



ROCKY MOUNT, NC
THE CENTER OF IT ALL

**The City of Rocky Mount and Down East HOME Consortium
2022 Annual Action Plan**

**APPROVED
6/13/2022**

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023 (program year 2022) Annual Action Plan represents the second year of the City of Rocky Mount and Down East HOME Consortium's (DEHC) Consolidated Plan for the Fiscal Year's 2021 - 2023 (Con Plan) as approved by the Rocky Mount City Council and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Action Plan identifies priorities and goals for the 2022 Program Year, identifies how the Three-Year Consolidated Plan will be implemented, and provides a summary of actions, activities, and federal and non-federal resources that will be used to address priority needs and goals.

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.

The plan is guided by three overarching goals:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers and assisting homeless persons and families into permanent housing.
- To provide a suitable living environment through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of low- and moderate-income residents throughout the City, increased housing opportunities, and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

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

The City of Rocky Mount/Down East HOME Consortium (DEHC) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Program Year 2020 provided an assessment of activities accomplished during the last reporting period. During Program Year 2020, the City of Rocky Mount accomplished the following:

- Assisted sixteen (16) very-low to low-income homeowners with urgent repairs
- Assisted twelve (12) low-to- moderate income homeowners with home repairs
- Assisted thirty-four (34) homeowners with making home improvements.
- Provided down payment assistance to three (3) low-to-moderate income first-time homebuyers
- Completed four (4) housing rehabilitation projects for homeowners
- Funded six (6) local nonprofit organizations administering essential public services, including services for people experiencing homelessness, housing counseling, homebuyer education, job training, and youth development/childcare. As a result, fifty (50) low-to-moderate income residents received job training; eighteen (18) homeowners received housing counseling, one hundred and thirty-three (133) homeless households/ four hundred and sixty-seven (467) people received housing case management and other support services; and twenty (20) survivors of domestic violence benefited from newly installed fences and windows to improve safety and privacy.
- Provided fifteen (15) grants to small businesses to replace lost revenue during the Covid-19 pandemic

Provided emergency rental assistance to five (5) low-income households and utility assistance to fifteen (15) households who sustained economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic through funding administered by the Rocky Mount Edgecombe Community Development Corporation

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Community engagement was conducted in accordance with Rocky Mount's approved Citizen Participation Plan. The City of Rocky Mount and DEHC hosted a total of four (4) stakeholder listening sessions, with two sessions held on April 12th and two on April 13th, 2022, to gather input from residents on housing and community development needs.

The City of Rocky Mount and DEHC also hosted a public hearing on June 13th, 2022, to solicit input on the 2022 Action Plan. A public notice was published in the Rocky Mount Telegram, Nashville Graphic, and Tarboro Weekly, thirty days preceding the public hearings in addition to being posted on the City of

Rocky Mount website and at the City of Rocky Mount Office of Community & Business Development, Edgecombe County Planning Office, and Town Hall main entrance in Nashville.

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.

Please see the Appendix for comments.

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

All comments received were considered and accepted.

7. Summary

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

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

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

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	Rocky Mount	Department of Community and Business Development	
HOME Administrator	Rocky Mount	Department of Community and Business Development	

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Rocky Mount oversees responsibility for the funding programs and coordinates with the Down East HOME Consortium on the use of HOME funds throughout the community.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Cornelia L. McGee, Interim Director

City of Rocky Mount

Department of Community & Business Development

Post Office Box 1180

Rocky Mount, NC 27802-1180

Office: (252) 972-1178

Annual Action Plan
2022

Fax: (252) 972-1581

Email: Cornelia.McGee-Anthony@rockymountnc.gov

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

1. Introduction

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)).

Public and assisted housing providers and private and government health, mental health, and service agencies were invited to attend the stakeholder workshops held in April 2022 and public hearings held in June 2022 as part of the Annual Action Plan development to gather input on community and housing needs. Stakeholders also participate in various boards and commissions, including the Rocky Mount Human Relations Commission, Down East HOME Consortium, Rocky Mount Redevelopment Commission, the Rocky Mount Housing Authority and the Region 9 Committee.

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 Balance of State Continuum of Care is organized into Regional Committees that coordinate local work and planning. Each Regional Committee is represented on the BoS CoC Steering Committee by a Regional Lead who is elected annually. The Regional Lead is responsible for carrying out the tasks on the Regional Lead Job Description and working to achieve the goals listed the BoS CoC Action Plan. The City of Rocky Mount and the Down East HOME Consortium communities are within the Tar Heel Region 9. The City of Rocky Mount continues to support the United Community Ministries House the Children at the Bassett Center with CDBG funds to provide emergency shelter to homeless households.

The Region 9 Committee chairman was included in the list of stakeholders interviewed as part of the citizen participation and consultation.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

The City of Rocky Mount does not receive ESG funds. These funds are administered by the State of North Carolina. Homeless service providers can apply for ESG funds on an annual basis for Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, and Homelessness Prevention services. The State of North Carolina, through the NC DHHS, Division of Aging and Adult Services, Adult Services Section determines

and distributes ESG money to each CoC in North Carolina and to Regional Committees within the NC BoS CoC. North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH) staff and the Project Review Committee review and score ESG applications and provide a recommended slate of applications to the Steering Committee for approval. NCCEH completes and submits the Regional Application on behalf of CoC. After approval, project applicants submit their applications to NC DHHS.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	ROCKY MOUNT HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through an interview.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	PRINCEVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through an interview.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Legal Aid of North Carolina
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through a stakeholder workshop.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Academy Steering Committee
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through a stakeholder workshop.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	The REACH Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through a stakeholder workshop.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through a stakeholder workshop and interview.

7	Agency/Group/Organization	Ripple Effects Group
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This organization was consulted through a stakeholder workshop.

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

There were no agency types not purposefully consulted and all sessions were open to the public as advertised in the public notice.

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	North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness	Annual goals and achievements of the CoC align with Plan.
Atlantic Arlington Corridor Land Use Study	City of Rocky Mount	Data and strategies identified in the Atlantic Arlington Corridor Land Use Study are consistent with the Strategic Plan and address ways the City of Rocky Mount can increase affordable housing across the City.
Crossroads to Prosperity Housing Report	City of Rocky Mount	Data and strategies identified in the Crossroads to Prosperity Housing Report are consistent with the Strategic Plan.
Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments CEDS 20	Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments	The CEDS was consulted to inform the economic development-related goals in the Strategic Plan.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Connecting North Carolina State Broadband Plan	Broadband Infrastructure Office	Connecting North Carolina State Broadband Plan was consulted to inform the broadband goals section of the Con Plan, and to address the requirement to consult with organizations involved in expanding broadband per 81 FR 90997.
N.E.W Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan	Nash County, NC and the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments	This plan was consulted to inform the hazard mitigation section of the Con Plan, and to address the requirement to consult with organizations involved in climate change.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

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

A draft of the Proposed Annual Action Plan was made available for public review and comment beginning May 10, 2022 and ending on June 13, 2022. The draft document was posted online at <http://www.rockymountnc.gov> and copies were also available for review at the following locations during regular business hours:

- Planning & Development Department, Edgecombe County Administrative Building, 201 St. Andrew Street Tarboro, NC 27886
- Public Hearing (same address): June 6th at 7pm.
- Office of Community Development, Frederick E. Turnage Municipal Building, 331 S. Franklin Street Rocky Mount, NC 27802
- Public Hearing (same address): June 13th at 7 pm in City Council Chambers on the 3rd floor

Written comments were encouraged and were requested to be received at the following location no later than June 13, 2022 to be considered:

Ms. Cornelia McGee, Interim Community Development Director, 331 South Franklin Street, PO Box 1180, Rocky Mount, NC 27802, cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov

Rocky Mount City Council approved the 2022 Annual Action Plan at its City Council meeting on June 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm. No comments were received at the public hearing.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community Housing and service providers	8 attendees on April 12th and 6 attendees on April 13th, 2022 sessions	See minutes in Appendix	None	
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Newspaper advertisement to inform residents of draft 2022 Annual Action Plan for public review	None received	N/A	
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Announcement to inform residents of draft 2022 Annual Action Plan for public review			
4	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	June 6, 2022 at Edgecombe County: 30 attendees	No comments received.		
5	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	June 13, 2022 at City of Rocky Mount: 50 attendees	No comments on the draft amendment were received.		

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The following table outlines the federal resources available in Program Year 2022-2023 to address housing and non-housing community development needs in Rocky Mount and DEHC. The figures were based on prior year funding awards from HUD. Currently, the Rocky Mount and the DEHC utilizes CDBG and HOME funds for owner-occupied rehabilitation/replacement, housing repair, housing development, urgent housing repair, public services, blight removal and other eligible activities.

The CDBG and program income resources are applicable to Rocky Mount only. The City will receive \$460,426 in CDBG funds and the entire DEHC will receive \$455,813 in HOME funds in Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for activities that benefit low/moderate income persons.

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	460,426	0	0	460,426	Funds for housing and non-housing community development needs. Funds for services for special needs populations, economic development and homeless services.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	455,813	0	0	455,813	Funds for housing.

