

City of Cincinnati CDBG Programs

Program Name	Program Description	City Department	Program Contact (Name/Partner Org)	Program Contact Details (Email/Phone)	Additional Comments	Application Date
Economic Development						
Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program	The Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program, formerly known as The Strategic Program for Urban Redevelopment (SPUR) facilitates catalytic redevelopment of abandoned, vacant, or underutilized industrial and commercial sites throughout the City. The program focuses on addressing environmental contamination and obstacles preventing development of blighted areas, specifically in areas with imminent threats to human health and the environment. The funds are utilized for environmental assessments, contamination remediation, public improvements, infrastructure improvements, acquisition, demolition, stabilization, construction, reconstruction, installation of public works and facilities, prevent and mitigate the spread of environmental contamination and / or risk to human health, and other related activities to facilitate redevelopment.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov	Project Selection / Award Done on a Case by Case Basis	Ongoing - Rolling Basis for projects
Operating Support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs)	This program provides operating support to build and strengthen capacity of eligible non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs). Eligible entities serve the region through developing affordable housing units, performing commercial and economic development, addressing public facilities and streetscape activities, violence prevention / reduction, neighborhood safety, and increasing community engagement in the neighborhoods.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch and Joseph Malek - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov Joseph.Malek@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Homebase Cincinnati	Opens in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Empower Neighborhoods	This program provides project support to build and strengthen capacity of eligible non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs). Eligible entities serve the region through developing affordable housing units, performing commercial and economic development, addressing public facilities and streetscape activities, violence prevention / reduction, neighborhood safety, and increasing community engagement in the neighborhoods	Department of Community and Economic Development	Bob Bertsch and Joseph Malek - Department of Community and Economic Development	Robert.Bertsch@cincinnati-oh.gov Joseph.Malek@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Homebase Cincinnati	Opens in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Homelessness / Eviction Prevention						
Emergency Mortgage Assistance + Tenant Representation	The Emergency Mortgage Assistance program provides in-depth foreclosure prevention counseling, negotiations with mortgage companies, legal assistance and case management to prevent foreclosure. When homeowners are facing foreclosure due to job loss, illness, death of the primary wage earner, or other circumstances beyond their control, the program may provide up to three months of mortgage payments to bring their loans current. The Tenant Representation Program provides legal representation for low to moderate income tenants. The program prevents homelessness by stopping unlawful evictions, corrects illegal lockouts and utility shutoffs, and requires property owners to complete repairs to make rental units decent, safe, and sanitary. The project also prevents retaliation against tenants who contact the City about code violations.	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Deanna White	Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Legal Aid Services	Applicants call Legal Aid directly; available on an ongoing basis
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	ESG funds the operation of emergency shelter facilities as well as essential services for the residences. A current maximum of 60% the annual ESG entitlement allocation may be utilized for shelter funds. ESG Rapid Re-Housing activities will provide Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services and short and medium-term Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Deanna White - City Manager's Office	Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Homelessness	Funds are issued to STEH directly to distribute to providers participating in the Prince of Peace funding process. Typically due in December.

