City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

Executive Summary

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

1.   Introduction

The City of Cincinnati's 2016 Annual Action Plan presents a series of initiatives to be accomplished between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, which corresponds to the City's Fiscal Year 2016 (January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016) and Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016). The purpose of the Action Plan is to ensure that public services, economic development, and housing services are delivered in an efficient and effective manner. The Annual Action Plan identifies various programs administered and subsidized with the use of federal funds. Most importantly, the Annual Action Plan is a reflection of the annual goals and objectives set-forth in the Five-Year 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan.

The Annual Action Plan is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and constitutes an application for funds under the following federal formula grants:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA)
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

The Annual Action Plan is a comprehensive plan that identifies key initiatives that will significantly improve the quality of life and/or financial stability of Cincinnati residents. The plan is derived from the goals established in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and is formulated in a collaborative manner with the assistance of Cincinnati staff across various departments. In

addition, the plan is integrated with contributions from public forums and the Community Development Advisory Board discussions.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan – *This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.*

The City's Five Year Goals, Objectives and Related Outcomes are outlined in 2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan and are based on grant funding at 2014 levels for each year. Both the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan documents are adjusted as the annual entitlement grants are awarded.

These goals, objectives and outcomes were selected based on community priorities, prior years' performance evaluation, the needs assessment, the housing market analysis and **Plan Cincinnati**, which is the City's comprehensive plan adopted in 2012**.** Top priorities for each grant are highlighted below:

- CDBG programs:
    - Reducing poverty through employment training programs
    - Emergency repairs for low to moderate income homeowners
    - Neighborhood business district development

- HOME programs:
    - Rehabilitation of affordable multi-family housing
    - Strategic investment by neighborhood for rental and homeownership programs
    - Tenant based rental assistance for families with disabled persons

- Both ESG and HOPWA programs are evaluated by cooperative processes managed by the Continuum of Care, Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH). Both of these consortia meet to review programs and services and recommend funding levels for each respective Annual Action Plan as well.

    - ESG Programs:
        - $550,000 is set aside for shelter and related supportive services and operation
        - Homeless prevention services receive the balance of the funding
        - Street outreach is conducted by three local organizations – Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health, Lighthouse Youth Services, and Downtown Cincinnati Incorporated – and is funded through other sources

    - Priorities for HOPWA-funded programs are listed below:

- Operating support for housing facilities for persons with HIV/AIDS
- Housing assistance through Short-Term Rent Mortgage and Utility (STRMU) payments, Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) and permanent housing placement
- Supportive services including case management
- Emergency shelter and medical care for homeless persons with HIV/AIDS

The Consolidated Plan priorities factored in the following items: Citizen Ranking, Community Development Advisory Board Input, Feedback from Staff Input, Needs Analysis, Market Analysis, Effectiveness of Programs, Leverage of Funds, and City Council Policy Direction.

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

Accomplishment data for Calendar Year 2015 of the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan's goals and objectives will be reported in the 2015 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), which was submitted to HUD on March 30, 2016.

4.   Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process – *Summary from citizen participation section of plan.*

The City of Cincinnati's Department of Community and Economic Development manages the development of the plan for the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs and provides guidance to all City departments and subrecipients receiving project funding. By October, departments submit requests for resources to the Department of Community and Economic Development. The City's Community Development Advisory Board provides program priorities for funding and a general public citizen participation event collected priority community needs. Requests were compiled and provided for public review.

The City Manager submits a Recommended Annual Action Plan to City Council's Budget and Finance Committee for deliberation. The draft Annual Action Plan budget was passed by Cincinnati Council on December 16, 2015. The City Council approval process includes a final opportunity for public input. After the entitlement grants are awarded, a reconciliation budget is distributed to the departments and subrecipients for input before final Council approval.

5.   Summary of public comments – *This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.*

A public participation event was held on October 15, 2015, at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. The public was provided comment cards to select the top community needs. Information regarding each program in CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA was provided.

City staff attended the event to answer questions from the public as well as provide information regarding specific programs.

The City's advisory board for the Consolidated Plan / Annual Action Plan process, the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB), held public meetings on August 20, 2015 and October 29, 2015. The CDAB consists of a 17-member volunteer group appointed by the Mayor with City Council approval consisting of 13 diverse community leaders and 4 City representatives. The following is the diverse community leader composition of the CDAB according to Cincinnati Municipal Code: community council members (3), lending institutions (1), small business advocate (1), human services (1), trades / labor representation (1), low income advocate (1), housing authority (1), real estate community (1), developer (1), corporate community (1), and community development corporation representative (1).

The City's recommended CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA budgets were presented before the City of Cincinnati's Budget and Finance Committee on December 14, 2015. The funding recommendations were based on a three tiered approach based on CDAB and citizen priorities. Cincinnati Council passed the entitlement ordinances on December 16, 2015.

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

The City of Cincinnati implemented the majority of the public and staff comments received while determining the funding for the programs. The one comment not implemented was in regards to funding the HOME Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Program. While the specific PSH program was not funded in the HOME budget, eligible PSH projects may be funded under the Affordable Multi Family Rental Program.

7.   Summary

City Council made final appropriation decisions for the 2016 Annual Action Plan Budget and took the public comments into consideration. The citizen participation process included engagement from a variety of residents and community leaders. The comments provided were thoroughly analyzed and considered in the development of this Annual Action Plan. A summary of the comments received is included as an attachment to the Action Plan.

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	City of Cincinnati	Department of Community and Economic Development
HOME Administrator	City of Cincinnati	Department of Community and Economic Development
ESG Administrator	City of Cincinnati	Department of Community and Economic Development
HOPWA-C Administrator	City of Cincinnati	Department of Community and Economic Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development administers the Consolidated Plan grants and the majority of the individual projects. A few projects are administered by two other city departments, including the Department of Buildings and Inspections Property Maintenance Code Enforcement Division and the Cincinnati Health Department Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

The City of Cincinnati contracts with Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) to facilitate the administration, implementation, and monitoring of programs related to the Continuum of Care for the Homeless, the Emergency Shelter Grant program, Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV/AIDS, and the Shelter Plus Care Program.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The City of Cincinnati worked with a wide array of organizations and existing networks to develop the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan. Each year, relationships are maintained and fostered with these organizations to establish the Annual Action Plans and to coordinate services.

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

- The City works with the United Way of Greater Cincinnati to award human services funds to outside agencies. These services are funded by the City's General Operating Fund at approximately $1.5 million per year.
- The Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), Hamilton County, and the City of Cincinnati worked collaboratively on the 2014 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan.
- The City partners with its Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) to enhance coordination of the Annual Action Plans and citizen participation. This volunteer citizen group provides Consolidated Plan recommendations to the City Manager and the members represent the following sectors: community councils, human services agencies, organized labor, low-income advocates, small business, corporate entities, lenders, developers, real estate, Community Development Corporations (CDCs), and City Administration.
- The local Continuum of Care collaborative applicant, Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH), coordinates the efforts of organizations which provide services to the homeless and other special populations for ESG programs and coordinates groups that serve the HIV/AIDS population with HOPWA funding.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

Strategies to End Homelessness serves as our local Continuum of Care (OH-500) and is under contract with the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County to facilitate the work of the community related to homelessness, including:

- Shelter diversion

- Street outreach
- Emergency shelter programs for singles and families
- Transitional housing programs
- Permanent housing, including
  - Rapid Re-housing programs
  - Service-enriched permanent supportive housing programs, including legacy Shelter Plus Care programs
- Specialized services-only programs.

The local Continuum of Care (CoC) process involves all agencies and programs who receive funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and does the following:

- Assesses capacity and identifies gaps
- Evaluates outcomes achieved by funded programs, in comparison to both local and national benchmarks
- Proactively develops improvements and solutions to systemic issues
- Works to implement HUD priorities, so as to increase the likelihood of the community continuing to receive funds
- Facilitates the allocation of funding to these agencies
- Serves as an inclusive vehicle to promote best practices
- Facilitates access to mainstream resources and services for the homeless
- Works to develop policies and procedures to assist homeless persons directly.

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

STEH facilitates the annual "Prince of Peace" process to allocate ESG shelter operation funding, an allocation based upon program performance. Higher performing projects, as determined by HMIS data, are recommended for a higher level of funding than poorer performers. The allocation process is based on established performance measures developed in collaboration with the ESG recipients and sub recipients. The process includes baseline funding for each agency that has submitted an application for the funding, based on each facility's outcome data in comparison to the other local facilities. Then, during the annual Price of Peace meeting, each agency provides a brief program description and requests changes to the proposed allocation

based on facility needs in the coming year, etc. A consensus is reached regarding the final allocation for each agency and the allocation is submitted to the City and County for inclusion in their respective Annual Action Plans. If issues arise with any ESG funded emergency shelter, issues are brought to the attention of Strategies to End Homelessness, and the Homeless Clearinghouse, the CoC Board.

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

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Development Advisory Board
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		PHA
		Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
		Services-homeless
		Other government - Local
		Business Leaders
		Civic Leaders
		Community Councils
		Neighborhood Organization
		Private Sector Banking / Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Annual Action Plan
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) is a group of citizens appointed by the Mayor with Cincinnati Council approval to provide the City with feedback and recommendation on the CDBG and HOME programs. Specifically, the CDAB provides guidance to the City on how resources should be allocated as part of the Annual Action Plan and throughout the year. In making appointments to the CDAB, the City attempts to attract a broad base of representatives from banking, real estate, housing, economic development, social services providers, and citizens at large.

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

2	Agency/Group/Organization	Cincinnati – Hamilton County Continuum of Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
		PHA
		Services-Children
		Services-Elderly Persons
		Services-Persons with Disabilities
		Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
		Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
		Services-homeless
		Services-Health
		Services-Education
		Services-Employment
		Service-Fair Housing
		Health Agency
		Child Welfare Agency
		Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
		Other government - County
		Other government - Local
		Business Leaders
		Foundation
		Private Sector Banking / Financing

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Action Plan
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As described above, STEH is the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Continuum of Care that provides guidance on homeless programs, including ESG.

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

The City of Cincinnati consults a variety of agencies in the Annual Action Plan process.

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Plan Cincinnati	City of Cincinnati Department of City Planning	The 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan was prepared in part by building on the data, needs analysis, community engagement and strategies in the City's most recent comprehensive plan called **Plan Cincinnati** (November 2012).
Continuum of Care	Strategies to End Homelessness	The Homeless to Homes Plan (February 2010) was developed with input from non-profit organizations, the business community, faith-based organizations, local government, funders, and non-profit organizations. Then, the homeless population goals and objectives were developed with input from the Homeless to Homes Plan and the City of Cincinnati Administration. The Hamilton County Commission, as well as the County Department of Community Development, were also consulted during the development of the recommendations in order to ensure that a consistent plan is being implemented across both jurisdictions.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City re-established the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) in 2011. The CDBG and HOME program requests were reviewed by the CDAB members. The CDAB members provided the City Administration with feedback on the level of priority that should be given to each program.

A public hearing hosted by the City of Cincinnati was held at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, an accessible facility, on October 15, 2015 to receive public comments regarding the Recommended Annual Action Plan Budget. Other accommodations for sight or hearing-impaired persons and for non-English speaking persons were available upon request. Notice of this Public Hearing was widely distributed. Paid advertisement was published in the Cincinnati Enquirer on September 30, 2015, a newspaper of general circulation. Additionally, the notice was posted on the City's website on October 5, 2015, and via social media on Facebook and Twitter on September 30, 2015. Finally, notice of the public hearing was provided to a wide array of community and nonprofit organizations via e-mail.

