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## 2018 Annual Plan

By

Cuyahoga Urban County  
&  
Cuyahoga Housing Consortium

Submitted to  
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development  
Columbus Field Office  
200 N. High Street  
Columbus, OH

## Executive Summary

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

#### 1. Introduction

Cuyahoga County's present form of government was launched in the November election of 2010 with the passage of Issue 6 under which the voters of Cuyahoga County approved a charter amendment in which three County Commissioners would be replaced by 1) an elected Executive who would manage the affairs of the county, 2) numerous elected positions were placed under the Executive's leadership and 3) an elected eleven-member council would be created and given legislative powers. Under the new charter government there were 12 chapters that described standard governmental functions such as County Organization, Contracts and Purchasing, Revenue and Finance. In addition, the Charter specifically included chapters on Ethics, Equity, Employment Practices and Economic Development. The Chapter on Economic Development included three focus areas – Innovation Development, Commercial Property Reutilization, and Business Growth Commercialization and Attraction. Sub headings within the priorities included Micro Enterprise, Innovation Match, Redevelopment and Modernization, Accelerated Growth, and Large-Scale Attraction. An Economic Development Commission was given the task of advising the Department of Development in the creation of a Five-Year Economic Development Plan with a requirement that there be annual updates and reports. To provide stimuli, an Economic Development Fund was created and a goal of capitalizing the Fund was stated. As noted throughout this 2016 Annual Plan, significant local resources are devoted to creating a climate for nurturing business and employment growth for all of the citizens of Cuyahoga County.

Federal resources noted in this Plan are invested in areas to complement county financing and to make investments in housing for the county's residents. Federal requirements govern the appropriate target populations for location and for incomes of these federal dollars. This document, the 2018 Annual Plan, follows a format required by HUD to receive its annual CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding. Information about the other programs and initiatives being undertaken by Cuyahoga County and its many partnerships can be found on its website [www.onecuyahoga.com](http://www.onecuyahoga.com).

## 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 HUD Approved Five-Year Consolidated Plan FY 2015-2019 is located at the Department's website. This document, describes the needs of low- and moderate-income residents, persons with special needs, and homeless individuals and families in the 51 member communities of the Cuyahoga County Urban County (Urban County) The Strategic Plan section outlines the goals, strategies, partners, and anticipated financial resources that will be available to implement projects using several HUD programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). A companion document, the Annual Action Plan, sets forth the specific projects that will be implemented during FY 2018. At the conclusion of each year, Cuyahoga County submits the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), describing the community's results in implementing projects.

HUD funding is intended to assist individuals and families that earn less than 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI) in a metropolitan area. HUD defines these categories based upon household income, adjusted for family size. Using published current HOME categories, that translates to the maximum income for a family of four to be \$21,200 (0-30% of MFI), \$35,350 (31-50% of MFI), and \$55,550 (51-80% of MFI).

### **Cuyahoga Housing Consortium**

Cuyahoga County is the lead administrative entity for the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium (Consortium) (*see attached Map*). The five Consortium members – the HUD CDBG entitlement jurisdictions of Cleveland Heights, Euclid, Lakewood, Parma, and the Urban County – formed the HUD-approved Consortium in the early 1990's to leverage HOME program funds for their communities. By acting jointly, the funding amount received by the group is greater than the amount of money that could be obtained by the jurisdictions individually. The Consortium also uses the opportunity of having 55 communities working together – representing 66% of all county residents (850,000) – to ensure broader planning and coordination on affordable housing issues within Cuyahoga County. The County's Annual Plan also incorporates discussions pertaining to the Consortium as a whole.

The 5-Year Consolidated Plan contains very detailed analysis of housing and homeless needs assessment, housing market analysis and strategies for addressing needs. Because issues and needs do not change rapidly in the industrial areas of the Midwest and East, like Cuyahoga County, the detailed

discussion in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan on the identification of needs is accurate in 2018.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

Examination of the project goals in the previous 5-Year Consolidated Plan and noted in past Performance Reports demonstrate that the Consortium partners have accomplished in 2 years the goals that they planned to complete in 5 years.

During the Great Recession, (2007 - 2009) rents remained stagnant and home values in many communities declined – in some cases substantially. While median home sale prices have stabilized or started to increase in most communities and properties are beginning to sell more quickly, in 2018, the recovery of the housing market remains slow, particularly in more distressed communities.

Anticipating that housing market conditions will gradually continue to improve, Cuyahoga County will continue to program its Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds for activities that maintain or strengthen neighborhoods and support stable or increased community property values.