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

The City of Rocky Mount combines its federal entitlement allocations with funding from other public and private sector funding sources to address its priority needs.

In addition to federal CDBG allocations, State CDBG funds are disbursed on a competitive basis to non-entitlement communities. Historically, the Towns of Middlesex, Nashville, Spring Hope, Bailey, Sharpsburg, Tarboro and Whitakers, and Nash and Edgecombe Counties have received CDBG Community Revitalization (Concentrated Needs) and Scattered Site Housing funds from the North Carolina Division of Community Assistance to assist with some of their local housing and community development needs.

The City recognizes the federal funds received will not address all the affordable housing needs in the community and is working toward an affordable housing bond or general obligation bond that will provide ongoing, dedicated funding to address the needs of the community.

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

The Redevelopment Commission for the City of Rocky Mount purchases land to facilitate housing and commercial development. In addition, the City of Rocky Mount owns donated vacant lots through-out the city that may be available for future development of affordable housing.

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
1	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance	2021	2023	Affordable Housing	Nash and Edgecombe Counties Rocky Mount	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$81,336 HOME: \$341,860	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 11 Household Housing Unit
2	Create New Affordable Rental Housing	2021	2023	Affordable Housing	Rocky Mount	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing	HOME: \$68,372	Rental units constructed: 2 Household Housing Unit
3	Economic Development	2021	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	Rocky Mount	Economic Development	CDBG: \$25,000	Businesses assisted: 5 Businesses Assisted
4	Provide Public Services	2021	2023	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	Rocky Mount	Provide Public Services	CDBG: \$69,064	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted
5	Planning and Administration	2021	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	Rocky Mount	Planning/Administration	CDBG: \$92,085 HOME: \$45,581	Other: 2 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Economic Development: Section 108 Loan Repayment	2021	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	Rocky Mount	Economic Development	CDBG: \$92,941	Other: 1 Other
7	Increase Homeownership	2021	2023	Affordable Housing	Rocky Mount	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$100,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted

Table 3 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Goal Description	The City of Rocky Mount will provide financial assistance and emergency repair assistance and urgent repairs to low- and moderate-income homeowners to rehabilitate their existing owner-occupied housing. This includes accessibility improvements for the physically disabled.
2	Goal Name	Create New Affordable Rental Housing
	Goal Description	The City of Rocky Mount will provide resources to increase the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and accessible rental housing that is affordable to low- moderate-income households. This could be construction of new units or rehabilitation of existing vacant units/buildings into affordable rental units. This may also include affordable housing created by the private market. Providing incentives to private developers is a way to attract investment in lower opportunity areas and possibly bring development to the community.

3	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	The City of Rocky Mount will use CDBG dollars for activities that promote employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income residents in the community.
4	Goal Name	Provide Public Services
	Goal Description	The City supports public services which support the City's at-risk youth, adults, and families, including persons experiencing homelessness and other special populations.
5	Goal Name	Planning and Administration
	Goal Description	Provide effective and efficient implementation of CDBG and HOME funding in accordance with federal regulations.
6	Goal Name	Economic Development: Section 108 Loan Repayment
	Goal Description	Section 108 Repayment for Douglas Block Redevelopment.
7	Goal Name	Increase Homeownership
	Goal Description	The City of Rocky Mount will provide resources to income-qualified first-time homebuyers by providing down payment, closing cost assistance, upfront private mortgage insurance (PMI) costs, and principal reduction (gap financing) as reflected on the closing statement.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Rocky Mount allocated CDBG funding to the projects identified in this section. It coordinated with the Down East HOME Consortium for HOME projects.

#	Project Name
1	22 HOME Program Administration
2	22 HOME Rocky Mount Reserve
3	22 HOME Community Housing Development Organization Set-Aside
4	22 HOME Edgecombe County, Conetoe, Pinetops, and Princeville Scattered Site Rehabs
5	21 HOME DEHC participating jurisdictions: Sharpsburg, Spring Hope, Middlesex, and Whitakers Rehabs
6	22 CDBG Program Administration
7	22 CDBG Section 108 Loans
8	22 CDBG Public Service
9	22 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation
10	22 CDBG Economic Development
11	22 CDBG Down Payment Assistance

Table 4 – Project Information

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

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

Annual Action Plan
2022

22

1	Project Name	22 HOME Program Administration
	Target Area	Nash and Edgecombe Counties Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration
	Needs Addressed	Planning/Administration
	Funding	HOME: \$45,584
	Description	HOME Program Administration.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The estimated number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities will be in line with 24 CFR 570.205-206 and 570.489(a) per Program Administration costs.
	Location Description	Not applicable.
	Planned Activities	Approved activities for the usage of program administration funds.
2	Project Name	22 HOME Rocky Mount Reserve
	Target Area	Nash and Edgecombe Counties
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$213,309
	Description	Reserve funds for the Nash and Edgecombe County allocations.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least 3 families will benefit from the proposed housing rehabilitation activities.
	Location Description	The location description is Nash and Edgecombe Counties.
	Planned Activities	Housing rehabilitation.
3	Project Name	22 HOME Community Housing Development Organization Set-Aside
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Create New Affordable Rental Housing

	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$68,371
	Description	Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) is a nonprofit community-based organization that has staff to develop affordable housing for the Rocky Mount area community it serves.61,165.80
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 2 families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	City of Rocky Mount.
	Planned Activities	Support new construction of 2 homebuyer properties; direct financial assistance (down payment and closing costs) to purchasers of HOME assisted homebuyer housing owned, sponsored, or developed by a CHDO with HOME funds and seek offers of donations for HOME Purchase Program funds used to pay liens, tax assessments and seek offers of donation or acquire vacant lots for housing construction.
4	Project Name	22 HOME Edgecombe County, Conetoe, Pinetops, and Princeville Scattered Site Rehabs
	Target Area	Nash and Edgecombe Counties
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$91,320
	Description	Rehab scattered sites in Edgecombe County.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least two (2) families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Properties will be located in Edgecombe County.

	Planned Activities	The planned activities include the rehabilitation of two existing owner-occupied homes or if deemed uninhabitable the new construction of owner-occupied homes in Edgecombe County. Funding for this project is determined by the percentage of HOME funding allocated for each jurisdiction: Edgecombe County (15%), Conetoe (.17%), Pinetops (2.02%), and Princeville (2.78%).
5	Project Name	21 HOME DEHC participating jurisdictions: Sharpsburg, Spring Hope, Middlesex, and Whitakers Rehabs
	Target Area	Nash and Edgecombe Counties
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$37,229
	Description	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least three (3) families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	The properties will be located in Nash County.
6	Planned Activities	The planned activities include the rehabilitation of owner-occupied properties or if deemed uninhabitable the new construction of owner-occupied properties for low to moderate income homeowners. Funding for this project is determined by the percentage of HOME funding allocated to each jurisdiction: Sharpsburg (4%), Spring Hope (1.81%), Middlesex (1.29%), and Whitakers 1.22%).
	Project Name	22 CDBG Program Administration
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Planning and Administration
	Needs Addressed	Planning/Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$92,085
	Description	CDBG program administration.
	Target Date	6/30/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The estimated number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities will be in line with 24 CFR 570.205-206 and 570.489(a) per Program Administration costs.
	Location Description	Not applicable
	Planned Activities	CDBG Program Administration will be in line with 24 CFR 570.205-206 and 570.489(a) per Program Administration costs.
7	Project Name	22 CDBG Section 108 Loans
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Economic Development: Section 108 Loan Repayment
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$92,941
	Description	Section 108 Loan Repayment for Douglas Block Revitalization.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Ten (10) businesses will be assisted.
	Location Description	The location description is the city limits of Rocky Mount.
	Planned Activities	The City of Rocky Mount received a Section 108 Loan in the amount of \$3,598,248.36 for the redevelopment of the Douglas Block area. Douglas Block is a public-private redevelopment project that has resulted in a thriving commercial center in Downtown Rocky Mount.
8	Project Name	22 CDBG Public Service
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Provide Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$69,063
	Description	Partner with local nonprofits to provide public service activities such as homelessness prevention, housing counseling, job training, youth services, veteran services, community gardens, etc.
	Target Date	6/30/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least 500 individuals will benefit from public service activities.
	Location Description	The location description is the City of Rocky Mount.
	Planned Activities	The planned activities include providing services to the public, primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income residents that will include public service activities such as homelessness prevention, housing counseling, job training, youth services, veteran services, community gardens, etc.
9	Project Name	22 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$81,337
	Description	Rehab and/or acquire 5-6 units/lots to serve at least 5 households.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At least five families will be assisted with housing rehabilitation activities.
	Location Description	The homes will be located within the City of Rocky Mount in the Southeast, Around the Wye; Atlantic Arlington area.
	Planned Activities	The planned activities include the rehabilitation of owner-occupied properties for income-eligible City of Rocky Mount homeowners.
10	Project Name	22 CDBG Economic Development
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000
	Description	To support start-ups and small businesses by providing one-on-one business counseling and technical assistance to entrepreneurs in target areas of the City of Rocky Mount.

