

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Camden County has prepared the Year 4 Action Plan as required under 24 CFR 91.220. The Year 4 Action Plan for FY 2018 identifies the activities to be funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funds received during the program year.

The Camden County Improvement Authority, via a subrecipient agreement with the County, will assume responsibility for the day to day administration of CDBG and HOME grants in Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2018. Camden County will administer ESG funds and provide program and financial oversight of CDBG and HOME activities. A total of 31 municipalities participate in the CDBG program. Camden City, Cherry Hill and Gloucester Township are direct HUD entitlement communities and receive their own grant funds from HUD. In the County’s HOME program consortium, the only non-participating municipalities are Camden City, Pine Valley and Tavistock.

The Annual Plan articulates funding decisions for the next year of specific federal funds according to the long term goals established in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan (CP). The CP was guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to community needs. These goals are:

1. To provide decent housing
2. To provide a suitable living environment
3. To expand economic opportunities.

The Annual Action Plan includes the SF 424 and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions to which CDBG, HOME, HOPWA and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The annual activities that address Camden County’s CP goals follow.

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.

Housing

Camden County is committed to meeting its housing needs through programs that address specific overall housing objectives.

1. Provide funding to support homeownership through down payment and closing assistance.
2. Provide funding to generate new housing options for both renting and homeownership in Camden County over the next year.
3. Continuation of housing rehabilitation programs for both comprehensive improvement and programs.
4. Expansion of the rental rehabilitation program to the Urban County.
5. Support the Housing Authorities in their efforts to improve and maintain existing public housing units.
6. Provide subsidies to developers to create an expanded supply of affordable rental units.
7. Work with developers to make new affordable housing inclusive of persons with special needs.
8. Continued support for housing that meets the needs of elderly and disabled and other special needs populations.
9. Continue to support Emergency shelters, transitional housing and housing prevention programs funded through the Emergency Solution Grant and Supportive Housing Program.
10. Create additional shelter beds for individuals and families.
11. Continue to support activities that provide affordable housing for homeless families and individuals.
12. Continue to support activities that provide services for homeless families and individuals and to prevent homelessness in Camden County.
13. Continue to support and expand the availability of beds for chronically homeless single individuals.
14. Support the Camden Housing First Collaborative in developing housing for chronically homeless persons.

Economic Development

The County's goals and objectives related to community and economic development are as follows, including FY 2018 action steps:

1. Support projects that meet high priority needs, including parks, fire protection facilities and equipment, senior centers and neighborhood centers.
2. Support projects that meet high priority needs, including: handicap accessibility, roads, sidewalks, and sewer, water and flood protection systems.
3. Support projects that meet high priority needs, including services for youth and seniors, transportation services, housing counseling, employment training, substance abuse counseling and referral.
4. Support general program administration, public outreach and information and on going management of the federal programs.

5. Support County and local sustainability planning efforts

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Camden County's primary priorities continue to include homeownership, housing rehabilitation, expanding the housing stock for low income renters, providing emergency shelters, providing supportive services and providing improvements to or construction of public facilities and infrastructure. Last year presented some challenges to the program that prevented the timely expenditure of funds. The late start, staffing and administrative changes and other delays caused the program to miss the annual funding requirements. As a way to remedy this, the County has changed staff and is only funding projects that are larger in scale and only to entities with a proven track record to spend funds. Specific achievements can be found in the Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) which is available for public review within 90 days of the end of the each program year

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The goals strategies for the use of funds were developed in conjunction with the public and stakeholder outreach process used to develop the Five-Year Strategic Plan. Camden County engaged in aggressive efforts to involve citizens and a variety of public, private and non-profit agencies in informing, shaping and responding to the goals and strategies in the Action Plan. The activities selected for FY2018 reflect these goals.

Citizen participation in the development of the Action Plan was encouraged through participation in public meetings and review of the plan during the display period. Citizens were made aware of the process and opportunity to comment on the plan through newspaper advertisements. Copies of the announcements of the hearings and the Action Plan were distributed to service organizations that represent low income and minority and non-English speaking groups in the County with requests to disseminate the information and participate in the process.

