

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

Cincinnati and its neighborhoods have been strengthened by the strategic efforts to increase the quality and variety of housing, reduce blighted conditions, and improve the vitality of neighborhood business districts as well as small business enhancement.

The City's overall goal was to develop and support comprehensive efforts to expand choices and opportunities for individuals and families to enjoy decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Decent housing is housing, which is affordable, safe, and accessible. A suitable living environment is that which is safe, livable, free from blighting influences, and economically integrated.

Overall, the City of Cincinnati addressed the 2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan and 2024 Annual Action Plan goals and objectives for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV / AIDS Program (HOPWA). Despite the challenges brought about by the global pandemic and subsequent recovery efforts, the City was able to demonstrate progress in nearly all 2020 – 2024 Strategic Plan programs and projects in 2024.

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

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

| Goal | Category | Source / Amount | Indicator | Unit of Measure | Expected – Strategic Plan | Actual – Strategic Plan | Percent Complete | Expected – Program Year | Actual – Program Year | Percent Complete |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Rental units constructed | Household Housing Unit | 140 | 48 | 34.29% | 8 | 40 | 500.00% |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Rental units rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 50 | 1614 | 3,228.00% | 10 | 177 | 1,770.00% |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---|------------------------|------|------|-----------|------|-----|---------|
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Homeowner Housing Added | Household Housing Unit | 15 | 11 | 73.33% | 20 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 5550 | 5613 | 101.14% | 1115 | 952 | 85.38% |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers | Households Assisted | 100 | 68 | 68.00% | 40 | 17 | 42.50% |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Businesses assisted | Businesses Assisted | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Housing for Homeless added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 178 | | 0 | 178 | |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Affordable Housing | Affordable Housing | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Other | Other | 5 | 85 | 1,700.00% | | | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation | Business | 50 | 134 | 268.00% | 9 | 67 | 744.44% |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Brownfield acres remediated | Acre | 10 | 3 | 30.00% | 2 | 0 | 0.00% |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------|-------|-------|---------|------|------|---------|
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Rental units rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Homeowner Housing Added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 1 | | | | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Businesses assisted | Businesses Assisted | 260 | 413 | 158.85% | 0 | 139 | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Housing for Homeless added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$ | Buildings Demolished | Buildings | 0 | 1 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Homelessness Prevention | Homeless | ESG: \$ | Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing | Households Assisted | 200 | 283 | 141.50% | | | |
| Homelessness Prevention | Homeless | ESG: \$ | Homeless Person Overnight Shelter | Persons Assisted | 20000 | 16917 | 84.59% | | | |
| Homelessness Prevention | Homeless | ESG: \$ | Homelessness Prevention | Persons Assisted | 100 | 2 | 2.00% | 6101 | 7320 | 119.98% |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|---|------------------------|--------|-------|---------|-------|------|---------|
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 0 | 925 | | 0 | 925 | |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation | Business | 0 | 2 | | | | |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Rental units rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 5 | 5 | 100.00% | 1 | 1 | 100.00% |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 1 | | | | |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Businesses assisted | Businesses Assisted | 0 | 4 | | | | |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Housing for Homeless added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Buildings Demolished | Buildings | 1250 | 2725 | 218.00% | 250 | 269 | 107.60% |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care | Household Housing Unit | 100600 | 61059 | 60.69% | 20125 | 6194 | 30.78% |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|------|------|-----------|
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Other | Other | 10 | 340 | 3,400.00% | 2 | 43 | 2,150.00% |
| Public Services | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 14085 | 29271 | 207.82% | 2350 | 6820 | 290.21% |
| Public Services | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: \$ | Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care | Household Housing Unit | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | |
| Special Needs | Non-Homeless Special Needs | HOPWA: \$ | Housing for People with HIV/AIDS added | Household Housing Unit | 1125 | 1017 | 90.40% | | | |
| Special Needs | Non-Homeless Special Needs | HOPWA: \$ | HIV/AIDS Housing Operations | Household Housing Unit | 125 | 66 | 52.80% | 175 | 175 | 100.00% |

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

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

The City allocated resources based upon community needs, the success of a program at addressing those needs, input from the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB), and the public engagement process. The CDAB is a volunteer group appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. The CDAB advises the City Manager on the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), related resource allocations and other matters related to the administration of the Consolidated Plan. The 2024 CAPER was presented to the CDAB prior to the submission of the final CAPER, as well as posted on the City’s website. All accomplishments for

the entitlement grant programs were presented for the Program Year 2024 regardless of the which years' entitlement grant funds were expended.

Throughout program year 2024 the City has continued making gains toward reaching the expected Consolidated Plan outcomes. Additional federal funding, in the form of ERA, CARES, and ARPA grants, have been necessary support for thousands of local residents. While recovery from the COVID-19 aftermath is uneven and evolving within communities, there is a consistent and increased need for programming in areas of public safety, housing, employment, infrastructure, and environment. Entitlement funding alone cannot accomplish all the work needed in these areas. The City has prioritized fundraising/grant-writing and broader relationship-building through other avenues to leverage CPD resources for widespread impact. Outcomes include renewed commitments and strengthened relationships with local public bodies Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), the Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation (HCLRC), and Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority ("The Port"), as well as Community partners including Homebase (Local CDC Association), LISC, and Cincinnati Development Fund, a local CDFI. Multiple affordable housing initiatives have been developed between the coordination of these entities (among others), which resulted in CDBG-funded acquisition and rehabilitation projects in 2024.

The City's Consolidated Plan programs must continue to emphasize capacity-building within local entities to drive community uplift and local project success. In 2024, entitlement grant awards were increased to Homebase to build / expand CDC and CHDO capacity, which is expected to show more widespread project delivery among those entities over the remainder of the Consolidated Plan period. City administered projects continued to experience high demand such as housing repair services and hazard abatement & stabilization. The housing repair services program assisted 900 homeowners this program year. The goals listed in Table 1 supplements represent accomplishments during the program year 2024 and progress towards the goals established in the 2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan and 2024 Annual Action Plan.

Supplement to Table 1

OR-05 Table 1

| Goal | Program | 2024 Allocation | Expected Strategic Plan & Unit of Measure | Expected Program Yr. | Actual Program Yr. | Strategic Plan To-Date |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Affordable Housing | ADDI <small>American Dream Development Initiative</small> | HOME \$1,00,000.00 | 100 units | 20 | 17 | 61 |
| | CHDO Development Projects | HOME \$865,525.00 | 40 units | 8 | 16 | 188 |
| | CHDO Operating Support | HOME \$121,848.00 | 10 businesses (CHDOs) | 2 | 2 | 15 |
| | Family Relhousing Assistance | DBG \$200,000.00 | 100 units | 20 | 23 | 75 |
| | HARBOR <small>Homeowner Assistance Grants, Building Order Remediation</small> | DBG \$560,000.00 | 30 units | 15 | 23 | 42 |
| | Housing Repair Services | DBG \$1,750,000.00 | 5,500 units | 1,100 | 920 | 4,580 |
| | SHIP <small>Strategic Housing Initiative Program</small> | DBG \$104,815.00 HOME \$1,660,292.36 | 50 units 100 units | 10 20 | 36 51 | 73 431 |
| | Blueprint For Success | DBG \$0.00 | 35 persons | 7 | 0 | 57 |
| Public Services | Emergency Mortgage Assistance & Tenant Representation | DBG \$650,000.00 | 500 persons 1,000 persons | 100 250 | 218 586 | 1,240 3,429 |
| | Fair Housing | DBG \$210,000.00 | 5,000 persons | 1,000 | 1,337 | 6,379 |
| | Hand Up Initiative | DBG \$820,000.00 | 2,500 persons | 500 | 783 | 1,863 |
| | Youth and Young Adult Employment | DBG \$410,250.00 | 2,500 persons | 500 | 431 | 2,028 |
| | Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment | DBG \$180,000.00 | 10 acres | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Economic Development | Findley Market Operating Support | DBG \$80,000.00 | 5 businesses | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| | Operating Support - CDGs | DBG \$2,128,000.00 | 40 businesses (CDGs) | 8 | 11 | 45 |
| | Concentrated Code Enforcement | DBG \$607,000.00 | 100,000 buildings | 20,000 | 6,153 | 37,191 |
| Neighborhood Stabilization | Hazard Abatement Program & Historic Stabilization of Structures | DBG \$853,000.00 | 1,250 buildings 5 buildings | 250 1 | 234 0 | 969 11 |
| | Lead Hazard Testing Program | DBG \$175,000.00 | 600 units | 120 | 41 | 427 |
| | Place Based Initiatives formerly Vacant Lot Reutilization | DBG \$1,000,000.00 | 10 projects | 2 | 1 | 16 |
| | Rapid Rehousing | ESG \$321,629.00 | 200 persons | 60 | 21 | 260 |
| Homelessness Prevention | Shelter | ESG \$593,776.00 | 20,000 persons | 4,000 | 7,320 | 22,670 |
| | Prevention | ESG | 100 persons | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | Permanent Housing Placement | | 75 households | 8 | 20 | 51 |
| Special Needs | Supportive Services | HOPWA \$1,316,748.00 | 40 households | 8 | 0 | 4 |
| | STRMU | | 350 households | 64 | 56 | 118 |
| | TBRA | | 400 households | 79 | 99 | 245 |
| | Housing Operation | | 120 households | 24 | 0 | 71 |
| | | | | | | |

