of homelessness and who are only in a temporary crisis. These homeless prevention programs serve persons who are behind in rent and/or utilities, but who, with limited assistance (1 -2 months), will be able to sustain themselves. This prevention strategy focuses on those facing evictions as well as those who are at risk of homelessness such as those being discharged from publically funded institutions, but who are still in a position to maintain themselves in housing with minimal assistance. If program applicants have already been evicted and are living with friends or family they will be encouraged to participate in diversion services. One strategy under discussion is to look at the feasibility of screening United Way and Emergency Assistance callers with a process similar to those calling the Hotline, to identify high-risk callers and start an intervention/diversion process before the caller becomes homeless, similar to the ESG program. This would give the CoC better insight into risk factors for homelessness in Stark County, and develop programs geared at providing timely intervention and prevention services. Over the long-term this should reduce homelessness and reduce recidivism, provided that the primary cause is not

external and beyond the control of the CoC (economic downturn, loss of jobs, insufficient affordable housing units).

The Stark County protocol for homeless prevention includes collaboration with the CoC, housing providers, homeless services providers and institutions discharging participants. Stark County Jobs and Family Services (SCJFS) begins transition planning/programming for all youth in foster care at age 16. It employs two independent living specialists who work with each youth and his/her case worker to develop a written plan tailored to the individual's needs and goals and to link the youth to programs that will enable him/her to achieve those goals, including classes offered by SCJFS to build independent living skills. Updated every 90 days, plans include strategies for securing housing upon emancipation. SCJFS supports youth in achieving their goals as best it can, by (1) helping them identify available housing and secure Family Unification Program vouchers for use in the REACH and HOPE programs, which also receive support from the mental health board and (2) by providing financial help for security deposits, rent, utilities, furnishings and even groceries for variable periods of time (up to age 21) after emancipation.

Discussion

The CoC has also continued to work on the development of two newer initiatives. The first is "Progressive Engagement"; under this initiative, the CoC will review outcomes of the Rapid Rehousing Program participants and also develop a new system-wide strategy that involves a progressive engagement approach. This will most likely require training for rapid rehousing direct service staff. The second proposed initiative is the "Move On Strategy", which involves the CoC working on a strategy to identify and support participants who are currently in Permanent Supportive Housing who have the ability and desire to move on to affordable housing options. The CoC looks forward to completing and implementing these initiatives during FY 2020 and beyond.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)

Introduction

SCRPC employs the Fair Housing Coordinator for Stark County. She and the Community Development and Planning staff work together towards removing barriers 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 Fair Housing Manager for Stark County will continue to speak at the Zoning Inspectors Mutual Assistance Committee meetings to provide information on fair housing and zoning, and will continue reviewing township zoning resolutions for affordable and fair housing barriers.

Staff will review and modify, as needed, funding agreements with subrecipients to include a disclaimer that the subrecipient/local government will affirmatively further fair housing.

Discussion

The Fair Housing Manager for Stark County has spoken at the Zoning Inspectors Mutual Assistance meetings, providing information on potential fair housing violations that can occur in Zoning Resolutions. She also participated in a government agency roundtable discussions that were sponsored by the Stark County Real Estate Investor's Association to explain the rights and obligations regarding fair housing in the rental market. Additionally, the Fair Housing Manager has spoken at Fair Housing Luncheons, sponsored workshops and seminars, conducted trainings or presentations to fair housing groups, Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority, Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery (Hoarding Coalition), ICAN, Realtors, students, landlords and tenants.

In the attachments of this Action Plan, the Fair Housing Action Plan is included which identifies the impediments and the action steps that will be undertaken during FY 2020.

AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)

Introduction

Stark County addresses a number of items to strengthen the community and the carrying out of this Consolidated Plan as detailed below.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The major obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the need for more funding. Whether it is adequate numbers of affordable housing units, adequate numbers of beds in homeless shelters, permanent supportive housing units, large sanitary sewer expansion or other public facilities, funding is frequently the missing piece. To overcome this obstacle, Stark County requires a local match on CDBG and HOME funded projects whenever possible. This match can be provided through other grant programs, foundations or local funds. In this way, the HUD funds are able to accomplish more than if solely HUD funds are used.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Affordable housing units will be maintained through the rehabilitation of owner-occupied units in Stark County.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

All projects are required to be carried out in a lead-safe manner. Every home that is undertaken for a project is evaluated for lead and all work is required to be carried out in a lead safe manner by licensed contractors. All applicants are given the EPA brochure on lead hazards and it is explained by the housing counselor. All properties built prior to 1978 are tested for lead once rehabilitation work is completed and if they don't pass inspection, they must be re-cleaned and re-tested until they pass.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

CDBG and HOME funds have been utilized for funding homeless shelters and transitional housing providers that offer life skills training to assist poverty-level families.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The System Performance committee of the HCCSC has developed sub-committees of providers targeting the various types of housing options to assist with the gaps/needs analysis for the homeless population of Stark County. Recent subcommittees include the By Names Committee. According to the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a by-name list (also called a master list or active list) is a real-time, up-to-date list of all people experiencing homelessness which can be filtered by

categories, and shared across agencies. The HCCSC has applied this strategy when working with veterans and the chronically homeless. The By Names Committee consists of lead staff members representing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the Collaborative Applicant, and Shelter, Housing and Supportive Service Providers. The sub-committees provides valuable insight on needs and challenges faced by providers. The Homeless Hotline is being expanded to include additional staff.

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

Ongoing interaction takes place between Massillon, Alliance and Stark County, as members of the HOME consortium, with RPC is under contract and therefore assisting both cities with their housing rehab programs. Interaction with the City of Canton takes place on a regular basis for jointly funded HOME projects.

The RPC coordinates with the Northeast Four County Planning Organization (NEFCO) in the creation of its Cooperative Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) which is submitted annually to the Economic Development Administration. The CEDS committee is comprised of private industry representatives, foundations, and public agencies (including RPC), working together to identify economic goals and priorities for this multi-county region, including scoring or projects to reflect those priorities.

Discussion

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction

The only program income that is anticipated/received by the CDBG program is either from the sale of plans and specs, in which case these funds are added to the project, or from the repayment of housing rehab loans. The housing rehab payments are added to the revolving loan fund program.

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	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	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

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.	100.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

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

as follows:

Stark County will not utilize any other forms of investment beyond those identified in Sec. 92.205.

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 County will re-capture the prorated HOME subsidy from the net available proceeds. The County and the homeowner will split the net available proceeds up to the amount of HOME financial assistance to the homeowner.

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:

HOME project owners/buyers are required to maintain HOME funded properties as affordable for a minimum affordability period based on the amount of HOME funds spent on the project. The guidelines are as follows:

Under \$15,000 per unit - 5 years

\$15,000 - \$40,000 per unit - 10 years

Over \$40,000 - 15 years

New construction or acquisition within one year of construction (for rental projects) - 20 years

A deed restriction and/or restrictive covenant will be prepared by the SCRPC and must be signed by the owner/buyer. This agreement establishes the occupancy and affordability requirements for the property as well as the owner's obligations to the Board of Stark County Commissioners. In signing the agreement, the owner agrees to the restrictions on the use of the property set forth in the document. This agreement will then be recorded by the SCRPC in the office of the Stark County Recorder and therefore binds the project owner and all subsequent owners for the full term of the agreement.

If a homebuyer sells the home before the HOME affordability period has expired, the County will recapture the prorated HOME subsidy out of the net available proceeds from the Homeowner. The County and Homeowner will split the net available proceeds up to the amount of the HOME financial assistance to the Homeowner.

Failure to comply with affordability requirements will require repayment of all HOME funds

extended to the project by the project sponsor, owner or developer.

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:

Stark County does not plan to use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds.

Attachments

Attachment 1

Minutes of Public Meeting: FY 2020 – 2022 CDBG Program – Application Workshop
(August 28, 2019)

Attachment 2

Minutes of Public Meeting: Review of the Proposed FY 2020 – 2022 CDBG & FY 2020 HOME Programs
(March 5, 2020)

Attachment 3

Transcript of Public Hearing: FY 2020 – 2022 CDBG & FY 2020 HOME Programs
(March 18, 2020)

- No public comments were received during the comment period, March 12, 2020 to April 11, 2020 for the proposed CDBG and HOME programs.

Attachment 4

Copy of ads for the following meetings/hearings/plans:

- a. CDBG Application Workshop
- b. HOME Request for Proposal/Application Workshop
- c. Public Meeting – Review of the Proposed FY 2020 – 2022 CDBG & FY 2020 HOME Programs
- d. Stark County's Proposed FY 2020 – 2022 CDBG and FY 2020 HOME funds and the 30-day comment period of March 12, 2020 to April 11, 2020
- e. Public Hearing: FY 2020 – 2022 CDBG & FY 2020 HOME Programs

Attachment 5

FY 2020 Fair Housing Action Plan

Attachment 6

Consultations throughout FY 2019

Attachment 7

Stark County Citizens Participation Plan – Adopted June 2018

Attachment 1

FY 2020 - 2022 CDBG Program – Application Workshop
Minutes August 28, 2019
SCRPC Conference Room – 9 a.m.