The organizations listed below, plus a mailing list of over 100 agencies, were contacted with regards to the Action Plan. These organizations represent service providers for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities and those with HIV/AIDS. In addition, the Homeless Network Planning Committee, which prepares the Continuum of Care application, was consulted.

All of the Municipal Jurisdictions that participate in the Urban County were given the opportunity to apply for funding as well as participate in the process. Several regional organizations were also consulted. The County is served by the AIDS Coalition of Southern New Jersey for HOPWA funded services. There is no County-wide housing authority, but there are smaller organizations that serve individual municipalities.

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.

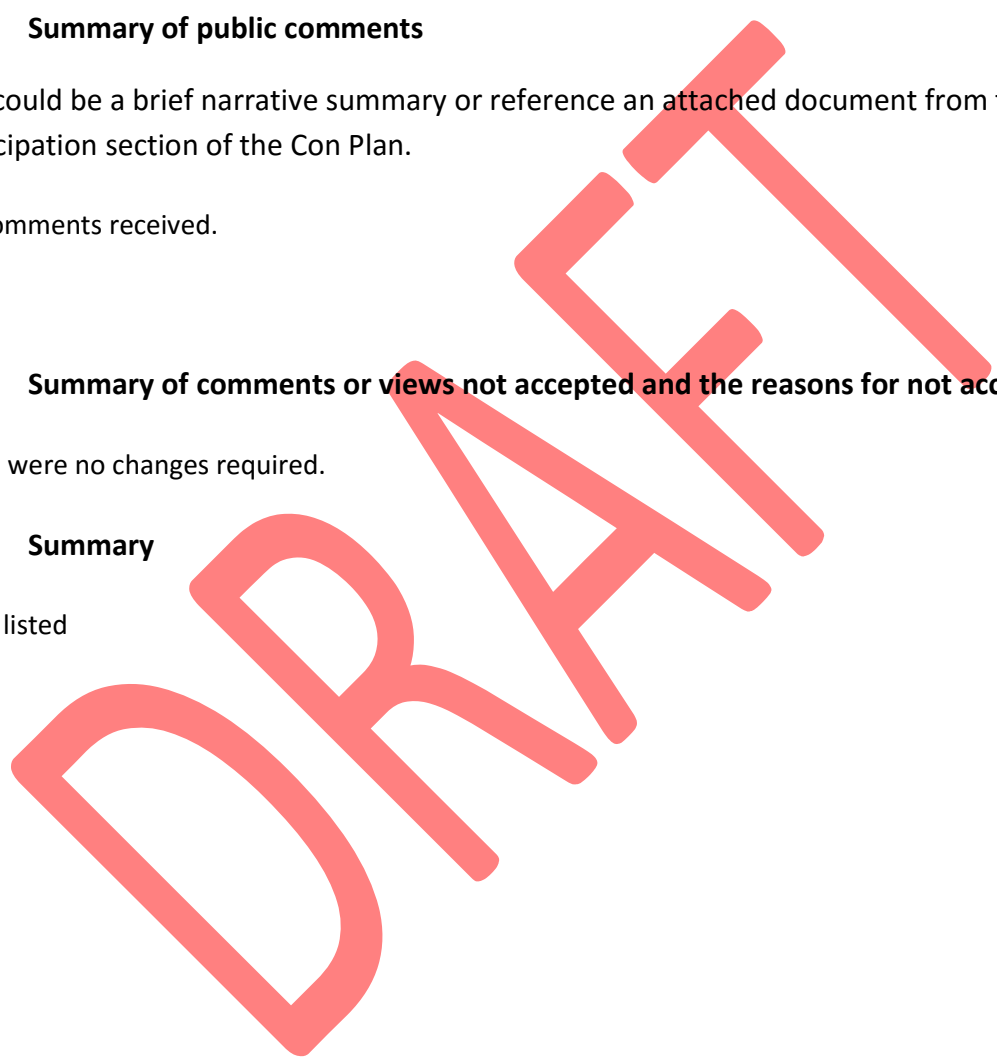
No Comments received.

