

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The City of Dunkirk is designated as an entitlement community based on the amount of its population suffering with poverty. The CDBG entitlement program allocates annual grants to assist in the development of viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons. To receive an annual allocation of federal funds from HUD, the City is required to create a three-year Consolidated Plan (strategic plan) with an annual Action Plan.

The Consolidated Plan includes the amount of assistance the City expects to receive and the range of activities that may be undertaken including the estimated benefit to persons of low and moderate-income. The Annual Action Plan is required to include project or program information, such as location, cost, proposed outcome, and any additional descriptive information. Federal regulations require that funds be aimed where the greatest benefit may be attained for low and moderate income residents. To acquire ample public engagement in all aspects and phases of Plan development, the City of Dunkirk attempted to interact with various stakeholders in meetings, workshops, public hearings, and with written correspondence. We attended other public meetings to announce the meeting dates, published them in the newspaper, created a bi-lingual poster to be distributed all over the city, and enlisted other organizations to get involved by hosting meetings and acting as translators.

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.

Although the City has many needs, this plan identifies and prioritizes the following critical components to the City's development strategy:

Infrastructure Improvements - In order to maintain a safe, healthy, enjoyable environment, the City needs to improve and to modernize its infrastructure, including roadways, streetscapes, community facilities, and parks. Approximately 1000 low-moderate income residents will benefit from these activities.

Provide Safe, Affordable Housing - The City has some of the oldest housing stock in the nation and has identified the need to assist residents make their homes safe and habitable. This will be accomplished by providing emergency roof repair assistance, first time homebuyer downpayment and closing cost assistance, and housing rehab. Approximately 16 low-moderate income residents will benefit from these activities.

Improve Community Outreach - The City of Dunkirk has an extremely diverse population with close to 30% of our residents being hispanic many of whom either speak very little or no English. To help those residents become aware of services available and feel more a part of the community, the City is investing in a bi-lingual community center. In addition, the City is investing in a community food pantry to help alleviate hunger and food insecurities in our community.

Provide Education Programming for Students - This plan addresses the need for academic assistance for our youth by investing in after-school tutoring and mentoring programs for LMI youth ages 6 - 18. The goals here are to help students remain in school, provide positive role models for our youth, and expose them to new learning and career opportunities. Approximately 70 youth will benefit from these activities

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Despite the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City of Dunkirk achieved the following accomplishments in 2020:

Career Explorers: The Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County was awarded \$18,000.00 in 2019 to operate its Career Explorers Program. A total of 117 low-income youth ages 10-18 participated in exploration and research of career areas of interest. Of those 117 youth, 80 were Hispanic, 25 were multi-racial, 8 were Black/African American, and 4 were white reflecting the diversity of our City. COVID required the program to switch gears dramatically and the organization was able to provide services in the school for remote learning students who needed daytime assistance.

CHRIC Roof Repair: This project assists LMI residents in Dunkirk make necessary repairs to the roofs of their homes that they could not do on their own. It's an important project and CHRIC has an extensive waiting list for assistance. With their 2020 award, CHRIC is in the process of securing contractors to complete the work so this project is on target.

CHRIC Closing Cost Assistance Program: This project has just started as CHRIC is working through the application process and is identifying eligible participants. Last year 8 first time home buyers were assisted with this project.

Sidewalk Repair: This project is ongoing as the City is in the process of identifying the sidewalks in the LMI block groups that require the most attention. Priority will be giving to areas in LMI block areas where children walk to school followed by high pedestrian LMI neighborhoods.

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4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

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.

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

7. Summary

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

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

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

| Agency Role | Name | Department/Agency |
|-----------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Lead Agency | Dunkirk | |
| CDBG Administrator | Dunkirk | Department of Planning & Development |
| HOPWA Administrator | | |
| HOME Administrator | | |
| HOPWA-C Administrator | | |

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

The City of Dunkirk recognizes the importance of coordination and consultation with institutions within the community. As a result, in formulating this plan, the City of Dunkirk made all attempts to work with all organizations through public meetings and hearings, as well as working with organizations at their best convenience however COVID-19 pandemic greatly hindered the City's ability to host in-person meetings.

