

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

Springfield has completed its fourth year of implementation of the strategic plan it created in 2019; Consolidated Plan 2020-2024. The City has met or exceeded its goals for many activities over both the program year and over the fourth year consolidated planning period.

CR-05- Goals and Category indicators are populating in error throughout the CR-05 chart. During the year 2023-2024, six facades/storefront projects have been closed and three parks; Donna Blake, Blunt Park and Camp Star Accessible Trail.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Capacity Building	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	10	10	100.00%	10	10	100.00%
Clean up of Sites	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	35	14	40.00%	1	0	0.00%
Clean up of Sites	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	135	991	734.07%	200	282	141.00%

Creative Economy	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	10000	18035	180.35%	2000	0	0.00%
Creative Economy	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	0	0				
Down Payment	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Households Assisted	0	0				
Down Payment	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	0			0	0	
Down Payment	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	600	219	36.50%	25	24	96.00%
Facade	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	30	0	0.00%			
Fair Housing	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	26	5.20%			

Historic Preservation	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	5	1	20.00%	2	0	0.00%
Homelessness Prevention	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	2000	157	7.85%	100	3	3.00%
HOPWA	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	0				
HOPWA	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	0	247				
HOPWA	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	0	178				
HOPWA	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	0	0				
HOPWA	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added	Household Housing Unit	0	0		54	90	166.67%
HOPWA	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	HIV/AIDS Housing Operations	Household Housing Unit	0	0				

Improve Housing Stock	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	1823	2502	137.25%	330	351	106.36%
Job Training-Public Service	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	250	565	226.00%			
Neighborhood Redevelopment	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	15000	0	0.00%			
New Affordable Housing - Owner	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	7	4	57.14%	2	0	0.00%
New Affordable Housing - Rental	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	22	44	200.00%	11	22	200.00%
Overnight Shelter	Homeless	CDBG: \$ / ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	5000	3602	72.04%	1000		%
Overnight Shelter	Homeless	CDBG: \$ / ESG: \$	Other	Other	0	0				
Public Facilities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	25000	46790	187.16%	9000	4080	45.33%

Public Facilities - Non Profit	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	1200	4278	356.50%	10	23	230.00%
Public Facilities - Non Profit	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	3	4301	143,366.67%			
Public Facilities - Resiliency	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	3	0	0.00%			
Public Services - General	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	50000	59072	118.14%	10000	9633	96.33%
Public Services - General	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	3000	3378	112.60%	0	766	
Rapid Re-Housing	Homeless	ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	500	78	15.60%			
Renovate Affordable Housing - Rental	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	50	41	82.00%	0	11	
Renovate Affordable Housing - Rental	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Housing for Homeless added	Household Housing Unit	0	0				

Rental Assistance	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	225	658	292.44%	45	32	71.11%
Replace Cliff Effect - Supportive Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	100	0	0.00%			
Street Sweeps	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	3500	5905	168.71%	300	838	279.33%
Support Small Businesses	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation	Business	0	8		0	6	
Support Small Businesses	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	35	75	214.29%			
Support Small Businesses	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	20	16	80.00%	0	0	

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

The City relies on input received from the public in establishing its priorities and goals.

Springfield’s investment of CDBG funds is based on whether the activity falls within a City funding priority, whether the service is an eligible activity, and whether the service or need meets a national objective. In addition, the activity must meet one of the following CDBG objectives:

(1) provide a suitable living environment; (2) provide decent housing; and (3) provide economic opportunity.

Resources are allocated to maximize the benefits to residents within target areas. While public infrastructure, parks, open space, and public facility type projects are exclusively within targeted areas, other strategic investments are made for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents throughout the City. In order to meet high priority needs of the community such as job creation and economic development, it may be necessary to invest outside low/moderate census tracts.

HOME Investment Partnership Funds (HOME) are used to rehabilitate rental housing, directly assist homebuyers, provide tenant-based rental assistance, and produce and/or preserve affordable housing citywide.

Public investments of federal and other funds will be in direct response to priority needs that are detailed at length throughout the Consolidated Plan. The needs and priorities were identified through meetings held to address the needs for Economic Development, Homelessness, Social Service and Housing. Individuals attended meetings during the City's planning process. A survey was also distributed city wide; including to businesses to get ideas for needs and priorities. Based on the information provided the needs and priorities were determined for the next five years, 2020-2024.