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HOPWA Services and Support	HOPWA funds will provide housing assistance through Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance (STRMU), Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), and permanent housing placement. HOPWA-funded TBRA services to individuals with HIV/AIDS that require assistance with rent or mortgage expenses. HOPWA funds will also be used to support the operation of Caracole's two transitional living facilities persons displaced by HIV/AIDS. Costs will include utilities, phone, insurance, regular maintenance, supplies and residential operating staff. In addition, HOPWA funding will be used to support the cost of nursing and personal care, case management, and meals for HIV/AIDS clients. Services are provided by three sponsor agencies, Center for Respite Care, Northern Kentucky Health Independent District, and Caracole.	City Manager's Office - Office of Human Services	Deanna White - City Manager's Office	Deanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Funding for Persons / Housing Assistance to Persons Living with AIDS and HIV	Funds are issued to STEH directly to distribute to providers participating in the HOPWA funding process. Typically due in December.
Housing						
American Dream Downpayment Initiative	The American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) program funds down payment assistance for the purchase of single-family owner-occupied housing by first-time, eligible low to moderate income homebuyers or eligible homebuyers that have not owned property in the last three years. ADDI funds are not to exceed \$14,999. ADDI funds are awarded as a five-year non-interest-bearing deferred loan payment with a five-year residency requirement. All or a portion of the funds will be recaptured in the event a homeowner moves from the residence, sells or transfers ownership during the five-year residency period. All ADDI recipients are required to take a HUD-approved homebuyer counseling course in advance of receiving this assistance.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Lawrence Taylor - Department of Community and Economic Development	Lawrence.Taylor@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Affordable Housing, Homebuyer Assistance, and Direct Financial Assistance	Ongoing - Rolling Basis for homebuyers
Strategic Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP)	SHIP provides financing for the renovation of multifamily units and single-family development, permanent supportive housing, emergency stabilization, infrastructure, urban homesteading projects, and the construction, conversion, renovation, rehabilitation of shelters for the homeless, or assisting persons that are homeless and/or addicted to opioids by the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, installation, or rehabilitation of transitional housing (public facilities)	Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy Hackworth - Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy.Hackworth@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Affordable Housing Projects	Applicants can apply under the competitive Housing Notice Of Funding Availability (NOFA) that the City issues at least once a year. Applications must meet underwriting and subsidy layering requirements to be considered.
CHDO Development Projects	HUD requires that at least 15% of the federal HOME allocation be used in development projects in partnership with Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds will be used for both rental and homeowner projects, new construction and renovations, with certified CHDOs. CHDOs are required to re-certify their designation bi-annually.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy Hackworth - Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy.Hackworth@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Affordable Housing Projects with Certain Designated Non-Profit Entities	Funding direct to Homebase, which they offer through a funding program. Typically in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Operating Support for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs)	HUD allows that up to 5% of the federal HOME allocation may be used in operating support for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds may be used to cover staff time, rent charges, and any other operating costs of the certified CHDOs. Goal for this project are tied to CHDO Development Projects	Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy Hackworth - Department of Community and Economic Development	Roy.Hackworth@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Affordable Housing Projects with Certain Designated Non-Profit Entities	Funding direct to Homebase, which they offer through a funding program. Typically in Spring; available for CDC member organizations.
Fair Housing Services	Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.), the area's local fair housing agency, administers this program to promote equal housing opportunities for all home seekers regardless of race, sex, color, nationality, religion, handicap, Appalachian status, marital status, sexual orientation, military, gender identity, ancestry, gender identity, transgender status, or familial status and to reduce unlawful discrimination in housing and increase integration throughout Cincinnati's neighborhoods. The program does complaint intake, investigation, counseling, and files legal complaints against persons, firms, or organizations suspected of discrimination in housing.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Breanna White - Department of Community and Economic Development	Breanna.White@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Housing Opportunities Made Equal	Applications open on an ongoing basis through H.O.M.E. Intake Coordinators

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Family Re-Housing Assistance	This project allows the City of Cincinnati to pay the first month's rent, security deposit, and moving expenses for persons moving to decent, safe and sanitary housing who have been displaced by code enforcement and/or the hazards of lead-based paint. City staff takes applications and provides vacancy and management company lists to clients.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Helen Hill - Department of Buildings and Inspections	helen.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Housing Stability / Financial Assistance	Open on an ongoing basis.
Homeowner Assistance Repairs and Building Order Remission	Homeowner Assistance Repairs and Building Order Remission (HARBOR). The program will provide financial assistance to low-income, owner-occupied homeowners that receive code violations on their property.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Helen Hill - Department of Buildings and Inspections	helen.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Safe and Affordable Housing, Housing Preservation, and Public Safety	Open on an ongoing basis.
Housing Repair Services	The Housing Repair Services Program provides grants for emergency and critical repairs to very low-income homeowners. Emergency services are limited to two emergencies per household per year. Critical repairs are those needed for the safety of the property owner. This program will also address code violations for low-income homeowners. In addition to addressing housing repairs for homeowners, this program addresses the mobility needs of disabled and elderly renters and owner-occupied units and will address healthy home issues that may be causing health effects of the occupants.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Helen Hill - Department of Buildings and Inspections	helen.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by People Working Cooperatively	Applicants should go directly to PWC for assistance; available on an ongoing basis.