Dunkirk is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to create its own Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan in order to be considered for entitlement grant funding. Last year the City of Dunkirk completed its 2021-2023 Consolidated Plan, which clarifies and defines the City's future objectives and illustrates how those objectives align with CDBG program objectives. This Annual Action Plan utilizes the priorities outlined in the Consolidated Plan and specifies the intended uses of CDBG funding for Dunkirk's first program year (2021) under the current plan.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

The City of Dunkirk strives to provide fair and accurate copies of its plans at every stage of their development. As such, the City provided public notices about public hearings via local media sources including print, online, social media, community meetings, posters, and word of mouth sources. The City also worked with, and made all attempts to work with, housing providers such as Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., the Dunkirk Housing Authority, as well as other agencies involved in healthcare and housing in some form. Notices of public meetings and copies of the City's 2021 CDBG Application were mailed to: Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County, Dunkirk Housing Authority, Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels, Chautauqua County Office for the Aging, Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services, Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene, Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp., Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Senior Center of Dunkirk, Southern Tier Environments for Living, the Resource Center, Chautauqua Striders, HOPE Center, Dunkirk Historical Society, Salvation Army, Access to the Arts, and Revitalize Dunkirk. Copies of the draft 2019 Annual Action Plan will be sent to these same agencies to garner their input and feedback. No one was intentionally left out and we encourage interactions, questions, and suggestions from all agencies.

The City of Dunkirk does not currently manage any public housing. Public housing within the City's jurisdiction is managed by the Dunkirk Housing Authority (DHA). The DHA currently maintains 243 housing units. City staff also maintains close relationships with local Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), including Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI).

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.

Homelessness and chronic homelessness are issues individuals face throughout the United States. Residents of Dunkirk are, unfortunately, no exception to this rule. While efforts are ongoing to improve data collection on the exact amount of homelessness and chronic homelessness exists within the City, a support network has been established for those experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness, or risk of becoming homeless. Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) is the City's Continuum of Care provider. In October of 2014 the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition signed and adopted a 10-year plan to end homelessness in Chautauqua County.

Chautauqua Lake Central School District, which is within the CoC geography, has a McKinney-Vento funding award from the NYS education Department to provide educational services to homeless children. The McKinney-Vento Liaisons in all of the county's 18 school districts have been contacted and asked to join the CoC or be provided with information about homeless services. Chautauqua County has a NY State licensed runaway and homeless youth shelter that is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and operated by the CoC lead agency.

Providers regularly refer families to other providers when their family composition does not allow them to be accommodated in their facility. The CoC has also held a McKinney-Vento training in coordination with local school districts to improve coordination of services with school districts, and whenever possible, keep children in their school of origin.

If housing is not available for a specific family type, the local Department of Social Services will utilize a local hotel to keep the family together while other housing options are explored.

The Veteran's Administration's regional representative is a member of the CoC decision-making body.

The lead agency also coordinates with VASH as the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher administrator for the county, and was recently awarded a Supportive Services for Veteran Families grant from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs to prevent homelessness among veteran families. The CoC participated in the Veteran's Administration needs assessment. All HUD-funded agencies in the CoC serve veterans as an integrated service.

The CoC lead agency operates a NYS licensed Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter that is funded with DHHS Basic Center funding, as well as a DHHS funded Street Outreach Program that makes contact with over 7,500 youth in the county annually, and a Transitional Living Program for youth ages 16-21 (DHHS funding). These programs frequently collaborate with other providers that serve the youth population such as Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA's and YWCA's, church teen groups, municipal recreation programs, and other non-profit organizations. The lead organization and other youth serving providers will

participate in strategic planning meetings to ensure that the needs of homeless youth are addressed in future plans.

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 does not receive ESG funds.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Agency/Group/Organization | CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES INC. |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing |
| | 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? | The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) along with a copy of the 2021 CDBG Application. We also met with the Director of Housing on June 3rd and are in contact via phone and email on a regular basis. COI also leads the County in Fair Housing efforts, Continuum of Care, and hosts the Homeless Coalition meetings, in which the City of Dunkirk attends. |
| 2 | Agency/Group/Organization | Dunkirk Housing Authority |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City mailed a notice of public hearing to the Dunkirk Housing Authority (DHA) along with a copy of the 2021 CDBG Application. The DHA is also involved in the Homeless Coalition meetings, hosted by COI, which also include the Chautauqua County Department of Social Services and the Chautauqua- Cattaraugus Library System. We also received input from the Director on June 3rd and are in contact via phone and email on a regular basis. |
| 3 | Agency/Group/Organization | Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Services-Children Services-Education |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Youth services |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City mailed a notice of public hearing to the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua along with a copy of the 2021 CDBG Application. CDBG Administrator also has met with their Executive Director to discuss challenges they see particularly for our low income families and youth in the community. |
| 4 | Agency/Group/Organization | Revitalize Dunkirk |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Community Pride / Beautification organization |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Market Analysis |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City is in frequent contact with Revitalize Dunkirk, a citizen public service organization that does various beautification projects throughout the city. They attend most public meetings and are helpful partners in identifying underserved areas and community needs. The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Revitalize Dunkirk along with a copy of the 2021 CDBG Application. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 5 | Agency/Group/Organization | SOUTHERN TIER ENVIRONMENTS FOR LIVING, INC. |
| | Agency/Group/Organization Type | Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health |
| | What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation? | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis |
| | Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination? | The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL) along with a copy of the 2021 CDBG Application. Members from STEL are in constant communication with our office as they were awarded a \$17million grant to demolish and rebuild several dilapidated homes in the City of Dunkirk. |

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

The City of Dunkirk contacted agencies and organizations associated with housing rehabilitation, economic development, community development, infrastructure development, or skills development. All applicable agencies were consulted and no person or group was intentionally omitted. Any and all agencies involving the needs of the people of the City of Dunkirk are always welcome to discuss the plan with

City Department of Planning and Economic Development staff and were given advance notice regarding the public hearings, release of draft plan, and public comment period.