	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least 5 small businesses will be assisted.
	Location Description	The small business activities will take place in the City of Rocky Mount.
	Planned Activities	The City will partner with a subrecipient to administer the small business assistance activities.
11	Project Name	22 CDBG Down Payment Assistance
	Target Area	Rocky Mount
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to/Quality of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	The City of Rocky Mount will provide resources to income-qualified first-time homebuyers by providing down payment, closing cost assistance, upfront private mortgage insurance (PMI) costs, and principal reduction (gap financing) as reflected on the closing statement.
	Target Date	6/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least 4 households would benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	Rocky Mount.
	Planned Activities	Homeownership assistance for at least 4 households.

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 City of Rocky Mount will fund efforts located within HUD-eligible low- and moderate-income block groups.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Nash and Edgecombe Counties	67
Rocky Mount	33

Table 5 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Allocations are based on the population size of the jurisdictions. 100% of CDBG funding is allocated for the City of Rocky Mount.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

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

Introduction

The City of Rocky Mount will target CDBG funding to neighborhood revitalization activities to maximize outcomes and meet performance measures. The majority of funds will be used for rehabilitation of existing rental and multi-family housing in center-city neighborhoods identified as Target Areas of Opportunity (TAOs). These allocations serve the low- and moderate-income areas of the City and provide multiple benefits with respect to maintaining neighborhoods, providing affordable housing, and creating economic opportunity.

Other activities will continue to be implemented on a scattered site basis. These projects serve to keep low- and moderate-income families and individuals in their homes, thus addressing issues of affordability and sustainability.

Within the rest of the DEHC, housing rehabilitation project activities will occur in Edgecombe and Nash Counties on a scattered site basis. This effort keeps low- and moderate-income, often elderly, families and individuals in their homes.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	17
Special-Needs	0
Total	17

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	2
Rehab of Existing Units	11
Acquisition of Existing Units	4
Total	17

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

Discussion

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

Introduction

Public housing units are located in the larger Consortium jurisdictions of Rocky Mount, Tarboro, and Princeville.

Rocky Mount Housing Authority

The Rocky Mount Housing Authority (RMHA) was formed in 1951 to provide affordable housing to low and very low-income citizens and manages 754 units of public housing. RMHA opened its public housing waiting list in February 2019 to help 50 households impacted by Hurricane Matthew whose FEMA housing assistance was expiring. The RMHA has 265 vouchers in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program. The Waiting List for this program is closed until further notice because of high demand.

Tarboro Housing Authority

The Town of Tarboro Redevelopment Commission manages and operates three public housing developments, one Section 8 housing complex, and 82 units of scattered site public housing.

Princeville Housing Authority

Hurricane Matthew resulted in the displacement of hundreds of families. The entirety of the Town of Princeville's public housing stock was lost due to flooding. The 50 units that the Princeville Housing Authority previously managed were sold on March 17, 2022. Thus, Princeville Housing Authority is not currently managing any public housing units.

To help achieve excellent quality of life and living environment for its public housing tenants, the Rocky Mount Housing Authority (RMHA) and the housing authorities in Tarboro provide funds in support of programs and activities to enhance the lives of residents. Physical improvements such as modernization of kitchens and baths, upgrading heating systems, exterior renovations, and site work (sidewalks, landscaping, paving) represent on-going efforts in that direction.

The City also supports the Rocky Mount Housing Authority's efforts to develop senior assisted housing in response to the increasing number of elderly residents in the City. The City also recognizes the need for additional accessible units and supports the Rocky Mount Housing Authority's renovation program to create more non-senior accessible units.

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

RMHA will be working toward the following to improve the living environment for residents of the Housing Authority. These projects are projected for 2022.

The following are upcoming projects:

- Flooring upgrades
- Upgrading kitchens
- Interior painting
- Upgrading bathrooms
- Upgrading interior doors
- Plumbing upgrade

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

Rocky Mount Housing Authority actively encourages public housing residents to become involved in management through participation in the Resident Advisory Board and consultations with resident advisory representatives concerning specific needs, issues, or problems.

The City and Rocky Mount Housing Authority also encourage residents to become homeowners through participation in the First-Time Home Buyers program and other resident education and outreach efforts.

The Tarboro Redevelopment Commission has a Resident Advisory Board which provides input into the operations and maintenance of THA.

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

N/A. There are no troubled public housing agencies in the community.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Rocky Mount and the Consortium communities will continue to support agencies working to address homelessness.

With the resources available, the City attempts to prevent homelessness, address special needs populations, assist the homeless, and eliminate chronic homelessness, through increasing the availability of affordable housing and providing financial support to various non-profit providers. Given the extent of need and the limited resources available, the City and the DEHC allocates resources to meet these homeless and special needs through the following programs:

- Scattered Site Housing Rehabilitation and Substantial Housing Rehab/Housing Replacement.
- Ensuring rehabbed and newly constructed properties are brought up to Energy Star standards.

In addition, the City will continue to assist programs that provide a range of supportive services to persons at risk of becoming homeless.

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

As part of the North Carolina Balance of State CoC (BoS CoC), Rocky Mount and the DEHC communities follow the regional committee coordinated assessment plan. In 2016, written standards for coordinated assessment outlined how coordinated assessment should operate in each region. Region 9 offers homeless prevention and diversion screenings by two of the agencies, which have 24-hour availability to conduct the prevention and diversion screen and provide emergency shelter within the region. Households are also able to get information about accessing homeless services through 211 resources.

If a household is identified as homeless and not in shelter by a participating agency a referral is made to agencies within the region who conduct the VI-SPDAT. Personnel will meet with the household to administer the VI-SPDAT and then based on the score, referrals are then made to the appropriate community resource for housing.

The Region 9 Committee recently convened a Coordinated Entry Committee, which is tasked with streamlining the Coordinated Entry process. This committee is made up of a multidisciplinary team including social workers, mental health providers and homeless service providers. The Region 9 Committee currently utilizes a by-name list for all person experiencing homelessness as a tool for twice a month case staffing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Emergency Shelter activities will continue through programs at the Bassett Center, the Salvation Army, My Sister's House, Tarboro Community Outreach and the United Communities Ministries' Emergency Shelter.

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

As part of the CARES Act allocations Rocky Mount created an Emergency Rental Assistance program to assist low-to moderate-income households, who have been economically impacted by COVID, and prevent homelessness.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The Region 9 Committee continues to work toward effective discharge planning from institutions. There is a new committee dedicated to helping persons being discharged from incarceration. The NEW (Nash, Edgecombe, and Wilson County) Reentry Council is a coalition of community stakeholders that works to reduce/eliminate barriers to successful reentry.

The Region 9 Committee seeks to continue to improve the process in which institutions discharge clients to avoid discharge into homelessness.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Rocky Mount understands equal and unimpeded access to housing is a fundamental civil right that enables members of protected classes, as defined in the federal Fair Housing Act, to pursue personal, educational, employment, or other goals. The City is committed to furthering the federal Fair Housing Act and State and Local fair housing ordinance.

The City has identified several barriers relating to affordable housing in the City and formulated some remedies to remove those barriers. According to the most recent Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI), several impediments to fair housing choice were identified.

- Lower employment rates and wages for certain members of the protected classes reduce housing choice.
- Limited housing choice results in Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) concentration in primarily in older, less expensive communities, including the near R/ECAP in Rocky Mount.
- Non-white households were less likely to be homeowners and are more likely to have been denied a mortgage or offered a high-cost loan than white households.
- Moderate levels of segregation exist in Edgecombe County and Rocky Mount and members of the protected classes are more likely to live in the near R/ECAPS.
- A lack of available transportation in areas outside of Rocky Mount leaves resident's dependent on private vehicles which disproportionately affects members of the protected classes from accessing opportunities such as job centers located outside of city limits.
- While the City of Rocky Mount has an existing zoning policy on ADUs that permits them in all residential districts by right, only the property owner, family members, or potential caregivers employed on the premises can use it.

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

During the next fiscal year, the City of Rocky Mount and their subgrantees, Boards and contractors will follow the below action plan to address impediments.

Goal 1: Expand housing choice and access to opportunity

- Continue to provide HOME and CDBG assistance for housing rehabilitation and new construction, as applicable. Give priority to projects that improve fair housing choice and access to opportunity for members of the protected classes, such as LIHTC developments and

supportive housing in high opportunity areas.

- Continue providing CDBG assistance for public facility and infrastructure accessibility improvements, giving priority to projects in R/ECAPs.
- Develop a cohesive, regional guide to affordable housing options in the region that is updated on an annual basis. A starting point is the Assisted Inventory list provided in this AI.
- Continue to provide CDBG funding to non-profits who provide career readiness, job training, and other educational programs targeted towards low-income individuals and members of the protected classes.
- Identify any key community asset or major employer currently underserved by transit service and initiate discussions to determine the feasibility to altering the transit route, recognizing that this could rely on regional coordination if Rocky Mount begins to provide transit outside of city limits.
- Complete cost-benefit analysis of the following community revitalization strategies and share the conclusions with the public: general obligation bond for affordable housing rehabilitation, construction, and homeownership assistance; inclusionary zoning and affordable housing set-asides; multi-family tax abatements; and targeted code enforcement.
- Implement community revitalization strategies determined to be feasible through the cost-benefit analysis.
- Assess the development review process to identify opportunities for improved efficiency, expediency, and coordination.
- Work with planning staff to focus demolition efforts in a specific, targeted manner as ordered by City Council and change standards for minimum lot size standards / setbacks to promote reuse of vacant lots.