ESG and HOPWA funds are targeted to meet the identified needs of the eligible populations within the geographic area. For ESG, the service area is the City of Springfield. Investments are made in accordance with relative priority and statutory spending caps. HOPWA funds are allocated throughout the EMSA which includes the tri-county area. HOPWA funds are allocated primarily to alleviate the housing cost burden for eligible households.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

Describe the clients assisted (including the racial and/or ethnicity of clients assisted with ESG)

	HESG
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	3
Asian or Asian American	4
Black, African American, or African	81
Hispanic/Latina/e/o	134
Middle Eastern or North African	3
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0
White	105
Multiracial	5
Client doesn't know	0
Client prefers not to answer	0
Data not collected	0
Total	335

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

The racial composition of the overall City population is 20.5% Black, 2.9% Asian, less than 1% American Indian and less than 1% Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and 18.5% other race or multi-racial (2022 ACS 5 year). The ethnic composition is 48.3% Hispanic.

The population served by the CDBG program was 36.5% Black; 3% Asian; 0.2% American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous; and less than 0.1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. 22% of CDBG recipients were Hispanic.

The population served by the HOME program was 27.0% Black; 0% Asian; 1.1% American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous; and 0% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. 1.1% were other race or multi-racial. 58.4% of HOME recipients were Hispanic.

The population served by the ESG program was 24.2% Black; 1.2% Asian; 1.0% American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous; 0% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and 1.5% multi-racial. 40.0% of ESG

recipients were Hispanic.

The population served by the HOPWA program was 18.4% Black; 1.1% American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous; and 1.1% other or multi-racial. 75% of HOPWA recipients were Hispanic. The program did not serve any people who identified as Asian, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

CR-10 does not include the following racial categories: American Indian/Alaskan Native/White; Asian & White; Black/African American & White; American Indian/Alaskan Native & Black/African American and Other Multi-Racial. As a result, the columns for race do not add up to the total number served. The data for other racial categories is included in PR23, Attachment #-----.

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CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	3,977,266	4,184,567
HOME	public - federal	1,812,898	1,351,819
HOPWA	public - federal	833,980	829,315
ESG	public - federal	331,925	225,625

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

During FY 23-24, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the City of Springfield \$6,729,069 in entitlement funding. The City received \$3,752,266 through the CDBG program, \$1,810,898 through the HOME program, \$331,925 through the ESG program, and \$833,980 through the HOPWA program. Estimated program income was \$225,000, actual program income totaling \$293,055.63 was received and available. During the program year 100% of CDBG funds were used to benefit low- to moderate income persons. The City was also awarded a HUD 108 Loan Fund for \$1,500,000.00 for the Downtown Dining District Loan Program; to date three loans have been given out. HUD also allocated supplemental funding to the City of Springfield; these funds were authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provide funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19). The City received two CDBG-CV rounds of funding totaling \$4,051,632.00; two rounds of ESG-CV funding totaling \$5,111,942.00; HOPWA-CV for \$101,003.00 and HOME ARPA funding for \$6,066,102.00. The majority of funding was allocated for activities classified as economic development, housing, public service, or public infrastructure and facilities. The City expended \$38,408.27 in CARES Act funding and \$31,575,642.54 in ARPA funding during the program year.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Local Target Area	70	26	
NRSA - 2020 Consolidated Plan Renewal	30	74	

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Springfield continues its focus on fundamentally changing the urban neighborhoods that are located within the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). These communities are home to some of the City's poorest residents and have a wealth of diversity. The residents, business owners, and key

stakeholders within the NRSA are dynamic, diverse, and eager for positive change and new investment. The City's goals for the two NRSA neighborhoods are to attract and retain businesses, increase diversity, improve opportunities, increase public safety, improve physical appearance of neighborhood, assist homeowners to preserve their housing, improve neighborhood facilities, and improve appearance and appeal of existing apartment buildings.

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Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

During FY 23-24, Springfield attracted and utilized significant non-entitlement funds. The sources of these funds include other federal grants, local and state bonds, resources from numerous State agencies, private foundations grants and private financing. Other sources and expenditures of funds utilized during FY 23-24: US Dept of HUD - Disaster Recovery \$489,048.50, National Disaster Recovery \$726,688.19, CoC Program \$4,988,750.17, State EOHHS \$808,730.39, CDBG-CV \$38,408.27 and YHDP \$1,214,169.45. The city also received State Chapter 90 \$2,708,932.53, PARC Grants \$326,413.16, Health Care for the Homeless Grant \$2,599,991.77, Heartwap Grant \$897,580, and Federal ARPA funds \$31,575,642.54.

The City is exempt from the HOME match requirement.