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 | Chautauqua Opportunities | In consultation with the Chautauqua County Continuum of Care provider (COI), the City has designed its consolidated plan to reflect the needs and concerns laid out in the CoC. We are working with them to find other solutions to the homeless problem including finding shelters for heating and cooling centers in inclement weather. |
| City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan | City of Dunkirk | The City of Dunkirk recently updated the Comprehensive Plan and developed the Strategic Plan to align with the challenges and opportunities outlined in the Comprehensive Plan including housing and economic development goals. |

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City continually consults with Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Dunkirk Housing Authority, and Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC) executives to better understand their needs. Through continued partnership with these organizations, the City anticipates improved quality and quantity of services and affordable housing for the homeless and low/moderate-income persons.

We have also undertaken new initiatives to further economic development as well as housing conditions within the City. We were awarded a LISC Zombie Property grant which we used for a survey of housing conditions in the City as well as taking a look at utility bills, sidewalk conditions, foreclosure information, and build dates for the homes. We're using this information in conjunction with the Chautauqua County Landbank and Chautauqua Opportunities in order to direct homeowners on the verge of foreclosure to programs that can keep them in their homes, thereby preventing increased vacancy. This will also allow us to identify where the greatest needs are and to better allocate CDBG funding in the future.

The City is also exploring Certified Local Government (CLG) status. This will allow the city and its residents to control the future of its historical building stock, protect what's important, and guide future development and reuse proposals, including infill in historic neighborhoods. It is the goal of some neighborhood groups to use this tool to establish historic districts which would afford property owners historic tax credits for rehabilitation of their homes.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City believes in continual communication with its local nonprofits, community leaders, and citizens. To guide this communication, the City of Dunkirk adopted a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) which was prepared in accordance with Section 104(a)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and federal regulation 24 CFR 91.105. A DRAFT Amended Citizen Participation Plan was put out for a 30-day public comment period and was formally adopted on April 7, 2015.

The City held a Public Hearing/ Meeting during the drafting of its 2021 Annual Action Plan on March 22, 2021. The City also held one Technical Assistance meeting for potential CDBG subrecipients on April 5, 2021. Legal Notices were published in the Observer on March 6, 9, and 10 2021 to announce the public hearing and technical assistance meeting. A draft Annual Action Plan was posted on the City of Dunkirk's website on June 5, 2021 and was also available in the Planning office and City Clerk's office.

Notices of public meetings and copies of the City's 2021 CDBG Application were mailed to: Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County, Dunkirk Housing Authority, Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels, Chautauqua County Office for the Aging, Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services, Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene, Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, Chautauqua Opportunities, Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp., Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Salvation Army, Senior Center of Dunkirk, Southern Tier Environment for Living, Revitalize Dunkirk, and Chautauqua Striders.

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 | General residents and community stakeholders | 4 persons attended the meeting | CDBG Administrator did a presentation on CDBG and answered general questions on the program. No specific comments were submitted. | No comments were declined | |
| 2 | Public Meeting | Potential subrecipient applicants | A technical assistance meeting was held virtually for interested applicants on April 5, 2021. CDBG Administrator reviewed application and answered questions. | No comments were submitted | No comments were declined | |
| 3 | Public Meeting | Non-targeted/broad community | 1 councilmember attended the presentation on June 24, 2021 | no comments were received | no comments were declined | |

| Sort Order | Mode of Outreach | Target of Outreach | Summary of response/attendance | Summary of comments received | Summary of comments not accepted and reasons | URL (If applicable) |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------|
| 4 | Internet Outreach | Non-targeted/broad community | n/a Plan was publicly posted on the City of Dunkirk website, in the City Clerk, and Development Office. In response to 2021 of these postings we did receive a comment via email from the Director of | "As you prepare the City of Dunkirk's CDBG Annual Action Plan, I would like to submit some comments about the topic of Fair Housing to be considered for the plan. My comments are: Fair Housing remains as important as ever. This past year has seen a lot of stress placed on the tenant/landlord relationship. At Chautauqua Opportunities, we are hearing stories from tenants and landlords about acrimonious relationships. In some cases, we are hearing about illegal evictions, tenant harassment, and tenant intimidation. In this environment, it is important that tenants understand their rights, especially those who are | 15 No other comments were declined | |

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Allocation announcements from HUD were made in May of 2021. The City of Dunkirk was awarded \$453,402 for the 2021 program year, a \$11,702 decrease over funding for the 2020 program year.