Goal 2: Increase homeownership among low-income households and members of the protected classes

- Continue the provision of funding to organizations who provide homebuyer and foreclosure counseling services.
- Allocating HOME funding for down payment assistance.

Goal 3: Strengthen antidiscrimination investigation, enforcement, and operations

- Continue to support the City of Rocky Mount Human Relations Commission's and Edgecombe County's fair housing related activities.
- Continue coordination and communication between the Human Relations Commission and the Community Development division.

Goal 4: Increase the level of fair housing knowledge and understanding among landlords and the general public

- Contract with a Qualified Fair Housing Enforcement Organization to conduct paired discrimination testing in the rental market and in the lending market.
- Continue partnering with Nash and Edgecombe counties to hold an annual Fair Housing Forum.
- Continue to support other fair housing activities conducted by the City of Rocky Mount Human Relations Commission.
- Develop a user-friendly, region specific fair housing guidebook, available in English and Spanish, to be distributed to neighborhood organizations and under-served populations throughout the region, including those with limited English proficiency.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The following information illustrates other actions that Rocky Mount and the DEHC will take to address its priority needs.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Despite an increase in some areas of Entitlement funding, the greatest impediment to the City of Rocky Mount and the DEHC ability to meet underserved needs is the limited amount of funding to address identified priorities. The overwhelming needs in Rocky Mount and the DEHC makes it impossible to address all needs with federal funds. The Consortium will continue to seek public and private resources to leverage its entitlement funds in assisting with implementation of policies and programs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City has been implementing focused community development/revitalization in an effort to provide affordable housing and at the same time maintain stable neighborhoods, stop the deterioration of tipping point neighborhoods and turnaround deteriorating neighborhoods. These projects include Around the Wye and Atlantic Arlington Corridor.

In both Edgecombe and Nash Counties, DEHC will continue to utilize HOME funds to rehabilitate dilapidated housing units to help prevent homelessness for families who own their homes but cannot afford extensive repairs.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

All contractors are required by the City to have lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) certification before working on any housing rehabilitation projects. In November 2000, the City of Rocky Mount's Planning Department developed a program to link rehabilitation activities supported with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds with the Preventative Maintenance Program (PMP). The program integrates both the new U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) requirements for lead-based paint activities (24 CFR Part 35) and the PMP standards into rehabilitation actions in residential properties built before 1978.

The overall program goals are to target CDBG funds to housing with a high risk of lead hazards, spur momentum for the PMP by providing a ready supply of units that already meet the majority of PMP standards, use the PMP to leverage the life expectancy of the CDBG funds by forgiving 10% of the loan funds for each year the unit is documented to remain in compliance, ensure that quality rehabilitation and lead-hazard control work is performed by conducting a second clearance test and annual PMP monitoring inspections, and educate property owners about lead hazards by requiring attendance in a

training class. Two units are nearly at the clearance stage, and nine additional units have applied to the rehab program. Approximately 27 individuals have completed the class in lead safety.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Rocky Mount and the DEHC will collaborate with human service, social service, and economic development agencies and organizations to facilitate their efforts and maximize their resources to provide quality services to low-income residents to help them improve their incomes.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Rocky Mount has investigated housing partnership tools in other cities, including projects with national housing foundations, many of which are outlined in the Atlantic Arlington Corridor Land Use Study. The City and the DEHC will begin implementation of some of these strategies to continue to grow public-private partnerships.

New and existing public-private partnerships are critical, and must be fostered, expanded, and strengthened. In particular, new methods need to be developed of involving churches, financial institutions, educational institutions, corporations, and foundations.

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

The City of Rocky Mount continues to fund housing organizations, some of which provide social services to residents. The City will also encourage public service agencies to work collaboratively in addressing the broader range of needs that families seeking assistance may need.

Discussion

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

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

N/A

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

The Down East HOME Consortium working with recognized CHDO's will provide decent, safe affordable housing for area residents. The period of affordability will be based on the minimum period for Homebuyer, Affordable Rental Housing Development and Rental Assistance programs as described under the HOME Investment Program 24 CFR Part 92 Final Rule September 16, 1996 (92.254).

The original owner shall recapture the full amount of the HOME subsidy from any subsequent sale within the period of affordability. To ensure a fair return to the homeowner in the event of a subsequent sale, the amount targeted for recapture shall be reduced by any lump sum payments with adjustments to be made on an annual basis. Subsequent to the determination of the amount to be recaptured, the period of affordability will be set. The amount to be recaptured will be divided by the number of years of affordability, which will yield the subsidy to be forgiven for each year during the period of affordability. Each year the house remains unsold, the recapture amount will be reduced by the forgiven subsidy. Such reductions will take effect in arrears on the anniversary date of the loan on an annual basis. The recapture amount for the new year shall be set after deducting the amount to be forgiven and any lump sum payments. Additional information, in detail, covering the Consortium's Resale and Recapture Policies are presented below (#3).

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:

To ensure affordability, the Consortium will impose recapture requirements. The primary policy of the Consortium is to rely on "Recapture" provisions as a tool to insure affordability to potential low and very low-income buyers.

1. These provisions will ensure that the City and DEHC recoup all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of a qualifying family for the duration of the period of affordability. The period of affordability will be based upon the total amount of HOME funds subject to recapture.
2. Based on the circumstances of each occurrence, the City and the DEHC will impose either of the following options for recapture requirements:

- Recapture entire amount. The City of Rocky Mount and the DEHC may opt to recapture the entire amount of the HOME investment from the homeowners, or,
- Reduction during Affordability Period. The City of Rocky Mount and DEHC jurisdiction may reduce the HOME investment amount to be recaptured, on a prorated basis for the time the homeowner has owned and occupied the housing, measured against the required affordability period.
- The City of Rocky Mount and DEHC may permit the homebuyer to recover the homebuyer's entire investment (down payment and capital improvements made by the owner since purchase) before recapturing the HOME investment.
- Amount subject to recapture. The HOME investment that will be subject to recapture will be based on the amount of HOME assistance that enabled the homebuyer to buy the dwelling unit. This includes any HOME assistance that reduced the purchase price from fair market value to an affordable price but excludes the amount between the cost of producing the unit and the market value of the property (i.e., the development subsidy). The recaptured funds must be used to carry out HOME-eligible activities. If the HOME assistance is only used for the development subsidy and therefore not subject to recapture, the resale option must be used

The per unit amount of HOME funds and the affordability period that they trigger are described below:

In the case of foreclosure or transfer of title by deed in lieu of the Homebuyer, the requirement of affordability will terminate. However, the termination will cease to be in effect if the owner of record before the aforementioned action obtains an ownership interest through family or business ties.

The proceeds from the sale of the dwelling acquired and constructed and/or rehabilitated will be used to create additional affordable housing for homebuyers. The Homebuyer will execute the Declaration of Deed Restrictions. The City of Rocky Mount will monitor each sale initiated. Along with the Declaration being executed at the loan closing, a request for notice will be executed thereby providing notice to the City in the event of foreclosure or such similar actions or transfer of title through a legitimate sale.

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:

N/A

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.



Signature of Authorized Official

6-16-22

Date

Mayor

Title

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2022 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.


Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.



Signature of Authorized Official



Date

Mayor

Title

OPTIONAL Community Development Block Grant Certification

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.



Signature of Authorized Official

6/16/22
Date

Mayor

Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;



Signature of Authorized Official

6-16-22

Date

Mayor
Title

Emergency Solutions Grants Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion/renovation – If an emergency shelter's rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation.

If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion.

In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the recipient will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the recipient serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The recipient will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal, State, local, and private assistance available for these individuals.

Matching Funds – The recipient will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The recipient has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the recipient will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the recipient undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with its consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The recipient will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

N/A-----

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Title

Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Certifications

The HOPWA grantee certifies that:

Activities -- Activities funded under the program will meet urgent needs that are not being met by available public and private sources.

Building -- Any building or structure assisted under that program shall be operated for the purpose specified in the consolidated plan:

1. For a period of not less than 10 years in the case of assistance involving new construction, substantial rehabilitation, or acquisition of a facility,
2. For a period of not less than 3 years in the case of assistance involving non-substantial rehabilitation or repair of a building or structure.

N/A-----

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

B-22-MC-37-0021

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

56-6001323

*** c. UEI:**

LMW6VKJDJZJ3

d. Address:

*** Street1:**

331 South Franklin Street

Street2:

P.O.Box 1180

*** City:**

Rocky Mount

County/Parish:

*** State:**

NC: North Carolina

Province:

*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

27802-1180

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Community Development

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Ms.