In attendance were:

Lynn	Carlone	Staff
Gwen	Arthur	Staff
Katie	Phillips	Staff
Katie	Puleo	Staff
Alex	Cramer	Staff
Malia	Watkins	Staff
Nicole	Curet	Goodwill Industries
Kelsey	Commager	Beacon Charitable Pharmacy
Amy	Schwitzgable	KSU Stark Small Business Development Center
Holly	Bolinger	KSU Stark Small Business Development Center
John	Masalko	Perry Township
Renee	Schalmo	Perry Township
Rob	Graham	City of North Canton
Kylie	Westfall	Alliance for Children and Families Inc.
Jennifer	Keaton	Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery
Hazel	Bennett	Beach City Council/CIC Beach City
Georgana	Schott	Beach City Council
Rodney	McKenney	Beach City Council
John	Hartman	Beach City Council
Jeff	Shipman	Nimishillen Township
Samantha	Walters	City of Massillon
Beverly	Lewis	City of Massillon
Anna	Jordan	City of Massillon
Vince	Mueser	Stark County Engineer
Amy	Dornack	CommQuest Services Inc
Chris	Smith	Canton Township
Sue	Castellucci	Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority
James	Williams	Village of Minerva
Dwayne	Knight	Village of Waynesburg
Jeff	Davis	Village of Waynesburg
Douglas	Welch	Village of Waynesburg
Kurt	Geis	Village of East Canton
Karen	Shackelford	JRC
Rick	Parke	Canton Ex Newsboys
Jim	Justice	Canton Ex Newsboys
Michael	Miller	Village of Brewster
Allison	Harvey	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio
Aaron	Brown	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio
Vince	Marion	City of Louisville
Dan	Mucci	Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health
Tom	Phillips	Stark Fresh
Brenda	Sarsany	Stark Fresh
Jerry	Hollinger	Tuscarawas Township
Matt	Johnson	Palmer Engineering
Jim	Troike	Stark County Sanitary Engineer

Scott	Ellsworth	Stark County Sanitary Engineer
Mary	Grueber	Stark Parks
Alyssa	Bettis	City of Canal Fulton

1. Opening Remarks and Introductions

Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development, opened the meeting and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves. Carlone advised applicants to sign in and list each organization which they represent or will be submitting an application for on the sign-in form. Everyone present that submits an application on behalf of the community or project they signed in to represent will automatically receive 10 additional points on each application.

2. Application Process for FY 2020-2022

Katie Puleo, Community Development planner, introduced the FY 2020-2022 program (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023), which includes eligible infrastructure, public facility, public service, and economic development projects. The National Objectives for CDBG funds were reviewed, and how each project must qualify under at least one of those three objectives. The requested CDBG funding must be utilized to benefit low- to moderate-income (LMI) residents outside of the corporate limits of the cities of Canton, Massillon, Alliance, and the village of Hills & Dales. Applicants are required to show that their project is benefiting Stark County residents outside of these areas.

Puleo stated in fiscal year 2019, the county received a little over \$1.3 million, which was an approximately 1% increase from 2018. The expectation is to receive the same amount in FY 2020 as funding remains fairly steady, but the breakdown is an estimate. Puleo stated there is additional funding that will be reallocated from fiscal year 2019 because two infrastructure projects fell out of eligibility.

Available CDBG funding is expected to be as follows:

Stark County Approximate Grant Allocation	\$1,330,930
Planning & Administration (20%)	\$268,000
Housing Rehab/Emergency Rehab	\$225,000
Housing Rehab/Direct Cost and Program Operation	\$240,000
Fair Housing	<u>\$85,000</u>
Approximate available funding remaining for projects (including the FY 2019 reallocation)	\$ 906, 574

It is strongly encouraged that applicants seek other funding to use in conjunction with CDBG funds, such as OPWC, local community funds, etc. The Board of Stark County Commissioners cannot commit any more than 15% of CDBG funds for public service activities. This cap on public service projects could result in projects not being selected for funding in the exact order of ranking. Public Service projects will be based on LMI (low- to moderate-income) persons or families served, and applicants will need to provide documentation of their LMI status for these individuals.

Applications for public service and economic development will only be accepted for FY2020, which runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Infrastructure and public facility improvement projects can be submitted for all three years of the funding cycle, FY2020, 2021, and 2022. It is recommended that local municipalities arrange engineering and other funding sources so work can start immediately once the CDBG funding becomes available. There is no limit on the number of applications that can be submitted.

Carlone reviewed eligible versus ineligible activities. Carlone stated if a project does not in some way benefit low- to moderate-income persons or address slum/blight issues, CDBG cannot fund it. Some funded projects include storm sewers, sanitary sewers and water lines located in designated low- to moderate-income areas, as well as economic development projects. Public service projects do not fall on the low- to moderate-income maps, but infrastructure projects do.

Katie Phillips, Senior Community Development planner, reviewed the low- to moderate-income maps which contain new Census data required by HUD to utilize. She described how the maps changed low- to moderate-income block groups for certain communities which specifically affect potential infrastructure or public facility projects. Phillips stated HUD can and does release new data at any time which can change which block groups qualify as LMI areas.

Phillips stated the Community Development department has created a new interactive map, available on the RPC website, for infrastructure and public facility projects, which allows the user to easily hone in on their low- to moderate-income areas and view in detail the project data.

3. Selection of the CAC's CDBG Application Review Committee

Carlone explained the review process that takes place after applications are submitted. Each application can receive a maximum of 100 points. The ranking of the applications, based on this point system, helps to determine if a project will be funded during the three-year funding cycle (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023) for infrastructure and public facility projects or one-year funding cycle (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) for public service and economic development. There will be no reimbursement of project costs that are incurred prior to the commitment of the funding agreement/contract. Once the applications are received, three staff members will individually review and score each application. Their scores are averaged into one score. Staff will visit the projects to take pictures and prepare a synopsis on each project. A six-member review committee will then review each application and score and rank the projects. Their averaged scores are then combined with staff's average scores to come up with a final ranking. The two sets of rankings will be based on the understanding of the project based on the information provided in the application.

Carlone asked for and received volunteers for the six-member committee (a final member will be chosen by the Board of Stark County Commissioners) as follows:

Cities:	Rob Graham, City of North Canton Vince Marion, City of Louisville (alt.)
Large Townships:	John Masalko, Perry Twp. Chris Smith, Canton Twp. (alt.)
Small Townships:	No volunteers.
Villages:	Rodney McKenney, Village of Beach City Dwayne Knight, Village of Waynesburg (alt.)
County at Large:	Nicole Curet, Goodwill Industries Jennifer Keaton, Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery (alt.)

There were no volunteers for the small townships.

McKenney moved, Masalko seconded, and the motion carried to accept the Application Review Committee.

4. Review of the FY 2019-2021 Application Form

Phillips reviewed the application in its entirety. She stated that the application is online in a .pdf, fillable format for applicant's use. The applicants were reminded that the name of the representative who attended the CDBG workshop must match the name listed on the sign-in sheet to receive the additional 10 points. Applications may be turned in any time prior to November 1, 2019, but will not be reviewed until after this time. Applicants may contact the Community Development Department any time prior to November 1st with questions regarding the completion of the application. A separate application must be submitted for each project. Applications should address the needs of Stark County and not include national statistics. Puleo reviewed the map template for public service and economic development projects and answered questions regarding its use.

5. Discussion of Sample Applications and Example Projects

Phillips and Carlone reviewed ways to strengthen a CDBG application, as listed on the handout. It is important to contact a Community Development staff member early in the application process with questions to ensure a good application.

Phillips also reviewed what is eligible and ineligible under CDBG regulations, as listed on the handouts. Carlone advised applicants not to assume all activities listed on the "eligible CDBG activities" handout qualify for CDBG funds. Projects still need to meet additional criteria. Phillips reviewed the sample applications for Infrastructure and Public Service projects.

Carlone reiterated the importance of submitting a complete and accurate application, and allowing someone not involved in the application preparation to review the application. She explained there is no limit to the number of applications submitted, and to rank them in order of priority.

6. Remaining Questions/Other Business

Puleo reviewed the survey offered to participants as feedback for the workshop. Carlone reminded attendees that the CDBG applications are due no later than Friday, November 1, 2019 at Noon. There should be one original and six copies, stapled in the upper left-hand corner.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gwen Arthur
Secretary



STARK COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting CDBG Application Workshop

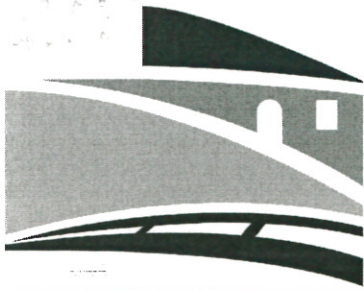
Date 8/28/19

Place SCRPL

Time 9 am

Sign in below, showing interest represented. Please Print.

Name	Representing
Lynn Carlone	RPC Staff
Katie Phillips	RPC staff
Rodney McKenney	Beach City
John Hartman	Beach City
Rick PARKER	CANTON Ex NewsBoys
Jim Justice	Canton Ex NewsBoys
Michael Miller	Village of Brewster
Kylie Westfall	ACF
Bolly Bolinger	SBDC - Kent State
Melissa Wacker	staff
Amy Schwitzgabel	SBDC - Kent State
Allison Harvey	Habitat ECO
Vince Mariani	Louisville
JAMES WILLIAMS	MINERVA
Don Mucci	Child Adolescent
Bennie Schalm	Perry Sup
John MASALKO	Perry Twp.
Chris Smith	Canton Twp
Tom Phillips	Stark Fresh
Katie Pulko	RPC staff
Amy Dornack	Comm Quest Services
KAREN SHACKELFORD	JRC
STACY HOLLINGER	USE TWP
KURT GEIS	VILLAGE OF EAST CANTON



STARK COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting CDRBG Application Workshop

Date 8/28/19

Place SCRPL

Time 9am

Sign in below, showing interest represented. Please Print.

Name	Representing
Jeff Davis	Village of Waynesburg
Dwayne Knight	Village of Waynesburg
Aaron Brown	Habitat for Humanity
Sue Castellucci	Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority
Brenda Sarsony	Stark Fresh
Rob Grisham	City of North Canton
Jennifer Keaton	Stark MHAR
Alvin Crum	RPC
Nicole Cret	Goodwill GCECO
Doug Welch	Village of Waynesburg
MATT JOHNSON	PALMER ENGINEERING
Vince Muerer	Stark County Engr.
Jim Hoke	Stark Eng.
Sam Ellsworth	Stark Eng.
Mary Grueber	Stark Parks
Beverly Lewis	MASS. 110n
SAMANTHA WALTERS	Massillon
ANNA JORDAN	Massillon
Georgana Schott	Beach City Council
Hazel Bennett	OTC Beach City
Alyssa Betts	City of Canal Fulton
Hazel Bennett	City of Beach City Council
Jeff Shipman	Nimishillen Township
Kelsey	Bacon Charitable Pharmacy

Attachment 2

CDBG FY 2020 – 2022 & HOME FY 2020 Application Review Meeting
Minutes March 5, 2020
SCRPC Conference Room – 8:30 a.m.