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 | 453,402 | 0 | 0 | 453,402 | 906,804 | Assuming an annual allocation of \$453,402, the City is estimating \$906,804 for the remaining years on this consolidated plan |

Table 5 - 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's Planning and Development Department is constantly looking for grant opportunities to improve our community. Where appropriate, we will make every effort to utilize CDBG funding to leverage additional funding for projects. For instance, in this plan we are allocating funds that we used as match for the Lake Shore Drive infrastructure project.

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 desire for additional recreation opportunities has been identified as a need in our community. If City-owned land can be used to help create additional recreation opportunities, this is an option we will strongly consider

Discussion

Our community is one with high levels of need relative to available resources. We are keenly aware of this fact. Keeping this fact in mind, we will strive to spend available CDBG funds effectively and when possible will leverage additional funds with our CDBG award.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|---|------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 1 | Provide Safe, Affordable Housing | 2021 | 2023 | Affordable Housing Homeless | DUNKIRK | Quality, Affordable Housing Infrastructure / Blight Removal | CDBG: \$117,000 | Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 6 Households Assisted |
| 2 | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure | 2021 | 2023 | Non-Housing Community Development | DUNKIRK | Infrastructure / Blight Removal Recreational Opportunities | CDBG: \$42,584 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 12563 Persons Assisted |
| 3 | Provide Public and Youth Community Services | 2021 | 2023 | Non-Housing Community Development | DUNKIRK | Children's Education / Youth Programming Expanded Community Outreach | CDBG: \$17,500 | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted |

| Sort Order | Goal Name | Start Year | End Year | Category | Geographic Area | Needs Addressed | Funding | Goal Outcome Indicator |
|------------|---|------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|----------------|---|
| 4 | Enhanced Recreational Opportunities | 2021 | 2023 | Non-Housing Community Development | DUNKIRK | Infrastructure / Blight Removal Recreational Opportunities | CDBG: \$72,300 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 12563 Persons Assisted |
| 5 | Planning and Administrative | 2021 | 2023 | Planning & Admin | DUNKIRK | Quality, Affordable Housing Economic Development Children's Education / Youth Programming Expanded Community Outreach Infrastructure / Blight Removal Recreational Opportunities | CDBG: \$89,363 | Other: 2 Other |
| 6 | Creative Economic Development Solutions | 2021 | 2023 | Non-Housing Community Development | DUNKIRK | Economic Development | CDBG: \$10,000 | Businesses assisted: 6 Businesses Assisted |

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

| | | |
|---|------------------|---|
| 1 | Goal Name | Provide Safe, Affordable Housing |
| | Goal Description | |
| 2 | Goal Name | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure |
| | Goal Description | |
| 3 | Goal Name | Provide Public and Youth Community Services |
| | Goal Description | |
| 4 | Goal Name | Enhanced Recreational Opportunities |
| | Goal Description | |
| 5 | Goal Name | Planning and Administrative |
| | Goal Description | |
| 6 | Goal Name | Creative Economic Development Solutions |
| | Goal Description | |

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Our selection of projects for the 2021 CDBG program year reflects our best attempt to address the needs determined to be the highest priority in our community. The total amount of funding requests from CDBG applicants far outweighed our anticipated funding. Our application pool was strong, and included submissions from organizations that the City regularly partners with as well as organizations making their first submission.

Applications were made available on March 15, 2021. Notices of the applications availability were published in the local newspaper and on the City website. Additionally, applications were mailed and emailed to organizations who have applied in the past or those who requested to be notified when applications were available. The application window closed on May 7, 2021. In total, 14 applications were received.

Applications were reviewed at the staff level for program eligibility and then, following the procedure described in our Citizen Participation Plan, evaluated by a team consisting of the Director of Development, Deputy Director of Development, and the Mayor.

On July 6, 2021 the Dunkirk Common Council tabled the resolution and called a special meeting on July 12 to reallocate budgets. Plan is subject to a new 30 day public comment period which will now run from July 15 - August 13, 2021.

Budget adjustments were:

- CHRIC First Time Homebuyer Closing Cost / Down Payment Assistance: From \$27,000 to \$9100 decreasing the budget amount by \$17,900 and going from 8 recipients to 3
- Dunkirk Little League Scoreboard / Fence: From \$2500 to \$20,400
- CHRIC Emergency Roof Repair program from \$60,000 to \$52,700 decreasing the budget amount by \$7300 and going from 6 recipients to 5.
- Kids at Promise Building Study from \$2700 to \$10,000.