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

There were no changes required.

7. Summary

None listed



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
Lead Agency	CAMDEN COUNTY	
CDBG Administrator	CAMDEN COUNTY	Community Development
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator	CAMDEN COUNTY	Community Development
ESG Administrator	CAMDEN COUNTY	Community Development
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The lead agency for the preparation of the Consolidated Plan is the County of Camden and the program is being coordinated through the Camden County Improvement Authority via a sub-recipient agreement. The Consolidated Plan is a comprehensive document promoting a coordinated approach to housing and community needs and fostering the coordination of all programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It provides guidance on the investment of federal dollars, as well as other federal, State and local funding dollars. Most specifically, this Plan outlines the priorities by which the County’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funds will be administered over the next five years.

Each year the County will produce an Annual Action Plan to detail specific proposed activities to carry out the Plan's priorities and goals. Camden County is an Urban County Consortium with HUD. This status provides the County with funding under the CDBG and HOME program. The Consortium exists through the voluntary cooperation agreements between the County and local municipalities.

CDBG funds are provided to Consortium members through an annual application where communities develop projects which address local and Consolidated Plan priorities. County CDBG funds are administered through the Camden County Improvement Authority's Department of Community Development via a subrecipient agreement with the County. Due to its urban county status, the County is eligible to receive funds under HUD's HOME Investment Partnership Program. In 1992, the County entered into a consortium with Gloucester Township, which increased its HOME allocation. Since 1992, the Consortium has also added Gloucester City and the Township of Cherry Hill as Consortium members. HOME funds are provided to for profit and non-profit developers through a competitive annual application process. County HOME funds are administered through the CCIA's Community Development Program via a subrecipient agreement with the County, in consultation with the members of the consortium. Camden County also uses a competitive application process to award funds to Emergency Solution Grant applicants. The competitive process is conducted by the County's regional Continuum of Care. The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Mr. Anthony Bianco
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520 Market Street
Camden, New Jersey 08102

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

1. Introduction

The goals strategies for the use of funds were developed in conjunction with the public and stakeholder outreach process used to develop the Five-Year Strategic Plan. Camden County engaged in aggressive efforts to involve citizens and a variety of public, private and non-profit agencies in informing, shaping and responding to the goals and strategies in the Action Plan. The activities selected for FY2018 reflect these goals.

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)).

The organizations listed below, plus a mailing list of over 100 agencies, were contacted with regards to the Action Plan. These organizations represent service providers for youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities and those with HIV/AIDS. In addition, the Homeless Network Planning Committee, which prepares the Continuum of Care application, was consulted.

All of the Municipal Jurisdictions that participate in the Urban County were given the opportunity to apply for funding as well as participate in the process. Several regional organizations were also consulted. The County is served by the AIDS Coalition of Southern New Jersey for HOPWA funded services. There is no County-wide housing authority, but there are smaller organizations that serve individual municipalities.

A public hearing was held in December at the Camden County Improvement Authority Office in Voorhees, NJ to solicit input from the general public, social service agencies, housing providers, local municipalities and various County Departments. At the public hearing in anticipation of the development of the FY 2017 Action Plan, Camden County reviewed the needs and the priorities and the priorities it had established for funding.

A summary of the Action Plan was made will be available to the public on or by June 4, 2018 and remained on display for thirty days. The plan was placed in display at the following locations:

Camden County Library

203 Laurel Road

Voorhees, NJ

Camden County Library

5 MacArthur Boulevard

Haddon Township, NJ

Camden County Improvement Authority

2220 Voorhees Town Center

Voorhees, NJ

The Plan was also made available online at www.camdencounty.com/communitydevelopment

The public review period will be from June 4, 2018 to August 3, 2018

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 US Department of Housing and Urban Development provides funding for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing and supportive services to agencies that serve persons who are homeless. Under the umbrella of the Continuum of Care Program, the Homeless Planning Network provides coordination and collaboration to ensure delivery of a seamless network of services.