In attendance were:

Lynn	Carlone	Staff
Gwen	Arthur	Staff
Katie	Puleo	Staff
Malia	Watkins	Staff
Carol	Risaliti	Beacon Charitable Pharmacy
Amy	Schwitzgable	KSU Stark Small Business Development Center
Holly	Bolinger	KSU Stark Small Business Development Center
Victor	Pavona	KSU Stark Small Business Development Center
Rob	Graham	City of North Canton
Patrick	DeOrio	City of North Canton
JP	Neff	Plain Township
Tim	Tarbet	Village of Minerva
Kylie	Westfall	Alliance for Children and Families Inc.
Jennifer	Keaton	Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery
Samantha	Walters	City of Massillon
Beverly	Lewis	City of Massillon
Will	Dent	ABCD
Nancy	Donato	Canton Ex Newsboys
Jim	Justice	Canton Ex Newsboys
Allison	Harvey	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio
Aaron	Brown	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio
Olivia	Jacob	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio
Jim	Troike	Stark County Sanitary Engineer
Scott	Ellsworth	Stark County Sanitary Engineer
Natalie	McCleskey	ICAN Housing

1. Opening Remarks and Introductions

Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development, and Katie Puleo, Community Development Planner, introduced themselves and welcomed the audience members. Following their introductions, audience members introduced themselves.

2. Adoption of the February 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes

DeOrio moved, Walters seconded, and the motion carried to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2019 meeting.

3. Review of the CDBG Application Process

Katie Puleo stated the three-year program will go from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. Stark County is expected to receive \$1,365,380 for FY 2020. It is unknown what funding will be received in FY 2021 and FY 2022.

Puleo stated an application workshop was held for all potential CDBG applicants in August 2019; 48 people attended, representing 15 for profit and non-profit, and 15 political subdivisions. Applications were accepted until November 1, 2019. Only applications for public service and economic development projects are accepted for the first year; infrastructure and public facility project applications are accepted any of the three years. A total of 17 applications were received: two were deemed ineligible, nine were public service, one was an economic development project, and five were infrastructure projects.

Puleo stated applications must meet one of three national objectives to be eligible for CDBG funding: (1) The project must benefit low- to moderate-income persons or families; (2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slum and blight; (3) undertake an urgent need in the community. All of the applications received fell under the first objective, benefitting low- to moderate-income individuals. Applications were then reviewed by three RPC staff members and a five-member review committee including representatives from a large township, cities, villages, county-at-large (all chosen at the August 2019 workshop), and a Commissioner's appointee.

There were three meetings to review the applications, and in total the applications requested approximately \$1,623,000 in CDBG funding over the next three-year period. Once the applications were reviewed and scores tallied, the projects were ranked according to the scores they received.

Puleo stated that after the application review process was completed and based upon the results, the following is being proposed to be funded: CDBG Administration, funding the administration of the overall program at \$183,076 for FY 2020; Comprehensive Planning, funding the long-term planning of the CDBG program at \$90,000 for FY 2020. This totals \$273,076 per year (or 20%) for general administration of the program. The Housing Rehabilitation Program includes the cost to operate the in-house Housing Rehabilitation Program and the direct costs of that program, which include termite inspections, location surveys, etc., at \$240,000 for FY 2020. This money does not include the cost of the actual rehabilitation, which is covered under another activity. Housing Rehabilitation Full/Emergency costs at \$255,230 for FY 2020. This is money set aside to undertake rehabilitation on qualified persons' homes. This provides rehab to keep an individual in their home, providing moderate to substantial housing repairs or emergency rehab situations that have occurred in their home in the last three months, such as a broken furnace, roof leak, or wheelchair ramp that needs repaired or replaced. Fair Housing is a required activity under the CDBG program at \$80,000 for FY 2020. The total for Stark County Sponsored Programs is \$848,306 for FY 2020.

The Public Service applications were ranked as follows:

Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery – Coordinated Entry System. Funding will be utilized to operate the Homeless Intake Assessment Program. The Stark County Homeless Hotline assesses individuals that call for housing and services, and refers them to the appropriate facility throughout the county based on their need. Proposed funding is \$30,000 for FY 2020.

CommQuest Services, Inc. – The Family Living Center is a homeless shelter located in Massillon serving all of western Stark County. Individuals and families can stay for up to 90 days, and are provided case management services to help them move to more permanent housing, enroll children in school, job training, education, etc. Funding will be utilized to help pay for a portion of the case management at the shelter. Proposed funding is \$18,000 for FY 2020.

Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence is a shelter located in the city of Alliance and serves all of eastern Stark County. This shelter serves persons in the same manner as the Family Living Center. Funding will be utilized to pay for a portion of the office/case manager's salary. Proposed funding is \$16,640 for FY 2020.

Beacon Charitable Pharmacy – Prescription Medication Access provides prescription medications to low- to moderate-income individuals who otherwise would not be able to receive those prescriptions. Funding will pay for the dispensing of medication by licensed pharmacists. The funding is recommended for this project at \$25,000 for FY 2020.

Habitat for Humanity – Hope ReStored Voucher Program that will provide vouchers to approximately 150 low- to moderate-income persons to purchase home goods and furnishings at the Habitat ReStore thrift store/donation center. The funding recommended for this project is \$15,000 for FY 2020.

Puleo stated the public service projects total is \$104,640 for FY 2020. The total public service allocation includes Fair Housing and makes up 13.5% of total available funding under the 2020 program. A maximum of 15% of total CDBG funding may be used for public service projects.

Puleo stated that there was one project submitted for Economic Development. The proposed CDBG funding for that project is as follows:

Kent State Stark – KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program. This project is located at Kent Stark's Campus, and provides business counseling to potential and current micro business owners that could use help with business plans. These business owners qualify as low to moderate income. The funding is recommended for this project at \$31,420 for FY 2020.

Puleo stated that the proposed CDBG funding for Infrastructure projects is as follows:

Village of Brewster – Jefferson Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement. The total proposed funding for this project is \$441,959, but only \$121,415.61 is coming out of the FY 2020 allocation, the balance of funding will be reallocated CDBG funding. The funding will help with construction costs to replace the sanitary sewer, which dates back

to 1940. This project will benefit over 1,000 households located in a low- to moderate-income census tract.

North Canton – Pittsburg/Batton Waterline Replacement. The proposed funding for this project is \$249,950 in FY 2021. This is phase two of a two-part project. Funding would help replace 2,275 linear feet of waterline located in a low- to moderate-income census tract.

North Canton – Pittsburg/Milton/Carosel Waterline Replacement. This project is phase one of the two-part project. The proposed funding for this project is \$249,950 in FY 2020. Funding would help replace 2,800 linear feet of waterline located in a low- to moderate-income census tract.

Stark County Metropolitan Sewer District – Lincoln Street North Sanitary Sewer. The proposed funding for this project is \$249,999 for FY 2021. Funding will go towards the construction of a sanitary sewer system along Lincoln Street and adjacent side streets, which is a low- to moderate-income area. It will remedy pollution and public health concerns caused by the failing septic systems.

The Infrastructure project totals are \$371,365.61 for FY 2020 and \$499,949 for FY 2021.

Puleo summarized the total proposed funding plan for FY 2020 as follows: the Stark County sponsored total is \$848,306; the Public Service total is \$104,640; the Economic Development total is \$31,420; the Infrastructure total is \$371,365.61; and a contingency balance of \$9,648.39. The total funding allocation for FY 2020 is \$1,365,380. Puleo stated that unspent funds from FY 2017, FY 2018, and FY 2019, which total \$320,543.39, will be allocated to the Brewster project so it will be completely funded. The grand total for FY 2020 is \$1,685,923.39.

4. Review of the FY 2020 HOME Proposals/Applications

Carlone stated the purpose of the HOME program is to provide quality, affordable housing opportunities for low- to moderate-income households. Unlike CDBG dollars, all HOME funding must go toward housing. The HOME Consortium includes Stark County and the cities of Massillon and Alliance. The City of Canton has a separate funding allocation. The 2020 program year is from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. An application workshop was held in November 2019, and applications were accepted until January 3, 2020. Three applications were received requesting HOME funds, one was withdrawn by the applicant.

Carlone stated the Stark County Home Consortium is expected to receive a total of \$853,392 in FY 2020. Of that, the County is expected to receive \$390,427; the City of Massillon is expected to receive \$128,009; the City of Alliance is expected to receive \$121,608; CHDO set-aside is \$128,009; and \$85,339 for administration. Because there were no CHDO applications, the CHDO funds will be set aside for a future project.

Carlone reviewed what a CHDO is. A CHDO is a private, non-profit, community-based service organization that develops affordable housing for the community it serves. Funds must be invested in housing that is owned, developed, or sponsored by the CHDO. Funding can be utilized by the CHDO to acquire, rehab, or construct rental or homeowner properties.

Carlone stated the City of Massillon will use their total allocation of \$128,009 toward their homebuyer and housing rehabilitation programs. The homebuyer assistance provides direct down payment and closing cost assistance for eligible first-time homebuyers purchasing a single-family house in Massillon. The housing rehabilitation program provides funding to bring homes up to code in the city.

Carlone stated the City of Alliance will use their total allocation of \$121,608 toward their housing rehabilitation program. The housing rehabilitation program provides funding to bring homes up to code in the city.

Carlone stated the only application the county received was submitted by Helping Osnaburg Prosper Economically, Inc., or HOPE, Inc. It's the HOPE Senior Village at \$300,000. This will be a project for elderly, low- to moderate-income senior citizens, those 55 and over. HOPE, Inc. owns property along Wood Street in the Village of East Canton. With additional funding sources, they plan on building 40 units of affordable housing; 24 of those units will be one bedroom, 16 will be two bedroom. The county funds are contingent upon them securing all of the funding within their application during the 2020 funding year. If all needed funding sources are not obtained in 2020, the HOME funding will go back to the county to be reallocated in the future. HOPE, Inc. can then resubmit an application in the future, but the county will not hold the funds. The total cost of the project is a little over \$7 million, so the county contribution is a very small portion of funds needed for this project.

Carlone stated this leaves a balance of \$90,427. These funds will be put towards housing rehab for eligible constituents who reside within the balance of the county to bring their homes up to code.

5. Adoption of the Citizen Advisory Council's (CAC) Recommendation

Lewis moved, Pavona seconded, and the motion carried to adopt the CDBG FY 2020-2022 program and HOME FY 2020 program as proposed by staff.