Projects

| # | Project Name |
|---|---|
| 1 | Boys and Girls Club Bridging the Gap |
| 2 | CHRIC Closing Costs / Down Payment Assistance for First Time Homebuyers |
| 3 | CHRIC Emergency Roof Repair Program |

| # | Project Name |
|----|--|
| 4 | Planning and Administration |
| 5 | Dunkirk Public Library After-School Snack Program |
| 6 | Lake Shore Drive Complete Streets Improvements |
| 7 | The Resource Center SAFER Program |
| 8 | Kids at Promise Building Study |
| 9 | Chautauqua County Land Bank Lead Removal |
| 10 | Chautauqua County Land Bank Hands On Neighborhoods |
| 11 | Dunkirk Little League |
| 12 | Point Gratiot Park Fireman's Grounds Improvements |
| 13 | Wright Park Bathroom upgrades |
| 14 | Tree Planting |
| 15 | Sidewalk Repair and Replacement Program |

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Our allocation priorities were decided based on a number of factors, including:

- Level of need for proposed activity
- Expected timeliness in spending
- Past history with subrecipients
- Measurability of outcomes
- Number of people served

We acknowledge that there is an imperfect match between our selected projects for 2019 and the needs/goals identified in the Comprehensive Plan. That being said, we have done our best to balance the factors listed above in selecting projects.

Obstacles to addressing underserved needs include:

- Availability of funding
- The limited number of potential subrecipients in the Dunkirk area to assist with projects/programs
- Insufficient data on some populations, including homeless
- Lacking public participation in the planning process

Where possible, we will continue working to improve these underserved needs.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Project Name | Boys and Girls Club Bridging the Gap |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Public and Youth Community Services |
| | Needs Addressed | Children's Education / Youth Programming |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$15,000 |
| | Description | The Boys and Girls Club will deliver and education and career program that will focus on the academic and career development needs of Dunkirk children ages 5 - 18. |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 60 low / moderate income youth will benefit from this project. |
| | Location Description | The project will take place in the Dunkirk City Schools and/or Boys and Girls Clubhouse depending of COVID restrictions. |
| | Planned Activities | This project provides academic enrichment programs, tutoring, and mentoring to combat learning loss, improve drop out rates, and prepare students for a post-secondary education. |
| 2 | Project Name | CHRIC Closing Costs / Down Payment Assistance for First Time Homebuyers |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Safe, Affordable Housing |
| | Needs Addressed | Quality, Affordable Housing |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$9,100 |
| | Description | CHRIC will provide down payment and closing cost assistance to 8 individual / family first time homebuyers with a HH Income of 80% or below the AMI |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 3 |
| | Location Description | City of Dunkirk |

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| | Planned Activities | CHRIC will provide closing cost / down payment assistance for low / moderate income first time homebuyers. |
| 3 | Project Name | CHRIC Emergency Roof Repair Program |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Safe, Affordable Housing |
| | Needs Addressed | Quality, Affordable Housing |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$52,700 |
| | Description | CHRIC will assist 6 LMI homeowners with emergency roof repairs / replacement |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 5 LMI homeowners will be assisted with this proposed activity |
| | Location Description | City of Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | CHRIC will provide assistance in securing contractors to repair or replace failing roofs of up to 6 LMI owner occupied homeowners in the City of Dunkirk. |
| 4 | Project Name | Planning and Administration |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Planning and Administrative |
| | Needs Addressed | Quality, Affordable Housing Economic Development Children's Education / Youth Programming Expanded Community Outreach Infrastructure / Blight Removal Recreational Opportunities |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$89,363 |
| | Description | This activity will fund staffing and other administrative costs to administer the City's CDBG program. HUD Matrix Code 21A |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | |
| | Location Description | |
| | Planned Activities | |
| 5 | Project Name | Dunkirk Public Library After-School Snack Program |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Public and Youth Community Services |
| | Needs Addressed | Children's Education / Youth Programming |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$1,500 |
| | Description | Dunkirk Public Library provides after school snacks and programming for the middle and high school youth living in the surrounding LMI neighborhood |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 50 LMI youth will benefit from this program |
| | Location Description | City of Dunkirk, primarily Block Group One Census Tract 357 |
| | Planned Activities | Afterschool snacks will be provided to LMI youth in an effort to alleviate food insecurities and encourage youth to visit and use the library services. |
| 6 | Project Name | Lake Shore Drive Complete Streets Improvements |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure Creative Economic Development Solutions |
| | Needs Addressed | Infrastructure / Blight Removal |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$85,000 |
| | Description | The City of Dunkirk secured \$1.5 million of grant funding to do a complete streets improvement project for Lake Shore Drive, a main corridor through one of the City's LMI block group areas. Planned activities include using these funds as match and will include sidewalks, public benches, and tree planting. |