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

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

91.520(a)

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

| | HESG |
|---|--------------|
| American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous | 25 |
| Asian or Asian American | 24 |
| Black, African American, or African | 4,733 |
| Hispanic/Latina/e/o | 184 |
| Middle Eastern or North African | 18 |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 10 |
| White | 2,001 |
| Multiracial | 347 |
| Client doesn't know | 0 |
| Client prefers not to answer | 2 |
| Data not collected | 0 |
| Total | 7,344 |

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

Narrative

Generally, the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs serve the entire City of Cincinnati in accordance with the program requirements of each grant as the need for services is present throughout the City’s 52 neighborhoods. The listed ethnic and racial populations assisted with these funds represent the at-risk population served throughout the neighborhoods. CDBG had an additional 1,546 participants who did not fit within the assigned categories. HOME had an additional 3 participants who did not fit within the assigned categories. HOPWA had an additional 11 participants who reported as Black/African American and white.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

| Source of Funds | Source | Resources Made Available | Amount Expended During Program Year |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CDBG | public - federal | 12,229,791 | 16,071,182 |
| HOME | public - federal | 2,483,804 | 2,833,417 |
| HOPWA | public - federal | 1,916,748 | 2,066,416 |
| ESG | public - federal | 989,627 | 1,139,236 |

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

CDBG-CV: \$9,106,648, expended \$750,387

HOME-ARP: \$9,923,076, expended \$2,956,207

HOPWA-CV: \$166,072, expended \$0

ESG-CV: \$7,651,777, expended \$0

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

| Target Area | Planned Percentage of Allocation | Actual Percentage of Allocation | Narrative Description |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Beekman Corridor NRSA | 1 | 1 | |
| Bond Hill NRSA | 1 | | |
| Camp Washington NRSA | 1 | 7 | |
| City-wide | 75 | 80 | City-wide |
| East End NRSA | 1 | | |
| Evanston - Walnut Hills NRSA | 1 | 1 | |
| Kennedy Heights NRSA | 1 | | |
| Linwood NRSA | 1 | | |
| Madisonville NRSA | 1 | 4 | |
| Mount Airy NRSA | 1 | | |
| Over-the-Rhine - West End NRSA | 5 | 2 | |
| Pendleton NRSA | 1 | | |
| Price Hill - NRSA | 5 | 4 | |
| Riverside - Sedamsville NRSA | 1 | | |
| Roselawn NRSA | 1 | | |
| Upper Mill Creek NRSA | 1 | | |

| | | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| Uptown NRSA | 1 | 1 | |
| Westwood NRSA | 1 | 1 | |

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Two types of neighborhood boundaries that presently exist in the City of Cincinnati: (1) The 52 Neighborhood Boundaries drawn by neighborhood community councils and reflected in the Community Councils’ by-laws and (2) the 51 Statistical Neighborhoods Areas (SNAs) which are delineated by census tracts.

Generally, CDBG, HOME and ESG programs serve the entire City of Cincinnati in accordance with the program requirements of each grant. The HOPWA program serves the Cincinnati Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA), which covers sixteen counties in the region.

For the CDBG program, the City of Cincinnati was approved by HUD for a new Neighborhood Reinvestment Strategy Areas (NRSA) through 2024. An NRSA is a geographical area within a neighborhood that is primarily residential and contains 70% or more of low- and moderate-income residents. NRSA designations assists with targeting CDBG resources in support of community revitalization efforts. The residential portions of the following neighborhoods that have been analyzed and approved for NRSA eligibility are: Avondale; Bond Hill; Camp Washington; Carthage; Corryville; CUF; East End; East Price Hill; East Westwood; English Woods; Evanston; Kennedy Heights; Linwood; Lower Price Hill; Madisonville; Millvale; Mount Airy; Mount Auburn; North Fairmount; Northside; Over-the-Rhine; Pendleton; Riverside; Roselawn; Sedamsville; South Cumminsville; South Fairmount; Spring Grove Village; Villages at Roll Hill; Walnut Hills; West End; West Price Hill; Westwood; and Winton Hills.

The City utilized the public service waiver in order to provide supportive services to the community in response to the pandemic with 2019 and 2020 CDBG entitlement funding.

The CDBG-funded Hand Up Initiative Program provides job readiness and job training with an annual goal of transitioning 500 Cincinnatians out of poverty yearly. Supportive services such as transportation and childcare are also included in the program. The program focuses on residents in Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) with implementation from Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs). The 5-year benchmark as outlined in the 2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan is 2,500 persons trained. The programs include job readiness, construction skills, Commercial Driver’s License, home health visits, and culinary skills. All organizations to submit applications to be City of Cincinnati are required to be Community Based Development Organizations (CBDO). During Program Year 2024, Six (6) CBDOs served 444 beneficiaries across the City’s NRSAs. In that timeframe, more than \$1.4 Million were spent in these NRSAs, representing more than 15% of the geographic distribution.

All other established CDBG-funded public service programs, Tenant Representation, Emergency Mortgage Assistance, Youth and Young Adult Employment Program, Fair Housing Services, and Family

Rehousing Assistance, provided services City-wide and are subject to the 15% public service cap. The Youth and Young Adult Employment Program accepts applications from youth ages 14 through 24 who reside in the region and does not restrict to only City of Cincinnati residents.

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Leveraging

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

The majority of the City's Consolidated Plan programs generate leverage and meet the required match standards. Federal resources are an important element of many of the housing and economic development projects funded by the City. These projects require a variety of sources including, federal, state, local, and private dollars.

Of the City's CDBG programs, five generate leverage: Strategic Housing Initiatives Program, Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment, Hazard Abatement & Historic Stabilization of Structures, Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program, and . The City projects approximately \$11.2 million in leveraged resources annually from CDBG. Of the City's HOME programs, four of the programs generate leverage: Strategic Housing Initiatives Program, Community Housing Development Organizations Development Projects, Single Family Homeownership Development, and the American Dream Down-payment Initiative Program. The City projects approximately \$23.4 million in leveraged resources annually from HOME. For both CDBG and HOME, the leveraged resources include private investment, state and federal grants, and in-kind donations. Leverage varies from year to year based in part on the projects that are funded.

Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) is a non-profit organization that has led a coordinated community effort with the goal of ending homelessness in Greater Cincinnati since 2007. STEH administers the City of Cincinnati's ESG and HOPWA grant programs and Hamilton County's ESG program and is the Unified Funding Agency (UFA) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) programs. In collaboration with the City of Cincinnati, STEH developed policies and procedures for monitoring recipients of HOPWA, ESG, and CoC funding, which include reviewing documentation of matching funds.

Dollar-for-dollar match is verified for all Emergency Solutions Grant funds. Rapid re-housing and shelter providers must define their match upon submission of ESG budgets, prior to subawards being issued, and prior to expenditures being reimbursed. During the annual monitoring visit, subrecipients must verify their match and provide STEH with a sample selection of documentation of match. Subrecipients are also required at the end of each year to document all match and/or leverage for their programs, as applicable. The City's Office of Human Services reviews documentation gathered from STEH during monthly desk reviews and annual monitoring. STEH also manages the Homelessness Prevention/Shelter Diversion program and

provides the required match for the remaining funds.

As the Unified Funding Agency, Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) applies for, receives, and manages all Continuum of Care (CoC) program funds, including Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Transitional Housing, and Supportive Services projects.

Subrecipient Match Requirements

Budget Submission

- Each subrecipient is required to submit a complete budget using the standardized template during the annual project prioritization process.
- The budget must demonstrate that the project meets the required match.

Match Documentation

- Cash Match: A commitment letter must be provided by the subrecipient providing matching funds.
- In-Kind Match: A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the sub/recipient and the match provider is required.
- All commitment letters must clearly state the funding source.