In finalizing its 2016 Annual Action Plan Budget, the City accepted comments received from citizens at the public hearing and in writing 30 days after the publication of the 2016 Annual Action Plan budget.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
CDAB Meetings	Public Hearing	Community Development Advisory Board	August 20, 2015 Meeting: 11 / 17 CDAB members, 13 City staff October 29, 2015 Meeting: 8 / 17 CDAB members	CDAB provided consensus on the CDBG's funding priorities	CDAB provided recommendations regarding each program's priority for the community
Public Participation Event	Public Hearing	Non-targeted / broad community	October 15, 2015 – comment cards available for the public to submit to the City – 23 received	Support was provided for the Hand Up Initiative, Operating Support for CDCs, and the Lead Hazard Testing Program	Input was provided on implementing the Home Energy Scoring system into federally funded development projects – at this time it is recommended by the City but not mandatory

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
City Council Meetings – Budget and Finance Committee Meetings	Public Hearing	Non-targeted / broad community	December 7, 2015 and December 15, 2015	Recommendations were made to increase funding in Summer Youth Employment Program, Housing Repair Services, Operating Support for CDCs, Tenant Representation and Emergency Mortgage Assistance	
Newspaper Ad	Publication	Non-targeted / broad community	September 20, 2015	E-mails were received regarding support of Hand Up Initiative	
Social Media	Publication	Non-targeted / broad community	September 30, 2015	E-mails were received regarding support of Hand Up Initiative	
Departmental Meetings	Meetings	City staff	Several throughout the year	All program funding requests were taken into consideration	All programs requests were in amounts that exceeded previous years' allocations

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

The CDAB determined the following program priorities (1 through 28, with 1 as the highest funding priority):

Project Title	CDAB Priority
Hand Up Initiative	1
NBD Improvement Program	2
Housing Repair Services	3
Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	4
Concentrated Code Enforcement	5
Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE)	6
Urban Homesteading	7
Fair Housing Services	8
Hazard Abatement Program	9
Historic Stabilization of Structures	10
Summer Youth Employment Program	11
Emergency Mortgage Assistance	12
Operating Support for CDCs	13
Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management	14
Blueprint for Success	15
Code Enforcement Relocation	16
Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment	17
Lead Hazard Testing Program	18
Tenant Representation	19
Small Business Services	20
Affordable Multi Family Rental Program	21
Housing Choice Mobility Program	22
Future Blooms	23
Homeowner Rehab Loan Servicing	24
Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach	25
Groundwork Cincinnati - Millcreek Restoration	26
Financial and Credit Union Services	27
Corporation for Findlay Market	28

The public participation event showed the following top priorities (1 through 9, with 1 as the highest community priority):

Project Title	Citizen Priority	Community Priority
Hand Up Initiative	1	Employment training programs for underemployed
Blueprint for Success	1	
Summer Youth Employment Program	2	Youth job training programs
Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	3	Affordable housing
Urban Homesteading	3	
Affordable Multi Family Rental Program	3	
Housing Choice Mobility Program	3	Low concentrations of poverty
Fair Housing Services	4	Fair housing services
Small Business Services	4	Small business assistance
NBD Improvement Program	5	Improving business districts
Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE)	5	Assistance for the elderly and disabled
Operating Support for CDCs	5	Non-profit capacity building
Lead Hazard Testing Program	5	Lead poisoning prevention
Housing Repair Services	6	Homeowner repair assistance
Hazard Abatement Program	6	Demolishing vacant buildings
Emergency Mortgage Assistance	6	Mortgage payment assistance
Tenant Representation	6	Legal assistance for tenants
Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management	7	Vacant lots improvement
Future Blooms	7	
Groundwork Cincinnati - Millcreek Restoration	7	Mill Creek watershed improvement
Concentrated Code Enforcement	8	Building and health code enforcement
Historic Stabilization of Structures	8	Historic building preservation
Code Enforcement Relocation	8	Building code enforcement relocation services
Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment	8	Environmental remediation of contaminated sites
Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach	9	Tax preparation services
Financial and Credit Union Services	9	Financial literacy
Corporation for Findlay Market	9	Urban core market place growth
Homeowner Rehab Loan Servicing	-	

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Cincinnati's 2016 Entitlement Awards and program income amounts are listed below:

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $	
CDBG	Federal	Acquisition, Admin and Planning, Economic and Housing Development, Public Improvements, Public Services	$10,754,370	$2,230,000	$0	$12,984,370	$0
HOME	Federal	Acquisition, Homebuyer assistance, Homeowner rehab, Multifamily rental new construction, Multifamily rental rehab, New construction for ownership, TBRA	$2,097,733	$140,627	$0	$2,238,360	$0

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $	Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $
ESG	Federal	Permanent housing in facilities, Permanent housing placement, STRMU, Short term or transitional housing facilities, Supportive services, TBRA	$979,871	$0	$0	$979,871	$0
HOPWA	Federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing, Financial Assistance, Overnight shelter, Rapid re-housing (rental assistance), Rental Assistance, Services, Transitional housing	$694,774	$0	$0	$694,774	$0

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

CDBG funds are used to leverage other public and private funds. The programs which leverage funds are the Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program (NBDIP); Core 4 Strategic Housing Program; Operating Support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs); Affordable Multi Family Rental Program; Small Business Services; Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment; Historic Stabilization of Structures; Groundwork Cincinnati – Millcreek Restoration; and Corporation for Findlay Market – Nonprofit Capacity Building.

HOME funds are also utilized to leverage other public and private funds, and generate matching funds as required by HUD. These programs include: Affordable Multi-Family Rental Program; Single Family Homeownership Development; Core 4 Strategic Housing Program; Operating Support for Community Development Housing Organizations (CHDOs); CHDO Development Projects; Permanent Supportive Housing; and the Downpayment Assistance Initiative Program.

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

The City of Cincinnati owns vacant buildings and vacant lots in most of its fifty-two neighborhoods. Two new programs included in the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan to address the use of publicly owned land – the Urban Homesteading Program and the Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management Program. Both will be considered for funding from 2016 to 2019. The City will convene monthly meetings with the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority to discuss ways to work together to implement programs and utilize publicly owned land. The City has strategically assembled land in some neighborhoods, such as Madisonville and College Hill, for large redevelopment projects. Redevelopment projects will be selected using participatory and competitive processes. In June 2014, the City entered into a preferred developer agreement to develop thirty city-owned buildings and lots near Findlay Market in Over-the-Rhine. The agreement stipulates that 30% of the housing developed must be affordable housing.

Discussion

The City of Cincinnati operates a program titled Cincinnati Land Reutilization Program (CLRP) to address non-productive publically owned land or property. The purpose of the CLRP is to return the non-productive property into productive uses, including homeownership, multi-income housing development, commercial and industrial redevelopment, parks and recreation, institutional or public use, infrastructure, community gardens, urban agriculture, and side-lot / vacant lot purchase and maintenance. This program utilizes City funds however the properties

may be eligible for federally funded redevelopment.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

#	Goal Name	Programs	Grant	Amount	Unit of Measure	Expected 2016
1	Promote Homeowner Housing	Urban Homesteading	CDBG	$30,000	Household Housing Unit	1
		Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	CDBG	$200,000	Household Housing Unit	4
		CHDO Development Projects	HOME	$200,000	Household Housing Unit	3
		Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	HOME	$200,000	Household Housing Unit	1
		Downpayment Assistance Initiative	HOME	$100,000	Households Assisted	25
		Single Family Homeownership Development	HOME	$220,000	Household Housing Unit	6
2	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners	Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly	CDBG	$156,000	Household Housing Unit	12
		Emergency Mortgage Assistance	CDBG	$88,000	Households Assisted	125
		Homeowner Rehab Loan Program	CDBG	$36,000	Households Assisted	300
		Housing Repair Services	CDBG	$1,696,000	Household Housing Unit	1,100
3	Rehab Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing	Affordable Multi Family Rental	CDBG	$100,000	Household Housing Unit	25

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

22

#	Goal Name	Program / Project	Source	Amount	Indicator	Value
		Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	CDBG	$241,000	Household Housing Unit	4
		Affordable Multi Family Rental	HOME	$876,852	Household Housing Unit	25
		CHDO Development Projects	HOME	$113,254	Household Housing Unit	5
		Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	HOME	$200,000	Household Housing Unit	1
4	Provide Supportive Services for Renters	Housing Choice Mobility Program	CDBG	$0	Households Assisted	1
		Tenant Representation	CDBG	$125,000	Households Assisted	200
		Tenant Based Rental Assistance	HOME	$0	Households Assisted	70
5	Promote Fair Housing	Fair Housing Services	CDBG	$130,000	Households Assisted	1,000
6	Promote Commercial and Industrial Development	Commercial and Industrial Development	CDBG	$200,000	Businesses Assisted	2
7	Promote Business Development	Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program	CDBG	$916,000	Business	40
		Small Business Services	CDBG	$205,000	Businesses Assisted	20
8	Increase Economic Opportunities Through Public Services	Blueprint for Success	CDBG	$81,000	Persons Assisted	25
		Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach	CDBG	$0	Persons Assisted	2,500

#	Goal	Project	Source	Amount	Indicator	Value
		Financial and Credit Union Services	CDBG	$0	Persons Assisted	100
		Hand Up Initiative	CDBG	$1,381,000	Persons Assisted	500
		Lead Hazard Testing Program	CDBG	$366,000	Household Housing Unit	200
		Summer Youth Employment	CDBG	$926,674	Persons Assisted	450
9	Improve Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight	Concentrated Code Enforcement	CDBG	$576,000	Household Housing Unit	4,000
		Future Blooms	CDBG	$0	Persons Assisted	7,000
		Groundwork Cincinnati - Mill Creek Restoration	CDBG	$25,822	Persons Assisted	1
		Hazard Abatement	CDBG	$845,000	Buildings	250
		Historic Stabilization of Structures	CDBG	$190,000	Household Housing Unit	3
		Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management	CDBG	$30,000	Persons Assisted	1
10	Provide Operating Support for Nonprofits	Operating Support for CDCs	CDBG	$315,000	Other	10
		Operating Support for Corporation for Findlay Market	CDBG	$150,000	Other	1
		Operating Support for CHDOs	HOME	$104,418	Other	4
11	Support Homeless Shelters & Other Homeless Housing	Emergency Shelters & Supportive Services	ESG	$550,000	Number of emergency beds	4,900

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

#	Goal	Category	Source	Amount	Indicator	Output
12	Prevent Homelessness	Permanent Supportive Housing	HOME	$0	Household Housing Unit	1
		Code Enforcement Relocation	CDBG	$85,000	Households Assisted	30
		Homeless Prevention	ESG	$356,381	Persons Assisted	135
13	Provide Operating Support for HIV/AID Housing Facilities	Operating Support for HIV/AID Housing Facilities	HOPWA	$223,000	Household Housing Unit	2
14	Provide Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS	Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS.	HOPWA	$110,931	Household Housing Unit	125
15	Provide Housing Assistance for Persons with HIV/AIDS	Housing Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS	HOPWA	$340,000	Household Housing Unit	200
		Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	HOPWA		Households Assisted	25

Table 6 – Goals Summary

NOTE: Some programs are included in the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan but are not funded in the 2016 Annual Action Plan. For programs with $0 in 2015, and no prior resources, output is 1 unit in 2016. For programs with $0 in 2016, but with prior resources anticipated to be spent in 2016, output is estimated amount of units for 2016.

Goal Descriptions

The 2016 Annual Action Plan includes 40 programs in the four entitlement grant programs – CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA. Several programs do not include new funding in 2016; however, these programs may have funds available from 2015 which will be spent in 2016. Additionally, it is anticipated that some of these programs will receive funding in 2017 to 2019.

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Promote Homeownership Housing
	Goal Description	This goal promotes the development of new homeownership housing as well as the preservation of existing homeownership housing. The programs that support this goal include: Urban Homesteading, Core 4 Strategic Housing Program, CHDO Development Projects, Down Payment Assistance Program, and Single Family Homeownership Development.
2	Goal Name	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners
	Goal Description	This goal provides financial assistance to current homeowners. The programs that support this goal are: Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE), Emergency Mortgage Assistance, and Homeowner Rehab Loan Program.
3	Goal Name	Rehab Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing
	Goal Description	This goal promotes the rehabilitation of rental housing for low to moderate income residents. The programs that support this goal are: Affordable Multi Family Rental Program, Core 4 Strategic Housing Program, and CHDO Development Projects.
4	Goal Name	Provide Supportive Services for Renters
	Goal Description	This goal provides services and financial assistance to renters. The programs that support this goal are: Housing Choice Mobility Program, Tenant Representation, and Tenant Based Rental Assistance.
5	Goal Name	Promote Fair Housing
	Goal Description	This goal promotes and supports fair housing practices in the city. The program that supports this goal is Fair Housing Services.
6	Goal Name	Promote Commercial and Industrial Development
	Goal Description	This goal promotes commercial and industrial development and redevelopment in the city's neighborhoods. The program through which this goal is met is the Commercial and Industrial Development Program.

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

7	Goal Name	Promote Business Development Opportunities
	Goal Description	This goal promotes the development of businesses and other organizations that improve economic opportunities in the City. The programs that support this goal are: Small Business Services, and Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program.
8	Goal Name	Increase Economic Opportunities Through Public Services
	Goal Description	This goal provides opportunities for low to moderate income individuals to receive job training. The programs that support this goal are: Blueprint for Success, Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach, Financial and Credit Union Services, Hand Up Initiative, Lead Hazard Testing Program, and the Summer Youth Employment Program.
9	Goal Name	Improving the Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Goal Description	This goal promotes sustainable neighborhoods by eliminating blighting influences. The programs that support this goal are: Concentrated Code Enforcement, Future Blooms, Groundwork Cincinnati – Mill Creek Restoration, Hazard Abatement Program, Historic Stabilization of Structures, and Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management.
10	Goal Name	Provide Operating Support for Non-profits
	Goal Description	This goal supports housing units developed by area non-profit organizations and Community Development Corporations that will benefit low to moderate income households, as well as promoting and expanding economic opportunities. The programs that support this goal are: Operating Support for CDCs, Operating Support for Corporation for Findlay Market, and Operating Support for CHDOs.
11	Goal Name	Support Homeless Shelters & Other Homeless Housing
	Goal Description	This goal supports emergency shelter operations and essential supportive services for shelter residents, as well as the development of supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals. The programs that support this goal are: ESG Homeless Shelters and Supportive Services, and Permanent Supportive Housing.
12	Goal Name	Prevent Homelessness
	Goal Description	This goal supports a shelter diversion program that will serve individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless. The projects that support this goal are: ESG Homelessness Prevention, and Code Enforcement Relocation.

