

FY2014-15 ACTIONS TO AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING

<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Metric/Deliverable</i>
People-based Strategies		
Fair Housing Education and Enforcement	Provide funding to the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center for investigation and enforcement	Education for 200 people; Enforcement actions for 25 people; A minimum of 100 phone test audits for linguistic profiling and enforcement where there is evidence of discrimination
	Provide Fair Housing educational materials on the City’s website, the Buy Springfield Now website, and at the Office of Housing and the Mayor’s Office of Consumer Affairs, in English and Spanish	Put Fair Housing content on City and Buy Springfield Now websites; Distribute 500 “Have You Found Closed Doors When Looking for Housing?” pamphlets through City offices
	Conduct Fair Housing training for housing search workers	1 training 20+ participants
Homeownership Assistance	Provide homebuyer education, in English and Spanish	Train 150 persons, including 30 who are Spanish-speaking
	Provide \$2500 toward downpayment assistance (Historically, over 65% of households receiving assistance are made up of Latinos and African Americans)	Provide 80 households with downpayment assistance
	SHA will expand its Section 8 homeownership program	Assist 5 Section 8 participants to purchase homes
Access to Housing for Persons with Disabilities	Review and revise (if necessary) guidelines for investment of HOME funds, to ensure that these guidelines prioritize accessibility and visitability	Revised HOME guidance

Place-based Strategies		
Create homeownership opportunities in the Six Corners and Old Hill neighborhoods	Fund homeownership development in these neighborhoods	10 homes
Assist homeowner rehabilitation in the Old Hill and Six Corners neighborhoods	Use CDBG-DR funds for homeowner rehabilitation in these neighborhoods	10 homes
Eliminate blight in the Six Corners, Old Hill, and South End neighborhoods	Demolish blighted structures and clear lots	10 structures
Improve public safety in the South End neighborhood	Implement DOJ Byrne grant	Hire project coordinator and fund community organizer and locate both in the South End; Initiate regular community meetings with police regarding public safety; Fund increased police presence
Rehabilitate distressed housing units in the South End Neighborhood	Provide funds for renovation of Outing Park Apartments	11 units
Linkage Strategies		
Section 8 mobility counseling	SHA to provide Section 8 mobility counseling	1 FTE Section 8 mobility counselor
Access to employment for low-income residents in HUD-funded activities	Employ a Section 3 coordinator in the Office of Housing	1 FTE Section 3 coordinator
Explore flexible use of section 8 program to improve resident outcomes	Initiate conversation with SHA about Moving to Work designation	2 meetings with SHA leadership
Strategies to Increase Understanding		
Provide leadership regarding a regional conversation regarding fair housing and segregation	Participate in the Regional Housing Plan Committee and the regional task force on fair housing	Ongoing participation in meetings and activities by Springfield's Director of Housing