Verification

- Match documentation will be reviewed by STEH during the Annual Performance Report (APR) process.

| Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year | 52,219,484 |
| 2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year | 13,328,449 |
| 3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2) | 65,547,933 |
| 4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year | 272,386 |
| 5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4) | 65,275,547 |

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

| Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------|-------------|
| Project No. or Other ID | Date of Contribution | Cash (non-Federal sources) | Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges | Appraised Land/Real Property | Required Infrastructure | Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor | Bond Financing | Total Match |
| 55x2025-037 | 04/11/2025 | 3,400,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,400,000 |
| 55x2025-039 | 06/12/2025 | 9,928,449 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9,928,449 |

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

| Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$ | Amount received during reporting period \$ | Total amount expended during reporting period \$ | Amount expended for TBRA \$ | Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$ |
| 60,578 | 46,984 | 107,562 | 0 | 0 |

Table 7 – Program Income

| Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
| | Total | Minority Business Enterprises | | | | White Non-Hispanic |
| | | Alaskan Native or American Indian | Asian or Pacific Islander | Black Non-Hispanic | Hispanic | |
| Contracts | | | | | | |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub-Contracts | | | | | | |
| Number | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Dollar Amount | 1,104,016 | 0 | 0 | 1,104,016 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | Women Business Enterprises | Male | | | |
| Contracts | | | | | | |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Sub-Contracts | | | | | | |
| Number | 4 | 4 | 0 | | | |
| Dollar Amount | 496,324 | 496,324 | 0 | | | |

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

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

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

| Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Parcels Acquired | | 4 | | 4,782,386 | | |
| Businesses Displaced | | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Nonprofit Organizations Displaced | | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced | | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Households Displaced | Total | Minority Property Enterprises | | | | White Non-Hispanic |
| | | Alaskan Native or American Indian | Asian or Pacific Islander | Black Non-Hispanic | Hispanic | |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

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CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

| | One-Year Goal | Actual |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 60 | 21 |
| Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 175 | 1,187 |
| Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units | 270 | 178 |
| Total | 505 | 1,386 |

Table 11 – Number of Households

| | One-Year Goal | Actual |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| Number of households supported through Rental Assistance | 159 | 120 |
| Number of households supported through The Production of New Units | 20 | 47 |
| Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units | 1,125 | 1,128 |
| Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 | 23 |
| Total | 1,304 | 1,318 |

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

The City of Cincinnati met or exceeded the goals and outcomes for the majority of the programs during 2024. It should be noted, however, these accomplishments that were completed during the program year as detailed in Table 11 and Table 12 do not correspond directly with the entitlement expenditure and may have been completed with prior year's funds.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City developed the 2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan and 2024 Annual Action Plan based on the outcomes from the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan. Needs analysis, community surveys and market analysis also determined the future action plans and related goals, objectives and programs. City staff input, community input, and support of the neighborhood analysis have been incorporated.

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

| Number of Households Served | CDBG Actual | HOME Actual |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Extremely Low-income | 2,168 | 38 |
| Low-income | 406 | 9 |
| Moderate-income | 745 | 14 |
| Total | 3,319 | 61 |

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The City focuses HOME Investment Partnerships dollars for affordable (extremely low-income) housing projects.

DRAFT

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

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

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

The Homeless Outreach Group (HOG) is a group of outreach providers who meet monthly to discuss the current unhoused population and best practices. Representatives from both the Cincinnati Police Department and Hamilton County Sheriff's department attend the group. Currently there are three agencies with six programs listed below that provide outreach services to those experiencing unsheltered homelessness:

Lighthouse Youth Services works with youth ages 18 to 24 experiencing unsheltered homelessness;

Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health's PATH Team connects people living in unsheltered situations experiencing mental illness to needed services

Greater Cincinnati's Behavioral Health Team operates a program in partnership with 3CDC, in partnership with Generocity 513 specifically focused on persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the downtown area of Cincinnati

The Veteran Administration employs two dedicated street outreach workers to house veterans living in places not meant for human habitation.

NeighborHub, the CoC's Healthcare for the Homeless provider, partners with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health (GCB) workers to identify unsheltered locations where individuals with medical needs are staying, along with other known encampments. Once identified, clients are enrolled in the GCBHS Medical Outreach program, connecting them directly to needed medical services.

When families call the Centralized Access Point (CAP) reporting unsheltered homelessness, outreach occurs on weekdays. Because families often remain hidden for safety reasons, they are rarely encountered through standard outreach routes. CAP staff gather details about the family's current location and dispatch outreach workers early in the morning before families leave for school, work, or other activities. Once unsheltered status is verified, these families are prioritized for placement in emergency shelter beds.

Housing and supportive services are provided to people experiencing homelessness through a combination of street outreach programs, a centralized intake service known as the Centralized Access Point (CAP), and a range of shelter diversion, emergency shelter, and transitional housing programs. The Homeless Outreach Workgroup maintains a by-name list of every individual experiencing unsheltered

homelessness and meets monthly to ensure that each person is being actively engaged by outreach workers and connected to the most appropriate resources and programs.

Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) operates the Coordinated Entry system for the community, which has three main components: CAP, Coordinated Entry into homeless housing projects, and Coordinated Exit into the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher programs. CAP serves as the centralized intake and assessment point for the Shelter Diversion Program, as well as for emergency shelters and transitional housing projects.

The Coordinated Entry system, which began in January 2016, uses the VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool) to assess and prioritize households for housing referrals. Currently, the community is piloting a locally designed assessment tool called the Cincinnati Housing Assessment Tool (CHAT), which will eventually replace the VI-SPDAT. The CHAT was developed to better reflect local priorities and strengthen housing placement decisions. STEH employs dedicated staff to manage the prioritization list, ensuring that housing placements are made appropriately and efficiently. Both STEH and the Homeless Clearinghouse use the prioritization list to evaluate the community's homeless housing resources and ensure that the available housing stock meets current demand as best as possible.

Continued:

Workgroups meet monthly to review system performance, share feedback, and ensure that best practices are being followed. Coordinated Exit, a collaboration between STEH and CMHA, prioritizes people experiencing homelessness and participants in homeless housing programs for Housing Choice Vouchers. This partnership has been in place since 2015, and STEH continues to serve as a liaison between the community and CMHA by supporting the prioritization and application process. Members of the core team include staff from the City of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, persons with lived expertise, the HMIS Lead agency, the UFA/CoC lead Agency, Coordinated Entry, the public library, University Hospital, and services providers for Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and more. Chronically homeless individuals in Cincinnati often experience homelessness in both unsheltered locations and in emergency shelters.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In Cincinnati, the needs of people experiencing homelessness are addressed through a network of emergency shelters and transitional housing programs that provide safe, temporary housing and supportive services. As a result of the Homeless to Homes Plan, adopted by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County in 2009, the Homeless to Homes Shelter Collaborative was formed to reconfigure existing shelter capacity in order to better serve the unique needs of the homeless population. Through this initiative, five state-of-the-art facilities were constructed, offering daytime programming, enhanced

case management, access to mental and physical health services, and healthier living conditions.

Families experiencing homelessness are served through the Family Housing Partnership, made up of Bethany House Services, Found House Interfaith Housing Network, and YWCA Greater Cincinnati. This collaborative continually reevaluates case management models and incorporates best practices to improve services for homeless families. In 2018, the group expanded its after-care case management to ensure that families can maintain long-term housing stability.

Emergency shelters in Cincinnati operate with a low-barrier approach, ensuring that people in crisis can access immediate shelter without unnecessary obstacles. These facilities not only provide a safe place to sleep but also connect individuals and families to supportive services such as healthcare, employment resources, and housing navigation assistance.

While the community has strategically shifted resources toward permanent housing solutions, transitional housing continues to play a role in meeting specific needs, particularly for youth, survivors of domestic violence, and individuals participating in substance use recovery programs. For example, the YWCA operates a joint transitional housing and rapid re-housing program, providing survivors of domestic violence with an immediate safe transitional housing option until they are ready or able to move into permanent housing in the private rental market. This project was later expanded to increase capacity and better meet demand.

In addition, the community has engaged Community Solutions to support the CoC's efforts to end chronic homelessness in Cincinnati, bringing national expertise to advance local strategies. Members of the core team include staff from the City of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, people with lived expertise, the HMIS Lead agency, the UFA/CoC lead Agency, Coordinated Entry, the public library, University Hospital, and services providers for Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and more. Chronically homeless individuals in Cincinnati often experience homelessness in both unsheltered locations and in emergency shelters.

New facilities and initiatives continue to strengthen the community's response to the needs of persons experiencing homelessness. In late 2022, Bethany House Services, the region's largest family shelter provider, opened a new facility with private sleeping rooms, assigned restrooms, and flexible space to support families in crisis. In 2024, Cincinnati opened its only fully non-congregate emergency shelter with private rooms, restrooms, and kitchens, designed specifically to meet the needs of individuals experiencing Category 4 homelessness. While these developments represent significant progress, the demand for shelter and housing assistance continues to exceed capacity. More resources are needed to adequately address the needs of the population and ensure that every individual and family has access to safe, stable housing.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care

facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Discharge Planning activities are coordinated with State level departments. The following outlines protocol for each discharge plan area:

Foster Care (ODJFS)

Each public children's service agency (PCSA) shall provide services and support to former foster care recipients that complement the young adult's own efforts and shall be available until the young adult's 21st birthday. Independent living services available to young adults aged 18 to 21 include: daily living skills, assistance with education or training, career exploration, vocational training, job placement and retention, preventative health activities, financial, housing, employment, education and self-esteem counseling, drug and alcohol abuse prevention and treatment. An agency may use up to 30% of its federal allocation for room and board for the emancipated youth up to age 21, which includes assistance with rent, deposit, utilities, or utility deposits.

Health Care (Cincinnati Health Network)

Locally, the hospitals have joined together to fund the Center for Respite Care, which is for homeless individuals who need medical support. The Admission to Respite requires: a) the hospital social worker to provide referral information to Respite; b) Respite staff evaluates patient data to determine if respite care is appropriate; c) hospital staff provides relevant medical background documentation; d) hospital discharges to Respite with a 30-day supply of all prescribed medications and transports the patient to Respite. Respite works with the patient to secure income and housing.