6. Other Business/Announcements

Carlone stated there's a public hearing set with the Board of Stark County Commissioners. That meeting will be held at the RPC. Persons in attendance will hear the programs as presented today, and the Board of Stark County Commissioners will defer their decision until a 30-day comment period is over. The 30-day comment period will be published, and is expected to start on March 12th and will end on April 11th. After the 30-day comment period, the Board of County Commissioners will adopt a final

program, and the program will be submitted to HUD by May 15th, because the program year will start July 1st.

7. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gwen Arthur
Secretary



STARK COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting PM 2020-2022 CDBG - PM 2020 HOME Date 3-5-2020
Public Meeting
 Place RPC Large Conference Room Time 8:30

Sign in below, showing interest represented. Please Print.

Name	Representing
Lynn Carbone	RPC
Jim J. J. J.	K-News
Chasey Donato	Canton Exp. Workshops
JP NEFF	Plain TWP
Tina Tarbet	Minerva
Kylie Westfall	ACF
Will Dent	ABCD
Arion Brown	HABITAT
Allison Harvey	Habitat
Olivia Jacob	Habitat
Amy Schwitzgabel	SBDC Kent State Stark
Victor A. Pavlov	"
Natalie Medesley	Iron Works
Kate Russo	RPC
Kelly Balage	SBDC - KSU
Jim Trope	SCSE
Scott Ellsworth	"
Beverly Lewis	Massillon
Samantha Walters	Massillon
Patrick D. D.	N-CANTON
Rob Graham	"
Malia Burgess	Staff
Carl Bilek	Beacon Ch. Pharmacy
Jennifer Keaton	SMHAR

Attachment 3

**FY 2020-2022
STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG),
FY 2020 STARK COUNTY HOME PROGRAMS
PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 18, 2020
11:00 AM
STARK COUNTY RPC CONFERENCE ROOM**

RICHARD REGULA: Okay. Good morning, everyone. Today is March 18, 2020. It's the public hearing for FY 2020-2022 CDBG program and the FY 2020 HOME Program. With us today are Commissioner Creighton, Commissioner Smith, and Commissioner Regula, along with various staff from Regional Planning.

RICHARD REGULA: This public hearing has been called for the purpose of reviewing the FY 2020-2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the FY 2020 HOME Program.

The Community Development Block Grant Program was developed by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission's Citizens' Advisory Council Community Development Committee and staff during the last five months. We are here today to receive public input prior to any action by this Board to approve the funding program. In addition, we will receive public input in regard to the Regional Planning Commission recommended FY 2020 HOME Program.

Your comments will be considered by this Board, along with the formal recommendations of the Community Development Committee, staff, and RPC, as we prepare a final program for adoption and submission to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The County has received notification of funding allocation for both the CDBG and HOME programs, and the County will receive \$1,365,380 in CDBG funds and \$853,392 in HOME funding during FY 2020.

At this time, I would like to express my personal thanks and that of the Board's for the excellent job completed by the Community Development Committee in providing their recommendations. The Commissioners were involved in the details of the projects recommended for consideration and reviewed the merits of each with staff.

I would like to call on Katie Puleo, Community Development Planner, for a summary of the CDBG and HOME recommendations. The Board would ask that you defer all questions and comments until Ms. Puleo completes her presentations.

KATIE PULEO: First I will go over the proposed FY 2020-2022 CDBG funding recommendations. The three-year program will go from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. Stark County is expected to receive \$1,365,380 for FY 2020. It is unknown what funding will be received in FY 2021 and FY 2022.

An application workshop was held for all potential CDBG applicants in August 2019; 48 people attended, representing 15 for profit and non-profit, and 15 political subdivisions. Applications were accepted until November 1, 2019. Only applications for public service and economic development projects are accepted for the first year; infrastructure and public facility project applications are accepted any of the three years. A total of 17 applications were received: two were deemed ineligible, nine were public service, one was an economic development project, and five were infrastructure projects.

Applications must meet one of three national objectives to be eligible for CDBG funding: (1) The project must benefit low- to moderate-income persons or families; (2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slum and blight; (3) undertake an urgent need in the community. All of the applications received fell under the first objective, benefitting low- to moderate-income individuals. Applications were then reviewed by three RPC staff members and a five-member review committee including representatives from a large township, cities, villages, county-at-large (all chosen at the August 2019 workshop), and a Commissioner's appointee. We didn't have anybody from a small township because nobody representing a small township was at our application workshop.

There were three meetings to review the applications, and in total the applications requested approximately \$1,623,000 in CDBG funding over the next three-year period.

JANET CREIGHTON: Don't you just have the right to ask someone from a small township?

LYNN CARLONE: The way we normally do it is, it's a voting process by the public body that's at the Application Workshop, and because there was no representative, there was nobody to vote for. Otherwise, if the commissioners would like us to do that in the future, we could contact somebody from the small township and do that, and see if we could get them to serve. Quite honestly, it is a concern of ours that this could end up happening into the future.

JANET CREIGHTON: I think we have to be proactive in asking.

LYNN CARLONE: Okay, we'll keep that in mind.

ROBERT NAU: We can probably work through the County and Township Association.

KATIE PULEO: Once the applications were reviewed and scores tallied, the projects were ranked according to the scores they received, and this proposal is based off of those rankings.

After the application review process was completed and based upon the results, the following is being proposed to be funded: CDBG Administration, funding the administration of the overall program at \$183,076 for FY 2020; Comprehensive Planning, funding the long-term planning of the CDBG program at \$90,000 for FY 2020. This totals \$273,076 per year (or 20%) for general administration of the program. The

Housing Rehabilitation Program includes the cost to operate the in-house Housing Rehabilitation Program and the direct costs of that program, which include termite inspections, location surveys, etc., at \$240,000 for FY 2020. This money does not include the cost of the actual rehabilitation, which is covered under another activity. Housing Rehabilitation Full/Emergency costs at \$255,230 for FY 2020. This is money set aside to undertake rehabilitation on qualified persons' homes. This provides rehab to keep an individual in their home, providing moderate to substantial housing repairs or emergency rehab situations that have occurred in their home in the last three months, such as a broken furnace, roof leak, or wheelchair ramp that needs repaired or replaced. Fair Housing is a required activity under the CDBG program at \$80,000 for FY 2020. The total for Stark County Sponsored Programs is \$848,306 for FY 2020.

The Public Service applications were ranked as follows:

Stark Mental Health and Addiction Recovery – Coordinated Entry System. Funding will be utilized to operate the Homeless Intake Assessment Program. The Stark County Homeless Hotline assesses individuals that call for housing and services, and refers them to the appropriate facility throughout the county based on their need. Proposed funding is \$30,000 for FY 2020.

CommQuest Services, Inc. – The Family Living Center is a homeless shelter located in Massillon serving all of western Stark County. Individuals and families can stay for up to 90 days, and are provided case management services to help them move to more permanent housing, enroll children in school, job training, education, etc. Funding will be utilized to help pay for a portion of the case management at the shelter. Proposed funding is \$18,000 for FY 2020.

Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence is a shelter located in the city of Alliance and serves all of eastern Stark County. This shelter serves persons in the same manner as the Family Living Center. Funding will be utilized to pay for a portion of the office/case manager's salary. Proposed funding is \$16,640 for FY 2020.

Beacon Charitable Pharmacy – Prescription Medication Access provides prescription medications to low- to moderate-income individuals who otherwise would not be able to receive those prescriptions. Funding will pay for the dispensing of medication by licensed pharmacists. The funding is recommended for this project at \$25,000 for FY 2020.

Habitat for Humanity – Hope ReStored Voucher Program that will provide vouchers to approximately 150 low- to moderate-income persons to purchase home goods and furnishings at the Habitat ReStore thrift store/donation center. The funding recommended for this project is \$15,000 for FY 2020.

The public service projects total is \$104,640 for FY 2020. The total public service allocation includes Fair Housing and makes up 13.5% of total available funding under the

2020 program. A maximum of 15% of total CDBG funding may be used for public service projects.

There was one project submitted for Economic Development. The proposed CDBG funding for that project is as follows:

Kent State Stark – KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program. This project is located at Kent Stark’s Campus, and provides business counseling to potential and current micro business owners that could use help with business plans. These business owners qualify as low to moderate income. The funding is recommended for this project at \$31,420 for FY 2020.

The proposed CDBG funding for Infrastructure projects is as follows:

Village of Brewster – Jefferson Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement. The total proposed funding for this project is \$441,959, but only \$121,415.61 is coming out of the FY 2020 allocation, the balance of funding will be reallocated CDBG funding. The funding will help with construction costs to replace the sanitary sewer, which dates back to 1940. This project will benefit over 1,000 households located in a low- to moderate-income census tract.

North Canton – Pittsburg/Batton Waterline Replacement. The proposed funding for this project is \$249,950 in FY 2021. This is phase two of a two-part project. Funding would help replace 2,275 linear feet of waterline located in a low- to moderate-income census tract.

North Canton – Pittsburg/Milton/Carosel Waterline Replacement. This project is phase one of the two-part project. The proposed funding for this project is \$249,950 in FY 2020. Funding would help replace 2,800 linear feet of waterline located in a low- to moderate-income census tract.

Stark County Metropolitan Sewer District – Lincoln Street North Sanitary Sewer. The proposed funding for this project is \$249,999 for FY 2021. Funding will go towards the construction of a sanitary sewer system along Lincoln Street and adjacent side streets, which is a low- to moderate-income area. It will remedy pollution and public health concerns caused by the existing failing septic systems.

The Infrastructure project totals are \$371,365.61 for FY 2020 and \$499,949 for FY 2021.

The total proposed funding plan for FY 2020 as follows: the Stark County sponsored total is \$848,306; the Public Service total is \$104,640; the Economic Development total is \$31,420; the Infrastructure total is \$371,365.61; and a contingency balance of \$9,648.39. The total funding allocation for FY 2020 is \$1,365,380 and \$499,949 for FY 2021. Unspent funds from FY 2017, FY 2018, and FY 2019, which

total \$320,543.39, will be allocated to the Brewster project so it will be completely funded.

RICHARD REGULA: Is that just because they didn't get it done?