| | | |
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| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 12000 Dunkirk residents will benefit from this activity |
| | Location Description | Improvements will occur on Lake Shore Drive between Main Street and Brigham Road |
| | Planned Activities | The entire project will include sheltered bike lanes, median, curbing and green infrastructure with pedestrian refuge islands designed to better connect the City and Downtown Business District with the lakefront and City Pier and to allow for traffic-calming measures and to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety for Housing Authority high-rise residents as well as resident and visitors accessing Memorial Park, Pier and the Boardwalk. The \$85,000.00 of CDBG funds will be used for the City's matching funds to purchase additional trees, public benches and improve sidewalks along the project roadway. |
| 7 | Project Name | The Resource Center SAFER Program |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Creative Economic Development Solutions |
| | Needs Addressed | Economic Development |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$10,000 |
| | Description | Supporting and Facilitating Employee Retention program to provide support to employers and primarily poverty level employees to reduce the need for public assistance and support them in career growth. |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 6 businesses and 50 employees |
| | Location Description | City of Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | Success and Business Coaching, bi-lingual support. Coaches will collaborate and develop tools to meet the needs of businesses and employees to promote retention. Coaches will meet with employees to assess needs and create a plan to provide supports. Learning topics include financial literacy, home ownership, proper lifting techniques, health insurance options, stress management and more. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 8 | Project Name | Kids at Promise Building Study |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure Provide Public and Youth Community Services |
| | Needs Addressed | Children's Education / Youth Programming |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$10,000 |
| | Description | To complete a professional evaluation on the Youth Center building to assess condition and needed renovations |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 50 |
| | Location Description | Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | Contract with a professional engineering company to complete an assessment of the Youth Center building to include evaluation of condition and begin necessary repairs. |
| 9 | Project Name | Chautauqua County Land Bank Lead Removal |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Safe, Affordable Housing |
| | Needs Addressed | Quality, Affordable Housing |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$30,000 |
| | Description | Funding toward Lead abatement and Hands On Neighborhoods, neighborhood pride program |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 1 |
| | Location Description | Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | The lead abatement program is a home that will undergo a full rehab and then sold to a LMI family. |

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 10 | Project Name | Chautauqua County Land Bank Hands On Neighborhoods |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Safe, Affordable Housing Provide Public and Youth Community Services |
| | Needs Addressed | Quality, Affordable Housing Expanded Community Outreach Infrastructure / Blight Removal |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$10,000 |
| | Description | Hands on Neighborhoods is a comprehensive program created to empower residents to nurture healthy and safe neighborhoods by hosting training events for residents to learn crime prevention strategies, home maintenance skills, and nurture cooperation to work towards strengthening their neighborhoods through clean up events and other initiatives. |
| | Target Date | |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 50 |
| | Location Description | Targeted block group neighborhoods in Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | Hands on Neighborhoods is a comprehensive program created to empower residents to nurture healthy and safe neighborhoods by hosting training events for residents to learn crime prevention strategies, home maintenance skills, and nurture cooperation to work towards strengthening their neighborhoods through clean up events and other initiatives. |
| 11 | Project Name | Dunkirk Little League |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Provide Public and Youth Community Services Enhanced Recreational Opportunities |
| | Needs Addressed | Children's Education / Youth Programming |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$20,400 |
| | Description | To support the purchase of a new scoreboard |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |

| | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 100 LMI youth ages 5 - 18 |
| | Location Description | City of Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | To go towards the purchase of a new scoreboard to replace the one damaged by weather |
| 12 | Project Name | Point Gratiot Park Fireman's Grounds Improvements |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure Enhanced Recreational Opportunities |
| | Needs Addressed | Recreational Opportunities |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$62,300 |
| | Description | To make upgrades and improvements to the pavilions, restrooms, and recreation space at Point Gratiot Park |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 12563 City residents |
| | Location Description | Point Gratiot Park, Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | Repair / replacement of existing rotting pavilion roofs, replace the storage unit, rewire electrical in storage area for coolers and refrigerators. |
| 13 | Project Name | Wright Park Bathroom upgrades |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure Enhanced Recreational Opportunities |
| | Needs Addressed | Recreational Opportunities |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$10,000 |
| | Description | Replace rotting doors of Wright Park bathrooms |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |

| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 12563 City residents |
| | Location Description | Wright Park |
| | Planned Activities | Replace rusted, rotting doors for the 2 main bathrooms at Wright Park |
| 14 | Project Name | Tree Planting |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure Creative Economic Development Solutions |
| | Needs Addressed | Infrastructure / Blight Removal |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$5,455 |
| | Description | Plant approximately 25 new trees throughout the City |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 12563 |
| | Location Description | Dunkirk |
| | Planned Activities | Purchase and plant 25 new trees throughout the City |
| 15 | Project Name | Sidewalk Repair and Replacement Program |
| | Target Area | DUNKIRK |
| | Goals Supported | Improve Infrastructure/ Pedestrian Infrastructure |
| | Needs Addressed | Infrastructure / Blight Removal |
| | Funding | CDBG: \$42,584 |
| | Description | Funding to repair or replace broken sidewalks within eligible block group areas |
| | Target Date | 8/31/2022 |
| | Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities | 12563 |
| | Location Description | Dunkirk |