Mental Health Care (MHRSB – Mental Health and Recovery Services Board)

It is the policy of Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) that homeless shelters are not appropriate living arrangements for persons with mental illness. Patients being discharged from ODMH Behavioral Health Organizations/Hospitals (BHO) are not to be discharged to a shelter or to the street. Community Support Network (CSN) programs are required to have appropriate emergency housing plans in place in the event their clients undergo unexpected residential change.

Homeless Prevention STEH

Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) collaborates with two partner agencies to operate the community's homeless prevention program, known as Shelter Diversion. When households contact the Centralized Access Point (CAP) seeking shelter, they are also screened for Shelter Diversion. Veterans seeking assistance through the VA-funded Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Homeless Prevention program are likewise screened by CAP before accessing services provided by Talbert House.

Shelter Diversion is designed to prevent individuals and families from entering emergency shelters or sleeping in places not meant for human habitation—that is, from becoming literally homeless. The program primarily serves households that have already lost their own housing, are doubled up with others, and are running out of safe options. Through a combination of financial assistance and intensive case management, Shelter Diversion helps stabilize households and prevent the immediate crisis of homelessness for more than 1,000 people in the community each year.

In 2023, STEH issued a request for proposals (RFP) on behalf of Hamilton County using ARPA SLFRF resources to fund innovative homelessness prevention projects. Five projects were selected, focusing on Housing Problem Solving and expanding access to prevention services earlier in the housing crisis. These projects have been operated throughout 2024 and 2025 and will continue into 2026.

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Housing Problem Solving is a flexible, person-centered approach that emphasizes creative, individualized solutions to a housing crisis. It often includes strategies such as conflict mediation with landlords or family members, identifying and leveraging natural supports, connecting households to flexible financial resources, and helping people consider safe, short-term alternatives that avoid shelter entry. This approach empowers households to resolve their housing crisis quickly, often without the need for long-term system involvement. The model piloted through these projects also served as the catalyst for bringing Housing Problem Solving training to the CoC, including outreach to smaller mom and pop organizations that play a vital role in helping households achieve lasting housing stability. Also in 2023, the community was invited to participate in a Housing Stability Learning Cohort (HSLC) with Community Solutions, focused on strengthening homelessness prevention. As part of this work, STEH's Data Analytics Team identified that a significant percentage of people entering the homeless system came from one specific area of the city. In response, STEH convened a workgroup of service providers from that community, which is now developing targeted strategies to enhance prevention services in that area. That same year, the City of Cincinnati shifted its model for funding human services projects. Rather than spreading limited resources across multiple programs, the City decided to concentrate significant funding on a single initiative with the potential to make a measurable impact on a persistent social issue. To do so, the City reduced funding for many projects and redirected approximately \$2 million toward what it called The Impact Award. In June 2023, a collaborative partnership received the first Impact Award from the City of Cincinnati General Fund. The City awarded \$2.1 million to design and implement a predictive data analytics system capable of identifying households in the very earliest stages of a housing crisis, potentially even before those households recognize their risk of housing loss or homelessness. The goal is to proactively offer support and prevent homelessness before it occurs. The collaborative, now operating as the Housing Stability Collaborative (HSC), has moved beyond planning and is actively operating the project. HSC includes a leadership team guiding strategy, a data team building the predictive analytics system, and a service delivery team engaging households and providing tailored assistance. In recognition of its innovation and potential, the project was selected by Notre

Dame's Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO) to formally test its effectiveness. This evaluation will provide rigorous evidence about whether predictive data analytics can be used to successfully prevent homelessness at scale.

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

The local homeless services system in Cincinnati is working to reduce homelessness through a comprehensive strategy focused on several key areas: preventing homelessness through diversion, improving services for those currently experiencing homelessness, and expanding access to appropriate and stable housing options. Homelessness prevention and shelter diversion are supported through a combination of local, state, federal, and privately-raised funds, including ESG, Ohio Housing Finance Agency, United Way, and ARPA SLFRF. These resources are used to divert households at imminent risk of homelessness into safe, stable housing paired with services that support long-term stability. Shelter Diversion projects operate through a coordinated partnership between the City of Cincinnati, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Emergency Assistance agencies, and Strategies to End Homelessness. Eligibility for these programs is based on a range of risk factors, including immediate need for shelter, past homelessness, current reliance on others for temporary housing, lack of financial or familial support, and extremely low income. In addition, Talbert House administers a Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Homeless Prevention and Rapid Resolution program, providing targeted support to veterans and their families at risk of homelessness through financial assistance and housing-focused services, including diversion strategies.

Improving the quality and accessibility of services available to individuals experiencing homelessness is another central priority. The city's ongoing implementation of the Homeless to Homes plan has transformed emergency shelter into a more service-rich environment, particularly for single adults. These shelters now offer robust daytime programming, intensive case management, and stronger connections to permanent housing options and supportive services. These improvements help ensure that individuals are able to exit homelessness more quickly and with the tools needed to remain stably housed.

Expanding access to housing resources remains at the core of Cincinnati's approach to ending homelessness. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) continues to be a high-priority strategy, widely recognized for its effectiveness in ending episodes of homelessness quickly and cost-efficiently. The community prioritizes the use of Housing First principles across its continuum of care, with 100% of RRH and 98% of permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects operating under low-barrier, client-centered models. Although not all housing is classified as Housing First—such as a sober housing project that requires a

commitment to sobriety—these exceptions are purposefully included to ensure a comprehensive housing portfolio that meets varying client needs. Even within these models, evictions are avoided in cases of relapse, and clients are provided with additional support. The provider of this sober housing project also operates Housing First PSH programs and has played a leadership role in training the local system in Housing First principles for nearly fifteen years.

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A critical recent addition to the local housing strategy is the RentConnect Project, launched in 2023 by Strategies to End Homelessness. RentConnect helps individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness secure stable rental housing by bridging the gap between property owners and housing-focused service providers. Through the use of the Padmission platform, landlords list available units that case managers can access to quickly match clients to appropriate housing. Participating landlords receive direct rental payments for the initial three to six months, along with leasing incentives and access to risk mitigation funds, reducing barriers to participation. Tenants, in turn, benefit from continued case management and wraparound support, ensuring housing stability over time. RentConnect not only expands housing options across the city but also helps reduce the time households spend homeless while supporting long-term independence.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) assists nearly 11,893 families through the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program. CMHA has a portfolio of 4,435 public housing units with a budget of approximately \$155 million, which includes the operating, capital, annual contributions for Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance, family self-sufficiency, as well as rental income.

CMHA will seek to meet the agency's goals to expand quality affordable housing through the occasional use of the conversion of Housing Choice Vouchers into Project-Based vouchers, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 983. Approximately 6% of CMHA's Vouchers are invested in Project-Based Vouchers assistance throughout Hamilton County. The goal over the next 5 years is to increase that number to 20%. CMHA will convert Housing Choice Vouchers to Project-Based Vouchers (PBVs) to meet the following goals:

- Meet the housing needs of special needs populations through financially supporting the collaboration of private and non-profit partnerships that result in specific and comprehensive housing and service provisions.
- Meet the housing needs for a hard-to-serve population through design and/or partnership with local social service agencies.
- Provide avenues for partnership with the City of Cincinnati and/or Hamilton County to support the preservation of vital housing communities that are pivotal to the local jurisdictional area and/or the submarket of the community's locality.
- Support projects which further revitalize neighborhoods, promote the deconcentration of poverty and generally provide increased housing and economic opportunities.
- Meet the agency's goal to continuously promote the expansion of quality affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate-income families.

Further, this transition to PBVs could have a decidedly positive impact on the deconcentration of very, very low-income housing (incomes less than 30% of AMI) in Hamilton County. Such households comprise more than half of housing units in seven City of Cincinnati neighborhoods. The expansion of PBVs will continue to promote the expansion of quality affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate-income families.

- CMHA will continue to develop affordable units over the next several years, consistent with:
- CHMA's strategic goal of developing affordable housing units,
- Cooperation agreements with Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati,
- CMHA's long term viability assessment of public housing units, and CMHA's strategic plan between CMHA and HUD.

In development of the units, CMHA will adhere to the following principles: assessment of quality and

condition of units for replacement with new construction to meet housing needs; provision of marketable amenities and encouragement of neighborhood amenities; provision of choice and opportunity; leveraging of resources, tying into community planning and partnerships where possible; provision of comprehensive plan and solution for community / site revitalization which includes people, housing, and neighborhoods and partners where possible; provision of housing opportunities and choice for income tiers of 0 – 120% AMI for seniors, families, and other populations; and creation of synergistic economic development with and within communities.

The City of Cincinnati will continue to assist CMHA in performing the environmental reviews for CMHA including the Request for Release of Funds as well as Certifications of Consistency to the current Consolidated Plan.