KATIE PULEO: One of those projects actually fell out of eligibility last year, thus we have unspent FY '19 funding that we plan to reallocate.

LYNN CARLONE: I was going to say, '17 and '18 are contingencies, those were leftover funds that weren't utilized.

KATIE PULEO: One of our infrastructure projects, North Canton was the FY '19 project.

BILL SMITH: What about Minerva?

LYNN CARLONE: We still have Minerva FY '19 funding. We're actually thinking of keeping those funds to help with next year's projects, with the 2021 projects, because we think we're going to get a lot more projects next year also.

BILL SMITH: But Minerva won't be getting it.

LYNN CARLONE: No, Minerva and North Canton, both of those projects that you approved last year, both of them fell out of low- to moderate-income eligibility, so we're repurposing their funding.

RICHARD REGULA: So if they would have used the money before they fell out –

LYNN CARLONE: No, it happened right at this time last year that the projects were already through the process of being reviewed, and they were being approved, and census data came out, and it changed. We were told unless the projects were currently under construction contracts, they were not allowed to be undertaken.

BILL SMITH: I think it was phase two of a two-part deal. Because they did the first one, and I think it was the second year.

LYNN CARLONE: Minerva? It may have been. They do a lot of phase projects in Minerva.

BILL SMITH: I think they ended up doing their project with other funds. Then the other ones, for example, Lincoln Street North, the sanitary, is that application by Stark County Sewer or was it by the township?

LYNN CARLONE: It was by the Stark County Sanitary Sewer Department.

BILL SMITH: Because I know the ones they forgot when they did –

LYNN CARLONE: Yes, Canton Township did not submit it, it was submitted by the Sanitary Sewer Department Office.

RICHARD REGULA: The census was done in 2010.

LYNN CARLONE: The census was done in 2010, but it did not ask income information. Every year the Census Bureau sends out what's called the American Community Survey which asks for financial data from a select group of individuals that it's sent to, and so this is sent every year and so the data is more accurate time wise, but it's less accurate because it's not coming from as large of a group of individuals as the full census does. This happened just during our last census. If you recall, the last census did not ask income information, and because they decided to go with this every-year process, what they do is they gather the data up, and about every five years census financial data changes.

BILL SMITH: But also, it has to do with who answers that.

LYNN CARLONE: That's exactly it.

BILL SMITH: If the wrong people answer it, it went up. If the right people – it could have maybe stayed the same, but because some of the people that needed to answer it didn't, potentially –

LYNN CARLONE: Or it went to the one house in the area that maybe was higher income out of the 10 other houses that were lower income, and that one house answered it, so the data is much more skewed. It's more accurate time wise because when you get to the ninth year of the census data, that data is nine years old at that point, but this is a much smaller population that you're getting answers from, and if somebody gets that survey and does not turn it in, the data is skewed.

BILL SMITH: Does CD send the survey out?

LYNN CARLONE: We do not. All the information we get comes out of the Census Bureau. We do get a lot of complaints about "my area's low income," but the data is not coming out of HUD, this is coming out of the Census Bureau; as such, HUD just utilizes that data.

BILL SMITH: There's no notification to local officials that they can go knock on a few doors and say make sure you fill it out.

LYNN CARLONE: I'll be honest with you, I've never received this survey. You have said you have received the survey (pointing to Katie Puleo).

KATIE PULEO: Yes.

LYNN CARLONE: We've talked about this in-house. You're the only person I know who's received the American Community Survey that we are aware of.

KATIE PULEO: That brings the grand total for FY 2020 to \$1,685,923.39 once the reallocated money is added in.

Now I will go over the proposed FY 2020 HOME funding recommendations.

The purpose of the HOME program is to provide quality, affordable housing opportunities for low- to moderate-income households. Unlike CDBG dollars, all HOME funding must go toward housing. The HOME Consortium includes Stark County and the cities of Massillon and Alliance. The City of Canton has a separate funding allocation. The 2020 program year is from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. An application workshop was held in November 2019, and applications were accepted until January 3, 2020. Three applications were received requesting HOME funds, one was withdrawn by the applicant.

The Stark County HOME Consortium is expected to receive a total of \$853,392 in FY 2020. Of that, the County is expected to receive \$390,427; the City of Massillon is expected to receive \$128,009; the City of Alliance is expected to receive \$121,608; CHDO set-aside is \$128,009; and \$85,339 for administration. Because there were no CHDO applications, the CHDO funds will be set aside for a future CHDO-eligible project.

A CHDO is a private, non-profit, community-based service organization that develops affordable housing for the community it serves. Funds must be invested in housing that is owned, developed, or sponsored by the CHDO. Funding can be utilized by the CHDO to acquire, rehab, or construct rental or homeowner properties.

The City of Massillon will use their total allocation of \$128,009 toward their first-time homebuyer and housing rehabilitation programs. The homebuyer assistance provides direct down payment and closing cost assistance for eligible first-time homebuyers purchasing a single-family house in Massillon. The housing rehabilitation program provides funding to bring homes up to code in the city.

The City of Alliance will use their total allocation of \$121,608 toward their housing rehabilitation program. The housing rehabilitation program provides funding to bring homes up to code in the city.

The only application the county received was submitted by Helping Osnaburg Prosper Economically, Inc., or HOPE, Inc. It's the HOPE Senior Village at \$300,000. This will be a project for elderly, low- to moderate-income senior citizens, those 55 and over. HOPE, Inc. owns property along Wood Street in the Village of East Canton. With additional funding sources, they plan on building 40 units of affordable housing; 24 of those units will be one bedroom, 16 will be two bedroom. The county funds are contingent upon HOPE, Inc. securing all of the funding within their application during the 2020 funding year. If all needed funding sources are not obtained in 2020, the HOME funding will go back to the county to be reallocated in the future. HOPE, Inc. can then resubmit an application in the future, but the county will not hold the funds. The

total cost of the project is a little over \$7 million, so the county contribution is a very small portion of funds needed for this project.

This leaves a balance of \$90,427. These funds will be put towards housing rehab for eligible constituents who reside within the balance of the county to bring their homes up to code.

Total expected funding for the HOME Program for FY 2020 is \$853,392.

RICHARD REGULA: Katie, HOPE, that's the one in East Canton, correct?

KATIE PULEO: Yes.

RICHARD REGULA: It's contingent upon trying to line up various funding sources?

KATIE PULEO: They're applying for a lot in Low-Income-Housing Tax Credits, and that's the major thing we're worried about. They won't know until summertime if they actually got it.

LYNN CARLONE: Unfortunately, some of these processes don't line up really well with taking applications. Low-Income-Housing Tax Credits, that application still was to be submitted at the time they turned in this application. Quite honestly, at the time they turned in this application, none of their funding was committed.

RICHARD REGULA: Is it private funding?

LYNN CARLONE: They have some private funding in there. They are doing fundraisers, but as Katie mentioned, the major basis for the funding to this project, they're submitting an application for low-income-housing tax credits, which I think is over \$4 million.

ROBERT NAU: That's Testa, right?

LYNN CARLONE: Right, HOPE, Inc. is working with Testa Developers to do this project. Basically, if they don't get those Low-Income-Housing Tax Credits this year, the HOME funds are not going to be held. We're just going to probably reallocate them next year to another project, and if the applicant has secure funding can resubmit an application then.

RICHARD REGULA: From whom do they get the Low-Income-Housing Tax Credits, the feds?

LYNN CARLONE: I believe they submit to the state, but it is a federal funding source.

RICHARD REGULA: Didn't the city buy the property?

LYNN CARLONE: It's owned by that HOPE, Inc. I think it's almost a 15-acre property, and they're only going to use about 4.5 acres for this project, and then do something else with the balance of the property.

RICHARD REGULA: At this time, the Board will entertain any additional comments that you would like to present regarding the proposed CDBG and HOME programs in general or any specific activities to be funded. In making comments, would you please give your name, address and political unit or organization, if any, that you are representing. Are there any comments or questions?

JANET CREIGHTON: Mr. Chairman, I think for the purpose of the record it should be pointed out that due to the coronavirus and the fact that people have been asked to not attend mass meetings, we don't have any guests here today. I just think for the record that should be stated so 10 years from now when we say why wasn't anybody there, we know why.

RICHARD REGULA: They still have time to comment.

LYNN CARLONE: Right. We are in the midst of a 30-day public comment period that does not end until April 11th.

RICHARD REGULA: Are there any additional comments from any of the Commissioners?

JANET CREIGHTON: No.

BILL SMITH: No.

RICHARD REGULA: I will entertain a motion to defer our decision establishing the proposed One-Year Annual Action Plan to be submitted until the public comment period expires, and to allow the Board time to consider the recommendations submitted.

Smith moved, Creighton seconded, and the motion carried to defer.

RICHARD REGULA: Thank you for your interest, and for coming today to express your views. Copies of the FY 2020 programs which are adopted by the Board will be available after May 15, 2020, and may be obtained from the Stark County Regional Planning Commission website.

This public hearing is adjourned at 11:28 a.m.



Sign in below, showing interest represented. Please Print.

[illegible]

Repository

**Planning to Apply for
Stark County Community Development
Block Grant (CDBG) Funds?**

Learn how by attending an

Application Workshop

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

9:00 - 11:30 am

**At the Stark County Regional Planning Commission Office
201 3rd Street NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702**

- Review of the application process and form for Stark County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Funding
- Selection of Application Review Committee

**Earn points for your CDBG project applications by attending
this FREE training session sponsored by CDBG staff**

For more information call Lynn Carlone at 330-451-7774



**STARK COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION**

Published In The Repository, Alliance Review and Massillon Independent Thursday August 15 2019

**Stark County FY 2020 HOME
Request for Proposal/Application Workshop**

**For any agency interested in applying for FY 2020 Stark
County HOME funding***

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019
9:00 – 10:00 am**

**At the Stark County Regional Planning Commission Office
201 3rd Street NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702**

RSVP to Lynn Carione at 330-451-7774 by Thursday, November 7th

After the workshop is held, HOME "Request for Proposal" information will
be available on the RPC website @ www.rpc-starkcountyohio.gov

*Stark County HOME funding is available for use throughout Stark County
to benefit residents outside the corporate limits of the City of Canton and the
Village of Hills & Dales.