*** First Name:**

Cornelia

Middle Name:

*** Last Name:**

McGee

Suffix:

Title:

Interim Community Development Director

Organizational Affiliation:

*** Telephone Number:**

252-972-1178

Fax Number:

*** Email:**

cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.218

CFDA Title:

Community Development Block Grant Program

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

CPD Notice 22-05

* Title:

Guidance on Submitting Consolidated Plans and Annual Action Plans for FY 2022

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Rocky Mount and Down East HOME Consortium 2022 Annual Action Plan: Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="460,426.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="460,426.00"/>

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

* Date Signed:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

M-22-DC-37-0210

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

City of Rocky Mount, North Carolina

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

56-6001323

*** c. UEI:**

LMW6VKJDJZJ3

d. Address:

*** Street1:**

331 South Franklin Street

Street2:

P.O.Box 1180

*** City:**

Rocky Mount

County/Parish:

*** State:**

NC: North Carolina

Province:

*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

27802-1180

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Community Development

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Ms.

*** First Name:**

Cornelia

Middle Name:

*** Last Name:**

McGee

Suffix:

Title:

Interim Community Development Director

Organizational Affiliation:

*** Telephone Number:**

252-972-1178

Fax Number:

252-972-1581

*** Email:**

cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

CPD Notice 22-05

* Title:

Guidance on Submitting Consolidated Plans and Annual Action Plans for FY 2022

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Rocky Mount and Down East HOME Consortium 2022 Annual Action Plan: Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

* a. Applicant NC-001

* b. Program/Project NC-001

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: 07/01/2022

* b. End Date: 06/30/2023

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	455,813.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	455,813.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: Mr. * First Name: C. Saunders

Middle Name:

* Last Name: Roberson

Suffix: Jr.

* Title: Mayor

* Telephone Number: 252-972-1130

Fax Number:

* Email: sandy.roberson@rockymountnc.gov

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

* Date Signed:

6-16-22

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.


PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	<div data-bbox="888 1339 1472 1373" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Mayor</div>
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
<div data-bbox="115 1465 867 1499" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">City of Rocky Mount</div>	<div data-bbox="888 1465 1472 1499" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">6-16-2022</div>

Legal Notices

impacted by Covid-19.

- CDBG-CV Public Service: \$488,048
- Utility assistance funding: reduce from \$409,806 to \$42,372
- Public services funding for transitional housing, homeless prevention, food pantry, and housing counseling: increase to \$367,434
- Emergency rental assistance: no change; remains \$78,242

The City of Rocky Mount's CARES Act Amendment will be available to the public for a period from May 10, 2022 through June 13, 2022 at <http://www.rockymountnc.gov>. The City will make available a reasonable number of free copies (up to 10) on a first-come, first-serve basis or one free copy per large, organized group, to residents and groups that request them.

A public hearing is scheduled for June 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber on the Third Floor of the Frederick E. Turnage Municipal Building, 331 S. Franklin Street, Rocky Mount, NC. Anyone requiring special accommodations or who requires a presentation in a language other than English, please email Cornelia McGee-Anthony, Interim Director of Community Development at cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov by June 6, 2022. 419455 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 2022

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT, NC AND THE DOWN EAST HOME CONSORTIUM

In accordance with federal regulations at 24 CFR Part 91, the City of Rocky Mount and the Down East HOME Consortium has prepared a Consolidated Plan for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development and Planning program. The Consolidated Plan covers the three-year period from 2021 through 2023. As part of the Consolidated Plan process, an Annual Action Plan for program year (PY) 2022 has also been prepared, which outlines how the City intends to expend an estimated \$506,949 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG) and \$407,772 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds (HOME).

A draft of the Proposed Annual Action Plan will be made available for public review and comment for 30 days beginning May 10, 2022 and ending on June 13, 2022. Copies of the draft document will be available for review at the fol-

Legal Notices

lowing locations during regular business hours:

Planning & Development Department
Edgecombe County
Administrative Building
201 St. Andrews Street
Tarboro, NC 27886

PUBLIC HEARING (same address):
Monday, June 6th at 7 pm in the
Commissioners Room on the 2nd floor.

Department of Community
Development
Frederick E. Turnage Municipal
Building
331 S. Franklin Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

PUBLIC HEARING (same address):
Monday, June 13th at 7 pm in City
Council Chamber on the 3rd floor.

In addition, the draft document can be reviewed online at HYPERLINK "<http://www.rockymountnc.gov>" <http://www.rockymountnc.gov>. Public hearings on the Proposed Annual Action Plan will also be held. Information regarding the date, time, and location are above. Please be sure to check the websites for each department for updates.

Written comments are encouraged and should be received at the following location no later than June 13, 2022 by 12 noon to be considered:

Ms. Cornelia L. McGee
Interim Director of Community
Development
331 South Franklin Street, PO Box 1180
Rocky Mount, NC 27802
HYPERLINK
"<mailto:cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov>"
cornelia.mcgee-anthony@rockymountnc.gov

It is anticipated that the City Council of the City of Rocky Mount will take up the Proposed Annual Action Plan at its regular meeting on June 13, 2022 at 7 pm. The City will submit the 2022 Annual Action Plan to HUD on or before June 30, 2022.

419417 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 2022

CARES ACT AMENDMENT

In 2020, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded a special allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-CV funding to the City of Rocky Mount under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), public law 116-136 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. The total amount of this funding is \$638,048. The City proposes a revision to its CARES Act funding to fund the following activities that serve City residents

Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc.

Wilson Office

208 East Goldsboro Street • P.O. Box 2684 • Wilson, NC 27894-2684
Phone: 252.291.6851 • 1.800.682.7902 • Fax: 252.291.6407

Serving low-income clients in Edgecombe, Greene, Lenoir, Nash, Wayne, and Wilson Counties

Ayanda Meachem, Esq.
Managing Attorney

www.legalaidnc.org

June 9, 2022

Ms. Cornelia McGee, Interim Community Development Director
City of Rocky Mount
331 S. Franklin Street
P.O. Box 1180
Rocky Mount, NC 27802

RE: Comments on The City of Rocky Mount's Draft 2022 Annual Action Plan

Dear Ms. McGee:

Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc., ("LANC") submits the following comments on the City of Rocky Mount ("City") and the Down East HOME Consortium's (DEHC) Draft 2022 Annual Action Plan ("AAP") on behalf of its client, the Steering Committee of the Community Academy. Our client is a leadership body comprised of residents in the City's most blighted neighborhoods. For years, our client has been actively engaged in planning processes to promote equitable development in the City. Recently, we participated in one of the City of Rocky Mount's stakeholder listening sessions to offer initial input regarding housing and community development needs, and we appreciate this opportunity to provide additional comments regarding the use of federal funds for housing and community development in the City.

2022 AAP Goals

Our client supports the 2022 APP goals and strongly urges the City to make the following goals as top priorities:

- (1) Create New Affordable Rental Housing
- (2) Provide Homeowner Rehabilitation Assistance
- (3) Increase Homeownership

These three goals are top priorities because they support the client and City's objective to preserve and create affordable housing. Many low to moderate income Rocky Mount residents are experiencing an affordable housing crisis because they have limited income and cannot afford the rise in housing costs. 37.5% of Rocky Mount households are cost-burdened because they spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. 18.7% of Rocky Mount households are severely cost-burdened because they spend more than 50% of their income on housing. In the current housing market, the cost of housing is significantly rising yet residents' income is not rising at the same rate to afford the increased housing cost. Thus, many residents are facing an extreme affordable housing crisis. As the affordable housing crisis intensifies, more low to moderate income households will become cost burdened or severely cost burdened which could result in residents overcrowding in homes or being displaced from Rocky Mount.

Additionally, Rocky Mount should anticipate an influx of new residents who will drive up housing costs and exacerbate the affordable housing crisis. According to a recent WRAL news report, Rocky Mount ranked as one of the top five most desirable places to buy a home in the U.S. because of affordability and low cost of living compared to other places, especially other East Coast cities.¹ Newcomers will take some of the limited supply of affordable housing options, and newcomers with incomes higher than the Rocky Mount's Area Median Income (AMI) can afford to engage in housing bidding wars or afford higher rental prices. This affordable housing crisis affects both renters and homeowners, so it is imperative to preserve and create affordable rental and homeownership opportunities for low to moderate income residents in the City.

Some low to moderate income homeowners dwell in homes that have deteriorated over time, and they cannot afford to repair their homes. Housing repairs not only improve physical home aesthetics, but also enable homeowners to dwell in safe and decent housing that positively impacts their overall health and wellbeing. Our client group strongly supports funds to be used for housing rehabilitation in the City.

Therefore, our client believes these three (3) goals listed above should be top priorities.