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

The City's HOME-funded Down Payment Assistance Program is available to all income-qualified residents, including public housing residents, to encourage homeownership. The City has typically participated at CMHA's Annual Home Ownership Fair, which is designed to connect tenants to lenders, agents, home ownership professionals and to educate the tenants regarding down payment assistance programs and utilizing Housing Choice Vouchers to purchase a home. The City recently participated in a homeowner symposium featuring the various organizations to promote homeownership, particularly those seeking to become first time homeowners.

Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) has two designated EnVision Centers – Findlater Gardens and Winton Terrace through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Cincinnati, Ohio.

These centers support self-sufficiency with a focus on Employment, Education, Health, and Leadership pillars. As part of CMHA's Annual Planning and outreach programming, ongoing communication and participation of the resident council organizations improve the quality of life, resident satisfaction and self-help initiative with CMHA staff.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) is not designated as a troubled PHA.

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

Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Cincinnati's movement toward creating more connected communities has had a long history, and the relevant concepts are woven into the goals and strategies of the City's Comprehensive Plan, Plan Cincinnati. These include the following:

- Provide a full spectrum of housing options, improve quality and affordability
- Offer housing options of varied sizes and types for residents at all stage of life
- Expand options for non-automotive transit
- Offer a transportation system that emphasizes public transit
- Expand connectivity and facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users
- Become more walkable
- Increase mixed-use, compact walkable development throughout our neighborhood centers and along transit corridors
- Target investment to our Neighborhood Centers
- Evenly distribute housing that is affordable throughout the City
- Support and stabilize our neighborhoods

In January 2022, the City began engaging in a collaborative review of City housing incentives and zoning policies with the express purpose of identifying how current incentives either support or hinder the City's priority of increased housing development, specifically mixed-income, workforce, and affordable housing developments. The review culminated in a citywide Housing Summit in June of 2022 with nearly 200 attendees engaging with current City initiatives and investigating other potential strategies to address Cincinnati's housing shortage. The idea of "Connected Communities" became a recurring theme, and has grown to become the identifier for this process toward achieving the goal of the namesake.

The City spent much of 2023 pursuing a series of legislation modifications to the Zoning Code under the title of "Connected Communities." The Connected Communities initiative seeks to address and remove barriers caused by land use and zoning regulations identified in previous studies and engagement, with an explicit goal of managing and lowering overall housing costs by increasing housing supply.

Extensive community and professional stakeholder engagement was conducted and informed the series of draft policy changes designed to foster greater development, add density where most appropriate, focus on pedestrian and human-centered design, increase affordable housing production and preservation, and strengthen neighborhood business districts.

In 2024, Connected Communities legislation was approved by City Council. Connected Communities is the City of Cincinnati's strongest commitment to date to removing major barriers to production of all types of housing, including subsidized, workforce, and market rate housing.

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The following summarizes the focus areas of the Connected Communities work: Middle Housing: The expansion of the different typologies of permissible residential housing, including 2-3-4-family buildings, row and townhomes in certain areas of the city. Reduced Regulatory Barriers: The modification of existing building regulations, such as height, and density, to allow more and easier housing production. Parking: The modification of parking regulations to allow for easier housing production. Encouraging Affordable Development: Providing a regulatory incentive to projects proposing affordable housing by providing greater flexibility or relaxation of current building regulations such as height, and density. Human-Scale Development Regulations: Additional policies and regulations to better create more pedestrian, active, safe, and connected communities. Process Improvements: Changes, improvements, and accessories to the current regulatory process to reduce redundancy, increase efficiency, expand accessibility, and provide clear expectations and guidelines to reduce uncertainty for residents and developers. The ultimate goal of Connected Communities is to help Cincinnati grow into a more accessible, people-focused, healthy, and connected community for all.

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

The need for housing, community development, and quality of life services in order to assist low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and neighborhoods is tremendous. The greatest obstacle to meeting underserved needs is funding. While the City has programs to address the full range of underserved needs, the amount of funding available for those programs is insufficient to produce outcomes that ensure the basic statutory goals of providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities are met for all Cincinnati residents and businesses, especially those with the most need.

A key barrier to affordable housing in Cincinnati is an overall housing deficit. Current development is not keeping pace with demand. Building permits lag compared to peer cities, causing housing prices to increase at a higher rate relative to peer metro areas. In May of 2023, Cincinnati had the highest year-over-year rent increase at 7.9%, according to Zillow's observed rent index. While Cincinnati is actively working to lower barriers to housing development, particularly through Connected Communities, the cost of construction remains a barrier, especially for smaller local developers.

The Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance aims to increase housing supply by adding density to single-family zones. But while Cincinnati removed the regulatory barriers to constructing ADUs, financial and technical barriers still exist and need to be addressed. ADUs help current residents stay in their homes and provide affordable housing options for others, but only if a homeowner or developer has upfront capital. The residents who could most benefit from developing an ADU may be barred from

building one due to high design, permitting, and construction costs. In addition to monetary barriers, homeowners and emerging local developers may not have the experience needed to navigate the permitting and zoning requirements, preventing these projects from moving forward.

The lack of permanent housing, funding to provide adequate services to move persons out of homelessness, and adequate funding for preventing homelessness remain obstacles to meeting the needs of the underserved. Knowing that a shorter-term housing subsidy will work for most people in a housing crisis, the CoC is working to increase Rapid Re-Housing in the community. More Rapid Re-Housing will allow more people to move out of homelessness quickly and assist more people with finding stable housing. The CoC is implementing a pilot Progressive-engagement Rapid Re-Housing project to explore transitioning capacity from permanent supportive housing to Rapid Re-Housing to serve a greater number of persons with housing needs.

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

The Department of Community and Economic Development has integrated HUD's lead-based paint regulations and guidelines into its housing programs requiring risk assessments and lead hazard reduction work on rehabilitation projects completed with federal assistance on residential structures built before 1978. From 2020 through 2025, 12,390 residential units built before 1978 were completed with CDBG and HOME funded renovation activities, as reported in the PR – 89 Lead Based Paint Report. The City's policies and procedures outline that all City funded pre-1978 housing rehabilitation projects include a lead-based paint analysis, pre-testing and post-testing, and remediation as necessary by appropriately trained workers.

The Office of the City Manager in partnership with Department of Community and Economic Development and Cincinnati Health Department Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CHD CLPPP), are administering two HUD office grants, Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control grant program. These funds are offered on a competitive basis. The award \$3.5 million for 3 ½ years to complete address lead-based paint hazards in 200 privately owned units. The funds are also spent on contractor training and community outreach efforts. The City has received and administered five of these HUD Lead Hazard Control grant programs, abating lead hazards in over 1,600 units to date

CDBG funding allocated to CHD CLPPP provides code enforcement for the issuing of orders on properties with lead hazards that are the primary or supplemental residences of children that tested with elevated blood lead levels in low-to moderate-income census tracts.

All housing inspectors for ESG and CoC housing are certified in lead-based paint inspections and housing is inspected for lead-based paint hazards initially and at least annually in housing projects, as applicable.

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

The City of Cincinnati primarily focused on programs that promote business development and provide

employment training in its efforts to reduce the number of poverty level families. The Consolidated Plan included several goals to address community development needs and reduce the number of poverty level households: Affordable Housing, Homelessness Prevention, Economic Development, Neighborhood Stabilization, Public Services, and Special Needs.

In order to reduce poverty throughout the jurisdiction, the City has enacted strategies including:

- Economic development programs specifically reducing poverty include workforce development investments through job training programs and small business and entrepreneur lending and technical assistance programs;
- The City provides CDBG funds for operating support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs) operating in 19 of the 52 neighborhoods throughout the City;
- CDCs assist with poverty reduction in the community by developing housing, revitalizing neighborhood business districts, and providing supportive services for residents;
- The City consistently uses the maximum 15% of CDBG funding towards public services activities, such as job training, emergency mortgage assistance, tenant representation, fair housing assistance, and mobility program.

The design and implementation of the plan and the subsequent programs are reflective of the need to reduce poverty when possible:

- Family Re-Housing Assistance;
- Emergency Mortgage Assistance & Tenant Representation;
- Fair Housing Services;
- Hand Up Initiative;
- Homeowner Assistance Repairs for Building Order Relief
- Housing Repair Services;
- Operating Support for Community Development Corporations;
- Small Business Services;
- Strategic Housing Initiatives Program;
- Urgent Public Health Crisis Response Program;
- Youth and Young Adult Employment Program;
- Emergency Solutions Grant Rapid Re-housing and Homeless Shelters and Other Homeless Housing Programs;
- Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV/AIDS Services and Support;
- Community Housing Development Organizations Development Projects; and
- American Dream Down-payment Initiative

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

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

The City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development and Hamilton County Department of Community Development worked collaboratively on the 2019 Fair Housing Assessment for Cincinnati and Hamilton County for the 2020 – 2024 Consolidated Plan.

The 2019 Fair Housing Assessment for Cincinnati and Hamilton County report provides an overview of the impediments of fair housing in the area. Federal law prohibits housing discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or family status. Military and ancestry status are protected classes in the State of Ohio.