13	Goal Name	Provide Operating Support for HIV/AIDS Housing Facilities
	Goal Description	This goal is accomplished by providing support to the operation of Caracole's housing facility for homeless persons with HIV/AIDS. Caracole is a subrecipient of the HOPWA funds.
14	Goal Name	Provide Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Goal Description	This goal supports services for homeless HIV/AIDS persons including temporary housing with medical support, outreach services and case management. Funding is provided to the HOPWA subrecipients, Caracole, the Cincinnati Center for Respite Care, and the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District.
15	Goal Name	Provide Housing Assistance for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Goal Description	Assistance is provided in the form of short-term rent/mortgage and utility assistance as well as longer term tenant based rental assistance. Funding is provided to Caracole and the Northern Kentucky Independent Health District.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.215(b):

The City utilizes HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds for affordable housing projects. Below lists the estimates of the number of individuals by income category the City will provide affordable housing. The estimates are based on the results in the HOME Summary of Accomplishments report in the 2015 CAPER.

Income Category	2015 CAPER Accomplishment	2016 HOME Goals
0 – 30% AMI	128 (60%)	130 (58%)
31% - 60% AMI	42 (19%)	45 (20%)
61% - 80% AMI	46 (21%)	50 (22%)
TOTAL	**216**	**225**

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

28

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
1	CDBG HOME	Affordable Multi Family Rental (AMFR) Program	CDBG provides funds for pre-development project delivery to administer the Affordable Multi Family Rental (AMFR) Program, such as architect fees, legal fees, relocation consultants, lead assessments and staff time. AMFR utilizes federal HOME funds to provide loans to developers for construction or rehab multifamily units for low and very low-income families. The AMFR provides quality, affordable rental housing for our lowest income families. AMFR focuses on large, multifamily projects and is the primary City funding source for Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects. The program's emphasis on larger, focused projects in conjunction with the "gap funding" underwriting model, allows the City to significantly leverage the HOME funds and capitalize on the diverse funding sources and economies of scale inherent in larger projects. The application process is open to any project that meets minimum program requirements and project applications are accepted on a rolling basis once all information has been submitted.
2	CDBG	Blueprint for Success	The Blueprint for Success Program is based on the Youth Build model, assisting ex-offenders and at-risk young adults ages 16-30 in obtaining marketable construction skills while following a National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum. Participants will undergo OSHA training, Lead RRP training, and will subsequently be trained in all aspects of residential construction through the rehabilitation of Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE), a CDBG funded program, homes as well as new construction projects, including participation in Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati builds in the region.
3	CDBG	Code Enforcement Relocation	This project allows the City of Cincinnati to pay the first month's rent or security deposit for persons moving to decent, safe and sanitary housing who have been displaced by code enforcement and/or the hazards of lead-based paint. Staff takes applications and provides vacancy and management company lists to clients. Qualified participants receive up to $650 for rental assistance and moving costs.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
4	CDBG	Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program	The Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program facilitates the redevelopment of abandoned, vacant, or underutilized industrial and commercial sites throughout the City. The funds provide environmental assessments, property acquisition, remediate contamination, construct public improvements, and related activities to facilitate redevelopment.
5	CDBG	Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE)	The CARE program provides forgivable loans and grants to low income, elderly homeowners to correct code violations issued pursuant to an exterior property condition inspection and code enforcement action. Owner occupants receive financial assistance in correcting common exterior code violations such as leaking roofs, dilapidated porches, unsafe stairs, and siding and painting. The program provides the CDBG funded job training program, Blueprint for Success, training for the students.
6	CDBG	Concentrated Code Enforcement	Inspections of homes and businesses are conducted in low / mod census tracts throughout the city by the City of Cincinnati Department of Buildings and Inspections' code enforcement inspectors. Corrections achieved through Concentrated Code Enforcement involve 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.
7	CDBG HOME	Core 4 Strategic Housing Program	The Core 4 Strategic Housing Program provides for targeted investments in affordable rental and owner-occupied housing projects with a minimum of four units. Core 4 Strategic Housing is an opportunity for the City to spur transformative housing development by leveraging resources to revitalize City neighborhoods, create long-term livability benefits.
8	CDBG	Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach (EITC)	Funding is used to cover printing of marketing materials in the City's print shop to advertise the volunteer and free tax preparation program. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Outreach program assists over 2,500 households per year.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
9	CDBG	Emergency Mortgage Assistance	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 temporary financial burdens, the program can provide up to three months of mortgage payments to bring their loans current.
10	CDBG	Fair Housing Services	The City contracts with Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.), the area's local fair housing agency, to promote equal housing opportunities for all home seekers regardless of race, sex, color, nationality, religion, handicap, 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.
11	CDBG	Financial and Credit Union Services	The program assists low-income individuals in obtaining banking services, funds workshops on financial literacy, and can include credit counseling.
12	CDBG	Future Blooms	The Future Blooms Program focuses on enhancing the aesthetics of targeted areas by painting windows and doors on boarded-up buildings, and improving vacant lots by growing grass, adding trees where appropriate, and using a fence to define the space as a "Future Blooms" project.
13	CDBG	Groundwork Cincinnati	The long-range goal of the project is to develop at least 14-18 miles of Greenway Trails along Mill Creek and West Fork Creek to transform blighted properties within the river corridors, to build community capacity, to support revitalization of Mill Creek neighborhoods, to promote healthy living, and to improve the health of natural resources within the Lower Mill Creek Watershed in Cincinnati.
14	CDBG	Hand Up Initiative	The Hand Up Initiative will reduce poverty by providing job readiness and job training to transition 2,000 Cincinnatians out of poverty. Supportive services such as transportation and child care will be provided. The program will focus on residents in Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) and the Empowerment Zone with direction from Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs).

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
15	CDBG	Hazard Abatement Program	The mission of the Hazard Abatement Program is to preserve public health, safety, and welfare through demolition, acquisition, barricading, or repair of blighted buildings, and includes site restoration after demolition. The program demolishes or repairs condemned buildings after normal code enforcement activities have been exhausted. The program also secures vacant abandoned buildings against entry by trespassers.
16	CDBG	Historic Stabilization of Structures	The Historic Stabilization of Structures (SOS) Program abates public nuisance conditions and stabilizes historic properties. Under Ohio Law if there is a historic building that is deemed a public nuisance, the City has the right to take action to abate the public nuisance conditions without taking ownership of the property. The City uses this right to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare while at the same time preserving the historic structures for potential future rehabilitation.
17	CDBG	Homeowner Rehab Loan Servicing	This program provides funding to service past low-interest deferred loans and grants that were given to low and moderate-income homeowners to correct building code violations, improve accessibility, enhance emergency conservation, and stabilize safe, sanitary housing citywide. This program covers the cost of servicing approximately 300 past loans with an outside vendor.
18	CDBG	Housing Choice Mobility Program	The Housing Choice Mobility Program promotes mixed-income neighborhoods, providing Housing Choice Voucher holders living in high poverty areas access to new neighborhoods. The program also provides outreach services to increase landlord participation in lower-poverty areas.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
19	CDBG	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 and have a maximum of $2,500. Critical repairs are those needed for the safety of the client and have a maximum of $10,000. This program also provides forgivable loans and grants to low to moderate income homeowners to correct code violations. In addition to addressing housing repairs for homeowners, this program addresses the mobility needs of disabled renters and owner-occupied units. Handicapped-accessible ramps are installed on buildings that are referred to the program by organizations advocating for the needs of the elderly and disabled populations in the community.
20	CDBG	Lead Hazard Testing Program	The Lead Hazard Testing Program provides lead testing of the homes where lead poisoned children reside and issues orders for the abatement of lead based paint hazards. 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. The program also provides medical case management of lead poisoned children and outreach education for the public with City General funds.
21	CDBG	Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program	The Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program enhances the business environment in 34 of the City's neighborhoods by constructing streetscape public improvements, infrastructure improvements, property acquisition, or other development activities.
22	CDBG	Operating Support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs)	This program provides operating support to build and strengthen capacity of eligible Community Development Corporations (CDCs). CDCs rehabilitate affordable housing units that will benefit low-income and moderate-income households.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
23	CDBG	Operating Support for Corporation for Findlay Market	Projects funds increase the Corporation for Findlay Market's capacity to carry out revitalization and economic development activities both at the Market and in the surrounding area. Included in this are costs related to supporting market promotion and events to increase the vibrancy of the market. Findlay Market is located in a low to moderate income area. The City has partnered with the Corporation for Findlay Market to promote and grow the urban garden program. Produce is sold at Findlay Market on the weekends.
24	CDBG	Section 108 Loan Debt Service	This covers debt service on existing CDBG Section 108 loans for Avondale Towne Center, Laurel Homes, Broadway Square, Anna Louise Inn and the Men's Shelter projects. New loans may be included through an Economic Development Loan Pool for catalytic economic development/job creation activities that demonstrate market feasibility but require financing assistance. Projects may include business development or commercial / mixed use development, and preferred uses of funds include real estate acquisition and construction. Housing projects could include rehabilitation of residential rental and / or homeownership units, public facilities and improvements, and construction of new housing as determined eligible by HUD.
25	CDBG	Small Business Services	The Small Business Services Program includes technical assistance for start-ups and growth needs of micro-enterprises and small businesses. Areas of assistance include: capacity development, business education and coaching, entrepreneurial training, incubation and technical assistance, loan packaging, accounting services, legal services, appraisals, environmental assessments, and inventory control audits. It will also include a revolving loan program to fill financing gaps for small to mid-sized businesses that create and/or retain jobs for low and moderate-income people.
26	CDBG	Summer Youth Employment Program	The Summer Youth Employment Program trains youth in the areas of work place etiquette and basic work skills by utilizing workshops, presentations, and on the job experiences. The program provides youth with opportunities to explore their interests and career options in public, nonprofit, and private organizations.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
27	CDBG	Tenant Representation	The Tenant Representation Program provides legal representation for low and moderate-income tenants through Legal Aid of Greater Cincinnati. The program prevents homelessness by stopping unlawful evictions, corrects illegal lockouts and utility shutoffs, and requires landlords 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.
28	CDBG	Urban Homesteading	Funding will be used to research and implement a pilot program to provide the opportunity for low to moderate income families and individuals to become homeowners. The concept is for vacant single and two family homes to be made available for qualified homebuyers and for the City to assist with the necessary rehabilitation prior to occupancy. A 3-year residency requirement is currently being proposed.
29	CDBG	Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management	Create a strategic plan for management and reuse of vacant lots after demolition occurs such as infill housing, urban gardens, adopt-a-lot, etc.
30	HOME	CHDO Development Projects	HUD requires that at least 15% of the HOME grant be used in development projects in partnership with Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds will be used for both rental and homeowner projects with certified CHDOs.
31	HOME	Downpayment Assistance Initiative	The Downpayment Assistance Initiative program funds down payment assistance for the purchase of single family housing by low- to moderate-income owner-occupant families who are first-time homebuyers. Eligible project costs include down payment and closing costs as well as costs associated with homebuyer counseling. By providing home ownership possibilities, this program helps to increase and/or maintain the City's tax base and also leverages a 15:1 private to public investment.
32	HOME	Operating Support for Community Development Housing Organizations (CHDOs)	HUD requires that at least 5% of the HOME grant be used in operating support for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds will be used to cover staff time, rent charges, and any other operating costs of the CHDOs.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
33	HOME	Permanent Supportive Housing	The Permanent Supportive Housing Program will provide partial financing for the construction or rehabilitation of new transitional housing units and new permanent supportive housing units as outlined in the Homeless to Homes Plan for the City of Cincinnati.
34	HOME	Single Family Homeownership Development	Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati builds and rehabs homes for low-income, working-family, first time homebuyers. The program provides up to $20,000 per unit as a construction subsidy and up to $2,000 per unit for homebuyer assistance. Eligible costs include certain infrastructure and construction costs for newly constructed or rehabilitated units, demolition costs, and construction modifications to blend units with existing neighborhood styles or address accessibility issues, and homebuyer assistance. Other eligible expenses include water and sewer tap fees, reimbursement of building permit fees, water permit fees, remote meter fees, a developer fee, and other approved fees under the HOME program related to the construction/rehabilitation of eligible new single-family dwellings.
35	HOME	Tenant Based Rental Assistance	The HOME funded TBRA program is operated by the Hamilton County Department of Community Development and provides rental assistance to households with one or more persons with disabilities. HOME funded TBRA covers a portion of household rent payments over a 12-month period and currently services about 70 households.
36	ESG	Emergency Shelters and Supportive Services	This activity funds the operation of emergency shelter facilities as well as essential services for the residences.
37	ESG	Homeless Prevention	This activity includes the funding of a shelter diversion program that will serve individuals and families at risk of homelessness by providing Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services as well as Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).
38	HOPWA	Housing Assistance for Persons with HIV/AIDS	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 approximately 25 households of individuals with HIV/AIDS that require assistance with rent or mortgage expenses.