Using AAP Funding to Leverage Additional Resources

Our understanding is that the estimated 2022 federal funds for housing and community development are limited. Based upon the AAP, the City expects to receive \$506,949 in CDBG funds and the entire DEHC expects to receive \$407,772 in HOME funds. The AAP states, "[t]he City recognizes the federal funds received will not address all the affordable housing needs in the community and is working toward an affordable housing bond or general obligation bond that will provide ongoing, dedicated funding to address the needs of the community." Our client group agrees that the federal funds will not address all the affordable housing needs in the community, and our client fully supports the City working toward an affordable housing bond or

¹ Rocky Mount ranks in Top 5 most desirable places to buy a home in the US :: WRAL.com

general obligation bond; however, our client has not seen sufficient efforts toward an affordable housing bond or general obligation bond thus far.

A housing bond or general obligation bond is not a new concept for the City. In 2003, the City's Comprehensive Plan, which is the City's official policy document addressing growth, recommends that the City identify and consider new funding sources such as housing bonds to provide a more flexible source of revenue to address housing needs. In 2018, our client advocated for the City to prepare a cost-benefit analysis of revitalization strategies that create, rehabilitate, preserve and/or fund affordable housing opportunities including a general obligation bond. The City added this cost-benefit analysis including a general obligation bond as a goal in its 2018 Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. Our client has continued to advocate for a general obligation bond which can be used to fund affordable housing. In 2021, the general obligation bond was a topic of discussion during the City Council's retreat in Ashville, NC, and the City created a proposed timeline for pursuing a general obligation bond. Nevertheless, efforts thus far seem stagnant.

Although the City has some funds from the American Rescue Plan Act which can be allocated toward housing, this funding source is also limited and can help meet some housing needs in the short-run; however, ensuring housing affordability for the long-run requires comprehensive short-term and long-term planning. Now more than ever is the time for the City to accelerate efforts to secure additional funding sources to ensure affordability in the long-run. Therefore, our client strongly recommends that the City continue its commitment to work toward an affordable housing bond or general obligation bond to generate additional funds to create and preserve affordable housing for low to moderate income residents for the future.

On behalf of our client, we appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments, and we look forward to furthering our collaboration with the City to ensure equitable development in Rocky Mount.

Sincerely,



Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc.
Alecia Amoo, Attorney



The Steering Committee of the
Community Academy
Robert Davis, Chair

cc: Peter Varney, Interim City Manager



June 15, 2022

Alecia Amoo, Esq.
Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc.
Wilson Office
208 East Goldsboro St,
P.O. Box 2684
Wilson, NC 27894-2684

RE: Response to Letter Dated June 9, 2022

Dear Ms. Amoo:

We thank the Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc. and the Steering Committee of the Community Academy for the letter received on June 9, 2022 in response to the City of Rocky Mount's 2022 Annual Action Plan. The Department of Community Development has reviewed the written comments. Our comments are as follows:

- On May 13, 2022, HUD released the FY 22 program allocations for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program. The City of Rocky Mount will receive \$460,426 in CDBG funding and the Down East HOME Consortium will receive \$455,813 in HOME Program funding.
- The City will leverage American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support affordable housing. It is anticipated that the City Council will approve \$3 million in ARPA funds for affordable housing. For the next three years, \$1.5 million will be appropriated for the City's owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program and the other \$1.5 million will be set aside for site acquisition.
- In addition, the City will continue to create public/private partnerships to secure additional funding sources to ensure affordability.
- The City will continue to identify and consider new funding sources such as an affordable housing bond or general obligation bond to address housing needs for the future.

Attached is a copy of the updated 2022 Annual Action Plan. The City Council approved the 2022 Annual Action Plan during the Council Meeting on June 13, 2022.

Should there be any further questions or assistance needed, please contact me at (252) 972-1178 or via email at Cornelia.McGee-Anthony@rockymountnc.gov.

Sincerely,

Cornelia L. McGee

Interim Director of Community Development

cc: Peter F. Varney, City of Rocky Mount



HOME-ARP PROGRAM & 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN Consultation

City of Rocky Mount

Round 1: Listening Session: April 12th 10AM

Attendees:

Shaun Bollig -M&L

Maria Dewees -M&L

Alecia Amoo -Legal Aid of North Carolina and Community Academy Steering Committee

Sharon Evans -Community Academy Steering Committee and resident of Hillsdale

Cornelia McGee -City of Rocky Mount

Mabel Taylor -City of Rocky Mount

Dr. Kim Eng Koo -Community Academy Steering Committee and Rocky Mount Racial Justice Group

India [organization affiliation not identified]

Trishonda Roberson -REACH Center

Keilana Ham-REACH Center

Shaun Bollig presented the HOME-ARP and the 2022Annual Action Plan slides. Mr. Bollig began the listening session discussion by asking attendees what housing or community development improvements are needed in the community.

Alecia Amoo shared a question in the chat box asking if there are any limitations on the HOME-ARP for the production or preservation of affordable housing. Mr. Bollig responded that funds cannot be used for homeownership activities, must serve the HOME-ARP qualifying populations and noted there is a minimum affordability period of 15 years for new affordable housing development projects funded with HOME-ARP.

Dr. Kim Eng Koo stated that she has attended M&L's previous HOME-ARP kickoff meeting and presentations at the City Council about housing. She wanted to emphasize the importance of focusing on the communities in Rocky Mount that have been marginalized, particularly in Edgecombe County. Progress in these communities has been slow and the resources available are inadequate to meet community needs. Is there any way to ask for larger allocations to address the housing crisis, especially given increasing inflation? Rocky Mount is considering passing a \$15.00 minimum wage. At the same time, there is an ongoing housing crisis that is not being addressed. Communities in the past have not been fairly considered for funds.

Mr. Bollig replied that these federal funds are formula-based grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). They are entitlement programs, meaning they are not competitive but rather are allocated based on a formula determined by HUD. The HOME-ARP funds and the allocation planning process emphasizes a community's most vulnerable residents such as populations experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness. It is important to understand disparities in a



community and how they might inform the allocation plan. If there are barriers for racial and ethnic minorities accessing resources, we need to acknowledge these barriers in the preparation of this plan and we hope to ameliorate those barriers through the funded activities.

Sharon Evans asked for clarification that there are three separate programs and grants.

Mr. Bollig confirmed that there are three grants. The Annual Action Plan focuses on annual CDBG and HOME grants. These are separate from the HOME-ARP allocation, which is a one-off allocation.

Ms. Evans asked if M&L has the formula for the grants. Mr. Bollig explained that we don't have the specific HUD formulas. For the FY 2022 CDBG and HOME grants, we have the prior year amounts which we are using as estimates for planning purposes. Ms. Evans stated she would like to see more investment in the Hillsdale Community in Edgecombe County. There has been no activity in her area.

Mr. Bollig asked what housing resources are most needed, particularly for people experiencing homelessness. Ms. Evans replied that home maintenance is needed (things like plumbing and roofing repairs). Ms. Evans stated that there are many homes that have not been taken care of. People are doubling up and moving in from other communities. Her community was heavily affected by flooding in the late 90's resulting in many vacant lots that are not buildable. Existing structures need assistance with maintenance. Someone recently in her community moved a modular home. She wants to make sure they are zoned to not allow that in her community.

Mr. Bollig inquired about landlord participation and engagement. Are they engaged to help house people experiencing homelessness? Do landlords work with rent assistance programs like housing choice vouchers?

Trishonda Roberson commented that her agency is having difficulty housing large families with children as well as single individuals. The REACH Center works with landlords who have voiced concerns about maintaining and repairing their properties once a client has moved out. The REACH Center works closely with landlords when they have clients who face barriers to housing such as criminal history or bad credit, they are seeing landlords ask for larger security deposits. This poses an added barrier to finding housing for these clients.

Mr. Bollig asked the attendees to discuss veteran and domestic violence providers' needs. Ms. Roberson noted that the Volunteers of American (VOA) provides housing assistance to veterans for about 3 months. For many, this is not enough for long-term housing stability.

Mr. Bollig asked if there are administrators of HUD VASH Assistance.

Dr. Koo stated that the outside pressure of rising housing costs and the growth experienced in the Triangle can be felt in Rocky Mount. There are increasing costs in rent and for-sale housing. People who are not from Rocky Mount are moving in and raising housing prices. She has observed community groups being very active around affordable housing and building support for a housing

bond. However, a bond has not been passed.

Mr. Bollig stated that while a housing bond is outside of the scope of what can be addressed with these federal funds, the plans we are discussing will serve to map the housing needs in the community in a wholistic way to keep people stably housed.

Maria Dewees added that the federal HOME program is the largest federal block grant for affordable housing development and the HOME-ARP is intended to be a transformational opportunity.

Keilana Ham stated that there is a need for funding to pay for hotel rooms and that more rooms at the domestic violence shelter are needed. There is only one domestic violence shelter and clients need immediate resources.

Mr. Bollig asked if there are providers in the area that serve rural or low-capacity areas and if there is anything that could be done to better support them. Ms. Roberson stated that capacity building, training, staffing and funding for services is a substantial need. Ms. Ham noted that a lack of documentation can be a barrier for clients seeking housing. Things like birth certificates and social security cards etc. are needed when applying and can pose a barrier. Enhanced coordination among social workers and people working to house those experiencing homelessness would help.