Discrimination against protected classes and housing affordability are two separate issues but intertwined that one requires addressing the other. The following outlines key goals in supporting barriers to fair housing issues:

- Support organizations who are actively working to provide housing choices for the broadest groups of residents;
- Establishing a City Housing Trust Fund to develop new affordable housing, improve and preserve existing housing, and provide support for low-to-moderate-income households;
- Land use regulations that require, single-family lot sizes larger than a quarter acre, that prohibit multi-family housing, that regulate housing classifications by type of occupant and definition of a family that are likely having a disparate impact on low-income, protected classes of residents require addressing; and
- Support organizations and projects that are promoting and protecting protected classes and providing affordable housing and providing supportive housing services.

Metrics and milestones established with the 2019 Fair Housing Assessment include the following:

- Number of new housing units of over 25 units;
- Number of affordable housing units;
- Number of development projects;
- Establishment of a Housing Trust Fund;
- Support of fair housing efforts with organizations; and
- Establish the Housing Choice Mobility Program.

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

The City coordinates with public and private housing agencies and social service agencies through the public participation process, the Fair Housing Committee, and Continuum of Care (CoC), and the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB). Additionally, beneficiaries of the City's Strategic

Housing Initiatives Program are referred to the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) to investigate the availability of Housing Choice Vouchers. The city has taken action to overcome the effects of impediments identified in the 2019 Analysis of Impediments, including:

- Supporting organizations who are actively working to provide housing choices for the broadest groups of residents;
- Establishing the Affordable Housing Leverage Fund with Hamilton County and managed by the Cincinnati Development Fund.
- Implementing “Connected Communities,” a package of zoning and land-use policy reforms. The changes implemented through Connected Communities included permitting "Missing Middle Housing" in a number of target areas throughout the City, eliminating density restrictions and providing a height bonus in many of those same areas, reducing or eliminating minimum parking requirements in certain areas, expanding by-right zoning permissions to incentivize affordable housing development citywide, and implementing a number of new regulations to create more human-scale development in the city
- Supporting organizations that are promoting and protecting protected classes and providing affordable housing.

The Continuum of Care (CoC) is organized on a year-round basis to include a number of working groups whose role is to coordinate services and housing for their specific populations, improve access to mainstream resources and benefits, and facilitate improvements in systems needed by the homeless. Each of the working groups meets monthly. These working groups are divided as follows: Family Homelessness Workgroup, Homeless Outreach Workgroup, Permanent Supportive Housing Workgroup, Transitional/Rapid Rehousing Workgroup, Veteran’s Workgroup, Coordinated Entry Workgroup, Shelter Workgroup, and the Youth Homelessness Workgroup. A representative of each workgroup, along with representatives from the following entities are seated on the CoC Board: homeless education liaison, Healthcare for the Homeless, Veteran’s Services, homeless advocate, Runaway and Homeless Youth, CoC Victim Services Provider, ESG subrecipients (Diversion and Shelter), agency executive directors (CoC and non-CoC funded), City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, UFA/HMIS Lead agency, at least one community member who has experienced homelessness (two seats), and Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, our local PHA. The CoC Board meets monthly to oversee planning, coordinate efforts, and monitor progress on the goals of the consolidated plan.

The Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) is a volunteer group appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. Its membership consists of representatives from the following areas: Community Council leadership, human services, labor, low-income advocates, small business, corporate entities, lenders, developers, real estate, Community Development Corporations (CDCs), and City staff. Its role is to advise the City Manager on the Consolidated Plan Budget and other matters related to the administration of the City's Consolidated Plan.

Continued:

The City contracts with Housing Opportunities Made Equal for Fair Housing Services. In their closeout report in July 2024, HOME indicated that they assisted 228 clients with fair housing or landlord tenant issues. HOME assists many clients with disabilities with requesting Reasonable Accommodations or Modifications in order to fully enjoy their home and live free from discrimination. HOME also assists with investigating fair housing complaints by testing. In 2023, HOME investigated a housing provider that was not renting to families with children. Family status is a protected class under the Fair Housing Act. HOME was made aware of this practice from a community partner that attended a fair housing presentation conducted by HOME. The partner informed HOME about this issue, HOME conducted an investigation and found evidence that the landlord would not rent an apartment to a family with children. HOME filed the fair housing complaint with HUD and the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and it is currently pending with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission.

DRAFT

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

CDBG and HOME subrecipients are monitored by City Staff. Pursuant to the City's Subrecipient Monitoring Policy, at the beginning of each CDBG subrecipient contract term a risk assessment is conducted and monitoring strategy is developed/approved. City staff carry out each program's monitoring strategy ensuring at least one onsite monitoring visit once every three years. Staff also conduct a desk review with each invoice to ensure that the subrecipient is compliant with terms and conditions of the contract. Upon completion of programmatic activities, City staff aggregate results from the subrecipient, and plan future programmatic changes based on the results reported and staff analysis of the accomplishments.

CoC, ESG, and HOPWA awards are monitored by STEH, a subrecipient and pass-through entity for City of Cincinnati ESG and HOPWA. Monitoring processes include:

- Monthly invoicing includes a desk monitoring of dollars expended by provider agencies,
- Annual monitoring where source documentation, agency policies and procedures (including processes for ensuring outreach for minority and women-owned businesses), and participant records are reviewed.
- Monitoring tools used are calibrated annually with the HUD CPD Monitoring Handbook to ensure consistency with HUD requirements.
- Annual risk-assessment is completed for all subrecipients/pass-through entities to prioritize monitoring resources.
- HOPWA providers submit annual reporting to STEH, with specific excerpts from the HOPWA CAPER report according to activity funded. STEH compiles the responses and works with the City and HUD Technical Assistant to ensure accuracy.
- Annual monitoring reports are submitted to the City Manager's staff and to the Monitoring Subcommittee of the CoC Board.
- City staff attend entrance/exit conferences for STEH monitoring to ensure proper oversight and understanding of programs.
- City monitors STEH during monthly desk reviews of expenditures and an annual in-depth review using HUD Monitoring Handbook.
- The City maintains a seat on the Monitoring Subcommittee of the Homeless Clearinghouse where monitoring policies and procedures are evaluated, issues on subrecipient non-compliance

are addressed, technical assistance/training needs are identified, and monitoring results are reviewed.

- City Manager's staff include its review of STEH monitoring as part of the overall Compliance Strategy. The City's Office of Grant Administration has an annual internal review of each HUD-funded program, which is outlined in internal manuals. The City also conducts a systematic evaluation of its own programs and management systems to verify eligibility and compliance with applicable HUD regulations. When conducting these internal reviews, IDIS reports, HUD Monitoring Exhibits, and HUD training materials are utilized. CDBG Policy and Procedure Manual and Subrecipient Monitoring Standard Operating Procedure have been submitted to HUD detailing monitoring processes, checklists, databases, and reports required for each program annually.

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

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

The City of Cincinnati's overall public participation policy for the HUD entitlement grant programs include: at minimum two public participation events annually, which includes Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) meetings, to discuss yearly allocations and performance reports, newspaper posting of each meeting, and web site postings of Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports, and public and CDAB events. Meeting invitations are distributed to community groups, subrecipients, and stake holders as well as posted in the newspaper. Annually, a Tier 1 Environmental Review is conducted for each program.

For the 2024 CAPER, the Public Participation advertisement attached to this report demonstrates that a 15-day comment period was provided. The ad was published in the Cincinnati Enquirer during the month of September 2025. A formal presentation that was open to the public was conducted for the CDAB members took place on September 23, 2025. Copies of the advertisements and the presentation are provided in the attachments.

All documents are available on the City of Cincinnati's website.

<https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/community-development/hud-entitlement-grant-submissions/>

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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

The City did not experience any changes to objectives during program year 2024 and does not anticipate any changes to objectives. In the event a change is necessary, the City will follow the process to implement a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan Budget, including public notice, formal opportunity to comment, Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) input and approval, recommendation from the City Manager and approval from City Council through an Authorizing Ordinance. For substantial amendments, a public hearing before the City Council may be held, if necessary. Once input is received by the City Manager, the public, the CDAB, and City Council, the request would be submitted to HUD for review and approval.

A substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan and/or Annual Action Plan will be determined by the following criteria:

1. A substantial amendment is defined to include the following situations: the addition or removal of programs from the Consolidated Plan. However, creation of a new program addressing an Urgent Need national objective shall not be considered a substantial amendment.
2. Any proposed uses of HUD Section 108 Loan Authority or CDBG Float Loans are also considered a substantial amendment.

CDBG-CV funding has been focused on assisting several public service programs that experienced an increased need as a result of the pandemic. To date, CDBG CARES Relief funds have impacted at least 17,000 people throughout Cincinnati and more than 94% of CV funds have been expended through Program Year 2024. For all other entitlement programs, the 2024 Annual Action Plan was followed as submitted and approved by HUD.