 **STARK COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION**

01709540 Published in The Repository, Alliance Review and Massillon Independent Friday, November 1, 2019

The Canton Repository

WC #202

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

WC #202
The Canton Repository | CantonRep.com | Tuesday, February 25, 2020 A5

Public Meeting
Review of the proposed
FY 2020 – 2022 Stark County
Community Development Block Grant
Program & FY 2020 HOME Program

Thursday, March 5, 2020
8:30 – 10:30 am

Stark County Regional
Planning Commission
201 – 3rd Street NE, Suite 201,
Canton OH

Printed in the Repository, Massillon Independent,
Alliance Review, February 25, 2020

04/7/20

STARK COUNTY'S PROPOSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND HOME FUNDS

CONSOLIDATED PLAN SUMMARY

The Consolidated Plan is a consolidation of various programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs. Stark County is an "Urban County" under the CDBG program and a "Participating Jurisdiction" (PJ) under the HOME program. The county receives direct allocations of funding for these two programs. The County is the lead agency for the HOME Consortium, which includes the cities of Alliance and Massillon.

In accordance with HUD regulations, the Stark County Consortium Consolidated Plan, originally prepared and approved in 1995, and subsequently updated, most currently for FY 2019-2023, provides an area-wide assessment of housing and homeless needs, housing market analysis, and a strategic plan for the allocation of housing resources within the consortium area. In addition, the Consolidated Plan describes the County's priority community development needs eligible for assistance under the CDBG program. This includes an assessment of the needs for public facilities, infrastructure improvements, public services, accessibility, historic preservation, economic development, fair housing and planning needs. The Plan provides the County's long-term and short-term community development goals and objectives that have been developed to address the national goals of the CDBG and HOME Programs, which include:

- The provision of decent housing that is affordable to households at or below 80% of the Area Median Income.
- The provision of suitable living environment, improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods, increasing access to quality facilities and services, improving housing opportunities, and revitalizing deteriorated neighborhoods.
- The expansion of economic opportunities, creating jobs that promote long term economic and social viability and that are accessible to persons at or below 80% of the Area Median Income.

In preparing the current One Year Action Plan, the County had to address those needs which met one of the three statutory objectives of the CDBG program: to benefit low-and moderate-income persons, elimination of slum and blighting conditions, or an urgent community development need.

FY 2020-2022 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Board of Stark County Commissioners is proposing to undertake the following housing and community development activities during the three-year funding program, FY 2020-2022.

PROJECTS	PROPOSED 2020	PROPOSED 2021	PROPOSED 2022
CDBG Administration	\$ 183,078.00	-	-
Comprehensive Planning	\$ 90,000.00	-	-
Housing Rehab - Full/Emergency Rehab	\$ 295,230.00	-	-
Housing Rehab - Direct/Program Operation	\$ 240,000.00	-	-
Fair Housing	\$ 80,000.00	-	-
Stark Co. Mental Health Board - Coordinated Entry System	\$ 20,000.00	-	-
CommQuest Services, Inc. - Family Living Center	\$ 18,000.00	-	-
Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence	\$ 16,640.00	-	-
Beacon Charitable Pharmacy - Prescription Medication Access	\$ 25,000.00	-	-
Habitat for Humanity - Hope ReStore	\$ 15,000.00	-	-
Kent State Stark - KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program	\$ 31,420.00	-	-
Village of Brewster - Jefferson Ave Sanitary Sewer Replacement	\$ 121,415.61	-	-
City of North Canton - Pittsburg/Batton Waterline Replacement	-	\$ 249,950	-
City of North Canton - Pittsburg/Milton/Carol Waterline Replacement	\$ 249,950.00	-	-
Stark Co. Metro Sewer District - Lincoln St. North Sanitary Sewer	-	\$ 249,999	-
Contingencies	\$ 9,648.39	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE FY '20 FUNDING	\$1,365,380.00	\$499,949	-
Reallocation of unspent FY '17, '18, & '19 CDBG funding to Village of Brewster - Jefferson Ave. Sanitary Sewer Replacement project: \$ 320,543.39			
(1) Contingencies - FY '17 - \$81,500.00			
(2) Contingencies - FY '18 - \$9,542.73			
(3) North Canton - 7th St. NE Storm Sewer Replacement - FY '19 - \$249,500.00			
GRAND TOTAL - FY '20	\$1,685,923.39		

It is anticipated that the County will receive an additional \$115,000 in program income from the current housing rehab revolving loan fund (RLF) for use with the program. All program income earned from the RLF will revolve back into this program.

FY 2020 HOME PROGRAM

The Board of Stark County Commissioners, as the lead agency for the HOME Consortium, is proposing the following expenditure of funds for the HOME program, which follows the same program year as the CDBG program.

PROJECTS	PROPOSED 2020
Future CHDO Set-aside Project	\$ 125,000
Tests Co. & HOPE, Inc. - Development of HOPE Village Senior Rental Project	\$ 300,000
Stark County Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 80,427
City of Massillon - Homebuyer and Housing Rehab Activities	\$ 128,000
City of Alliance - Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 121,000
Administration	\$ 85,339
TOTAL FY '20 FUNDING	\$ 853,392

In addition, HOME program income earned, estimated at approximately \$60,000.00, will be utilized under the Stark County Housing Rehabilitation project.

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

The Stark County One Year Annual Action Plan will be available for public review and comment beginning March 12, 2020 at the following location during regular office hours:

Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201 Third Street, NE Suite 201
Canton, OH 44702

Written comments on the Annual Action Plan, the FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME programs should be directed to: Lynn Carone, Stark County Regional Planning Commission, 201 Third St. NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702. Comments are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11, 2020.

Attachment 4e

Public Hearing

**TO RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMENT ON
FY 2020 – 2022
Stark County Community Development Block Grant Program
& FY 2020 HOME Program**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2020
11:00 am**

Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201 – 3rd Street NE, Suite 201, Canton OH

Written comments may be submitted at any time prior to the public hearing to:
Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development
Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201 – 3rd Street NE, Suite 201, Canton OH

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Attachment 5

Stark County Fair Housing Department

Fair Housing Action Plan July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (FY 2020)

I. Mission

The Stark County Fair Housing Department's (SCFHD) mission is to eliminate housing discrimination, racial and sexual harassment and to ensure housing opportunities for all people regardless of a person's race, color, sex, religion, national origin, handicap or familial status. In furthering this goal, SCFHD promotes equal housing opportunity through leadership, education, and outreach. Furthermore, the department identifies barriers to fair housing in order to help counteract and eliminate discriminatory housing practices. The department takes all appropriate and necessary actions to ensure that fair housing laws are properly and fairly enforced throughout the city of Alliance and Stark County. SCFHD envisions a county free of housing discrimination where every individual, group and community enjoys equal housing opportunity.

II. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI)

As required, all government agencies and recipients of federal funds must "affirmatively further fair housing." Affirmatively furthering fair housing is defined as taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunity, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. To affirmatively further fair housing and to satisfy the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the cities of Alliance, Canton, Massillon and Stark County Fair Housing Offices jointly updated and prepared the latest Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) in December 2018. The AI is a review of a jurisdiction's laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures, and practices affecting the location, availability, and accessibility of housing, as well as an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice.

III. Impediments (2012 AI)

1. Conduct the four-factor analysis to determine the extent to which the translation of vital documents is necessary.

This impediment was completed during the previous fiscal year (FY 2019) as the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) adopted in September 2019 a language access plan.

2. Update the HOME Policy and Compliance Manual to expand upon its affirmative marketing requirements. Specifically, state what actions are required on the part of owners, developers or sponsors and what corrective actions will be taken in the event of noncompliance.

This action was completed by updating the HOME Policy Manual.

3. Continue educational and outreach efforts to broaden awareness of rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act as is this is a continual work in progress.

The Fair Housing Department continues to sponsor luncheons, workshops, and/or seminars to increase the awareness of fair housing. Education and outreach initiatives will be continued during this and all future fiscal periods.

IV. Impediments and Recommended Action Step (2018 AI)

The current AI identifies impediments and recommended action steps. The following are the specific impediments and recommendations listed in this AI:

1. *Impediment:* The County does not yet have an official Language Access Plan.

A four-factor analysis was completed and a LAP was adopted and implemented by the SCRPC in September 2019.

Recommended Action Step: The implementation was completed in FY 2019.

2. *Impediment:* Expand housing choice for LMI households outside of impacted areas.

There are no explicit policies for the creation of affordable housing outside of impacted areas. Without explicit policies, it is difficult to enforce the County's affordable housing priorities. One of the major policy tools at the County's disposal is its HOME funds. The County's HOME Policies and Procedures manual indicates HOME projects are primarily used for neighborhood revitalization, however, according to the neighborhood site and selection standards in 24 CFR 983.57, the selected site must be consistent with the goal of deconcentrating poverty and expanding housing choice.

Applicants for HOME assistance in new construction projects should abide by the County's goal of expanding housing opportunities outside of impacted areas. The County can ensure compliance with this goal through explicit policies in its Consolidated Plan and HOME manual.

Recommended Action Step: The FY '19-'23 Consolidated Plan identified LMI and racially concentrated areas in county. This planning document is the first step in

advocating for creating affordable housing opportunities in higher opportunity areas. This will help to monitor if new affordable housing development is occurring in impact areas. In the future, these areas should also be addressed in the HOME Policies and Procedures manual as a policy goal for considering alternate development sites.

3. *Impediment:* All County government personnel have not received fair housing training.

All employees of Stark County should receive some form of fair housing training. This will create large pool of public employees trained to identify residents' right to fair housing. By expanding fair housing knowledge to employees countywide, the County creates more instances where a resident comes into contact with someone that can identify when fair housing rights are being violated.

Recommended Action Step: Expand fair housing education and outreach to all employees of Stark County on an annual basis.

Recommended Action Step: The Fair Housing Office should continue its education and outreach initiatives.

4. *Impediment:* The Consolidated Plan continues to require updates.

The County amended the Consolidated Plan to include a definition for areas of minority concentration, however, the definition is not sufficient. The new definition compares households rather than all residents.

Recommended Action Step: In the development of the FY '19 – '23 Consolidated Plan, the comparison was revised to be "residents" rather than households.