#	Grant	Program Name	Project Description
39	HOPWA	Operating Support for Housing Facilities	HOPWA funds will be used to support the operation of Caracole's two transitional living facilities for 30 persons displaced by HIV/AIDS. Costs will include utilities, phone, insurance, regular maintenance, supplies and residential operating staff.
40	HOPWA	Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS	HOPWA funding will be used to support the cost of nursing and personal care, case management, and meals for HIV/AIDS clients. All three providers, Center for Respite Care, Northern Kentucky Health Independent District, and Caracole, provide these services.

Table 8 – Project Information

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

The City allocated resources based upon community needs, the success of a program at addressing those needs, and, input from citizens through the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) and the public hearing process. The CDAB is a volunteer citizen group appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. The CDAB advises the City Manager on the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, related resource allocations, and other matters related to the administration of the Consolidated Plan. The major obstacle in addressing the City of Cincinnati needs is a lack of funding.

The CDAB and the public ranked each project in the CDBG and HOME grant program. Four of the seven lowest-ranked projects were not recommended for funding in 2016: Housing Choice Mobility Program, Financial and Credit Union Services, Future Blooms, and Groundwork Cincinnati – Millcreek Restoration. The City received an increase in program income beyond what was anticipated due to several loan payoffs that occurred at the end of the calendar year. Because of this program income, Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management, Urban Homesteading, and Groundwork Cincinnati – Millcreek Restoration Programs had funds allocated in the reconciliation budget. The Housing Choice Mobility Program is subject to the public services 15% cap in the CDBG program and was not able to receive a funding allocation due to ranking and lack of available funds in the cap. The Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach program funds the United Way of Greater Cincinnati to produce advertisements for the free tax preparation services. As the program has gained popularity and is well known in the community, the printing services are no longer needed. This program, along with Financial and Credit Union and Future Blooms Programs, are recommended for removal from the CDBG programs due to lack of need and community support.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Affordable Multi Family Rental Program
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Rehab Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Rehabilitation of Multi Family Rental Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $100,000 HOME: $876,852
	Description	CDBG provides funds for pre-development project delivery to administer the Affordable Multi-Family Rental (AMFR) Program, such as architect fees, legal fees, relocation consultants, lead assessments and staff time. AMFR utilizes federal HOME funds to provide loans to developers of multifamily units for the to rehab of existing or construction of new units for low and very low-income families.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 housing units
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills

	Planned Activities	The AMFR program provides quality, affordable rental housing for our lowest income families. The lack of available, quality affordable housing along with the lack of job opportunities are linked in keeping families in poverty. There is a need to incorporate affordable housing with employment training and opportunities for families to have a real chance to get out of poverty. AMFR focuses on large, multifamily projects and is the primary City funding source for Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects. The program's emphasis on larger, focused projects in conjunction with the "gap funding" underwriting model, allows the City to significantly leverage the HOME funds and capitalize on the diverse funding sources and economies of scale inherent in larger projects. The application process is open to any project that meets minimum program requirements and project applications are accepted on a rolling basis once all information has been submitted.
2	**Project Name**	Blueprint for Success
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Increase Economic Opportunities through Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services and Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $81,000
	Description	The Blueprint for Success Program is based on the Youth Build model, to assist ex-offenders and at-risk young adults ages 16-30 in obtaining marketable construction skills while following a National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 individuals
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills

	Planned Activities	Participants will undergo OSHA training, Lead RRP training, and will subsequently be trained in all aspects of residential construction through the rehabilitation of Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE) homes, a CDBG funded program, as well as new construction projects including but not limited to participation in Habitat for Humanity builds in the region.
3	**Project Name**	Code Enforcement Relocation
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Prevent Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: $85,000
	Description	This project allows the City of Cincinnati to pay the first month's rent or security deposit for persons moving to decent, safe and sanitary housing who have been displaced by code enforcement and/or the hazards of lead-based paint. Staff processes applications and provides vacancy and management company lists to clients. Qualified participants receive up to $650 for rental assistance and moving costs.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 households assisted
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Combined efforts and referrals for assistance are conducted with the cooperation of the City of Cincinnati's Department of Buildings and Inspections Division of Property Maintenance Code Enforcement, along with the Cincinnati Health Department inspectors.
4	**Project Name**	Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program
	Target Area	City-wide

Goals Supported		Promote Commercial and Industrial Development
Needs Addressed		Neighborhood Focused Development
Funding		CDBG: $200,000
Description		The Commercial and Industrial Redevelopment Program facilitates the redevelopment of abandoned, vacant, or underutilized industrial and commercial sites throughout the City.
Target Date		12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities		2 businesses
Location Description		City-wide
Planned Activities		The funds provide environmental assessments, property acquisition, remediate contamination, construct public improvements, and related activities to facilitate redevelopment.
5	**Project Name**	Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE)
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $156,000
	Description	The CARE program provides forgivable loans and grants to low-income, elderly homeowners to correct code violations issued pursuant to an exterior property condition inspection and code enforcement action. Owner occupants receive financial assistance in correcting common exterior code violations such as: leaking roofs, dilapidated porches, unsafe stairs, and siding and painting. The program uses Blueprint for Success students.
	Target Date	12/31/2016

Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	12 housing units	
Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods	
Planned Activities	Owner occupants receive financial assistance in correcting common exterior code violations such as leaking roofs, dilapidated porches, unsafe stairs, siding and painting, etc. The program provides the CDBG funded job training program, Blueprint for Success, training for the students.	
6	**Project Name**	Concentrated Code Enforcement
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Improving the Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $576,000
	Description	Inspections of homes and businesses are conducted in low / mod census tracts throughout the city by the City of Cincinnati Department of Buildings and Inspections' code enforcement inspectors. Corrections achieved through Concentrated Code Enforcement involve 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.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,000 housing units
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods

	Planned Activities	This program provides for complaint driven inspections in targeted areas.
7	**Project Name**	Core 4 Strategic Housing Program
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development Rehabilitation of Multi Family Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $441,000 HOME: $400,000
	Description	The Core 4 Strategic Housing Program provides for targeted investments in housing projects with a minimum of four units throughout the City's neighborhoods. Core 4 Strategic Housing is an opportunity for the City to spur transformative housing development by leveraging resources to revitalize City neighborhoods, create long-term livability benefits, and optimize economic activity. Core 4 Strategic Housing provides housing opportunities for: affordable rental housing and starter homes.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 housing units
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Funds will be advertised for gap financing assistance of rehabilitation projects of single and multi-family units. Projects are required to have a minimum of 4 housing units to be eligible for funding consideration.
8	**Project Name**	Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach (EITC)
	Target Area	City-wide

	Goals Supported	Increase Economic Opportunities through Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services and Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $0
	Description	Funding is used to cover printing of marketing materials in the City's print shop to advertise the volunteer and free tax preparation program at City locations. EITC assists over 2,500 households per year.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2,500 individuals
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Publicize free tax credit preparation services throughout the City.
9	Project Name	Emergency Mortgage Assistance
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $88,000
	Description	The Emergency Mortgage Assistance program provides in-depth foreclosure prevention counseling, negotiations with mortgage companies, legal assistance, and case management to prevent foreclosure.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	125 households

	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	When the homeowners are facing temporary financial burdens, the program can provide up to three months of mortgage payments to bring their loans current.
10	**Project Name**	Fair Housing Services
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $130,000
	Description	The City contracts with Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.), the local fair housing agency, to promote equal housing opportunities for all home seekers regardless of race, sex, color, nationality, religion, handicap, or familial status, reduce unlawful discrimination in housing, and, increase integration throughout Cincinnati's neighborhoods.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,000 individuals
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	The program does complaint intake, investigation, counseling, and files legal complaints against persons, firms, or organizations suspected of discrimination in housing.
11	**Project Name**	Financial and Credit Union Services
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Increase Economic Opportunities Through Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services and Neighborhood Focused Development

	Funding	CDBG: $0
	Description	The program assists low-income individuals in obtaining banking services, funds workshops on financial literacy and can include credit counseling.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 individuals
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills
	Planned Activities	Workshops will be held and publicized
12	Project Name	Future Blooms
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Improving Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $0
	Description	The Future Blooms Program focuses on enhancing the aesthetics of targeted areas by painting windows and doors on boarded up buildings, and improving vacant lots by growing grass, adding trees where appropriate, and using a fence to define the space as a "Future Blooms" project.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,400 persons assisted
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods

	Planned Activities	Vacant properties will have their boarded up windows and doors painted as well as the continued planning of vacant space utilization.
13	**Project Name**	Groundwork Cincinnati – Mill Creek Restoration
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Improving the Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $25,822
	Description	The long-range goal of the program is to develop at least 14-18 miles of Greenway Trails along Mill Creek and West Fork Creek to transform blighted properties within the river corridors, to build community capacity, to support revitalization of Mill Creek neighborhoods, to promote healthy living, and to improve the health of natural resources within the Lower Mill Creek Watershed in Cincinnati.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25,000 individuals
	Location Description	Northside, South Cumminsville, Millvale, Spring Grove Village, North and South Fairmount, Lower Price Hill, Camp Washington, Carthage
	Planned Activities	Strategic planning efforts are on-going
14	**Project Name**	Hand Up Initiative
	Target Area	City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs)
	Goals Supported	Increase Economic Opportunities through Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services and Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $1,381,000

	Description	The Hand Up Initiative will reduce poverty by providing job readiness and job training to transition 2,000 Cincinnatians out of poverty. Supportive services for transportation and child care will also be provided. The program will focus on residents in the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) and the Empowerment Zone with direction from Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs) from those areas.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 individuals
	Location Description	Empowerment Zone, Walnut Hills, College Hill, Avondale, Madisonville
	Planned Activities	Program will provide job readiness, job training, transitional jobs and supportive services for low to moderate residents in NRSAs and the Empowerment Zone.
15	**Project Name**	Hazard Abatement Program
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Improving the Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $845,000
	Description	The mission of the Hazard Abatement Program is to preserve public health, safety, and welfare through demolition, acquisition, barricading or repair of blighted buildings, and includes site restoration after demolition.
	Target Date	12/31/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	250 buildings
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	The program demolishes or repairs condemned buildings after normal code enforcement activities have been exhausted. The program also secures vacant abandoned buildings against entry by trespassers.
16	Project Name	Historic Stabilization of Structures
	Target Area	Strategic historic areas
	Goals Supported	Improving the Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $190,000
	Description	The Historic Stabilization of Structures (SOS) Program abates public nuisance conditions and stabilizes historic properties.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 buildings
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Under Ohio Law if there is a historic building that is deemed a public nuisance, the City has the right to take action to abate the public nuisance conditions without taking ownership of the property. The City uses this right under the law to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare, while at the same time, preserve the historic structures for potential future rehabilitation.

17	Project Name	Homeowner Rehab Loan Program
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $36,000
	Description	The Homeowner Rehab Loan program (HRLP) services past low-interest deferred loans and grants that were given to low and moderate-income homeowners to correct building code violations, improve accessibility, enhance emergency conservation, and stabilize safe, sanitary housing citywide. The programs that provided these loans and grants are no longer active. This program covers the cost of servicing approximately 300 past loans with an outside vendor.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 households
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	300 existing loans are serviced through an outside firm. The number of loans serviced will continue to decrease as loans are paid off.
18	Project Name	Housing Choice Mobility Program
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Renters
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $0

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

	Description	The Housing Choice Mobility Program assists Housing Choice Voucher holders living in high poverty areas of the City with suitable housing options in lower poverty areas of the City. The program also provides outreach services to increase landlord participation in lower-poverty areas. This provides residents with access to neighborhoods with a lower concentration of poverty and related issues.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 household
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Outreach efforts will be conducted
19	**Project Name**	Housing Repair Services
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $1,696,000
	Description	Housing Repair Services provides grants for emergency and critical repairs to very low-income homeowners. Emergency Services are limited to two emergencies per household per year and have a maximum of $2,500. Critical repairs are those needed for the safety of the client and have a maximum of $10,000. This program also provides forgivable loans and grants to low to moderate income homeowners to correct code violations issued pursuant to Neighborhood Enhancement Program exterior inspections. In addition to addressing housing repairs for homeowners, this program addresses the mobility needs of disabled renters and owner-occupied units. Handicapped-accessible ramps are installed on buildings that are referred to the program by organizations advocating for the needs of the elderly and disabled populations in the community.

Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,100 housing units
Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
Planned Activities	Homeowner housing emergency and critical repair services provided, with a focus on at-risk populations
20 **Project Name**	Lead Hazard Testing
Target Area	Strategic areas
Goals Supported	Increase Economic Opportunities through Public Services
Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services and Neighborhood Focused Development
Funding	CDBG: $366,000
Description	The program provides lead testing of the homes where lead poisoned children reside and issues orders for the abatement of lead-based paint hazards. 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.
Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 household housing units
Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills

	Planned Activities	The Cincinnati Health Department Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides lead testing of the homes where lead poisoned children reside in eligible census tract areas and issues orders for abatement of any found hazards. The program also provides case management of lead-poisoned children and outreach materials for public education with the use of City General funds.
21	**Project Name**	Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Promote Business Development
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $916,000
	Description	The Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program enhances the business environment in 34 of the City's neighborhoods by constructing streetscape public improvements, infrastructure improvements, property acquisition, or other development activities.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 businesses
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Neighborhoods are selected based on their location in an eligible census tract. Applications are accepted during the spring and are awarded on a competitive basis.
22	**Project Name**	Operating Support for Community Development Corporations (CDCs)
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Provide Support for Nonprofits
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development and Employment Training Supportive Services

	Funding	CDBG: $315,000
	Description	This program provides operating support to build and strengthen capacity of eligible Community Development Corporations (CDCs).
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 Community Development Corporations
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	CDCs rehabilitate affordable housing that will benefit low-income and moderate-income households.
23	Project Name	Operating Support for the Corporation for Findlay Market
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Provide Support for Nonprofits
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development and Employment Training and Supportive Services
	Funding	CDBG: $150,000
	Description	Projects funds increase the Corporation for Findlay Market's capacity to carry out revitalization and economic development activities both at the Market and in the surrounding area. Included in this are costs related to supporting market promotion and events to increase the vibrancy of the market.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 business
	Location Description	Over-the-Rhine

	Planned Activities	The City has also partnered with the Corporation for Findlay Market to promote and grow the urban garden program.
24	**Project Name**	Section 108 Loan Debt Service
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Rehab Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing Promote Business Development
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $1,383,000
	Description	This covers the CDBG Section 108 debt service on existing loans for Avondale Towne Center, Laurel Homes, Broadway Square, Anna Louise Inn and the Men's Shelter. New loans may be included through an Economic Development Loan Pool for catalytic economic development/job creation activities that demonstrate market feasibility but require financing assistance. Projects may include business development or commercial/mixed use development, and preferred uses of funds include real estate acquisition and construction. Housing projects could include rehabilitation of residential rental and/or homeownership units, public facilities and improvements, and construction of new housing as determined eligible by HUD.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Debt servicing on previously completed projects
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Debt service is paid to existing loans for Avondale Towne Center, Laurel Homes, Broadway Square, Anna Louise Inn and the Men's Shelter.
25	**Project Name**	Small Business Services

	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Business Development
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $205,000
	Description	The Small Business Services Program includes technical assistance for start-ups and growth needs of micro-enterprises and small businesses, including: capacity development, business education and coaching, entrepreneurial training, incubation and technical assistance, loan packaging, accounting services, legal services, appraisals, environmental assessments, and inventory control audits. It will also include a revolving loan program to fill financing gaps for small to mid-sized businesses that create and/or retain jobs for low and moderate-income people.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 businesses
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	The City will continue to accept applications for assistance
26	**Project Name**	Summer Youth Employment Program
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Increase Economic Opportunities through Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services and Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $926,674

	Description	The Summer Youth Employment Program trains youth in the areas of work place etiquette and basic work skills by utilizing workshops, presentations, and on the job experiences. The program provides youth with opportunities to explore their interests and career options in public, nonprofit and private organizations.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	400 individuals
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills
	Planned Activities	Youth will be employed by City departments, nonprofit organizations through the Urban League, ArtWorks, and private employers.
27	**Project Name**	Tenant Representation
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Renters
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $125,000
	Description	The Tenant Representation Program provides legal representation for low and moderate-income tenants in the City through the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati. The program prevents homelessness by stopping unlawful evictions, corrects illegal lockouts and utility shutoffs, and requires landlords 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.
	Target Date	12/31/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	200 individuals
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Qualified individuals will receive legal representation with regards to tenant concerns
28	Project Name	Urban Homesteading
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Homeowner Housing
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	CDBG: $30,000
	Description	Funding will be used to research and implement a pilot program to create an Urban Homesteading Program which would provide the opportunity for low to moderate income families and individuals to become homeowners. The concept is for the City's vacant single and two family homes to be made available for qualified homebuyers, and for the City to assist with the necessary rehabilitation prior to occupancy. A 3-year residency requirement is currently being proposed.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 housing unit
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Strategic planning efforts are on-going
29	Project Name	Vacant Lot Reutilization and Management

Target Area	Strategic areas	
Goals Supported	Improving the Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight	
Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development	
Funding	CDBG: $30,000	
Description	Create a strategic plan for management and reuse of vacant lots after demolition occurs such as infill housing, urban gardens, adopt-a-lot, etc.	
Target Date	12/31/2016	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 person assisted	
Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods	
Planned Activities	Strategic planning efforts are on-going	
30	**Project Name**	CHDO Development Projects
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Homeowner Housing Rehab Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development Rehabilitation of Multi Family Rental Housing
	Funding	HOME: $313,254
	Description	HUD requires that at least 15% of the HOME grant be used in development projects in partnership with Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds will be used for both rental and homeowner projects with certified CHDOs.

	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8 household housing units
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	CHDO redevelopment projects will be supported
31	**Project Name**	Downpayment Assistance Initiative
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Homeowner Housing
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	HOME: $100,000
	Description	The Downpayment Assistance Initiative program funds down payment assistance for the purchase of single family housing by low- to moderate-income owner-occupant families who are first-time homebuyers. Eligible project costs include down payment and closing costs as well as costs associated with homebuyer counseling. By providing home ownership possibilities, this program helps to increase and/or maintain the City's tax base and also leverages a 15:1 private to public investment.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 households assisted
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Education services will be provided to the public and real estate agencies in order to promote the program

32	**Project Name**	Operating Support for Community Development Housing Organizations (CHDOs)
	Target Area	Strategic areas
	Goals Supported	Provide Support for Nonprofit Capacity Building
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development and Employment Training and Supportive Services
	Funding	HOME: $104,418
	Description	HUD requires that at least 5% of the HOME grant be used in operating support for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). These funds will be used to cover staff time, rent charges, and any other operating costs of the CHDOs.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 CHDOs
	Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Operating support and outreach will be provided to CHDOs.
33	**Project Name**	Permanent Supportive Housing
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Support Homeless Shelters & Other Homeless Housing
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness
	Funding	HOME: $0
	Description	The Permanent Supportive Housing Program will provide partial financing for the construction or rehabilitation of new transitional housing units and new permanent supportive housing units as outlined in the Homeless to Homes Plan for the City of Cincinnati.

	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 household housing unit
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Support for the planning of new transitional and permanent supportive housing units will continue. These projects may also be funded under the AMFR Program.
34	**Project Name**	Single Family Homeownership Development
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Homeowner Housing
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Funding	HOME: $220,000
	Description	Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati builds and rehabs homes for low income, working-family, first time homebuyers. The program provides up to $20,000 per unit as a construction subsidy and up to $2,000 per unit for homebuyer assistance. Eligible costs include: certain infrastructure and construction costs for newly constructed or rehabilitated units, demolition costs, construction modifications to blend units with existing neighborhood styles or address accessibility issues, and homebuyer assistance. Other eligible expenses include water and sewer tap fees, reimbursement of building permit fees, water permit fees, remote meter fees, a developer fee, and other approved fees under the HOME program related to the construction/rehabilitation of eligible new single family dwellings.
	Target Date	12/31/2016

Field	Value
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 household housing unit
Location Description	City-wide
Planned Activities	Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati builds and rehabs homes for low income, working-family, first time homebuyers.

35

Field	Value
Project Name	Tenant Based Rental Assistance
Target Area	Strategic areas
Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Renters
Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Focused Development
Funding	HOME: $0
Description	The HOME funded TBRA program is operated by the Hamilton County Department of Community Development and provides rental assistance to households with one or more persons with disabilities. HOME funded TBRA covers a portion of household rent payments over a 12-month period and currently services about 70 households.
Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	60 household housing units assisted
Location Description	Avondale, College Hill, City-wide, Empowerment Zone, Madisonville, Walnut Hills, Tier 1 Neighborhoods
Planned Activities	TBRA covers a portion of household rent payments over a 12-month period

36

Field	Value
Project Name	Homeless Shelters and Other Homeless Housing

	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Support Homeless Shelters and Other Homeless Housing
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness
	Funding	ESG: $550,000
	Description	This activity funds the operation of emergency shelter facilities as well as essential services for the residents. This activity also includes the funding of a shelter diversion program that will serve individuals and families at risk of homelessness by providing Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services, as well as Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). Finally, this activity also funds the management of the ESG fund as a whole.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,900 emergency beds
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	The operation of emergency shelter facilities as well as essential services for the residents is supported. Collaborative meetings are convened to address the needs of the residents.
37	**Project Name**	Homeless Prevention
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Prevent Homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness
	Funding	ESG: $356,381

	Description	ESG Homelessness Prevention includes the funding of a shelter diversion program that will serve individuals and families at risk of homelessness by providing Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services, as well as Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	135 persons assisted
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Collaborative meetings are convened to address the needs of the individuals.
38	Project Name	Housing Assistance for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Target Area	Confidential
	Goals Supported	Provide Housing Assistance for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness
	Funding	HOPWA: $340,000
	Description	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 approximately 25 households of individuals with HIV/AIDS that require assistance with rent or mortgage expenses.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	225 individuals

	Location Description	Confidential
	Planned Activities	HOPWA funds will provide housing assistance through Short-Term Rent, Mortgage and Utility Assistance (STRMU), Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), and permanent housing placement for persons with HIV/AIDS.
39	Project Name	Operating Support for Housing Facilities
	Target Area	Confidential
	Goals Supported	Provide Operating Support for HIV/AIDS Housing Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness
	Funding	HOPWA: $223,000
	Description	HOWPA funds will be used to support the operation of Carocole's two transitional living facilities for 30 persons displaced by HIV/AIDS. Costs will include utilities, phone, insurance, regular maintenance, supplies, and residential operating staff.
	Target Date	12/31/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2 facilities
	Location Description	Confidential
	Planned Activities	The funds will be used to support the operation of Carocole's two transitional living facilities for 30 persons displaced by HIV/AIDS.
40	Project Name	Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Target Area	Confidential
	Goals Supported	Provide Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Needs Addressed	Prevent Homelessness

Funding	HOPWA: $110,931
Description	HOPWA funding will be used to support the cost of nursing and personal care, case management, and meals for HIV/AIDS clients.
Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	125 household housing units
Location Description	Confidential
Planned Activities	All three providers, Center for Respite Care, Northern Kentucky Health Independent District, and Carocole provide these services.
Project Name	Administration and Planning
Target Area	City-wide and strategic areas

Goals Supported	Promote Homeowner Housing
	Provide Supportive Services for Homeowners
	Rehab Affordable Multi Family Rental Housing
	Provide Supportive Services for Renters
	Promote Fair Housing
	Promote Commercial and Industrial Development
	Promote Business Development
	Increase Economic Opportunities Through Public Services
	Improve Quality of Life by Eliminating Slum and Blight
	Provide Operating Support for Nonprofits
	Support Homeless Shelters & Other Homeless Housing
	Prevent Homelessness
	Provide Operating Support for HIV/AIDS Housing Facilities
	Provide Supportive Services for Persons with HIV/AIDS
	Provide Housing Assistance for Persons with HIV/AIDS
Needs Addressed	Employment Training and Supportive Services
	Rehabilitation of Multi Family Rental Housing
	Prevent Homelessness
	Neighborhood Focused Development
	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Affordable Housing
	Non-Housing Community Development
Funding	CDBG: $2,506,874
	HOME: $223,836
	ESG: $73,490
	HOPWA: $20,843

Description	Funds used for the managing of CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA funds. ESG Admin, $73,983, is included in the ESG project because IDIS only allows one activity for all ESG programs.
Target Date	12/31/2016
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30,806 Individuals 6,602 Households 250 Buildings 65 Businesses 10 Community Development Corporations 4 Community Housing Development Organizations 4,900 Emergency Beds
Location Description	Empowerment Zone, Walnut Hills, College Hill, Avondale, Madisonville, City-wide, Tier 1 Neighborhoods, Citywide
Planned Activities	All projects, programs, goals, and objectives are covered.