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

No

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

CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

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

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

Alston Park Apartments

- **HOME Units:** 6
- **Units Inspected:** #415A, #417A, #417B, #417C, #417D, #419A

Beasley Place

- **HOME Units:** 10
- **Units Inspected:** #01-01, #02-03, #02-05, #03-08, #04-12 (1405–1407 Republic Street)

Bond Hill Roselawn Senior Housing

- **HOME Units:** 8
- **Units Inspected:** #211, #302, #304, #305, #306, #309, #407

Apple Street

- **HOME Units:** 10
- **Units Inspected:** #201, #210, #301, #311, #321 (4145 Apple Street)

Blair Lofts

- **HOME Units:** 10
- **Units Inspected:** #111, #205, #305, #310, #413

Cincinnati Scholar House

- **HOME Units:** 7
- **Units Inspected:** #207, #217, #307, #309, #316

City West Apartments

- **HOME Units:** 20

- **Units Inspected:** #555 Betton St., #724 Genevaview, #757 Chestnut St., #758 W Court St., #1519A Jones St.

Hadden Hall

- **HOME Units:** 6
- **Units Inspected:** #105, #110, #201, #204, #305, #309, #409, #430

Jimmy Heath House

- **HOME Units:** 11
- **Units Inspected:** Units #12 (219), #21

Kerper/Melbourne Apartments

- **HOME Units:** 5
- **Units Inspected:** 3072–3082 (Melbourne Terrace/Kerper Ave.)

Logan Towers

- **HOME Units:** 8
- **Units Inspected:** #211, #504

Madison Villa

- **HOME Units:** 11
- **Units Inspected:** #132, #317 (5615 Building)

Magnolia Heights

- **HOME Units:** 11
- **Units Inspected:** #1704-1, #1704-4, #1704-7, #1713-3, #1713-7

The Manse Apartments

- **HOME Units:** 11
- **Units Inspected:** 5 Units

Marlowe Court

- **HOME Units:** 6
- **Units Inspected:** All

McHenry House

- **HOME Units:** 43
- **Units Inspected:** 21

North Rhine Heights

- **HOME Units:** 11
- **Units Inspected:** Units at 228 E. Clifton Ave., 1636 Main St., 2017 Vine St., and 6 Findlay St.

Perseverance

- **HOME Units:** 7
- **Units Inspected:** #1513-3B, #1513-1D, #1511-2A, #1505-5C

Sheakley Center for Youth

- **HOME Units:** 8
- **Units Inspected:** #405, #417, #418, #419

St. Paul Village

- **Total HOME Units:** 20
- **Units Inspected:** 5515 Madison Rd – Units 009A, 018B, 041C, 046C, 106A, 131C, 150C, 210A, 217B, 220B

The Commons at South Cumminsville

- **Total HOME Units:** 8
- **Units Inspected:** 211, 222, 407, 413

Village of Roll Hill

- **Total HOME Units:** 125
- **Units Inspected:** 75

Walnut Court

- **Total HOME Units:** 8

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

All Consolidated Plan programs follow HUD's requirements for affirmative marketing. For HOME programs, developers and real estate agencies reach out to the broad community to rent and sell HOME housing units. Advertising the availability of the units to government housing allowance recipients in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the City. Developers shall also inform and solicit applications from persons in the housing market area who are not likely to apply for the housing without special outreach like use of community organizations, churches, employment centers, fair housing groups or housing counseling agencies like Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.) for fair housing services. H.O.M.E. specifically advertises in media outlets which reach targeted audiences, which whom the City has a contractual relationship.

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

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

Active participation in Affordable Housing Advocates (AHA) Preservation and Production Committee, which meets bi-monthly, includes representatives of housing providers, nonprofit organizations, the local public housing authority, advocates and consumers dedicated to ensuring good, safe, accessible and affordable housing for all people in Southwest Ohio. This group was formed to share the expertise and information gathered by its members over decades of affordable housing service and to initiate and support plans of action and policy initiatives that will further the creation, retention and accessibility of affordable housing in our community.

The City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) issues an annual Housing Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for City Capital, HOME, and CDBG-funded housing projects. Projects that have been awarded Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) from the Ohio Housing Financing Authority (OHFA) are considered for HOME funding. Outside of the NOFA process, DCED coordinates annually with a nonprofit lender that manages the City's and the County's Affordable Housing Leveraged Fund (AHLF) to support applications that are submitted to OHFA for the 9% LIHTC round to ensure that federal and local resources are conditionally committed to make applications as competitive as possible. Through an open application round, the City provides conditional commitments. The AHLF is an aggregation of funds to be utilized to help finance the construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of affordable housing in Greater Cincinnati. Sources include public, private, corporate, and charitable funds. In addition, under a City ordinance, the City has designated that 25% of the balance of funds in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts be set-a-side for projects that

support 60% and below AMI households. A separate ordinance that was approved empowers the City Administration to administratively approve tax abatements that support LIHTC projects as well as projects that are funded from the AHLF without having to go through the legislative process. This was instituted to help remove some of the barriers to affordable housing development. In 2017, the City instituted a Neighborhood Voluntary Tax Incentive Contribution Agreement (VTICA) whereby the City leverages its commercial tax abatement program to create financial resources for affordable housing. The VTICA is part of the City of Cincinnati's Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program in which commercial tax abatement recipients voluntarily contribute 15% of the value of a development tax incentive back to affordable housing (7.5%) and neighborhood quality of life projects (7.5%).

VTICA proceeds for affordable housing are directed to the Affordable Housing Leverage Fund where they can be accessed through a rolling application process.

DRAFT

CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

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

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

| Number of Households Served Through: | One-year Goal | Actual |
|--|---------------|--------|
| Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family | 64 | 56 |
| Tenant-based rental assistance | 79 | 99 |
| Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds | 24 | 20 |
| Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds | 0 | 0 |

Table 14 – HOPWA Number of Households Served

Narrative

The City of Cincinnati's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program serves persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) across the City's eligible metropolitan statistical area (EMSA), which includes:

- **Five Ohio counties:** Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren
- **Seven Kentucky counties:** Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton
- **Four Indiana counties:** Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, and Union

Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) administers the HOPWA program on behalf of the City of Cincinnati. Oversight and guidance are provided by the HOPWA Advisory Committee, which is comprised of City representatives, HOPWA officials, project sponsors, and other key stakeholders. This committee brings a variety of perspectives on HIV/AIDS issues and meets regularly to share progress, review community needs, and assess the most beneficial uses of available funding.

HOPWA resources provide a wide range of housing supports to stabilize individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. These supports include tenant-based rental assistance, short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent housing loss, permanent supportive housing for those with higher needs,

and access to transitional or emergency housing when immediate shelter is required. HOPWA also funds supportive services such as case management, medical respite, and housing navigation to help clients maintain housing stability and improve health outcomes.

In 2024, there were three project sponsors: Center for Respite Care, Caracole, and Northern Kentucky Independent District Health (NKY Health). Each sponsor delivers housing and supportive services tailored to the needs of PLWHA in different parts of the EMSA. During the annual allocation meeting, the Advisory Committee considered both geographic needs across the EMSA and past performance and spending by sub-recipients to inform funding recommendations to the City of Cincinnati. A subcommittee of the Advisory Committee also met separately to review and update EMSA-wide policies and procedures, ensuring they remain responsive to the evolving needs of PLWHA across the region.

Stable housing is a critical component of health for PLWHA. Research shows, and local experience confirms, that individuals who are stably housed are more likely to remain engaged in medical care, adhere to treatment, and achieve viral suppression. By reducing housing instability, the HOPWA program directly improves health outcomes for clients while also reducing healthcare costs to the broader system.

DRAFT

CR-58 – Section 3

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

| Total Labor Hours | CDBG | HOME | ESG | HOPWA | HTF |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Total Number of Activities | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Labor Hours | | 291,529 | | | |
| Total Section 3 Worker Hours | | 69,908 | | | |
| Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours | | 6,635 | | | |

Table 15 – Total Labor Hours

| Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program | CDBG | HOME | ESG | HOPWA | HTF |
|---|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers | | 1 | | | |
| Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers. | | 1 | | | |
| Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships). | | | | | |
| Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training. | | | | | |
| Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching). | | | | | |
| Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns. | | 3 | | | |
| Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts. | | | | | |
| Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns. | | 1 | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services. | | | | | |
| Held one or more job fairs. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents with finding child care. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training. | | | | | |
| Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching. | | | | | |
| Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns. | | | | | |
| Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies. | | | | | |
| Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses. | | | | | |
| Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. | | 1 | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Other. | | | | | |
|--------|--|--|--|--|--|

Table 16 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 3 program promotes and actively directs opportunities generated by HUD financial assistance to low-income families and individuals, particularly those who are recipients of public housing and other government assistance. Section 3 also benefits businesses that employ and train local low-income workers.

This year’s efforts involved implementation of the new Section 3 rule and refinement of processes. This encompassed three projects that were the first to close out under the new rule.

The City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development has created and posted a Section 3 webpage. The site contains an explanation of the regulations, and project specific information and contacts.