5. *Impediment:* The increase of fair housing complaints indicates that discrimination still occurs in Stark County.

The majority of discrimination complaints reported at all levels involved were disability and race related complaints. The increase in complaints could be related to new fair housing activities that are raising awareness of residents' rights. These activities should continue in order to keep residents aware of their rights, and keep landlords aware of their responsibilities.

Recommended Action Step: The SCRPC, along with agencies administering similar programs in Canton and Massillon, will continue to invest in landlord outreach, education and testing in order to broaden understanding of responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act.

V. Action Plan

The following are the action plans or steps SCFHD will take in the upcoming fiscal year:

1. Create affordable housing opportunities outside impacted areas.
 - A. The FY '19 – '23 Consolidated Plan, identified LMI and racially concentrated areas in the county and the HOME Policies and Procedures manual is expected to be updated during the remainder of the current Plan.
 - B. The FY '19 – '23 Consolidated Plan was amended to change the concentrated areas from Households to "Residents".
2. Improve the County's ability to offer fair housing services.
 - A. In order to broaden the understanding of the responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, the SCRPC will continue to invest in landlord outreach and education.
 - B. A Language Access Plan was adopted in 2019 and is being implemented by the Fair Housing Department of the SCRPC.
 - C. Expand fair housing education and outreach to all employees of Stark County on an annual basis. Make presentations to various governmental offices. This needs to be expanded upon to include those offices that interact with government officials who influence fair housing policy.
 - D. The Fair Housing Office will continue its education and outreach initiatives and make presentations on education and awareness of fair housing laws and requirements to the Community in general at various times throughout the year.

VI. Conclusion

The SCFHD is committed to providing fair housing choices for all residents in the county. The department will continue to promote equal housing opportunity through leadership, education, and outreach. In doing so, the elimination of housing discrimination will become closer to being a reality. SCFHD envisions a county free of housing discrimination where every individual, group and community enjoys equal housing opportunity. To achieve that goal, it will take persistence, collaboration, support and creativity.

The SCFHD will regularly review the Action Plan and the recommendations in the AI to identify additional actions or steps needed to keep the goals of fair housing moving forward.

Attachment 6

Consultations throughout FY 2019

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)
1	Meeting with local community to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (4/18/19)	Village of Brewster – Mayor and Village Planner	Community Development staff met with village officials to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on a sanitary sewer pipe replacement project. The project is nearly final design stage and is located in a qualified LMI census tract/block group. After discussion, the village determined that will continue to pursue the project and plans to attend the upcoming CDBG workshop to be held this summer and submit an application for FY '20 CDBG funding.			

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	Meeting with local community to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (4/23/19)	City of North Canton – City Engineer	Community Development staff met with the city engineer to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on various projects located in the city’s LMI census tract/block groups. At this time, it appears that at least 2 projects are currently in design phase. As such, the city plans to plans to attend the upcoming CDBG workshop to be held this summer and submit at an application for FY ’20 CDBG funding and possible ’21 CDBG funding.			
3	Meeting with local community to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (4/23/19)	Village of Minerva – Village Administrator	Community Development staff met with the city engineer to discuss the possible use of CDBG funding on potential projects located in the village’s LMI census tract/block groups (all in Carroll County). At this time, no projects are currently in development, but the village stated that if projects come about in the future, the village would plan on seeking CDBG funding, if qualified.			

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)
4	Meeting with local non-profit to discuss exploring the use of County CDBG funds for adult daycare/early education facility project and/or public service project (5/14/2019)	JRC, local community non-profit organization	Community Development staff met with JRC's Tom Thompson, Executive Director, and Karen Shackelford, Director of Development, to discuss the use of CDBG funds to help with the already underway expansion/rehab of an adult daycare/early childhood education center located in the recently acquired Meyers Lake Ballroom facility. CD staff explained that JRC should explore applying for FY '20 public service funds, as CDBG funding cannot be allocated towards a project that is already under contract.			

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)
5	Phone call with local non-profit to discuss exploring the use of County CDBG funds for a workshop held for homeowners in the community (5/31/2019)	Habitat for Humanity East Central Ohio, non-profit	Phone call between Aaron Brown, Director of Development at Habitat and Katie Phillips, SCRPC staff, about Habitat expanding a H.O.M.E. workshop program already taking place in the City of Canton, into the County at large, with the use of County CDBG funds. Ms. Phillips encouraged Mr. Brown to attend the FY '20 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.			
6	Meeting with Waynesburg's councilman (Jeff Davis) to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure project (6/17/2019)	Village of Waynesburg – councilman	Community Development staff and Jeff Dotson, SCRPC Transportation Planner, met with Jeff Davis, councilman of Waynesburg to discuss a potential storm sewer project. Staff offered information on the application for both CDBG funds and OPWC funds. Staff encouraged Mr. Davis to attend the FY '20 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.			

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)
7	Meeting with Stark County Sanitary Engineer to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (6/18/2019)	Stark County Sanitary Engineer	Community Development staff and Bob Nau, SCRPC Exec. Director, met with Jim Troike and Scott Ellsworth of the Sanitary Engineer's office to discuss the use of CDBG funds for potential sanitary sewer projects throughout the County that would fall within qualified LMI census tracts. SCRPC staff encouraged Mr. Troike and Mr. Ellsworth to attend the FY '20 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.			

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)
8	Meeting with Stark County Engineer to discuss future possible CDBG infrastructure projects (6/20/2019)	Stark County Engineer	Community Development staff and Bob Nau, SCRPC Exec. Director, met with Dave Torrence, Asst. Stark County Engineer, and another engineering office staff person to discuss the use of CDBG funds for potential county engineering infrastructure sewer projects throughout the County that would fall within qualified LMI census tracts. SCPRC staff encouraged Mr. Torrence to attend the FY '20 CDBG workshop in August of 2019.			
9	Conference call with non-profit interested in HOME funds (7/22/19)	National Church Residences (NCR) (non-profit)	Community Development staff discussed a potential project ideas with NCR in regard to the possible receipt of future HOME funding. NCR is unsure if they will remit FY 2020 HOME applications at this time, but will keep HOME funding in mind for future projects.			

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)
10	Discussion with non-profit interested in HOME funds (8/19/19)	ICAN, Inc. (non-profit & CHDO)	Community Development staff discussed two potential project ideas with ICAN, Inc. in regard to the possible receipt of future HOME and/or CHDO funding. ICAN, Inc. plans to submit two FY 2020 HOME applications at this time.			
11	Application Workshop – CDBG (8/28/19)	Non-targeted/ broad community	Attendees included representatives from the various CDBG political subdivisions and non-profit organizations interested in applying for CDBG funding from the FY 2020 - 2022 programs.	No comments were received	No comments were not accepted	RPC website http://www.starkcountyo-hio.gov/regional-planning
12	Application Workshop – HOME (11/13/19)	Non-targeted/ broad community	Attendees included representatives from the various HOME political; subdivisions and non-profit organizations interested in applying for HOME funding from the FY 2020 program	No comments were received	No comments were not accepted	RPC website http://www.starkcountyo-hio.gov/regional-planning

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)
13	Discussion with non-profit interested in HOME funds (1/7/20)	ICAN, Inc. (non-profit & CHDO)	Community Development staff further discussed potential project ideas with ICAN, Inc. in regard to the possible receipt of future HOME and/or CHDO funding.			
14	Meeting/consultation with City of Massillon interested in FY '20 HOME funds (1/27/20)	City of Massillon	Community Development staff discussed with consortium member, City of Massillon, to determine what the City wants to do with their FY 2020 HOME funding.			
15	Meeting/consultation with City of Alliance interested in FY '18 HOME funds (1/27/20)	City of Alliance	Community Development staff discussed with consortium member, City of Alliance, to determine what the City wants to do with their FY 2020 HOME funding.			
16	CDBG/HOME Public Meeting (3/5/20)	Non-targeted/broad community	Those in attendance voted to endorse the propose FY 2020 - 2022 CDBG Three Year funding program and the proposed FY 2020 HOME funding program.	No comments were received	No comments were not accepted.	http://www.starkcountyo.hio.gov/regional-planning

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)
17	CDBG/HOME Public Hearing (3/18/20)	Non-targeted/broad community	The Board of Stark County Commissioners conducted a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the proposed FY 2020 - 2022 CDBG programs and the proposed FY 2020 HOME program.		No comments were not accepted.	http://www.starkcountyo-hio.gov/regional-planning

Citizen Participation Outreach

Attachment #7

Citizen Participation Plan – Adopted 6/2018

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is under contract to the Board of Stark County Commissioners to administer the HUD funded Community Development Block Grant and HOME programs.

Citizen Participation Plan Development Process

Prior to the adoption of the Community Development Department's Citizen Participation Plan, citizens are given the opportunity to comment. The draft plan is presented to the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) at its March monthly meeting at the same time as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) proposed programs. The plan is then made accessible to the residents of Stark County through the SCRPC's website and a copy is available in the SCRPC library for a 30 day citizen comment period. As needed, the plan can be made into a format accessible to persons with disabilities, upon request. Any comments made by the public during the 30 day comment period will be addressed by SCRPC staff prior to the adoption of the final citizen participation plan. Furthermore, comments made may not always result in changes to the Plan.

Community Development

Public Participation General Information

One of the main goals of the Stark County Regional Planning Commission's Community Development Department is to provide the community an opportunity to participate in an advisory role in the planning, implementation and assessment of its programs and projects. There are six main programs and/or plans that the Community Development Department undertakes, which include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), the Consolidated Plan (5-Year Plan), the Annual Action Plan, the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER), and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). Please see the list below outlining basic practices and policies utilized by the SCRPC to ensure the public has access and knowledge to programs in their community:

Holding a "public hearing" entails:

- Taking minutes and documenting comments that will be made public record.
- Being required by law on a case-by-case basis.
- Following rules concerning who speaks when and for how long; not a question-and-answer format.
- Providing a hearing official to oversee the hearing.

Holding a "public meeting" entails:

- Not being required by law.
- Not making the discussion between interested parties and comments public record.
- Attendees being able to ask questions and make comments, with the aid of a moderator to keep the meeting focused.