Table 9 – Project Summary

City of Cincinnati 2016 Annual Action Plan

69

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

There are 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 48 Statistical Neighborhoods Areas (SNAs) which are delineated by census tract.

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 fifteen counties in the area. Although the three agencies that currently receive HOPWA funding are located in the Greater Cincinnati area, collectively they offer HOPWA assistance to persons throughout the EMSA, southwest Ohio, northern Kentucky, and southeast Indiana. The HOPWA Advisory Committee allocates funding based on statistical information on number of cases of HIV/AIDS by county and state to ensure that each geographic area is receiving funding commensurate with need.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Avondale NRSA	5
City-wide	40
College Hill NRSA	5
Empowerment Zone	20
Madisonville NRSA	5
Tier One Neighborhoods (excluding NRSA neighborhoods)	20
Walnut Hills NRSA	2
Lower Price Hill NRSA	1
South Cumminsville / Millvale NRSA	2
Laurel Hills and Lincoln Court NRSA	0

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

The geographic priorities were determined based on the following initiatives and factors:

- Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation Focus Area
- Place Matters
- HUD Choice Grant
- Focus 52 Neighborhoods
- Community Development Corporations
- Community Learning Centers
- Core 4 Strategic Housing Neighborhoods
- Plan Cincinnati Neighborhood Centers

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

While there are focus neighborhoods and strategy areas, there are HUD programs not allocated to specific areas and serve the entire population of the City. This is due to program design and general need throughout most city neighborhoods.

Based on the neighborhood needs described in the Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections of the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan, the City of Cincinnati has divided neighborhoods into three tiers. The top tier neighborhoods are those that are focus areas in many of the initiatives below and also have the highest level of needs. Top tier neighborhoods will receive highest consideration when funding decisions are made. Lower tier neighborhoods are eligible for funding, but will receive less priority. The Tier 1, 2, and 3 geographic priorities are listed by neighborhood:

Aggregate Geographic Priorities

Tier 1 Neighborhoods	Tier 2 Neighborhoods	Tier 3 Neighborhoods
East Price Hill	Carthage	Camp Washington
Avondale	Corryville	Clifton
West Price Hill	East End	Fay Apartments
Westwood	Hartwell	Hyde Park
Lower Price Hill	Kennedy Hts.	Mt. Lookout
Walnut Hills	Mt. Washington	North Avondale
College Hill	Sayler Park	Paddock Hills
Madisonville	South Fairmount	Roselawn
Bond Hill	CUF	California
Evanston	Northside	Downtown
Over-the-Rhine	Oakley	Columbia Tusculum

South Cumminsville/Millvale	Pleasant Ridge	English Woods
West End	Riverside	Linwood
	Sedamsville	Mt. Adams
	Winton Hills	Mt. Airy
		Mt. Auburn
		N. Fairmount
		Pendleton
		Spring Grove Village
		East Walnut Hills
		East Westwood
		Queensgate

The City has defined the local strategy area "Tier One Neighborhoods" which is comprised of thirteen neighborhoods based on a matrix of initiatives currently underway and/or recently completed and described in detail below. The Tier One Neighborhoods are: East Price Hill, Avondale (which is already an NRSA and part of which is in the Empowerment Zone), West Price Hill, Westwood, Lower Price Hill, Walnut Hills (which is already in the NRSA and part of which is in the Empowerment Zone), College Hill (which is already an NRSA), Madisonville (which is already an NRSA), Bond Hill (part of which is in the Empowerment Zone), Evanston (part of which is in the Empowerment Zone), Over-the-Rhine (part of which is in the Empowerment Zone), Millvale/South Cumminsville, and the West End (part of which is in the Empowerment Zone).

Of the twelve neighborhoods where at least 80% of resident are African Americans, half are designated as Tier One Neighborhoods: Avondale (91%), Bond Hill (94%), Millvale (94%), South Cumminsville (95%), Walnut Hills (81%), and West End (89%).

The City will focus services and programs in the NRSAs, the Empowerment Zone, and Tier One Neighborhoods, to make the greatest impact and to help the City align HUD dollars with existing investment while simultaneously addressing neighborhoods with the most severe needs.

The Core 4 Strategic Housing Initiatives Program will provide priority points for applications received during the bi-annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the City of Cincinnati for a focused neighborhood project in accordance with the following schedule: Spring 2016 NOFA, Evanston, Avondale, West Price Hill, and Walnut Hills; Fall 2016 NOFA, Northside, Madisonville, College Hill, and Westwood. All neighborhoods except one (Northside) are listed as Tier 1 Neighborhoods.

Discussion

The City is requesting that HUD approve the existing Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) including the Empowerment Zone listed in Table 10. During the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan, the City will be adding NRSAs in other eligible areas of the City; Lower Price Hill and South Cumminsville/Millvale were approved in 2015 by HUD. Eligible census tracts that will be included in a forthcoming NRSA requests to HUD include the neighborhoods: North and South Fairmount, English Woods, Bond Hill, Roselawn, East Price Hill, West Price Hill, Sedamsville, Riverside, Mt. Airy, Fay Apartments (Villages at Roll Hill), East End, Linwood, Winton Hills, Winton Place, and Camp Washington.

The Hand Up Initiative is a program that provides job readiness, job training, job transition, and supportive services, such as transportation assistance for eligible recipients. The City is requesting a public services cap exemption to implement this program by doing the following: targeting the program to low and moderate income residents in the City's Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas (NRSAs) and Empowerment Zone (which qualifies as an NRSA) areas; and are directing the program with an Advisory Board made up of representatives from Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), Community Development Corporations (CDCs), other community organizations, and, City staff. Expanding the NRSAs will allow this program to reach as many individuals as possible. The programs offered through the Hand Up Initiative are intended to address the multiple concerns and needs of job seekers and employers. By addressing these concerns and reaching as many individuals as possible, the Hand Up Initiative will eliminate barriers to attaining long-term employment and ultimately lead to economic self-sufficiency while reducing poverty in the City of Cincinnati. The annual goal for this program is training at least 500 individuals with a 75% job placement goal.

The Hand Up Initiative Advisory Board includes representatives from the following active community based housing and community development organizations: Avondale Comprehensive Development Corporation, College Hill Community Redevelopment Corporation, Cornerstone Corporation for Shared Equity, Evanston Community Council, Evanston Business District, Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation, Over-the-Rhine Community Housing, Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation, and Working In Neighborhoods.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless (Homelessness Prevention, Permanent Supportive Housing)	10
Non-Homeless (Down Payment Assistance, Housing Repair Services, Affordable Multi-Family Rental Program, Core 4 Strategic Housing, CHDO Development Projects, Single Family Howeownership Development)	1,100
Special-Needs (HOPWA Programs)	400
Total	**1,510**

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance (Tenant Based Rental Assistance, Code Enforcement Relocation, Tenant Representation, Housing Choice Mobility)	500
The Production of New Units (Core 4 Strategic Housing, Single Family Homeownership Development)	10
Rehab of Existing Units (Housing Repair Services, Affordable Multi-Family Rental Program, CHDO Development, Core 4 Strategic Housing, Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly, Historic Stabilization of Structures)	990
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	**1,500**

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City has developed these goals in the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan based on actual outcomes from the 2010 – 2014 Consolidated Plan, the needs analysis, community surveys, and market analysis. The goals listed are conservative to account for any unforeseen issues with the programs. The City anticipates exceeding all goals listed.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) has the ability to assist nearly 11,500 families through administration of the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program. CMHA also owns and manages a portfolio of approximately 5,400 public housing units with a budget of approximately $37.5 million, which includes both the operating and capital subsidies as well as rental income. There is a current wait list of 5,075 families (4,819 of which are <30% AMI) for Section 8 Vouchers and a wait list of 5,722 families (5,055 of which are <30% AMI) for public housing availability.

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

The Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) currently has approximately 2% of its Vouchers invested in Project-Based Vouchers throughout Hamilton County. The goal over the next 5 years is to increase that number up to 10%. CMHA will use the conversion of Housing Choice Vouchers to Project-Based Vouchers to 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.

The additional Project-Based Vouchers (PBV) will 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. Further, this transition to PBV's could have a decidedly positive impact on the de-concentration 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 Project-Based Vouchers 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 and the Voluntary Compliance Agreement 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 / 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 and economic inclusion with and within communities.

Actions 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.

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

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

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

Introduction

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) is a local non-profit organization that partners with the City of Cincinnati and leads the coordinated community effort to end homelessness in Greater Cincinnati. STEH is implementing a Coordinated Entry system in 2016 that will prioritize homeless clients for housing. All homeless people on the streets and in shelter will be assessed to determine which type of housing is most appropriate. Client referrals to Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-housing, and Transitional Housing will be made based on the assessment. This system will also enable the community to see where the housing gaps are and enable STEH and partners to better serve the homeless population. Coordinated entry, matched with the shelter and housing options available, will move the city towards ending homelessness in Cincinnati.

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

The Homeless Outreach Group is a group of street outreach providers who meet monthly to discuss best practices and progress in engaging unsheltered homeless people in services. Representatives from all street outreach programs, other programs that serve unsheltered homeless people, the Cincinnati Police, and the Hamilton County Sheriff's departments attend. Currently there are four agencies administering five programs, providing outreach services to those who are living on the street:

- Lighthouse Youth Services – targets homeless youth
- Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health's Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Team – targets the homeless suffering from mental Illness
- Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health's PATHs to Recovery Team – targets homeless chronic public inebriates
- Block-by-Block – works specifically with the homeless living in downtown Cincinnati
- Cincinnati Union Bethel's Off the Streets Program – targets women engaged in prostitution.

In addition to the coordinated entry system as described above, the Continuum of Care (CoC), STEH, started two new Permanent Supportive Housing projects in 2015 and applied for additional Permanent Housing units in the FY2015 CoC application. All Permanent Housing

projects follow a "Housing First" model which means there are very few barriers that would exclude someone from being entered into a program as well as a high threshold of intervention prior to terminating a client from a program. The housing first model allows clients to address issues that may have lead to homelessness while they are stably housed instead of trying to correct all of the barriers before entering housing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

All of the following actions are being taken to improve services to people currently on the streets and in shelters, particularly the chronically homeless and homeless families.

1. Homeless to Homes Shelter Collaborative (HTHSC): The 2008 Homeless to Homes plan called for a reconfiguration of shelters beds for homeless individuals in our emergency shelter system. The HTHSC is a group of four shelter providers who collaborated to raise capital funds to build five new facilities and operating funds to provide improved case management and day services. Lighthouse opened the Sheakley Center for Youth to provide 28 beds of emergency shelter to homeless youth ages 18 – 24. Talbert House opened the Parkway Center with 60 beds to serve homeless men with substance abuse barriers. City Gospel Mission increased their capacity to 74 beds in their new building to serve homeless men in a faith based facility. And Shelterhouse (formerly known as the Drop Inn Center) separated their one homeless facility into two facilities, separating the men and women. The final shelter opening happened in October of 2015 and all of the programs provide a vast array of services specific to the homeless population that they serve. The new shelter configuration, paired with Coordinated Entry, should enable the community to see a decline in the length of time clients are residing in emergency shelters.

2. Indigent Care Levy: STEH, on behalf of the HTHSC, submitted a Request For Proposals (RFP) in 2015 to receive an increase in funding for Homeless Medical Healthcare Services via the Hamilton County Indigent Care Levy. Operating funds were awarded to the HTHSC for 2015 – 2017. Levy funding is used to cover costs associated with increase case management and day services, which include substantial changes to the medical services provided in emergency shelters. All of the facilities receiving this funding provide a wide range of medical services including a community health clinic, a full time registered nurse on staff, and a medical kiosk where clients can virtually talk with doctors.

3. Family Homelessness Study: The Solutions for Family Homelessness Plan for Cincinnati and Hamilton County was published in October of 2015. Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH), the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and the Family Housing

Partnership (Bethany House Services, Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati, The Salvation Army, and the YWCA of Greater Cincinnati), led the development of the Plan to identify how the community can proactively address the needs of families experiencing homelessness. The recommendations in the plan are focused in four key areas: Prevention, Capacity Building, Policy Change, and Housing. The implementation schedule is currently being developed.