Annually, the Camden County Homeless Network Planning Committee (Network), in conjunction with the Camden County Community Planning and Advocacy Council, prepares a Continuum of Care document that provides on-going guidance for the Network and the member agencies efforts. The document, as well as the process of preparing it, serves as the cornerstone of Camden County applications to HUD for McKinney Continuum of Care (CoC) homeless assistance funding , HUD awarded Camden City/County/Gloucester, Cape May, Cumberland Counties \$2,907,995.00 in CoC tier 1 funding for renewals. New project application approvals have not yet been announced. The services that will be provided through this proposal are vital to maintain a continuity of services, which enable homeless individuals to transition to self-sufficiency and permanent housing. Camden City & County CoC expects to apply for renewals and new activities under the SNJCoC Continuum of Care programs.

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

Members of the CoC review proposals submitted for ESG funding and make funding recommendations to the Board of Freeholders through the Office of Community Development. Each entity receiving ESG funds is required to maintain HMIS data, Community Planning & Advocacy Council provides the administration of HMIS for Camden County.

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

DRAFT

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	BOROUGH OF AUDUBON
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Other government - County Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Mayors or their designees were invited to attend quarterly advisory board meetings.

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

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		

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

DRAFT

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**

The goals strategies for the use of funds were developed in conjunction with the public and stakeholder outreach process used to develop the Five-Year Strategic Plan. Camden County engaged in aggressive efforts to involve citizens and a variety of public, private and non-profit agencies in informing, shaping and responding to the goals and strategies in the Action Plan. The activities selected for FY2018 reflect these goals. Please note, this submission is the Annual Action Plan is delayed but is within the guidelines outlined in the HUD May 10, 2017 Memo allowing for the waiver of 24 CFR 91.105(b)(4) and 24 CFR 91.115(b)(4) for Fiscal Year 2017 Action Plans for Community Planning and Development Program Funds.

Citizen participation in the development of the Action Plan was encouraged through participation in public meetings and review of the plan during the display period. Citizens were made aware of the process and opportunity to comment on the plan through newspaper advertisements. Copies of the announcements of the hearings and the Action Pan were distributed to service organizations that represent low income and minority and non-English speaking groups in the County with requests to disseminate the information and participate in the process.

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)

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

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	2,378,081	200,000	0	2,578,081	0	
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,116,674	100,000	0	1,216,674	0	

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	194,143	0	0	194,143	0	

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

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

Discussion

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

Table 3 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

Regarding CDBG funds, 2018 saw a deviation in project requests and selection with the County looking for larger projects that had a significant impact for low to moderate income residents within the County. This revised process will allow the County to administer and spend funds quickly and more cost effectively. By altering the submission and selection process, the County will now fund projects that have larger grant amounts. The scoring of the projects was based on criteria that covered a number of items one of which was how timely past recipients spent HUD funds. This amended process will allow the County to have a larger impact using HUD funds.

#	Project Name
4	Winslow Township Senior Transportation Bus
5	Haddon Township Senior Transportation
7	Voorhees Senior Transportation
8	Collingswood Senior Services
9	UOSS railins/ramps program
10	Center For Family Services Outreach/Counseling
11	Consumer Credit Counseling Services
12	Cathedral Kitchen
13	SCUCS Housing & Counseling
15	CASA Advocates
16	Larc School
17	CDBG Home Improvement Program (HIP)
23	Gibbsboro Senior Center

Table 4 – Project Information

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

As mentioned, the County uprooted the normal project selection process and is now funding larger, more impactful, projects that focus on improving the quality of life of low to moderate income individuals throughout the County. One factor of this revised process was to fund projects that had direct impacts to qualified census tracts. Other factors included past performance, direct impact to qualified individuals and leveraging other non-federal funds.

Please note, Camden County does provide CDBG funds to entitlement communities in the County based on a procurement process developed by the Camden County Community Development Office that is competitive. The competitive formula allows for an equitable distribution of CDBG funds among the entitlement communities. The entitlement communities consist of all the municipalities in Camden County except Camden City, Cherry Hill Township, Gloucester City, Gloucester Township, Pine Valley

Borough, and Tavistock. Borough. The entitlement communities use CDBG funds for various projects in the community. Some projects are at specific locations, and some of the projects serve the entire community.