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| | Planned Activities | Repair / Replace broken sidewalks in eligible block group neighborhoods. |
|--|---------------------------|--|

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

For the 2021 program year, CDBG assistance will be directed to those areas of the City that demonstrate the highest levels of need. These neighborhoods are concentrated near downtown and/or along the Main St. corridor. Programs targeted to these areas include a sidewalk repair / replacement, park improvements, housing rehabilitation, Hands on Neighborhoods, and low income youth services.

Geographic Distribution

| Target Area | Percentage of Funds |
|-------------|---------------------|
| DUNKIRK | 100 |

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Our rationale for directing assistance to these neediest areas is two-fold. First, it represents our best attempt to address the needs outlined in the Plan exactly where it is most needed. This aligns with the CDBG program objective of benefitting low-to-moderate incomes persons, who make up the majority of households in these neighborhoods. Second, it reflects where CDBG applicants have applied for their projects to occur. Our choice in where to distribute projects is constrained in part by the location of projects that have been submitted by applicants.

Discussion

Although directing program funds to the areas of Dunkirk that demonstrate the highest levels of need will always be justifiable, we also strive to be strategic in how exactly funds are distributed geographically. For instance, because many Dunkirk residents have limited transportation options, especially low-income residents, locating a facility to provide assistance to low-income residents near where these residents live makes a lot of sense.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

As demonstrated elsewhere in our Consolidated Plan, there is a strong need in Dunkirk for additional affordable housing options. Through the programs applied for through our CDBG process, we hope to continue tackling the issue of affordable housing.

| One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported | |
|---|----|
| Homeless | 0 |
| Non-Homeless | 15 |
| Special-Needs | 0 |
| Total | 15 |

Table 9 - 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 | 0 |
| Rehab of Existing Units | 15 |
| Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 |
| Total | 15 |

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The programs that will help us reach these one year goals for affordable housing include:

- Chautauqua County Land Bank Lead Abatement
- CHRIC'S Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program
- CHRIC's Roof Repair Program

While we recognize that the number of households helped by these programs is a drop in the bucket relative to the need for affordable housing in our community, these programs will make a meaningful impact in the lives of the households assisted. We hope that they can be a catalyst for additional improvements going forward.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Dunkirk Housing Authority (DHA) provides a valuable supply of affordable housing options in our community. In the upcoming program year, we will look for ways to support and partner with the DHA and its residents.

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

Our consultation process in preparing this plan suggests that public housing needs are less urgent than other housing needs in the community. The DHA, while acknowledging that some ongoing issues do exist, has conveyed that public housing in Dunkirk is in stable condition. With this in mind, we feel that other more pressing housing needs should be the focus of our efforts. The DHA currently has a plan to encourage and increase tenant participation on committees and coalitions by creating a Tenant Advisory Board (TAB) that spearheads the flow of information and communication among other developments and their tenants. Out of the TAB grow leaders interested in learning and communicating their role in the management of the HA.

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

We will continue working with local organizations including the DHA, Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI), and Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corps (CHRIC) to make public housing residents aware of available housing programs. We also recognize that the majority of public housing residents in Dunkirk are Hispanic. In the next year we intend to look for ways to engage with and provide resources for our community's Hispanic population. We will be sure to include the DHA and its residents in any of this outreach. The DHA reports that they share the process of first time homeownership and the availability of local resources that can assist through the general systems of communication such as a monthly newsletter and monthly tenant meetings. They also invite guest speakers familiar with the process to facilitate informational sessions.

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

The Dunkirk Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.

Discussion

The housing challenges that impact our community are deep and widely felt. The resources necessary to

ameliorate the full extent of housing challenges are far greater than the resources available to our community to address these challenges. With this in mind, and considering the generally good condition of public housing in Dunkirk, we have prioritized funding for other housing programs during this program year. We will continue, though, to seek out opportunities to engage public housing residents in our community and to connect them with resources and services that may benefit them.

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

Introduction

We recognize that homelessness is a real challenge for some members of our community. The data presented elsewhere in this Plan indicate that a variety individuals and families experience homelessness for a variety of reasons. There are challenges that the local Continuum of Care and other local service providers face in addressing the needs of homeless persons, including the lack of a dedicated homeless facility in northern Chautauqua County. We are aware of these challenges and will look for opportunities to assist these organizations where possible.