4. Winter Shelter: For the last four years, local organizations have partnered to add seasonal winter shelter beds to the local emergency shelter system to ensure that anyone who is homeless and on the streets has access to a safe, warm place to sleep during the coldest months of the year – normally mid-December through February. Prior to 2011, seasonal shelter was provided to homeless people only on nights when the temperature dipped below 10 degrees Fahrenheit. Since 2011, winter shelter capacity has been reliable and adequate, making improvements to assist people out of homelessness, not just warehouse them in homelessness. Previously, the additional shelter capacity was located at a church. For this season and moving forward, the winter shelter is now located in the basement of Shelterhouse's Barron Center for Men. This space was specifically designed to serve this seasonal capacity and can sleep up to 200 people. The winter shelter has a separate entrance from the main emergency shelter but because of the close proximity, as well as the fact that the winter shelter is staffed with trained Shelterhouse staff, winter shelter clients have easy access to receive case management services.

5. Cross-systems Collaboration: In order to reduce and then end homelessness locally, it is necessary to continue to strengthen collaborations between the homeless services system and systems working with mental health, development disabilities, immigrants and undocumented persons, persons with limited English proficiency, persons exiting the justice system, substance abuse treatment, foster care, and LGBTQ households, as self-identified.

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

1. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is a nationally recognized best practice for quickly ending episodes of homelessness in a cost efficient and effective way. RRH has become a high priority in the community: 15 RRH programs funded by the Continuum of Care, State of

Ohio Housing Crisis Response Program (HCRP), and ESG, support RRH for families and individuals. Talbert House and Goodwill Industries are receiving Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) funding to implement programs that rapidly transition veterans and their families experiencing homelessness back into permanent housing.

2. Permanent Supportive Housing: PSH is a nationally recognized best-practice for meeting the needs of disabled homeless people. With 84% of the local homeless population having at least one disabling condition the continued expansion of PSH options will continue to be necessary. The CoC has defined PSH prioritization in alignment with Section III.A HUD's notice CPD 14-012 for prioritizing the Chronically Homelessness. The CoC continues to add PSH housing stock to the community with two new PSH projects opening in December 2015, as well as including four new PSH projects in the FY15 CoC application.

3. Coordination of Housing Resources: the following are all high-priority strategies geared toward making better, more strategic use of housing resources: 1) Coordinated Assessment: In 2016, the CoC will begin implementation of a Coordinated Entry system that will ensure that homeless individuals and families are referred to the housing program that best meets their needs and can quickly become stably housed. Housing the chronically homeless remains a high priority in the community. 2) Affordable housing: Available resources and funding should be used to incentivize the development and preservation of high-quality, accessible, low-income housing. In addition, existing affordable housing resources (PHA, HOME, etc.) should be used to return households to housing, and ensure they do not return to homelessness. For the first time in our community, Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Association has set-aside a preference for homeless individuals and families in the Housing Choice Voucher program. Strategies To End Homelessness and the CoC Permanent Supportive Housing workgroup are leading the process to ensure that appropriate referrals are made to CMHA. The top priority for CMHA referrals are clients who are currently in a CoC funded Permanent Supportive Housing program who need a long term housing subsidy but are stabilized in services.

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

Prior to 2009, homelessness prevention resources were largely absent in the community due to a lack of availability of funding for such activities. However, under the American Recovery and Re-investment Act (ARRA), stimulus funding was made available for homelessness prevention. While such stimulus funding expired in 2012, the following activities are ongoing:

1. Shelter Diversion: ESG and United Way funding are being used to divert households at imminent risk of entering a shelter back into housing and services. The Shelter Diversion program is being run in partnership between the City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Strategies to End Homelessness, and 7 of its partner agencies. Risk factors considered for inclusion in this program include a prior history of homelessness, if a household has already lost its own housing and is relying on others for a place to stay (doubled-up), and immediacy of need for shelter placement.

2. Supportive Services for Homeless Veterans and their Families (SSVF): Talbert House and Goodwill Industries have been awarded SSVF funding to implement programming which prevents homelessness for veterans and their families.

3. Youth Aging out of Foster Care: A U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) funded effort is currently underway, led by Lighthouse Youth Services, targeted toward preventing homelessness among youth who have been in the Foster Care system. This effort will support enhanced identification, data collection and services to youth formerly in the foster care system. One-third of youth aging out of foster care experience homelessness. National studies have also shown that between 21-53% of homeless youth have a history of placement in foster care. A recent HMIS revision includes gathering data about past and current foster care placements as risk factors to homelessness and reconnecting to prior custodial agencies, such as, Hamilton County Job and Family Services, Foster Care Agency, or Independent Living Program, for possible aftercare intervention. The initial planning phase of the grant is over and Lighthouse has moved into the implementation around creating a system of care that bests serves these at risk youth. Data sharing agreements have been secured with main partners and new evidenced based programming is in the middle of planning and the start up phase. Additionally, there is significant involvement in advocacy around the

Foster Care to 21 initiative and at this point it has cleared the House and was sent to the Senate for review. This would increase the age from 18 to 21 where foster youth could get services. And, CMHA has awarded 30 housing choice vouchers giving preference to youth 18 – 24 who have emancipated from the foster care system. The initial vouchers start January 1, 2016, with the possibility of renewal during the next fiscal year.

4. LGBTQ Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative: Cincinnati/Hamilton County is one of only two communities in the country selected to participate in a national technical assistance initiative which will plan and implement strategies for preventing LGBTQ youth from becoming homeless. This initiative is being led locally by Lighthouse Youth Services and Strategies to End Homelessness, and being conducted in cooperation with HUD, HHS, Department of Justice, Dept. of Education, and United States Interagency Council on Homelessness.

AP-70 HOPWA Goals – 91.220 (l)(3)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	145
Tenant-based rental assistance	30
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated	20
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	25
Total	**220**

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

Introduction

The City of Cincinnati partnered with Hamilton County and Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.), our local fair housing agency, to prepare the 2015 – 2019 Analysis to Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing. H.O.M.E. facilitated nine focus groups to gather information on fair housing impediments from different perspectives. A total of 74 individuals participated in the following group discussions:

- Hispanic immigrants and agencies serving them (conducted in Spanish)
- Hamilton County employees (including the Director of the Regional Planning Commission, Director of Community Development, and the Director of the Department of Health)
- City of Cincinnati employees (including the Director of Community and Economic Development and Manager of Property Maintenance and Code Enforcement)
- Affordable Housing Advocates (a coalition of housing nonprofits and civic groups)
- Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority management staff (including the Executive Director)
- Cincinnati Human Relations Commission (including the Executive Director)
- Representatives of various agencies serving people with mental and physical disabilities
- Rental property managers, owners and developers (including large companies and small investors)
- Realtors (including the presidents of two large real estate companies and minority agents)

In addition to these small group facilitated discussions, H.O.M.E. conducted individual interviews with people with Housing Choice Vouchers who had moved within the last couple of years. Based on comments made in several of the focus groups, H.O.M.E. also conducted an individual interview with the Executive Director of the Southwest Ohio Regional Transportation Authority, which operates the public transportation system in the county.

H.O.M.E. also collected data on fair housing complaints and cases in the county. It reviewed recent fair housing activities including the actions taken in response to the recommendations of the 2009 Analysis of Impediments. Based on all the collected data and information, current impediments were identified and recommendations developed on actions needed to address the impediments.

All Consolidated Plan programs follow HUD's requirements for affirmative marketing and accessibility requirements. For HOME Investment Partnerships programs, developers and real estate agencies reach out to the broad community to rent and sell HOME housing units. The

City requires an accounting of sales and outreach including details on open houses held; Multiple Listing Service (MLS) listings published; electronic outreach completed (Facebook, Twitter, emails, etc.); and formal advertising online or in the newspaper. Additionally, H.O.M.E. specifically advertises in media outlets which reach minority audiences.

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

The AI was completed in 2014 and seven recommendations were made to respond to the issues of 1) Lack of public transportation in opportunity areas, 2) Zoning and building code barriers, 3) Affordable housing is concentrated in racially segregated areas, 4) Barriers to mobility of families with vouchers, 5) Barriers for immigrant populations, 6) Barriers to African American Homeownership, and 7) Barriers to housing choice for people with disabilities. The City and County have established a working group made up of staff from the Department of City Planning, the Department of Community and Economic Development, and the Hamilton County Department of Community Development, to address the report and its recommendations. A Fair Housing Committee was formed to address progress towards addressing the identified barriers.

Discussion

Over the course of the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan, the City, County, CMHA and H.O.M.E. will continue to meet periodically to address these impediments with concrete strategies and actions. Additional agencies, such as Center for Independent Living Options, and the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) will be included as appropriate.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The continued obstacle for the City of Cincinnati to appropriately address the underserved needs continues to be a lack of sufficient funding.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The need for housing, community development, and quality of life services 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, suitable living environments, and expanded economic opportunities are met for all Cincinnati residents and businesses, especially those with the most need.

The lack of permanent supportive housing and funding to provide adequate services to move persons out of homelessness remain obstacles to meeting the needs of the underserved. Permanent supportive housing projects will be a priority for funding projects in CY 2016.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City plans to accomplish affordable housing goals and objectives through housing projects such as the Core 4 Strategic Housing Initiatives Program, the Affordable Multi-Family Rental Program, Permanent Supportive Housing, the Single Family Homeownership Development, Compliance Assistance Repairs for the Elderly (CARE), and the Housing Repair Services Program. These programs are the primary way the City strives to foster and maintain decent affordable housing during the next year.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Cincinnati administers two separate lead grant programs from HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes – one administered by the Cincinnati Health Department Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CHD CLPPP), and one administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development. Since 2007, HUD has awarded the City $15 million to address lead based paint hazards in more than 1,000 qualified units, including single and multifamily buildings, with a focus on lead poisoning prevention in children under the age of six. The grants average approximately $10,000 per home, which is comparable to the average cost laid out by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Replacing windows is often the most expensive part of these renovations. The remainder of

the grants pay for administrative and educational costs, and the costs of training contractors for certified and licensed lead clean-up efforts.

CDBG funding allocated to CHD CLPPP provides code enforcement for the issuing of orders on properties that are the primary or supplemental residences of children that tested with elevated blood lead levels. CHD CLPPP also provides nurse visits to families of lead poisoned children as well as case management. Primary prevention practices include community education and outreach services throughout the City, a vacuum cleaner loaner program, cleaning kits distributed to the homes, a Citizen Complaint Program, and free paint chip testing.

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.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Cincinnati has one of the highest poverty rates in the United States with 50% of children under 18 living below the poverty level. Cincinnati City Council has adopted the following goals toward reducing the poverty rate of City families:

- Meeting basic needs and stabilizing living situations, including increasing access to affordable housing and to income supports
- Increasing earned income to livable wage levels
- Increasing and protecting asset accumulation and resident net worth
- Decreasing social isolation and increasing social capital.

In addition to the Consolidated Plan programs, City policies and programs directed towards this strategy include:

- The City consistently uses 15% of CDBG funds for public services including job training programs and emergency mortgage assistance.

- The City provides $1.5 million in General funds annually for human services funding, which is administered by the United Way of Greater Cincinnati. Funding is currently provided in three key areas: Promoting Self Sufficiency (which represents 40% of the funding), Emergency Social Needs (31% of funding), and Reducing Violence (29% of funding).

- Cincinnati Health Department services and programs are offered throughout the City for all residents and include very low co-payments.

- The City has a Living Wage Ordinance that requires all businesses contracting with the City to pay their employees a living wage.

- The City committed additional General Fund resources to the following programs that work to reduce poverty in the City:
  - $250,000 annually for four years for BLOC ministries to implement a job creation and training program targeting Lower Price Hill residents.
  - $250,000 for Cincinnati Works to build capacity for the Hand Up Initiative to provide job readiness training.
  - $500,000 for the Center for Closing the Health Gap to implement a program that provides health prevention information to low-income and minority groups. The group is noted for its annual health fair.

The City also relies on partnerships with nonprofit and other government agencies to provide services to families living in poverty. These include Cincinnati Public Schools, Hamilton County, and the State of Ohio.

One nonprofit that is working to reduce the City's poverty rates is a partnership of 21 churches and many nonprofit organizations called CityLink. The CityLink Center opened in late 2012 in the West End neighborhood of Cincinnati. The Center is easily accessible by bus routes and highway, and is in close proximity to the ten lowest income neighborhoods in Cincinnati, which are:

- Villages at Roll Hill (formerly Fay Apartments)
- Winton Hills
- Over-the-Rhine
- West End
- South Cumminsville/Millvale
- North Fairmont-English Woods
- Lower Price Hill
- Avondale
- Camp Washington

CityLink programs and services are designed to help the working poor, not at-risk individuals. CityLink exists to remove these barriers and help clients achieve self-sufficiency by leveraging the strengths of various social service agencies and co-locating with them in one place. CityLink currently has 1,000 active clients working to improve their lives and has provided services to

2,500 people since opening. They rely on 1,000 volunteers who serve in 28 distinct roles, such as auto repair, childcare, gardener and outreach coordinator.