Both CDBG and HOME funds are used Countywide to fund housing rehabilitation. In addition, HOME funds will be utilized to acquire and construct affordable rental projects throughout the County leveraging NJ HMFA tax credit funds. This year saw an increase in tax credit projects in Camden County and the County is using the HOME funds to assist with these projects.

Furthermore, HOME funds will be used to continue with the County's Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program, which assist low- and moderate-income first-time homeowners with down payments for single-family housing.

Emergency shelter facilities and services for the homeless and to prevent homelessness are also available county-wide.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Winslow Township Senior Transportation Bus
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Special Needs Population
	Funding	CDBG: \$49,000
	Description	Township of Winslow has awarded a contract for Rohrer Bus Service for the transport of the senior population to various stores, markets, activities and events. The balance of the bus; after Year 38 Supplemental Grant award will be paid with Year 39 Funding, and for the funding of senior activities and money towards the drivers salary.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	Haddon Township Senior Transportation
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$32,500
	Description	Provide senior transportation services for medical appointments, shopping and recreation programs for Haddon Township's senior population.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	Voorhees Senior Transportation

	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	:
	Description	Voorhees Township will coordinate and support senior citizen activities, to include bus transportation and other social and business functions. Voorhees Township will assist senior citizens in obtaining information on benefits and other services available to them.
	Target Date	6/30/2018
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
4	Project Name	Collingswood Senior Services
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	:
	Description	Borough will use funds to pay salary of Senior program coordinator, provide transportation for seniors and senior recreation activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
5	Project Name	UOSS railins/ramps program
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	

	Funding	:
	Description	Installation of handicap ramp and rail system to income eligible seniors or disabled person.
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
6	Project Name	Center For Family Services Outreach/Counseling
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Case management services are provided in the homes of seniors unable to get out. Includes counseling on different housing assistance, meal prep, personal and housekeeping as well as medical appointments
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
7	Project Name	Consumer Credit Counseling Services
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Financial education workshops and one on one counseling for low/mod seniors to help them make smart choices and remain independent;
	Target Date	6/30/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
8	Project Name	Cathedral Kitchen
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	:
	Description	Soup Kitchen type setting, 6 days a week
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
9	Project Name	SCUCS Housing & Counseling
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Provide Shared Housing Counseling, information for Reverse Mortgage possibilities and rental referrals. Shared Housing involves matching a senior with a home, with a senior needing an affordable place to live. Enables Seniors who maybe struggling to stay in their homes & community and lessons the need for institutionalizations. Agency must submit new budget that reflects exactly how the awarded funding will be used & revise budget to reflect actual award recommendation.
	Target Date	6/30/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
10	Project Name	CASA Advocates
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$12,000
	Description	CASA provides trained volunteers to follow and advocated for children going through court system under DYFS care
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
11	Project Name	Larc School
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	After School and Respite care for multi-handicapped children.
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	

12	Project Name	CDBG Home Improvement Program (HIP)
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$159,014
	Description	Financial assistance to correct housing code violations
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
13	Project Name	Gibbsboro Senior Center
	Target Area	Camden County
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$13,900
	Description	Borough has done extensive improvements to the Senior Center on Pole Hill Rd. CDBG funds to will be used to pay existing bond principle for senior center improvements.
	Target Date	6/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	

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 Community Development Program this year focused on selecting projects that were in qualified census tracts or that had a direct impact to specific populations. This year's funding will see larger dollars committed to areas that have higher concentrations of low to moderate income residents. Municipalities like Pennsauken, Lindenwold and Winslow Township that have areas with qualified census tracts will receive greater amounts of funding based on the new competitive selection process.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Camden County	100

Table 5 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The housing, special needs and community development priorities established as part of the Consolidated Plan were developed through a comprehensive public outreach process that placed a high priority on meaningful citizen and agency engagement.

As described above, individual municipalities apply to use funds on an "entitlement" basis and select projects of greatest need within their community that meet the CDBG or HOME program criteria.