Subgrantees and service providers provide the required ESG match. As a component of their application and monthly reports, each provider must detail their matching funds. Resources include MA Department of Public Health, MA Department of Housing and Community Development, Medicaid reimbursement, and private funding.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	0
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	0
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	0

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

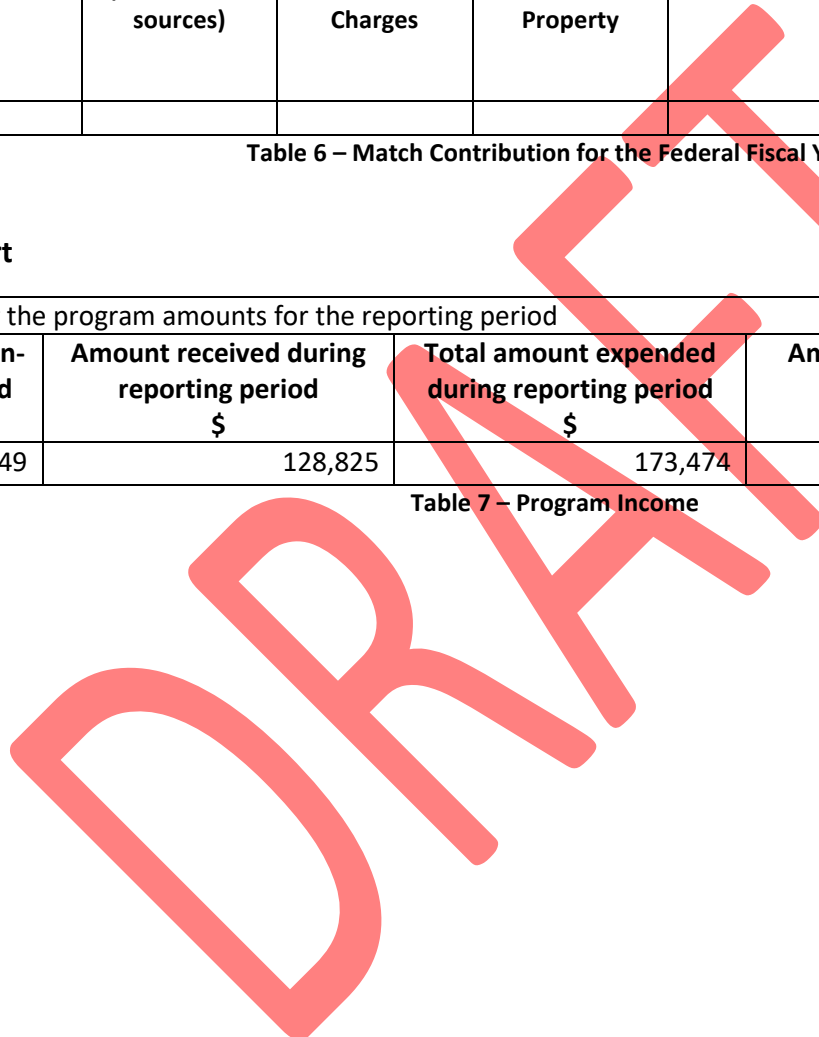
Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period					
Balance on hand at beginning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$	
44,649	128,825	173,474	170,349	0	

Table 7 – Program Income



Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	67,461,409	67,461,409	0	0	0	0
Number	3	0	0	0	0	3
Sub-Contracts						
Number	82	0	0	9	10	63
Dollar Amount	106,141,236	53,070,618	0	13,698,499	5,516,975	33,855,144
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	67,461,409	0	67,461,409			
Number	3	0	3			
Sub-Contracts						
Number	82	16	66			
Dollar Amount	53,070,618	9,822,019	43,248,599			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired		0		0		
Businesses Displaced		0		0		
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0		0		
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0		0		
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

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CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	65	32
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	371	408
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	64	45
Total	500	485

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	129	77
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	12	22
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	334	362
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	25	24
Total	500	485

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The City used HUD Consolidated Plan funds to assist 485 households. This is 97.0% of our goal for the year.

The primary area in which the City exceeded its goal was in the area of housing rehabilitation. The City had a goal of 334 units, but completed 362 units. The primary reason for the increased number of units

was completion of the rehabilitation of a large multi-family rental complex which includes 11 HOME rehabilitation units.

The City did not meet its goal for number of households provided rental assistance. The goal was 129 and the city provided assistance to 77. The primary reason for failure to meet the goal was increased rent amounts, which meant that fewer households could be served. In addition, the City expected to provide a small rapid rehousing program with ESG funds, but reallocated those funds for homelessness prevention.

The City expected to produce 11 new units, but produced 22. One multifamily rental development was completed sooner than expected.