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Lead Hazard Testing Program	Project funds are utilized for the code enforcement activities in eligible census tracts. Lead poisoning reduces IQ, increases tendencies of violence and delinquent behavior, affects a child's ability to learn, and is directly related to lower educational achievement. Children with lead poisoning have reduced lifetime earning potential and are more likely to live in poverty. Properties with Board of Health orders for lead hazard remediation are referred to the HUD Lead Paint Hazard Control Grant program when available.	Cincinnati Health Department	Maryse Amin	Maryse.Amin@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Housing and Public Health	N/A - distributed through Health Department's pursuit of code violations due to lead orders
Blight						
Concentrated Code Enforcement	Inspections of homes and businesses are conducted in low to moderate census tracts throughout the city by the City of Cincinnati Department of Buildings and Inspections' code enforcement inspectors. Corrections achieved through Concentrated Code Enforcement (CCE) include repairing porches, roofs, windows, and siding, painting, and removal of dilapidated garages, fences and sheds. Owners receiving orders are informed of funding availability through the Department of Community and Economic Development to correct violations. Targeted areas are identified through an analysis of building code violations, vacant buildings, disorder and drug calls, drug arrests, as well as incidence of graffiti, junk autos, litter and weeds. Integrated services include concentrating building code enforcement, identifying crime hot spots, cleaning up streets, sidewalks, and vacant lots, beautifying landscapes, streetscapes and public right of way, and engaging property owners and residents to create and sustain a more livable neighborhood.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Ed Cunningham - Department of Buildings and Inspections	Edward.Cunningham@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Blight and Nuisance Abatement, Public Health and Safety	N/A - Reactionary program available through B&I as a response to reported issues.
Hazard Abatement Program + Historic Stabilization of Structures	The mission of the Hazard Abatement Program is to preserve public health, safety, and welfare through demolition or barricading of blighted buildings. The program demolishes condemned buildings after normal code enforcement activities have been exhausted. The program also secures vacant abandoned buildings against entry. The Historic Stabilization of Structures Program abates public nuisance conditions and stabilizes properties, including historic buildings. This program is designed to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare while at the same time preserving the structures for potential future rehabilitation.	Department of Buildings and Inspections	Ed Cunningham - Department of Buildings and Inspections	Edward.Cunningham@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Blight and Nuisance Abatement, Public Health and Safety	N/A - Reactionary program available through B&I as a response to reported issues.
Public Service						
Hand Up Initiative	The Hand Up Initiative provides job readiness and job training to transition Cincinnatians out of poverty. The program will focus on residents in Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs). The Hand Up Initiative recipients are tasked with providing individuals with wrap-around services for the purpose of removing barriers to employment. Those services include, but are not limited to, transportation, childcare, and employment counseling. Following completion of the Hand Up curriculum, participants receive employment counseling and coaching to facilitate appropriate job placement.	Department of Community and Economic Development	Katrina Stallworth - Department of Community and Economic Development	Katrina.Stallworth@cincinnati-oh.gov	Program Delivered by Multiple Entities: Urban League, Cincinnati Works, IKRON, and Mercy Neighborhood Ministries	Varies; Each partner organization has separate intake process on a rolling basis. Contact agency directly.
Workforce Development						
Youth and Young Adult Employment Program	The Youth and Young Adult Employment Program trains youth and young adults ages 14 to 24 in the areas of workplace etiquette and basic work skills by utilizing workshops, presentations, and on-the-job experiences. The program provides recipients with opportunities to explore their interests and career options in Police Department, Fire Department, and Cincinnati Recreation Commission.	Cincinnati Recreation Commission	Brandon Elliot - Cincinnati Recreation Commission	Brandon.Elliott@cincinnati-oh.gov	Focus on Workforce Development and Youth Services	Youth applications posted January - March.