The allocation process took into consideration the following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the federal programs
- Meeting the needs of low and moderate income residents
- Focusing on low and moderate income areas or neighborhoods
- Coordination and leverage of resources
- Response to expressed needs
- Sustainability and long-term impact, and
- The ability to demonstrate measurable progress and success

The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs for affordable housing in Camden County is the gap in what households can afford to pay for housing and the price of housing. The County has a significant affordable housing stock, yet the substandard condition of the units and income level for individual households such as single parent, elderly, disabled, or others of limited economic means, is not sufficient to afford even the lowest of the market rate units.

Camden County will continue to use its entitlement funds to provide assistance with activities that meet the underserved needs of the community. Through continued participation with the Camden County Homeless Network Planning Committee (HNPC) and other broad-based groups, the County will be kept informed of the needs of the underserved and the changes in the needs over time. This will facilitate the use of scarce funds in an efficient way.

Discussion

The Camden County Department of Community Development does not target funds on a geographic basis. Instead, the Department selects projects and activities through an application process. For example, persons desiring rehabilitation or down payment assistance are required to submit

applications. Municipalities seeking assistance for community projects apply once a year funding and this year this process was amended to be more competitive.

Affordable Housing

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

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	10
Non-Homeless	130
Special-Needs	40
Total	180

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	15
The Production of New Units	15
Rehab of Existing Units	20
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	50

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

Discussion

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

Introduction

Below details the steps taken to assist in 2018.

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

While there is no County-wide public housing agency (PHA) in Camden County, lower income populations are served by local public housing authorities in municipalities across the County:

- The Housing Authority of the City of Camden administers a Housing Choice Voucher program and maintains a low-income housing portfolio of more than 2,000 units. During the last 12 years, the Authority has renovated or redeveloped more than 70% of its original inventory (2,334 units) using a variety of financial and asset management strategies. HACC additionally operates a homeownership program that has benefited more than 350 households to date.
- The Collingswood Housing Authority and the Clementon Housing Authority also offer both Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing units
- The Haddon Housing Authority maintains one 100 unit development for lower income seniors.
- Gloucester Township provides 75 units for rent to lower income houses.
- Cherry Hill Township operates a Housing Choice Voucher program through its Department of Community Development. Additionally, the Township requires a set aside of 20 percent of units in every multi-family development for low and moderate income households. Of these units, 10% are for purchase by low to moderate income households, and 10% are for rental by low to moderate income households.
- Pennsauken Township also administers a Housing Choice Voucher program through its Housing Department. The Township has 76 tenant based vouchers for income eligible families, elderly households or disabled households. More than 300 households are on the waiting list, which is currently closed.

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

The Community Development Program will work with both local and State agencies to provide down payment assistance for low to moderate income families to purchase housing within the County.

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

provided or other assistance

Camden County has no plans to fund resident initiatives. PHAs within the County will continue to seek funds to maintain their properties in safe and sanitary conditions and will continue to seek funds for programs to improve the quality of life for residents. The Agencies may request funding from Camden County for activities, and the County will consider requests by PHAs regarding developing cooperative programs. Each PHA has provided Camden County with copies of its Agency Plan, which are on file at the Community Development Office.

Discussion

Not Applicable

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

Introduction

The Homeless Network Planning Committee (HNPC) is the coordinator of homeless programs and serves as the Continuum of Care in Camden County. The HNPC is a subcommittee of the Camden County Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System (CEAS). The Community Planning and Advocacy Council (CPAC) provides staff support to the HNPC and the County participates in the process.

Agencies participating in the CoC provide an expanded number of beds for chronically homeless persons and families. Once stably housed, programs provided through Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden and New Visions Community Services of Camden provide employment opportunities and case management for the homeless. Programs such as these are utilized to end chronic homelessness.

Outreach to persons living on the street is conducted by the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), which includes all the shelter providers and non-transitional sources such as public safety personnel. A task force has been created to address the homeless tent encampments. The HOT visits the encampment weekly to engage those residing there in services.