The City had a goal of assisting 25 first-time homebuyers, and assisted 24.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City will continue its existing housing programs into the next year.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	102	56
Low-income	159	3
Moderate-income	124	30
Total	385	89

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The activities covered in the first two charts of this section are:

Rental Assistance

- Tenant-based rental assistance (HOME, HOPWA) - 65 households
- Rapid rehousing (HOPWA) - 12 households

Production of New Units

- Multi-family housing development (HOME) - 22 units: Knox I, First Resource Development (11 units); Knox II, First Resource Development (11 units)

Rehabilitation of Existing Units

- Baystate Place Apartments, Beacon Communities (HOME) - 11 units
- Heating system repair and replacement (CDBG) - 316 units
- Emergency repair program (CDBG) - 28 units
- Housing rehabilitation program (CDBG) - 7 units - Revitalize CDC

Acquisition of Existing Units

- First-time homebuyer/down payment assistance (HOME) - 24 units

The final chart only reports on activities funded by CDBG and HOME. The HOPWA and ESG programs are not included in this chart because eligibility is not income-based.

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CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The City has seen a rise in unsheltered homelessness following the COVID pandemic. While the 2022 point-in-time count identified 37 unsheltered homeless individuals, the number rose to 74 in 2023, and was 74 again in 2024.

In response to increasing unsheltered homelessness, the City shifted a portion of its ESG allocation to street outreach for the 2023-2024 program year, funding Mercy Medical Center's Health Care for the Homeless program to support two full-time street outreach staff.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Springfield has two emergency shelters for individuals (Clinical Support Options/Friends of the Homeless shelter, and the Rescue Mission's Taylor Street shelter) as well as a domestic violence shelter operated by the YWCA of Greater Springfield. The City also has a small shelter available for young adults age 18-24. In recent years, the shelters for individuals have generally been able to meet the community's need. Over the past year the shelters have been consistently full, and the City and providers are evaluating shelter capacity needs, while also working to increase the rate at which they assist people to move from shelter to housing.

The domestic violence shelter regularly turns people away. Over the last several years the YWCA and partner organization Alianza DV Services have secured Continuum of Care DV bonus funds to enable them to provide transitional housing and rapid rehousing specifically to survivors. It is hoped that this new programming may relieve some of the pressure on the DV shelter.

Family shelter is provided by the state of Massachusetts, which has a right to shelter for eligible families and expands capacity to meet the need of all eligible families. In 2023-24, the state family shelter system was overwhelmed by an influx of migrant families. After a significant expansion of the state's number of family shelter beds, the state capped the total number of units it would provide, and has instituted a waiting list. At the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year, the City is beginning to have unsheltered families with children, which has previously been very rare.

Over the past decade, the City and nonprofits operating in the City have shifted programs that provide transitional housing to permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing models, based on evidence that these models are more effective in ending homelessness. The YWCA and Way Finders operate transitional housing programs for victims of domestic violence. Gandara operates transitional housing

for youth 18-24 through two programs, one serving unaccompanied young adults, and the other serving pregnant and parenting young adults. There are also several privately-funded transitional housing facilities in the City, including programs operated by the Springfield Rescue Mission, and the Bi-Lingual Veterans Outreach Center.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

New North Citizens Council (NNCC) was funded in 2023-24 with Springfield ESG to provide prevention funds and housing stabilization services to low-income households in the eviction process. This small programs supplement a large statewide program funded by the state of Massachusetts and operated locally by Way Finders.

The CoC has formed relationships with local hospitals, behavioral health care facilities, the foster care agency, and the Hampden County jail to share resources and expertise to ensure that people exiting these systems are able to access resources that can help them avoid becoming homeless.

The CoC coordinates with other agencies to make sure that homeless households apply for and receive mainstream benefits for which they are eligible. In particular, the CoC works closely with Mercy Hospital/Health Care for the Homeless to ensure that individuals are enrolled in Medicaid and receive health care benefits.

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

The Springfield-Hampden County CoC has focused attention and resources into creation of permanent supportive housing (PSH) for both individuals and families, and targets all of its PSH units to the chronically homeless using a Housing First/low demand model. The CoC continues to identify resources for creation of additional permanent supportive housing. The City is currently using HOME ARP funds to support the development of three projects which will provide 86 new PSH units, with the first of the units scheduled to be completed in 2025.

The CoC has a coordinated entry system that targets permanent supportive housing to those with the

longest histories of homelessness and the greatest service needs. The CoC has partnered with the Springfield Housing Authority to increase the number of permanent supportive housing units available. The City uses HOME tenant-based rental assistance to provide additional permanent supportive housing.