Mr. Bollig asked the group to discuss any fair housing barriers they have observed. Dr. Koo highlighted the importance of historical context and the ripple effects of decades of oppression and racial discrimination when discussing fair housing. She strongly feels that to correct this injustice will require focusing on groups that have been marginalized. There is a fair amount of resistance to making changes that would benefit people who have been marginalized in the past. Dr. Koo stated that there has been an effort recently by private investors to take away the local government's ability to use public money for affordable housing. She stated that she does not want neighborhoods gentrifying. Planners need to recognize the difference between equity and equality. Ensuring equity will require paying special attention to those who are at the back of the line and moving them forward.

Mr. Bollig asked attendees to describe housing barriers for people with disabilities. Ms. Ham noted that people in the shelter system have disabilities, which may increase barriers to permanent housing. For example, learning disabilities pose a challenge because it can be difficult for these clients to manage budgets and paperwork to get into housing. Some clients take longer to complete documents and require thorough explanation to help them through the process.

Mr. Bollig asked participants to describe the resources available to help get residents housed. Is there case management? Ms. Ham replied that yes, resources are available, but capacity is limited. Typically, it takes 2 hours to process paperwork for up to 8 clients. Recently, she was working with a client who has a disability and has experienced trauma, who required 3 hours of intensive one-on-one work to complete her housing application. Capacity is needed to support these clients.

Mr. Bollig asked what other services are needed. Ms. Amoo responded that legal services are needed. Legal Aid provides resources and legal services for low- and moderate-income households in civil matters. There is a need for eviction prevention and more safe and affordable housing units for renters. Many of the renters she works with face poor housing conditions and have landlords who do not make repairs. Tenants in this situation find that they cannot leave because they cannot find alternative housing options that are safe, decent and affordable.

Mr. Bollig asked what resources are available for rent assistance? Ms. Amoo responded that the state-wide HOPE Program offered rent and utility assistance. The application for the HOPE program has now closed. Other organizations in the past have provided support, such as HOPE station in Wilson to prevent homelessness. Resources are limited. It has been challenging more recently for renters to find assistance. Ms. Roberson noted that the REACH Center has assisted with rent, utilities and food. Salvation Army also provides rent and utility assistance.

Mr. Bollig asked if the REACH Center provides referrals to those resources.

Ms. Roberson replied that it depends on which programs someone needs assistance for. The REACH Center also provides partial payments. Referrals can come from other agencies or the clients can call themselves. Resources for homelessness prevention are needed for people who are not yet at the point of eviction but who are trying to maintain their housing. Rapid Rehousing is available through referrals.

Mr. Bollig asked if there is demand for affordable rental units to accommodate the qualifying populations under HOME-ARP? Ms. Ham replied yes, a lack of rentals available is a major issue. People may hold a housing choice voucher but if there is no affordable housing then they are not useable. It is difficult to find landlords willing to rent to voucher holders. The fear is that the voucher will run out before the housing is available. Voucher holders have 90 days to find housing.

Dr. Koo asked what we are we planning to do with the data we are gathering?

Mr. Bollig replied that HUD requires grantees to gather this data, particularly on the qualifying populations, to inform the HOME-ARP allocation plan and the Annual Action Plan. We will also be using data from the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness to illustrate the homelessness needs. Once the needs are clear, the grantee will decide how they would like to allocate the funds. These funds are available until 2030.

Dr. Koo noted that some of the activities seem vague or open to interpretation. How do we ensure that the funds do not get used up for just one eligible use? Mr. Bollig replied that certain uses have caps on funding. For example, capacity building is limited to 5% of the grant.

Dr. Koo asked for the definition of non-congregate shelter. Mr. Bollig explained that non-congregate shelter is a type of emergency shelter that is different from the typical dormitory-style shelters because it provides accommodations with private space, including private bathrooms for residents. A



typical example would be a motel with rooms being used as a shelter. This style of sheltering became widespread during the Covid-19 pandemic to try and limit the spread of the virus.

Mr. Bollig highlighted next steps. These comments will be considered when drafting the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Another round of conversations with stakeholders will be scheduled for early June. The Annual Action plan for HOME and CDBG is scheduled to go on display in May and should be submitted to HUD by the end of June. A draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is expected in September and will be open to public comment. We expect that the final Allocation Plan draft will be submitted to HUD in October 2022.



HOME-ARP PROGRAM & 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Rocky Mount

Round 1: Listening Session: April 13th 3PM

Attendance:

Shaun Bollig -M&L

Maria Dewees -M&L

Marjorie Willow -M&L

Allie Card- North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Eric Spivey- Ripple Effects

Keisha Spivey -Ripple Effects

Shaun Bollig presented the HOME-ARP and the 2022 Annual Action Plan slides. Mr. Bollig began the listening session discussion by asking attendees what the most critical gaps or needs are in the local housing and service system.

Keisha Spivey stated that one of the greatest issues is a lack of emergency shelter in the community. Her organization works with homeless clients needing emergency shelter. Outside of Ripple Effects, Rocky Mount has one shelter that serves 9 to 11 families at a time. Ripple Effects also has properties but not nearly enough to meet the needs of the unsheltered population.

Mr. Bollig asked what other housing resources are in demand throughout the community. Ms. Spivey replied that permanent supportive housing is another big need.

Mr. Bollig asked about the need for supportive services. Ms. Spivey replied that many agencies provide supportive services like case management for people experiencing homelessness. But without shelter, it is difficult to provide wrap-around services and referrals because clients are transient. While many organizations seek to provide these services, it is difficult to do well when clients are not housed.

Mr. Bollig asked what types of units are in greatest demand? Ms. Spivey replied that single individuals and smaller families with a single parent need units. She has 15 applications on her desk for households with a mother and children who have filled out applications for emergency shelter or something more permanent that Ripple Effects does not have capacity to house.

Mr. Bollig asked about the availability of housing choice vouchers and if landlords are participating in the program.

Allie Card stated that the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness is involved with emergency vouchers; these are not specifically housing choice vouchers but the Commission of Indian Affairs,



which falls under the Department of Administration was allocated 414 vouchers. They have opened referrals outside of their normal jurisdiction which is 7 counties. Region 9 and specifically Rocky Mount are providing referrals for emergency housing vouchers. The vouchers are available but the barrier is finding units that are available. Low vacancy rates are an issue and there is limited housing stock in general.

Mr. Bollig asked what permanent supportive housing (PSH) looks like in the greater region. Ms. Spivey replied that she is not seeing any PSH available to groups beyond the elderly population. Ripple Effects is gathering data in this area to better understand the available resources. Her organization would like to be able to provide permanent supportive housing to their clients.

Ms. Card noted that of the CoC-funded PSH projects, there are two funded within Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Eastpoint is the agency that covers Edgecombe and Trillium covers Nash County. Community Link also has a PSH program in some of the other Region 9 counties. The North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness may be able to provide more data on PSH programs.

Mr. Bollig asked if there is a need for greater organizational capacity among providers offering services? Ms. Spivey responded that it would certainly be beneficial for this region. She would like to see agencies provide services from start to finish, like from engaging during street outreach to making placements to permanent supportive housing. She recently visited Homeward Bound in the City of Asheville and believes that the services offered there are what Rocky Mount needs.

Ms. Card agreed that there is not enough system capacity which may speak to the nature of the more rural and spread-out communities being served. There are many grassroots organizations and it could be difficult to coordinate groups. Historically Region 9 has not funded street outreach until recently with Ripple Effects.

Ms. Spivey added that Ripple Effects has worked closely with the REACH Center and other agencies. She agreed with Ms. Card that there is a need for more coordination. Mr. Bollig noted that the REACH center has also participated in the listening sessions.

Mr. Bollig pivoted the conversation to discuss CoC related topics. He asked how street outreach works in the community.

Ms. Spivey spoke about how Ripple Effects conducts street outreach. They have partnered with the local police department and local churches to visit encampments and host popups to connect with clients. They provide meals and personal care items, and collect HMIS data. They assess needs and build relationships with homeless residents. Due to this relationship, residents are referring other unsheltered people they know to Ripple Effects services.

The Ripple Effects staff added 22 people to the Coordinated Entry system last month through a pop-up event at the Walmart in Rocky Mount. At these events, they provide food, necessities, and



referrals for the city's unsheltered population. The event originated because the manager who oversees the parking lot had issues with panhandling. In the last month, Ripple Effects has been able to connect four people with housing vouchers and house two families.

Mr. Bollig asked if Ripple Effects engage with survivors of domestic violence or veterans.

Ms. Spivey said yes, Ripple Effects has transitional homes. Long-term, they would like to create transitional homes for veterans and survivors of human trafficking to provide wrap around services.

Mr. Bollig asked if Ripple Effects relied on hotels and motels during the pandemic?

Ms. Spivey replied that Ripple Effects did not have funding for hotels and therefore partnered with the REACH Center for hotel funding and emergency vouchers. This year, because of street outreach funding, Ripple Effects has been able to provide more services. Churches and businesses have also funded Ripple Effects' efforts.