All meetings and hearings held by the Community Development Department are normally during the day and held at the office the Stark County Regional Planning Commission located at 201 3rd St. NE, Suite 201, Canton, Ohio 44702. If necessary, meetings may be held in the evening. By holding meetings/hearings at the SCRPC office building, they are accessible to the community through the following ways:

- SCRPC office building is ADA accessible.
- SCRPC office is accessible to public transportation, including the location of 2 SARTA bus stops within a block of the SCRPC office building (1.) Market Ave. N and 3rd St., being on the West side of the street (2.) Market Ave. N. and 4th St., being on the East side of the street.
- Meetings and/or hearings being held are advertised on the SCRPC's website and the newspaper, when applicable.
- Any documents created by the SCRPC that require public comment are made available on the SCRPC's website as well as copy being available at the office.
- If a non-English speaking community member attends a meeting, they are encouraged to bring a translator. (1.08% non-English speaking households in Stark County, Ohio, according to the 2013 American Community Survey.) If an interpreter is needed, advance arrangements will need to be made.

Community Development Programs/Plans

1.) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

The Board of Stark County Commissioners is the recipient of the federally funded CDBG program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The SCRPC is under contract to the Board of Stark County Commissioners to do the overall planning and administration of the CDBG Program. The CDBG program aims at developing viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, along with expanding economic opportunities, for persons of low- and moderate-incomes.

Citizen participation is a vital role in the CDBG Program process. As established by Section 104(a)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act and by regulations at 24 CFR 570.486, there are key actions that need to be taken to ensure that citizens, especially low and moderate income citizens of the community where CDBG funded activities will take place, have an opportunity to participate in an advisory role in the planning, implementation, and

assessment of the program and projects. Therefore, the SCRPC includes the local community in the CDBG Program implementation by taking the following actions:

- Providing 2 public hearings, each at different stages of the program. The first being held during the SCRPC's regularly scheduled monthly meeting in which the CAPER is presented, and the second during the 30 day public comment period of the Annual Action Plan.
- Providing citizens with reasonable advance notice of, and opportunity to comment on proposed activities.
- Providing citizens contact information for submitting complaints and grievances, and then responding to complaints in a timely manner.

Each program year the SCRPC is responsible for:

- Publishing notices for the CDBG application workshop in three general circulation newspapers.
- Mailing invitations to all political subdivisions that participate in the CDBG program along with private non-profit agencies that have applied for funding in the past, or expressed an interest in applying, otherwise known as Stark County CDBG Stakeholders.
- Posting notices on the SCRPC website.

During the application workshop, an application review committee is nominated from volunteers, consisting of 6 members including a representative of each of the following: large township, small township, village, city, county at large and county representative. Alternates are also nominated when available.

A public meeting is held to present the upcoming proposed funding plan and encourage discussion with the attendees. Those in attendance vote on approval of the presented plan. The funding plan is also presented to the SCRPC at the regularly scheduled March meeting. The SCRPC also votes on approval of the presented funding plan and updates to the Citizen Participation Plan.

Notices for a public hearing are then mailed to all entities that submitted an application for either the CDBG or HOME program and to all political subdivisions. Additionally, a boxed ad is also published in all three newspapers advertising the date and time of the public hearing along with details of the funding program and availability of the Citizen Participation Plan. This commences the comment period on the proposed program.

At the end of the comment period and after the comments have been reviewed and considered by the SCRPC staff, the Board formally adopts the final CDBG Funding Program for submission to HUD.

2.) HOME Program

The SCRPC has been designated a Participating Jurisdiction (PJ) within a Designated Consortium under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) HOME Program. Stark County has been participating in this program since its inception in FY 1992. All political jurisdictions within Stark County participate in the County's HOME program except the City of Canton (a separate designated PJ) and the Village of Hills and Dales. HOME funding is utilized for the development of housing for low income person/families.

The SCRPC encourages public participation throughout the application process by:

- Hosting an application workshop.
- Circulating public notices for the application workshop by publishing in three general circulation newspapers as well as the SCRPC's website.
- Mailing invitations to entities who have originally received HOME funding in the past and/or other organizations that have expressed interest in the past in applying for funding; otherwise known as Stark County HOME Stakeholders.
- Posting notice of the workshop on the SCRPC website.

Once applications are received for HOME funded activities within Stark County and the cities of Alliance and Massillon, the staff reviews each application to ensure conformity with the HOME regulations and guidelines.

Because applications are accepted on a yearly basis, the one-year funding program is presented at the same above mentioned Regional Planning Commission meeting in which the CDBG program is presented.

Once the HOME program is presented to the Regional Planning Commission the following occurs:

- A public hearing is held and notices of this are mailed to all entities that submitted an application for either the CDBG or HOME program.
- A box ad is published in all three newspapers advertising the public hearing.
- Citizens are given a 30 day public comment period to make written and/or verbal comments.

At the end of the comment period, the Board formally adopts the final HOME Funding Program. This will be included with the CDBG program in the One Year Update of the Consolidated Plan and submitted to HUD no later than 45 days prior to the start of the County's federal fiscal year (July 1).

CDBG and HOME Substantial Amendments:

An amendment is deemed "substantial" when:

- A program is added or cancelled; or

- A considerable amount of money is being reallocated from one project to another, as determined by the Community Development Department; or
- There is a change to the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity (24 CFR Part 91.505).

Public participation is required when a substantial amendment is needed. The proposed substantial amendment is presented to the Board of County Commissioners at a regular meeting. A public notice of the proposed amendment is published allowing for a 30 day comment period. If comments are received by citizens, they will be considered prior to finalizing the amendment. The Board of Stark County Commissioners votes to approve the amendment which is then published as the final amendment. In cases where urgency is a consideration, the comment period may be reduced to 15 days or less.

3.) Consolidated Plan (CP) (5-year plan) and Annual Action Plan (AAP)

The consolidated plan is a 5-year plan, updated every five years since 1995, in accordance with HUD regulations. The plan provides an assessment of needs in the area, including housing and homeless needs, a housing market analysis, and a strategic plan for the allocation of housing resources within the consortium. The Plan also includes the County's priority community development needs that qualify under the CDBG program. Additionally, there is an assessment of the needs for infrastructure improvement, public facilities, public services, accessibility, economic development, fair housing and planning needs.

The submission of the CP also contains the first year Annual Action Plan. During the next four years only the Annual Action Plan is submitted.

The Citizen Participation for the Annual Action Plan is as outlined within the CDBG and HOME sections of this document. The Annual Action Plan, otherwise known as the "One Year Update" summarizes the activities that the County will undertake utilizing CDBG and HOME funding during each fiscal year.

Citizen participation is critical during the preparation of the Consolidated Plan. Residents are encouraged to participate through the following ways:

- Completing a survey that is made available to groups targeted as able to provide input in terms of homeless, housing, planning, and non-housing community development needs to gather information and comments.
- Attendance at public meetings.
- Public comments are received at public meetings held throughout the period of preparation of the CP.
- All comments and views are considered prior to submission of the CP.

As a result of the public meetings held, objectives and goals of the community are established. In addition to the public meetings, 2 public hearings are held for public comment. The CP is

presented to the Board of Stark County Commissioners, as afterwards, there is a 30 day public comment period. Any comments or views are taken into consideration by the staff and are made note of in the final CP.

At the end of the comment period, the Board decides whether to adopt the final Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan “Substantial” Amendments:

An amendment is deemed “substantial” when:

- There is a change to the allocation priorities or a change in the method of distribution of funds; or
- To carry out an activity, using funds from any program covered by the Consolidated Plan not previously described in the action plan; or
- To change the purpose, scope, location, or beneficiaries of an activity (24 CFR Part 91.505).

Public participation is required when a substantial amendment is needed. The proposed substantial amendment is presented to the Board of County Commissioners at a regular meeting. A public notice of the proposed amendment is published allowing for a 30 day comment period. If comments are received by citizens, they will be considered prior to finalizing the amendment. In cases where urgency is a consideration, the comment period may be reduced to 15 days or less. The Board approves the amendment after the comment period and it is published as a final amendment.

4.) CAPER

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report, otherwise known as the CAPER is created annually by the Community Development Department staff and submitted to HUD within 90 days after the end of the program year. Once the draft CAPER has been completed, it is presented to the SCRPC at a regular monthly meeting, after which, the following actions are taken to encourage citizen participation:

- The draft CAPER is made available on the SCRPC website, for at 15 day public comment period.
- During this time, the CAPER draft is advertised in 3 local general circulation newspapers.
- A hard copy of the report is available at the SCRPC office and on the SCRPC website.
- All comments and views of citizens received are included in the final CAPER.

At the end of the comment period, the CAPER is submitted to HUD.

5.) Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI)

The SCRPC's Community Development Department is responsible for Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) in Stark County. AFFH is a legal requirement that mandates federal grantees further the purposes of the Fair Housing Act. HUD's AFFH rule provides an effective planning approach to aid program participants in taking meaningful actions to overcome historic patterns of segregation, promote fair housing choice, and foster inclusive communities that are free from discrimination. As a result of this rule, SCRPC affirmatively furthers fair housing by providing information, education, counseling and investigative services to the residents of Stark County.

A key part of achieving the goal to affirmatively further fair housing is the preparation of an Analysis of Impediments (AI), which is conducted every 5 years in conjunction with the Consolidated Plan. An AI is a review of a jurisdiction's laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures, and practices affecting the location, availability and accessibility of housing, as well as an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice. The AI is an action-oriented approach to achieving the goal of eliminating various forms of housing discrimination.

Furthermore, the AI is responsible for assessing the population, household income, and housing characteristics by protected classes. Additionally, it evaluates public and private sector policies that impact fair housing choice, and recommend specific strategies to overcome the effects of any impediments identified.

During the drafting of the AI, it is advertised in 3 local general circulation newspapers to inform the public of a 30-day public comment period. The draft document is made available for review on the SCRPC website and a hard copy is accessible at the SCRPC office. If comments are received by citizens, they will be considered prior to finalizing the AI.

Upon completion of the AI, it is presented during two public meetings. It is presented at the same public meeting as the CDBG and HOME programs and then to the SCRPC at a regularly scheduled meeting. After the public meetings are concluded and the AI is finalized, the SCRPC will affirmatively further fair housing by utilizing the AI to undertake appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through the AI, and maintain records reflecting the analysis and actions taken.