The state operates a large rapid rehousing program called HomeBASE which is available to all families enrolled in or eligible for the state's family shelter system. The CoC operates a rapid rehousing program which quickly moves homeless families and individuals with some sufficient level of income into permanent housing.

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CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The City provided public service funding to support a Youth Coordinator at Duggan Housing. The coordinator assisted youth in accessing education and employment.

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

SHA encourages public housing residents to become more involved in management through the following:

- A resident member of the SHA Board of Commissioners
- A staff member from the Resident Services Department who is assigned as a liaison to tenant councils to assist in strengthening their operations and activities
- Cooperatively working with tenant councils and outreach to developments without councils to invite their participation as members of the Resident Advisory Board (RAB)
- Outreach to residents to encourage the formation of new tenant councils
- Encouragement of tenant council presidents to attend annual conferences of the MA Union of Public Housing Tenants (state tenant advocacy agency)--SHA funds conference and travel costs

Actions taken by the SHA to promote homeownership include:

- Provision of information and referral to homeownership classes to all tenants paying flat rent
- Provision by the Resident Services Department of financial literacy classes for residents, which include a component about homeownership and referral to first-time home buyer classes

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Springfield Housing Authority was designated as troubled in spring 2024, primarily due to the agency not submitting required financial reporting to HUD. SHA indicates that it was unable to submit required reports due to a changeover in software, and that it is in the process of remedying the situation. The City is monitoring the situation.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Springfield has affordable housing units in every neighborhood of the City, and its public policies are generally supportive of creation of affordable housing. For example, the City: includes districts which allow multi-family and mixed use zoning by right; provides zoning flexibility to allow on-street parking to meet minimum parking requirements; has collaborated with local developers for friendly 40B projects which allow for a comprehensive building permit to be issued to enable development of affordable housing; and makes city-owned land available for development of affordable housing. The City has no growth limitations; however, it is fully built-out, with limited room for new development. Over 16% of the City's housing stock is restricted affordable housing.

The Springfield metropolitan area includes many communities with policies that are barriers to development of affordable housing. Springfield has collaborated with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to create a regional housing equity assessment and a regional housing plan, and these documents identified these types of barriers. The City serves on the regional planning committee's Inclusive Communities Task Force as it attempts to identify ways to remove or ameliorate these barriers throughout the region.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Springfield has created public-private partnerships and has sought multiple funding opportunities to address underserved needs, particularly in the areas of social services, employment, infrastructure, and housing conditions.

The City is investing significant ARPA funding into the construction or rehabilitation of the Rivera Community Center, the JC Williams Center, the Boys and Girls Club Family Center, and the Springfield Boys and Girls Club.

The City has provided ARPA funds to multiple nonprofit agencies that address underserved needs, including: Behavioral Health Network, Black Behavioral Health Network, Bi-Lingual Veterans Outreach Centers, Catholic Charities, Families Against Violence, Hope Community Development Corporation, Latino Economic Development Corporation, the Greater New Life Center for Recovery, New North Citizens Council, Revitalize CDC, ROCA, the Gray House, and a number of youth services organizations and church-based community services.

Using funding from a three-year Boston Federal Reserve Bank Working Cities Challenge grant, Springfield is spearheading Springfield WORKS!, a collaboration between employers, public schools,

colleges, social service providers and residents, to connect employers who need qualified workers to low income residents that have significant barriers towards full participation in the labor force

The city is utilizing ARPA funding to make pedestrian safety/recreational amenity upgrades in neighborhoods that have previously experienced disinvestment and that are the most disproportionately impacted by the negative health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, these include improvement of sidewalks, public parking, installation of street trees to improve the pedestrian environment and the business environment in struggling neighborhood business districts. Improvements also include investments in public parks that are adjacent to public school buildings and our neighborhood business districts to improve the recreational amenities available to residents and families, in effort to improve resident health outcomes. The City has invested ARPA funding into the development of a full-service, name-brand, grocery store downtown located on public transit and within walking distance to residents without reliable transit. The store provides fresh produce and food in a food desert.

The city is using ARPA funding to administer two housing repair programs available to assist low/moderate income residents with home repairs, weatherization, and removal of health hazards in the home. The City is pairing this opportunity to encourage homeowners to take advantage of free trees/tree planting for their property through the Greening the Gateway Cities, in an effort to improve air quality and health outcomes in low/mod income census tracts.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City operates a Healthy Homes Rehabilitation Program, funded with ARPA funds, which provides whole-house rehabilitation, including lead paint remediation, in Qualified Census Tracts.