The City's Consolidated Plan and related programs that reduce poverty are outlined below:

- Hand Up Initiative: Starting in 2015, the City has provided approximately $1.3 million in CDBG funds to the Hand Up Initiative to combat poverty and joblessness in Cincinnati. The plan focuses on helping the long-term under and unemployed become self-sufficient through the attainment of permanent, full-time employment. The Hand Up Initiative will be implemented in two phases:

  o Phase I, which started May 2015, will work with the long-term under and unemployed to help them attain job readiness skills that are necessary to attain full-time employment. Additionally, Phase I will provide those participants who complete a job readiness program with a short-term, part-time transitional job to ease their economic burden while they search for full-time employment. Phase I will also include programs designed to alleviate the burden of transportation and childcare costs. Phase I will be implemented and operational for two years prior to the beginning of Phase II.
  o Phase II is designed to help those who have completed job readiness training advance their careers and improve their economic outlook by helping them obtain secondary education, develop transferrable skills, and guide them in career pathways.

- The Small Business Technical Assistance and Small Business Loan Programs: City economic development staff work with the Greater Cincinnati Microenterprise Initiative to provide loans and technical assistance for low to moderate income entrepreneurs who want to move into business ownership. The program offers ongoing support to help them sustain their businesses.

- The Downpayment Assistance Initiative Program: The city offers downpayment assistance to low-and moderate-income homebuyers throughout the City; this program requires pre-counseling for homebuyers through two nonprofit providers.

- The Affordable Multi-Family Rental Program: This program provides gap financing to Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects to maximize resources for rehabilitation of

affordable rental housing. Funds in this program may also support Permanent Supportive Housing projects.

- Section 3 Program Compliance: The City complies with HUD's Section 3 program to increase employment opportunities for low-and very low-income residents.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Several organizations are involved in the development of the Annual Action Plan. In addition, the majority of Consolidated Plan programs are implemented by private organizations which use City funding (including the General Fund) to supplement programs that support Consolidated Plan objectives.

The City partners with a Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) which evaluates program requests and make recommendations in coordinating City programs with service providers. The CDAB is a volunteer citizen group appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. The following is the composition of the CDAB according to Cincinnati Municipal Code: community council members (3), lending institutions (1), small business advocate (1), human services (1), trades / labor representation (1), low income advocate (1), housing authority (1), real estate community (1), developer (1), corporate community (1), and Community Development Corporation representative (1). The CDAB's 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.

Audits conducted by the HUD Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the City's HOME Program in 2007 and 2008 led the City to review its practices and procedures. The City formalized all processes and procedures and provides direction for basic processes in the administration of the Consolidated Plan programs for the following departments: the Budget Office, Finance Department, City Planning; Office of Economic Inclusion; Citizen Complaint/Internal Audit; Law Department; and Community and Economic Development.

HUD expanded the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) for development of the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report processes. The City will continue to utilize these functions and will ensure the policies are coordinated within the City-wide processes and procedures. The City also formed an Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) monthly working group that focuses on the close out of projects, drawing of funds, and management of the system.

The City will continue its efforts to increase training of staff, execute consistent and accurate

written agreements, and have frequent and regular meetings on improving performance.

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

The City coordinates with public and private housing agencies and social service agencies through the citizen participation process, the Fair Housing Committee, and Continuum of Care (CoC), and the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB). Additionally, beneficiaries of the City's former Rental Rehabilitation Program, now the Affordable Multi Family Rental Program, are referred to the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) to investigate the availability of Section 8 Housing Vouchers.

The City partnered with Hamilton County to update the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI) study for the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan. A committee representing Hamilton County Community Development, City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development, City of Cincinnati Department of City Planning, Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), Housing Opportunities Made Equal, and the Center for Independent Living Options (CILO) will meet periodically to continue work on the solutions to the findings.

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 group of clients, improve access to mainstream resources and benefits, and facilitate improvements in systems needed by the homeless. Each of the working groups meets monthly. The working groups include the following: Family Homelessness Group, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Advisory Committee, Homeless Outreach Group, Permanent Supportive Housing Group, Transitional Housing Group, Rapid Rehousing Group, and Homeless Veteran's Group. A representative of each work group, along with representatives from the following entities are seated on the CoC Board: homeless education liaison, Healthcare for the Homeless, Veteran's Services, homeless coalition, Runaway and Homeless Youth, Victim Services Provider, ESG subrecipients, agency executive directors, City of Cincinnati, Hamilton County, UFA/HMIS Lead agency, and at least one homeless or formerly homeless community member. The CoC Board meets monthly to oversee planning, coordinate efforts, and monitor progress on the goals of the consolidated plan.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0

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

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

The City of Cincinnati plans to continue to operate its HOME Investment Partnership Program similar to previous years. As such, there are no other forms of investment planned as part of the 2015 – 2019 Consolidated Plan other than those described in CFR § 92.205(b). Some programs are not funded in 2016 and will use prior year resources. These programs may be funded in subsequent years (2017 through 2019) and remain in the Consolidated Plan for this purpose.

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

Throughout 2015 to 2019, the City will continue to assist homebuyers through HOME funded programs such as the Core 4 Strategic Housing Program, Single Family Homeownership Development, Downpayment Assistance Initiative, CHDO Development Projects, and other specific projects/programs as opportunities present themselves. Resale or recapture provisions are stated in each contract and enforced through deed restrictions, homebuyer agreements, mortgages, and/or promissory notes. The City utilizes the recapture provision for all assistance to homebuyers.   Included below is the recapture language used in contracts for the City's Homebuyer Assistance HOME programs, i.e., Core 4 Strategic Housing Program, Single Family Homeownership Development, CHDO Development Projects, and the Downpayment Initiative Program:

The loan shall be made subject to the following terms:
If the Borrower lives in the Property for five years as stated above, then the entire amount of the loan shall be forgiven. If the Borrower lives in the Property for less than five years, the amount of the loan shall be reduced by twenty percent for each full year that the Borrower has lived in the Property. The Borrower will be required to repay the loan in the event that the Borrower: 1) does not live at the Property for five (5) years from the date of this Note; and/or 2) sells or transfer the Property within five (5) years of the date of the Note. Repayment shall be made at the time Borrower transfer the Property or ceases to live at the Property. The repayment amount shall be the principal amount less the amount or amounts forgiven.

Prior to the disbursement of the Loan Funds, the Borrower agrees to execute and deliver to the City in a form acceptable to the City, a promissory note for the amount of this loan and a mortgage to the Property, as security for the note and this loan. A sample copy of the promissory note is attached hereto as Contract Exhibit B and labeled "Promissory Note." A sample copy of the mortgage is attached hereto as Contract Exhibit C and labeled "Mortgage."

3. **A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:**

The City utilizes the resale provision for all rental projects.   Included below is the resale language used in contracts for the City's Rental Development or Rehabilitation HOME programs, Core 4 Strategic Housing Program, and Affordable Multi Family Rental Program:

Developers and property owners who receive HOME funds through the Affordable Multi Family Rental and Core 4 Program are required to keep the assisted units available for occupancy by

tenants meeting HOME income guidelines throughout the applicable affordability period. This Resale Restriction is enforced using a Restrictive Covenant which runs with the land and does not expire upon sale of the property. In addition to the Restrictive Covenant, the City requires all lien holders (including State or Federal agencies), to sign a Mortgagee Consent to Restrictive Covenants. The Mortgagee Consent document is recorded along with the Restrictive Covenant and the purpose is for each lien holder to acknowledge the affordability restrictions outlined in the City's Restrictive Covenant and to grant the RC priority over their mortgage. This preserves the project's HOME affordability requirement in case of an adverse property transfer. The City has always recorded the Restrictive Covenant's on HOME funded properties, and added the Mortgagee Consent in June 2012 to strengthen the City's protection of the HOME affordability period. Subsequent purchasers of the property must fulfill the remaining time of the affordability period. A mortgage is also placed on the property to ensure the HOME funds are protected. Special circumstances regarding enforcement of the Restrictive Covenant may exist in the event of a foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure.

4. **Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:**

The City does not intend to use HOME funding to refinance existing debt during 2015 through 2019.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.220(l)(4)

1. **Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)**

In order for emergency shelters to receive Emergency Solutions Grant funds, the shelter must be in compliance with the federal regulations outlined in 24 CFR 91 & 576. The City has mandated that participating shelters be monitored and in compliance with the Emergency Shelter Program, Operations, and Facility Accreditation Standards. Staff at Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH), the non-profit organization that administers the ESG program, monitors all emergency shelter agencies annually for compliance. A copy of the Shelter Standards and Shelter Diversion Manual are included as attachments.

2. **If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.**

Cincinnati and Hamilton County utilize the Central Access Point (CAP). CAP currently screens and schedules intakes for the four family shelters, a shelter for 18 – 24 year old individuals, a single men's shelter, a single women's shelter, and a transitional housing program for single men with substance abuse issues. CAP also refers to a Shelter Diversion program, which provides case management to help individuals avoid entering shelter. Any individual who calls CAP is screened in the same manner to determine which program best suits the caller's needs. The caller is referred to the appropriate program and contacts the agency directly to complete their intake.

The Cincinnati/Hamilton County Continuum of Care has developed a Coordinated Entry System that has been running since January of 2016. Clients who are homeless as defined by HUD are assessed using the VI-SPDAT (Voluntary Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool) survey and are placed on a community wide prioritization list maintained by Strategies to End Homelessness. Housing programs report to STEH when they have openings and the highest priority household on the prioritization list is matched with each opening, per the agency's eligibility criteria. The Coordinated Entry process ensures a consistent, low barrier to entry system for all homeless clients in our continuum, regardless of where they enter the system. Cincinnati's Coordinated Entry system includes housing placement for families, individuals, youth, chronically homeless households, victims of domestic violence, and will soon include placements into veterans programs (Supportive Services for Veteran Families and HUD VA Supportive Housing).

3. **Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).**

When the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Interim Rule took effect in 2012, the City of Cincinnati along with Hamilton County, the Continuum of Care Board, and Strategies to End Homelessness, decided that ESG funds would be used for emergency shelter expenses at a flat level ($450,000) and the remainder of the funds would be used for a homelessness prevention program. The breakdown of funding is revisited annually to ensure that funds are being used in alignment with the needs of the community. For 2016, this flat level is $550,000.

The ESG shelter allocation process is an inclusive process of the ESG provider network. Strategies to End Homelessness prepares the annual Emergency Solutions Grant application for shelter funding, which is then sent via email to the prior year's providers and posted on the Strategies to End Homelessness website for any other applicants interested in applying. Agencies with interest in applying must be active in the community's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), VESTA® (Virtual Electronic Service Tracking Assistant) and have the prior year's data available before the allocation process begins. Providers then gather to review the needs within the community and to allocate funds through a process called Prince of Peace. The allocation is based on the previous year's outcomes and the needs determined by a discussion of those in attendance at Prince of Peace.

4. **If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.**

The requirement of 24 CFR 576.406(a) has been met. The City's Continuum of Care has a HUD-designated primary decision making group and oversight board referred to as the Homeless Clearinghouse. This group is mandated to have at least one homeless/formerly homeless person as an active member. As the oversight board of the CoC, the Clearinghouse's responsibilities are:

1. To ensure that the CoC is meeting all of the responsibilities assigned to it by HUD regulations;
2. To represent the relevant organizations and projects serving homeless subpopulations;
3. To support homeless persons in their movement from homelessness to economic stability and affordable permanent housing within a supportive community;
4. To be inclusive of all the needs of all of Cincinnati's and Hamilton County's homeless population, including the special service and housing needs of homeless sub-populations; and

5. To facilitate responses to issues and concerns that affect the agencies funded by the CoC that are beyond those addressed in the annual CoC application process.

Additionally, STEH monitors all ESG subrecipients annually and subrecipients are required to have a homeless or formerly homeless individual on their agency board.

5. **Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.**

Performance measures are included in the Prince of Peace allocation process for Emergency Solutions Grant shelter funding. Strategies to End Homelessness uses data collected in VESTA® to determine a starting point allocation for each eligible provider. The starting point allocation divides the funding between shelters based on their number of bed nights and their previous year's outcomes related specifically to positive housing results, length of stay in shelter, and rate of returns to homelessness. Outcomes are compared to the community average for each measure and an agency's allocation increases or decreases based on how their individual outcomes compare to the community averages.