Contracting opportunities are advertised via the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) website and the City of Cincinnati Business Opportunities portal maintained by the Office of Procurement. Each project has Section 3 eligibility included. Section 3 Business Concerns and Section 3 Workers are not only notified of upcoming projects but also of the specific construction trades that are needed. Developers are required to attend and are available to answer questions and are onsite with blueprints and detailed specifications.

Section 3 provisions authored by attorneys in the City of Cincinnati Solicitor’s Office are included in all federal construction contracts with developers to ensure compliance.

Section 3 benchmarks and responsibilities are explained to contractors at mandatory preconstruction meetings. Given that the Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN MSA is a dense urban area, to assist with identifying eligible workers the City provides developers with a detailed report for each project listing of all Targeted Section 3 eligible addresses at inception so that targeted outreach can begin immediately.

Every recipient and their general contractor is required to certify a Section 3 Understanding which outlines their obligations. This is a necessary to receive a Notice to Proceed.

CR-60 - ESG 91.520(g) (ESG Recipients only)

ESG Supplement to the CAPER in *e-snaps*

For Paperwork Reduction Act

1. Recipient Information—All Recipients Complete

Basic Grant Information

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Recipient Name | Cincinnati |
| Organizational DUNS Number | 043325158 |
| UEI | |
| EIN/TIN Number | 316000064 |
| Identify the Field Office | COLUMBUS |
| Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance | Cincinnati/Hamilton County CoC |

ESG Contact Name

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Prefix | Ms |
| First Name | Morgan |
| Middle Name | |
| Last Name | Sutter |
| Suffix | |
| Title | Director of Grant Administration |

ESG Contact Address

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Street Address 1 | 801 Plum Street |
| Street Address 2 | |
| City | Cincinnati |
| State | OH |
| ZIP Code | 45202- |
| Phone Number | 5133526268 |
| Extension | |
| Fax Number | |
| Email Address | morgan.sutter@cincinnati-oh.gov |

ESG Secondary Contact

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Prefix | Ms |
| First Name | Hayley |
| Last Name | Banerjee |
| Suffix | |
| Title | Community Development Administrator |
| Phone Number | 5133522461 |
| Extension | |
| Email Address | Hayley.Banerjee@cincinnati-oh.gov |

2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Program Year Start Date | 01/01/2024 |
| Program Year End Date | 06/30/2025 |

3a. Subrecipient Form – Complete one form for each subrecipient

Subrecipient or Contractor Name
City
State
Zip Code
DUNS Number
UEI
Is subrecipient a victim services provider
Subrecipient Organization Type
ESG Subgrant or Contract Award Amount

DRAFT

CR-65 - Persons Assisted

4. Persons Served

4a. Complete for Homelessness Prevention Activities

| Number of Persons in Households | Total |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Adults | 0 |
| Children | 0 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 0 |
| Missing Information | 0 |
| Total | 0 |

Table 17 – Household Information for Homeless Prevention Activities

4b. Complete for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

| Number of Persons in Households | Total |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Adults | 21 |
| Children | 3 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 0 |
| Missing Information | 0 |
| Total | 24 |

Table 18 – Household Information for Rapid Re-Housing Activities

4c. Complete for Shelter

| Number of Persons in Households | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Adults | 5,561 |
| Children | 1,759 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 1 |
| Missing Information | 0 |
| Total | 7,321 |

Table 19 – Shelter Information

4d. Street Outreach

| Number of Persons in Households | Total |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Adults | 0 |
| Children | 0 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 0 |
| Missing Information | 0 |
| Total | 0 |

Table 20 – Household Information for Street Outreach

4e. Totals for all Persons Served with ESG

| Number of Persons in Households | Total |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Adults | 5,582 |
| Children | 1,762 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 0 |
| Missing Information | 0 |
| Total | 7,344 |

Table 21 – Household Information for Persons Served with ESG

5. Gender—Complete for All Activities

| | Total |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Male | 4,266 |
| Female | 3,025 |
| Transgender | 9 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 43 |
| Missing Information | 1 |
| Total | 7,344 |

Table 22 – Gender Information

6. Age—Complete for All Activities

| | Total |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Under 18 | 1,762 |
| 18-24 | 790 |
| 25 and over | 4,792 |
| Don't Know/Refused/Other | 0 |
| Missing Information | 0 |
| Total | 7,344 |

Table 23 – Age Information

7. Special Populations Served—Complete for All Activities

Number of Persons in Households

| Subpopulation | Total | Total Persons Served – Prevention | Total Persons Served – RRH | Total Persons Served in Emergency Shelters |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Veterans | 277 | 0 | 0 | 277 |
| Victims of Domestic Violence | 1,267 | 0 | 7 | 1,260 |
| Elderly | 371 | 0 | 2 | 369 |
| HIV/AIDS | 99 | 0 | 1 | 98 |
| Chronically Homeless | 588 | 0 | 4 | 584 |
| Persons with Disabilities: | | | | |
| Severely Mentally Ill | 2,398 | 0 | 13 | 2,385 |
| Chronic Substance Abuse | 1,167 | 0 | 10 | 1,157 |
| Other Disability | 983 | 0 | 10 | 977 |
| Total (Unduplicated if possible) | 4,548 | 0 | 29 | 4,519 |

Table 24 – Special Population Served

CR-70 – ESG 91.520(g) - Assistance Provided and Outcomes

8. Shelter Utilization

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Number of New Units - Rehabbed | 0 |
| Number of New Units - Conversion | 0 |
| Total Number of bed-nights available | 174,864 |
| Total Number of bed-nights provided | 174,864 |
| Capacity Utilization | 100.00% |

Table 25 – Shelter Capacity

9. Project Outcomes Data measured under the performance standards developed in consultation with the CoC(s)

Project outcomes measured for ESG-funded programs are aligned with the Annual Performance Report (APR) outcomes used for CoC-funded programs, ensuring consistency across the homeless services system. For ESG-funded shelters, the primary outcomes include:

- The percentage of persons with positive housing exits from shelter;
- Average length of stay in shelter; and
- The percentage of persons returning to homelessness.

The allocation process for ESG shelter funds is a collaborative, community-driven process. Outcomes data and community feedback are both considered to determine final funding recommendations to the City of Cincinnati. Programs demonstrating the strongest performance on outcomes are prioritized with a greater allocation of ESG shelter funds, while adjustments may be made based on broader community input. The City of Cincinnati actively participates in this process, and the outcomes and evaluation measures are reviewed at least annually to ensure relevance and accountability.

ESG-funded Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects are evaluated using a parallel framework. Key outcomes include positive housing exit destinations, average length of stay in the program, and increases in household income (both earned and any income). Outcomes are reviewed with RRH-funded agencies each year, allowing for performance assessment and the establishment of benchmarks for the following year. This process supports continuous improvement, accountability, and alignment with community-wide housing stability goals.

By aligning ESG and CoC performance measures, the community ensures that resources are used strategically, outcomes are comparable across programs, and efforts are coordinated toward the shared goal of ending homelessness in Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

CR-75 – Expenditures

11. Expenditures

11a. ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

| | Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year | | |
|---|---|----------|----------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Expenditures for Rental Assistance | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Expenditures for Homeless Prevention under Emergency Shelter Grants Program | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal Homelessness Prevention | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 26 – ESG Expenditures for Homelessness Prevention

11b. ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

| | Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year | | |
|---|---|----------------|---------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Expenditures for Rental Assistance | 0 | 170,931 | 77,282 |
| Expenditures for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services - Financial Assistance | 0 | 55,773 | 0 |
| Expenditures for Housing Relocation & Stabilization Services - Services | 0 | 98,341 | 0 |
| Expenditures for Homeless Assistance under Emergency Shelter Grants Program | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal Rapid Re-Housing | 0 | 325,045 | 77,282 |

Table 27 – ESG Expenditures for Rapid Re-Housing

11c. ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

| | Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year | | |
|--------------------|---|----------------|----------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Essential Services | 0 | 0 | 37,167 |
| Operations | 0 | 600,084 | 71,251 |
| Renovation | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Major Rehab | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Conversion | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subtotal | 0 | 600,084 | 108,418 |

Table 28 – ESG Expenditures for Emergency Shelter

11d. Other Grant Expenditures

| | Dollar Amount of Expenditures in Program Year | | |
|-----------------|---|--------|------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Street Outreach | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HMIS | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Administration | 0 | 65,913 | 0 |

Table 29 - Other Grant Expenditures

11e. Total ESG Grant Funds

| Total ESG Funds Expended | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------------|------|---------|---------|
| | 0 | 991,042 | 185,700 |

Table 30 - Total ESG Funds Expended

11f. Match Source

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| Other Non-ESG HUD Funds | 0 | 0 | 4,216 |
| Other Federal Funds | 0 | 460,948 | 0 |
| State Government | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Local Government | 0 | 64,784 | 181,483 |
| Private Funds | 0 | 465,310 | 0 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fees | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Program Income | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Match Amount | 0 | 991,042 | 185,699 |

Table 31 - Other Funds Expended on Eligible ESG Activities

11g. Total

| Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--|------|-----------|---------|
| | 0 | 1,982,084 | 371,399 |

Table 32 - Total Amount of Funds Expended on ESG Activities