Additional actions the City takes to reduce lead-based paint hazards are:

- City Code Enforcement inspections, which evaluate potential hazards in units where children under six reside and enforce remediation in compliance with Massachusetts lead laws
- Mandatory pre-rehabilitation lead testing including soil samples for all HOME-funded project-based homeownership and multi-family production program
- Aggressive enforcement, including—as necessary—legal prosecution of property owners who fail to comply with orders to remediate hazards
- Mandatory remediation within rehabilitation specifications for all project-based and multi-family projects

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Springfield has a very high poverty rate: 25% of its residents have incomes below the poverty rate set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (\$31,200 for a family of four in 2024). Thirty-one percent of children under 18 live in poverty.

There is a strong correlation between literacy rates (early childhood education, K-12, and adult education) and the incidence of poverty. Many poor families are headed by parents who have not finished high school, and cannot compete for better-paying jobs. In Springfield, 29.1% of adults age 25 and over have not completed high school or earned a GED; only 21.2% have earned a bachelor's degree. Without further education, many low-income parents are unlikely to earn incomes that will support their families.

The City's anti-poverty efforts focus on three broad categories: increasing education and literacy; increasing employment and training opportunities; and increasing household assets.

Many low-income adults lack the education and English language proficiency needed to support their efforts to attain self-sufficiency. In order to assist individuals in overcoming these barriers, the City allocates CDBG funds to Adult Basic Education, GED and English Language classes. In FY 23-24 the City funded adult education programs at The Gray House and New North Citizens Council, serving a total of 244 people.

Within Springfield, there is a mis-match between the jobs available and the skill levels of local residents; the problem is even more pronounced with regard to youth. In FY 23-24, the City used CDBG funds to support education, employment and job training opportunities for at-risk persons in New North Citizens' Council, Hands in Labor, benefitting a total of 135 low income persons.

The City has a well-developed Section 3 program, which it uses to connect low-income residents and businesses that employ these residents to employment in development projects.

Homeownership is a long-term intergenerational strategy for asset-building. The City supports homeownership through its down payment assistance program, which assisted 24 households purchase homes in FY2023-24.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Recognizing that neighborhoods with high poverty levels have experienced long-term disinvestment, the City has entered into a partnership with PVPC to develop neighborhood plans for every neighborhood within QCTs, this will include long-term investment plans for each neighborhood. This planning process involves hiring a neighborhood planning coordinator and incorporating significant public input.

The City has partnered with PVPC to develop a neighborhood data atlas that will provide publicly accessible statistical data on each neighborhood. This will improve transparency and information available to residents, and provide easily accessible neighborhood data to social service agencies to help them better focus their services for under-served residents.

The City has partnered with PVPC to develop an online mapping system that will show publicly funded projects in neighborhoods, to provide transparency and an easy way for residents to see how public

funding is being spent in their neighborhood.

The City has re-organized its neighborhood services department to streamline neighborhood services to residents and neighborhood councils. This will better harness the neighborhood resources available and improve communication, messaging and pumping out information to neighborhood councils and residents. The City is also developing a handbook for neighborhood councils in partnership with PVPC that will provide basic information on things like running fair elections, organizational fiscal management, best practices for outreach and communication with residents – this is in effort to retain and attract neighborhood resident volunteers who run these crucial organizations and to ensure that these organizations are well-managed in a fair and transparent fashion.

The City has invested significant MVP funding and is investing ARPA funding to provide increased resources to neighborhood councils to improve their visibility and reach to residents, in an effort to improve two-way communication between local government and neighborhood residents. Including increased neighborhood events, and digital/tech resources to improve outreach and accessibility for residents, with a focus on reaching the city's most vulnerable residents.

Springfield applied for and was selected for the Transformational Development Initiative (TDI), a MassHousing technical assistance program designed to accelerate economic growth within a focused district. The Springfield TDI district is the Mason Square commercial area and the initiative works with cross-sector partnerships to engage community members in actionable planning, implement local economic development initiatives, and spur further public and private investment.

Springfield also applied for and was selected to participate in MassHousing's Neighborhood Hub program, which provides technical assistance for community revitalization, with a focus on housing. Springfield's Neighborhood Hub program is focused on the Mason Square neighborhoods, especially the Old Hill neighborhood. Through its participation in the Neighborhood Hub program, the City has been able to access technical assistance for emerging developers of color. This program is currently providing development consultant assistance to three Springfield developers.