Mr. Bollig asked participants to describe ways to improve housing for people with disabilities.

Ms. Spivey spoke about Ripple Effects' clients with disabilities who are on a limited fixed income. It can be difficult for clients on a fixed income to move to permanent housing. Furthermore, some landlords who rent to Ripple Effects clients do not maintain the properties. These tenants, however, have limited housing options because they cannot afford anything else.

Mr. Bollig asked how fair housing issues present among communities that Ripple Effects serves. Ms. Spivey sees fair housing issues in the way clients are treated by landlords and not given opportunities. She noted that often it is only when someone from the Ripple Effects team advocates for a client that the tenant can secure housing. Advocates help break down barriers in communication between tenants and landlords by providing support with skills needed to engage with a landlord.

Mr. Bollig asked how Ms. Spivey and Ms. Card would like to see the HOME-ARP and HOME/CDBG funds spent.

Ms. Spivey stated that the best way to spend the funds would be in a way that creates opportunities for stable supportive housing. She would like to see increased partnership between agencies. Enhanced collaboration would also ensure that the people who are being served have more of a voice at the table. Although it is not an eligible HOME-ARP activity, she also stated that homeownership opportunities would be important, citing the stability of homeownership compared to renting. Ms. Spivey noted that in her experience, clients can get "stuck" in programs. Funding should ensure that people experiencing homelessness are able to advance to stable housing and not return to homelessness. Wrap around services would support homeless households as needed.

Ms. Card said the funding should be used to make more affordable units available, whether through intense landlord recruitment or building affordable housing. She supports using funds for ongoing supportive services to maintain housing stability. Ms. Spivey would also like to see increased capacity for community housing development organizations. She would like Ripple Effects to one day own an



apartment complex with wrap-around services such as medical and mental health services. A project like this would transform the region.



HOME-ARP PROGRAM & 2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Rocky Mount

Round 1: Listening Session: April 13th 10AM

Attendance:

Shaun Bollig -M&L

Maria Dewees -M&L

Marjorie Willow - M&L

Mabel Taylor -City of Rocky Mount

Sharon Evans -Community Academy Steering Committee

Sue Perry Cole -Community Academy Steering Committee

Shaun Bollig and Marjorie Willow presented the HOME-ARP and the FY 2022 Annual Action Plan slides. Mr. Bollig began the discussion by asking participants to share their thoughts about the community's housing and community development needs.

Ms. Sue Perry Cole stated that cost burden was the most significant housing problem identified in the Consolidated Plan. The inflation rate and housing costs and food costs are major drivers of high inflation. Housing costs are soaring. This is going to particularly impact the poorest households who spend the largest share of income on housing and food. She is most interested in serving the under resourced communities cited in the 2014 Crossroads to Prosperity study.

Mr. Bollig asked Ms. Perry Cole to elaborate on how these communities are under resourced. Ms. Perry Cole replied that they are under resourced due to policies and practices of institutions including the City of Rocky Mount, which in years past has not invested in these communities. This is why they are heavily deteriorated and why there is a concentration of problems in these neighborhoods. There is an imbalance in these neighborhoods in comparison to the western part of the city. These communities are segregated and have the highest poverty rates. Many of them are clustered around the central city area.

Mr. Bollig asked what types of investments could benefit these communities, such as infrastructure or housing investments. Ms. Perry Cole noted that investments in home rehabilitation would benefit these communities since much of the housing is deteriorating and the low-income homeowners cannot afford to do their own improvements or maintenance. Vacant lots in the area could be assembled and perhaps new housing could be built there.

Mr. Bollig asked what types of housing units are in greatest demand? Ms. Perry Cole stated that many people are not able to afford homeownership, thus multifamily housing is going to be a challenge. While homeownership is good, many people cannot afford it and are priced out of the market. The community needs larger bedrooms for lower-income families.



Ms. Sharon Evans reiterated that they are in a special flood zone in Hillsdale and thus have a lot of vacant unbuildable lots. But there are homes that need rehabilitation. Rent assistance is also a great need in the area.

Marjorie Willow asked if there are vacant homes in the flood plain that would be suitable for demolition? Ms. Evans replied that homes in her area that are vacant but are not being torn down and rebuilt. There was a plan at one time where the city identified vacant homes that could be torn down but in Hillsdale there are not many homes like this. Ms. Perry Cole stated that there is such a concentration of vacant and dilapidated housing that if the city tore them all down there would be nothing left except for rubble. Not every home needs to be torn down. The Council has been thoughtful about what homes to demolish, especially in the under resourced neighborhoods.

Ms. Willow asked if these properties have been abandoned because of ownership issues, title issues, multiple heirs or legal issues that prevent acquisition and resale. Ms. Perry Cole stated that the cycle of devastation in these neighborhoods makes it difficult to attract investment. It is not easy to reverse these trends. Some properties are owned by out of state owners. There was no program to address this issue of properties sitting vacant.

Ms. Perry Cole requested to make additional comments regarding Rocky Mount's 2021 Action Plan and the strategies identified in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing to overcome fair housing barriers. She highlighted three specific goals in the 2021-2023 Consolidated Plan: 1) increase access to quality affordable housing, 2) eliminate blight 3) strengthen fair housing. She agrees with the priority area of increasing access to quality affordable housing. In the 2021 Action Plan there is a statement acknowledging that the resources in the plan will not address all needs and for this reason the city will be working on a dedicated affordable housing bond. Both the Community Academy Steering Committee and Legal Aid advocated for the affordable housing bond, listing a timeframe of 2021. To her knowledge, there has not been progress towards implementing an affordable housing bond. The city has not taken meaningful action to secure sufficient, dedicated funding to address housing needs, particularly in underserved communities. The HOME and CDBG resources are a drop in the bucket relative to needs. For example, the city conducted an inventory count of over 1,000 dilapidated and abandoned properties. The city should move forward with the housing bond. A larger financing source is needed.

Ms. Perry Cole is concerned that there will be movement of lower-income households into the Rocky Mount community who are being priced out of the Triangle. The community needs to prepare for this surge of housing need. The 2020 Census showed that Rocky Mount has a declining population. Unemployment in Rocky Mount is 6% compared to 3% state-wide. All of considerations highlight the need to move forward with a housing bond.

One of the limitations of CDBG is that the funds cannot be used to create new affordable housing but they can be used for infrastructure and public facilities. Are there related needs that could help facilitate revitalization? Are there investments that could be made to support affordable housing or to

support the overall neighborhood revitalization?

Ms. Perry Cole replied that most of these neighborhoods have water and sewer. The rehabilitation program is very important to these communities facing dilapidated conditions.

Ms. Perry Cole asked what public services funding can be used for. Mr. Bollig replied that legal aid, case management services for vulnerable households, fair housing services, housing counseling, financial literacy, youth services, senior services, and employment training are eligible public services under CDBG. Ms. Perry Cole noted that employment training could help address Rocky Mount's high unemployment rate.

Ms. Perry Cole voiced support for tenant-based rental assistance and housing counseling.

Mr. Bollig asked Ms. Perry Cole what the relationship is like between community groups and landlords, particularly landlords renting to low-income households. Ms. Perry Cole replied that some landlords have habitual problems with their properties. Ms. Evans has identified several property owners who are located outside of Rocky Mount because mail about city events was going to the out-of-town owners rather than the current residents.

Mr. Bollig asked if Ms. Perry Cole or Ms. Evans are aware of fair housing complaints in the community. Ms. Perry Cole stated that her organization focuses on systemic change rather than individual complaints.

Mr. Bollig asked how the HOME-ARP funds can best promote housing stability, particularly for those who are homeless or at greatest risk of homelessness. Ms. Perry Cole replied that while it's not her area of expertise she believes supportive services are needed, especially in this tight housing market. Housing counseling is needed. She would also like to see the funds be used to address escalating domestic violence during the pandemic.

Mr. Bollig asked if attendees see a need for supportive services for DV survivors, housing units or both. Ms. Perry Cole replied that with these market conditions, there is going to have to be more transitional housing. Folks may not be financially prepared to get into housing in the private market housing market.

Mr. Bollig asked if the attendees could speak to homeless veterans' needs. Ms. Perry Cole replied that Rocky Mount has a recently formed group that focuses on veterans. She stated that there is a problem of veteran homelessness in Rocky Mount. Ms. Mabel Taylor noted that Lighthouse Home and the Mercer Foundation engage veterans and are included in the stakeholder engagement list.

Ms. Willow requested a copy of the inventory report about vacant and dilapidated homes to help identify focus areas for rehabilitation, demolition, and other initiatives.



Mr. Bollig highlighted next steps. These comments will be considered when drafting the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Another round of conversations with stakeholders will be scheduled for early June. The 2022 Annual Action plan for HOME and CDBG is scheduled to go on display in May and should be submitted to HUD by the end of June. A draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is expected in September and will be open to public comment. We expect that the final Allocation Plan draft will be submitted to HUD in October 2022.

Ms. Perry Cole restated the need for a dedicated affordable housing bond and the need for considerable investment in housing and community development initiatives.