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

Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) conducts regular street outreach. This multi-disciplinary team is staffed by all the HNPC participating agencies and some non-traditional agencies to deliver an array of services.

Further, special outreach is conducted in the homeless encampments to encourage participation in services. Teams visit the encampment weekly as well as other known locations for street homeless.

Developing a single point of entry to the county's homeless system and the use of a common assessment tool will ensure that individuals and families experiencing homelessness will be directed to the appropriate housing and connected with other necessary social services including help applying for all the mainstream benefits for which they meet the eligibility requirements. An single point of entry assessment form is under construction and being used on a trial basis by local agencies.

In FY 2018, the County provide CDBG funds in support of the Homeless Outreach Teams.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The existing shelters and transitional housing facilities continue to meet the emergency needs of the homeless. Once in a shelter or transitional facility, every effort is made to quickly return the individual or household to permanent housing. A goal of 30 days has been set. ESG funds will be used in support of

the shelters for items such as operations, repairs, and renovations.

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

HNPC expects to end the use of transitional housing within 1 year. Four of the TH programs were reallocated to permanent housing in the FY 2018 COC process. That places greater emphasis on the need to move families and individuals to permanent housing quickly. Standardized assessment tools will be developed to ensure households are directed to appropriate services and that barriers to housing are reduced.

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.

HNPC is working to create a single point of entry to decrease homelessness among families. Through the VOA Narragator program which handles assessment, outreach, awareness, coordination of efforts and expansion of affordable housing, such homelessness can be prevented. Another action that is being planned in the long-term is to create housing resource centers to assist households in identifying appropriate housing and providing assistance in successfully securing housing units.

Discharge planning is critical to the success of ending homelessness caused by exiting institutions without a complete housing exit plan. HNPC has an active MOU with Children and Youth to prevent discharge from foster care. Mental health institutions are required to follow a state mandated housing plan for discharge.

Likewise, discharge from correctional institutions is more difficult because when a sentence is complete, discharge cannot be prevented. The Adult Probation department is working with the COC to find solutions to the housing discharge planning problem. Please note, The County Corrections received a grant for re-entry services and is being leveraged to assist with this issues along with the VOA who also received a grant to assist with this population.

Camden County will use ESG funds for temporary financial assistance and stabilization services for individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless. The County will continue to work with HNPC and

community agencies to find additional resources to augment the program so as to expand the number of households that can be served. ESG funds will be coordinated with other resources available in the community to ensure that the largest number of households can be served.

The larger comprehensive prevention system that will evolve will include:

- Prevention services including legal counseling, rental assistance, utility assistance, mental health counseling, food pantry services, and life skills training;
- Substance abuse treatment including inpatient and detoxification resources;
- Case management including long term case management that connects households with life skills training, money management, job training, child care and transportation; and
- Resource and referral services including a staffed emergency information system with directory of all service providers and services

Discussion

Not Applicable

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

Introduction

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

Discussion

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

Introduction

The policies that may impact affordable housing including zoning and other land use controls and building and development permits are regulated by the municipalities in Camden County. There is housing that is affordable to low income households in Camden County. The cost of land, in addition to construction and rehabilitation costs, however continues to rise. The increasing costs are passed on by way of increased housing prices and rents that negatively impact the affordability of housing by low income households. Within the resource constraints, Camden County diligently works to alleviate the cost burden and provide housing opportunities for low income households.

Historically, Camden County has allocated a substantial amount of its annual CDBG entitlement grant for direct housing assistance through funding its Home Improvement Program. Camden County is required to spend its HOME funds on direct housing initiatives. HOME funds are used to fund the First Time Homebuyer Program and funds continue to be used to support the development of housing. In fiscal year 2017, more than one third of the County's entitlement funds were allocated to housing activities for low-income households.

Camden County is in the process of reviewing and incorporating 24 CFR Part 5 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH). The County will develop the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) replacing the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI).

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

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

Discussion

Not Applicable

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

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
 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
 3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements
 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.
 5. The amount of income from float-funded activities
- Total Program Income

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities

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:
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:
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:
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:

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)
2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.
3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).
4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.
5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