In 2024, Springfield was designated a Massachusetts Housing Choice community, which makes it eligible for additional housing funds.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City works to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies through multi-disciplinary/multi-agency task forces and teams that focus on particular issues or neighborhoods. Some of these teams that have been active during FY2023-24 are: LiveWell Springfield, Springfield WORKS!, The Springfield Healthy Homes Collaborative; the Springfield Food Policy Council; the Springfield/Hampden County Continuum of Care; the Closing the Achievement Gap Initiative; and four neighborhood-based C3 public safety initiatives.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

Springfield's Office of Housing provides fair housing materials to the public, in English and Spanish, and displays fair housing posters to inform residents of their fair housing rights.

The City provided homebuyer assistance to 24 income-eligible first-time homebuyers purchasing homes within the City in FY2023-24. The program is frequently a tool that enables people of color to purchase their first homes, which addresses the City's homeownership gap among households of color--Hispanics make up 38% of the City's households but only 19% of homeowners, and African Americans make up 21% of the City's households, but only 18% of homeowners. In FY2023-24, 75% of assisted households were Hispanic, and 21% were Black/African-American. The City's homebuyer assistance program may be used in any of the City's seventeen neighborhoods. The assistance the City provides enables people of color to move into all neighborhoods.

All housing units developed or rehabilitated with HOME assistance are required to be marketed to those persons least likely to apply.

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CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Most community development projects are implemented by CD staff, with internal monitoring via the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) project reports, and strong internal procedures. For these projects and others implemented by City departments (such as public works), the CD staff fully understands and incorporates program requirements.

A comprehensive system has been developed by CD for subrecipients in order to ensure compliance with program and budget requirements. Subrecipients are usually implementing a social service or housing program. OPED has contractual agreements with subrecipients of the program funds that require compliance with programmatic statutes and regulations. OPED is responsible for ensuring that subrecipients comply with all regulations governing their administrative, financial and programmatic operations and confirm that the subrecipients are achieving their performance objectives within the contractual schedule and budget and performance measurement system. Per HUD's recommendation, OPED utilizes a coordinated project monitoring process, including coordinated fiscal and program on-site monitoring visits.

Main program files for CDBG-funded programs and projects are maintained within CD's central file system, but the programs and projects are managed by program delivery staff within their respective departments. The Community Development Director of Administration and Finance has primary responsibility for long term compliance with program and comprehensive planning requirements. In addition, CD staff oversees the fiscal monitoring of all activities funded through CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA. CD monitors CDBG contracts with organizations, and inter-departmental agreements with other City departments.

The CD Administration Division maintains a master contract schedule to track the dates and results of monitoring for all subrecipients. The schedule measures against six factors:

RISK FACTOR 1: Subrecipient is new to the program

RISK FACTOR 2: Turnover of key staff

RISK FACTOR 3: Prior compliance or performance problems

RISK FACTOR 4: Subrecipient is carrying out a high risk activity (*e.g.* economic development)

RISK FACTOR 5: Multiple CDBG Contracts for the first time

RISK FACTOR 6: Reports not turned in on time

Any contract not included in the program monitoring schedule is subject to "bench monitoring." This process involves contract scope review and review of monthly report forms and monthly narratives submitted by the subrecipient.

CoC, ESG, and HOPWA projects are subject to annual on-site monitoring visits using program-specific monitoring checklists.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The City's Participation Plan is designed to encourage citizens to participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan, and CAPER Performance Reports. As described in the plan, the City encourages the input of low moderate income residents by (1) outreach to the public through mailings, (2) conducting a series of public hearings at various stages of the planning process, (3) creating a system to accept and respond to written comments from the citizens.

To ensure participation among low/moderate income residents, public hearings are held in areas where funds are mostly to be spent.

The City makes information available and accessible to all interested parties. All information is provided in English and Spanish.

The City held a public hearing to obtain comments on the CAPER. The hearing was held at on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 5:00 PM at the Richard E Neal Municipal Building, 70 Tapley Street.

A zoom link was available <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84654301316?pwd=9GB2kmO1zCvXtpYTZ7CpWNT1Fj63Of.1>

In order to publicize the public hearing and the availability of the DRAFT plan, the City mailed a flyer to the individuals and organizations listed on the Office of Community Development's mailing list, posted the flyer on the City's Community Development website, a web banner ran in the Metro Record, printed notices in *LaVoz* (Spanish newspaper), and legal notices were published in the Republican in both English and Spanish.

The CAPER for the fiscal year July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024(FY23-24), was posted online and available for public review from September 9, 2024 through September 23, 2024 and a public hearing was held on September 18, 2024. During the review period, the CAPER was available online <https://www.springfield-ma.gov/comm-dev/>

An announcement about the public hearing and the availability of the DRAFT document was published in English and Spanish in the Springfield *Republican* on August 23, 2024; in the Spanish Newspaper, *LaVoz* on September 5, 2024 and the Metro Record ran began on August 22, 2024. A flyer was mailed to persons and organizations included on the Office of Community Development's extensive mailing list. The advertisement also solicited written feedback from Springfield residents.