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

Given the urgency of other housing challenges and the programs applied for by local agencies, our funding for this program year does not include homeless programs. That being said, we will continue working with our local Continuum of Care to provide assistance in reaching out to homeless persons and assessing their individual needs.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons is an ongoing effort in Dunkirk. These needs are largely addressed by our local Continuum of Care, which is coordinated by Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI). We will work with COI to provide assistance in this effort where possible.

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

One of the ways we have been working towards this goal is by working with Southern Tier Environments for Living, Inc. (STEL) on their Dunkirk Renovation and Ownership Program, which in Phase 1 has created close to 50 new housing units in our community, a number of which have been targeted to homeless persons. Adding these new housing units and providing associated services have helped homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing and independent living. STEL is also planning a Phase II of this project and intends to apply for funding to from New York State to continue this

important initiative.

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.

We will continue working with our local Continuum of Care to find ways to help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless.

Discussion

Our first strategic plan goal is to provide safe, affordable housing for Dunkirk residents. With this in mind, in future program years we will consider funding any programs aimed at assisting low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

As stated elsewhere in this Plan, quality affordable housing is one of the most pressing needs in our community. We are committed to providing expanded opportunities for affordable housing as well as removing any potential barriers to affordable housing.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

We are currently unaware of any public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing. However, given the importance of affordable housing to our community, we will continue to monitor for any policies that do have the effect of creating barriers to affordable

Discussion:

We will continue to look for potential barriers to affordable housing and to remove those barriers where appropriate. For instance, one of the efforts we undertook in 2018 was to examine housing challenges in our community. We worked with a planning consultant, czb, LLC, to identify and develop strategies to deal with vacant and distressed housing. As part of this project, czb provided recommendations to the City regarding housing policies and programs. If any of these recommendations can help us improve accessibility to affordable housing then we will strongly consider implementing them.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This section outlines other actions that we will undertake to address the needs and advance the goals set forth in this Consolidated Plan. These actions include efforts to better manage our CDBG program internally as well as actions to better coordinate our CDBG work with other community agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The largest obstacle to meeting underserved needs in our community is a lack of funding. We will diligently look for additional grant opportunities, especially those that will allow us to meet underserved needs, of which there are many in our community. For instance, we will seek out additional future funding for CHRIC's Roof Repair Program through New York State's Affordable Housing Corporation

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

A number of the projects/programs that are proposed for funding in this program year are aimed at increasing housing accessibility or maintaining affordable housing for low- to moderate-income Dunkirk residents. These include:

- Chautauqua County Land Bank Neighborhood Pride Program
- CHRIC'S Down Payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program
- CHRIC's Roof Repair Program

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

We will continue working with local agencies, including Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corps (CHRIC), the Chautauqua County Land Bank, and the Chautauqua County Department of Health and Human Services, that aim to reduce lead-based paint hazards in our community. Where possible, we will also seek out grant opportunities to address lead-based paint hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The most effective way to reduce the number of poverty-level families is to improve the local economy. The City's Planning and Development Department works constantly to do just that by supporting local businesses, finding ways to attract new businesses, and seeking out available grant opportunities to improve our community and its economy. This work will continue going forward.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Dunkirk will continue to look for ways to improve our institutional structure both within City Hall and with community organizations. We will seek ways to communicate better amongst City departments and with the organizations doing important work in the community. Among the actions currently planned are:

- Creating checklists and procedures to better follow CDBG processes
- Continuing education of the CDBG program, taking advantage of learning resources provided by HUD
- Creation of systems and internal structure to guide the City's CDBG program in the future
- Continuing information sharing between organizations and City staff to ensure that all are aware of resources available and can guide residents appropriately
- Continuing to participate in the HUD Field Office CoC informational and planning discussions

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

Prior to COVID the City's Planning and Development Department had started a business roundtable series that opens a dialogue between representatives from different sectors of the local economy. This idea could be extended to include public and private housing and social service agencies, which would help enhance coordination between the agencies and as the restrictions of COVID are loosening this is an idea that the City will look to pursue again.

City Planning and Development staff have also started participating in a homelessness workgroup run by the local Continuum of Care and attended by most of the local social service/housing agencies. This participation will further enhance coordination between the City and these agencies.

Discussion:

We will continue to look for ways to improve our administration of the CDBG program and our efforts towards meeting the CDBG programs goals. While the CDBG program is an effective tool in and of itself, we realize that the work undertaken through CDBG occurs in the context of other work being done in our community by a variety of agencies. All of these agencies provide a valuable contribution towards the well-being of our community, especially those higher needs residents requiring additional services. We will continue to work to ensure that our CDBG program is well-coordinated with other work being done in our community.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

| | |
|--|----------|
| 1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed | 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. | 85.00% |