----- comment was received during the fifteen-day comment period. See Attachment #----- -Comment Received

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CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction’s program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The City does not plan to make changes to its objectives.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

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CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

The City completed on-site monitoring for all properties scheduled for monitoring this year:

32 Byers, BC Cumberland Homes, Belle Franklin I, Belle Franklin II, Cathedral Hill Apartments, Center City, Chestnut Crossing, City View Commons I, City View Commons II, Colonial Estates, Concord Heights, Cross Town, FOH Worthington House Campus, Forest Park Gardens, Henry Twiggs Estates, High St Commons, Hunter Place, Jefferson Park, The Kenwyn, Liberty Hill Coop, Maple Green, Maple-High Apartments, Mason Square Apartments, Mason–Wright Retirement Community, Mental Health Association (TBRA units), Memorial Square Apartments, Museum Park 1, Museum Park II, New Court Terrace, Northern Heights, Outing Park I, Outing Park II, Pynchon I, Pynchon II, Quadrangle Court, Rainville, St. James Manor, Spring Hill Apartments, Spring Meadow, Tapley Court, Worthington Commons, and YWCA.

No violations or concerns were identified at any multi-family projects.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

The City's population is 48.3% Hispanic, 20.5% Black, less than 1% Native American, and 2.9% Asian. The population served by HOME programs in the last fiscal year was 58.4% Hispanic and 27% Black, an 1.1% American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous.

This data indicates that affirmative marketing campaigns are very successful in reaching Latino, Black, and multi-racial households.

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

The City of Springfield recorded \$128,825.12 program income during the 2023-2024 fiscal year and had \$44,648.90 in carryover. Of the \$173,474.02 all were recaptured funds.

A total of \$170,349.12 was used for the TBRA program and \$3,124.90 was used for FTHB. Of the \$170,349.12, all was used for TBRA activities. IDIS #6411, #6409, #6412, #6421, #6502, & #6314. 34 tenants were assisted. All very low income, 0-30%; 13 tenants were Black/non-Hispanic, 10 were white/Hispanic, 8 were white/non-Hispanic, 2 are Multi-racial/Hispanic. The first time homebuyer was 60-80% and black/non-hispanic.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

The City has made commitments of HOME funds for a number of projects in development, including Gemini Townhomes (development of 40 affordable units for homeownership); and the Old Hill Neighborhood Infill Project (development of 10 units for affordable homeownership). These projects leverage significant state and LIHTC funding. The City has committed HOME-ARP funds to three projects which will create permanent supportive housing units: Chestnut Park II (20 units); 775 Worthington St (36 units); and the Kavenagh Building (30 units).

The Gemini Townhomes project and the Old Hill Neighborhood Infill Project are being developed land that was City-owned and conveyed to the non-profit developers at below-market cost. The City has made additional city-owned parcels available for development of affordable homeownership units using HOME, Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR), and state funds.

In FY2023-24, the City and its HOME grantees did not receive any emergency transfer requests pertaining to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking.

CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Table for report on the one-year goals for the number of households provided housing through the use of HOPWA activities for: short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments to prevent homelessness of the individual or family; tenant-based rental assistance; and units provided in housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds.

Number of Households Served Through:	One-year Goal	Actual
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	90	57
Tenant-based rental assistance	64	33
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0

Table 14 – HOPWA Number of Households Served

Narrative

Additional details about the HOPWA program are provided in the attached HOPWA CAPER report.

The City's HOPWA grantees served fewer households than planned because rents have increased dramatically, which reduces the number of households that can be served. The City's partners provided an additional 12 households with rental start-up funds last year, which are not reflected in the chart above.

In 2023-24, the City and its HOPWA grantees did not receive any emergency transfer requests pertaining to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	1	3	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	0	0			
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0			
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0	0			

Table 15 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers	2	8			
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.	2	8			
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).	2	5			
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.	2	2			
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).	2	2			
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	3	9			
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.	1	1			
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.	1	2			
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	3	3			
Held one or more job fairs.	1	3			
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	1	1			
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.	1	1			
Assisted residents with finding child care.	1	1			
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	1	1			
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	2	2			
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	1	1			
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.	0	0			
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	2	2			
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.	2	2			

Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.	0	0			
Other.	0	0			

Table 16 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

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