To compensate for issues such as foreclosure activity, fluctuating home values, and tightened lending standards, Cuyahoga County has adjusted the program parameters for rehabilitation lending, down payment assistance and foreclosure counseling. These programs strengthen neighborhoods through property improvements and creation of homeowners. Cuyahoga County will continue to monitor the housing market and economic forces to ensure that these programs meet the needs of residents.

### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

During the development of the FY 2018 Annual Action Plan, the Cuyahoga County Department of Development utilized notices in a newspaper of general circulation, public meetings, and internet outreach to solicit public comment. During the 30-day public comment period, hard copies of the documents were available at Cuyahoga County Public Library system libraries in seven communities throughout the HOME Consortium service area, one location in the Cleveland Public Library system, and at the office of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development. The documents were also posted on the Cuyahoga County Department of Development's website. For more specific details about the citizen participation process, please refer to section **AP-10 Consultation** in the following Section.

In addition, the Cuyahoga County Department of Development is active throughout the year in consulting with its 51-member communities, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies to gain input

and feedback on countywide issues and departmental programs. In 2017, the county worked with these stakeholders to identify specific issues related to housing that need to be addressed and created a county wide housing plan. Stakeholders continue to meet regularly, and this ongoing dialogue helps to create programs that are both proactive and reactive to change and remove unnecessarily complex program requirements while ensuring that any restrictions are followed.

**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.

The Cuyahoga County Department of Development made the Draft FY 2018 Annual Action Plan available through the Cuyahoga County Department of Development's main webpage. In addition, the entire HUD approved 2015-2019 5-Year Strategic Plan and the Draft 2017 Performance Reports were also available on the county's web site and could be downloaded.

Congress passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 on March 23, 2018 including provisions for level funding of the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs with increased allocations. During our public comment periods we have not received any comments.

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

During the 30-day public comment period in 2018, the County's Information Technology Department will record unique visitors to Development's Main Page where information on the 2018 consultation process and a link to the 2018 Draft Annual Plan were available. The Technology Department will also record repeat views. No comments were taken at the first open public comment meeting. Also, no comments were submitted via mail, email, or by phone on the 2018 Action Plan during the comment period.

**7. Summary**

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

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

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

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	CUYAHOGA COUNTY	Cuyahoga County Department of Development	
HOME Administrator	CUYAHOGA COUNTY	Cuyahoga County Department of Development	
ESG Administrator	CUYAHOGA COUNTY	Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Homeless Services	

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative**

**Introduction**

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2015-2019) for the 51 member communities of the Cuyahoga County Urban County (Urban County) described the needs of low- and moderate-income residents, persons with special needs, and homeless individuals and families. The Strategic Plan section outlined the goals, strategies, partners, and anticipated financial resources that will be available to implement projects using three HUD programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). A companion document, the Annual Action Plan, is created each program year and sets forth the specific projects that will be implemented during coming year (FY 2018 in the current cycle). HUD funding is intended to assist individuals and families that earn less than 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI) in a metropolitan area. HUD defines these categories based upon household income, adjusted for family size. The maximum income for a family of four by income group after June 14, 2017 is: \$21,200 (0-30% of MFI), \$35,350 (31-50% of MFI), and \$56,550 (51-80% of MFI).

## Cuyahoga Housing Consortium

Cuyahoga County is the lead administrative entity for the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium (Consortium) (*see attached Map*). The five Consortium members – the HUD entitlement jurisdictions of Cleveland Heights, Euclid, Lakewood, Parma, and the Urban County – formed the HUD-approved Consortium in the early 1990's to leverage HOME program funds for their communities. By acting jointly, the funding amount received by the group is greater than the amount of money that could be obtained individually. The Consortium also uses the opportunity of having 55 communities working together – representing 66% of all county residents (850,000) – to ensure broader planning and coordination on affordable housing issues within Cuyahoga County.

**HOUSING NEEDS** The Consortium contains approximately 355,000 households, 844,000 persons, and 389,000 housing units (2010-2014 ACS). Since 2000, the Consortium lost about 3% of both its population and its households. Housing units increased 2% during the period. Incomes have increased in many Census Tracts since 2000, but poverty has increased as well. The Consortium poverty rate is 10.3% (2010-14 ACS), but the rate is higher in many Census Tracts.

Cost burden is the most prevalent housing problem in the Urban County and in the Consortium's communities. Of all 61,000 households with a cost burden greater than 30% of income, 37,000 households had incomes that were below 80% AMI (51% were renters and 49% were owners). Of these cost burdened households with incomes below 80% AMI, the largest groups were renter households with incomes that were 30-50% and 50-80% AMI and owners households with homes that were 50-80% AMI.

## Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

During the development of the FY 2018 Annual Action Plan, the Cuyahoga County Department of Development utilized notices in a newspaper of general circulation, public meetings, and internet outreach to solicit public comment. During the 30-day public comment period, hard copies of the documents were available at Cuyahoga County Public Library system libraries in seven communities throughout the HOME Consortium service area, one location in the Cleveland Public Library system, and at the office of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development. The documents were also posted on the Cuyahoga County Department of Development's website.

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The Cuyahoga County Department of Development made the proposed FY 2018 Annual Action Plan available through the Cuyahoga County Department of Development's main web page. Sections of the 2018 Annual Plan could be opened, read and downloaded individually or the entire document could be downloaded. Also, the entire HUD approved 2015-2019 5-Year Strategic Plan and past Performance Reports were also available on the county's web site and could be downloaded as well.

Contact Information - to inquire further about the Consolidated Plan please contact:

Kenneth Surratt, Deputy Director - Housing, 2079 East Ninth Street, Cleveland, OH 44115, Phone 216 698-2092 or email [ksurratt@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:ksurratt@cuyahogacounty.us) .

Sara Parks Jackson Development Administrator - Community Development, 2079 East Ninth Street, Cleveland, OH 44115, Phone (216) 443-8160 or email: [spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us)



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

### 1. Introduction

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**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 following are several examples of existing coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and government health, mental health, and service agencies in Cuyahoga County that have the potential to involve residents of Consortium jurisdictions:

- While being treated for mental health issues that require a stay in an institutional setting, persons may be located in either a public or private facility. Upon release, it is the portion of this population group in the public facilities that is more likely to be at-risk of homelessness. The County's Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County, through its network of provider agencies, works to retain and add housing units for persons that are part of the mental health system caseload. The housing units can include public or assisted housing, depending upon the circumstances of the person involved.
- There are also persons released from physical health institutions that could be at-risk of homelessness, such as persons who have lost employment during their hospital stay, do not have sufficient savings to pay ongoing housing and housing-related costs during their hospital stay, and do not have a support network of other persons to assist them through this period. Social workers at physical health institutions have access to resources such as United Way of Greater Cleveland's 2-1-1/First Call For Help, an information clearinghouse staffed 24-hours-a-day to provide information on a variety of health, housing, and human service needs. In addition to United Way and its more than 100 partner organizations, the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services is also available to assist in an effort to prevent a homelessness situation from occurring.
- Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority police officers participate in a training program to better handle social problems they confront, such as poverty, domestic violence, drug abuse, and child welfare. The project is a partnership that includes CMHA, Case Western Reserve University, Partnership for a Safer Cleveland, and Kent State University. For example, officers will be able to refer at-risk youth and their families to social services agencies to address their problems. Counselors will respond within 72 hours for mental health, substance abuse, and child welfare needs.

**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.**

### **Guaranteed Access to Shelter**

The Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care (CoC) and government officials, county and city departments, and non-profit housing and service providers guarantee that everyone will have access to emergency shelter, or, if a shelter is full, transportation and space at another facility.

### **HousingFirst Initiative (HFI)**

HFI is a successful public/private partnership effort to develop permanent supportive housing and end chronic homelessness countywide. HFI moves chronically homeless persons into stable housing and then links the person to comprehensive support services on-site. About 80% of residents remain in their apartments, with almost all engaged in services. The rate of emergency room visits and hospitalizations has been substantially reduced. About 20% of the residents move on to more independent housing situations and/or reunite with family. Only a small percentage of persons return to a shelter.

### **Hospital Protocols for the Homeless**

One difficulty for persons who are hospitalized is when the patient is about to be discharged. If the patient has recovered sufficiently, the hospital cannot continue to keep him/her, however a shelter often does not have the medical expertise or appropriate accommodations to care for someone with more extensive medical needs. Through the Care Alliance and the CoC, a coalition of shelter providers, hospital social work staff and administrators, and local foundations implemented screening guidelines at time of discharge. If the patient is homeless at discharge but does not meet ten basic, functioning measures, the hospital sends the patient to a nursing home or alternative care facility until such time as the person can be safely discharged to a non-medical living situation.

### **2-1-1/First Call for Help**

The United Way of Greater Cleveland administers this 24-hour/7 day-a-week hot line. This resource, developed collaboratively by United Way and social service providers, allows anyone, including homeless persons or persons at risk of homelessness, to call with questions regarding service needs and receive an answer or a referral on the spot. United Way also provides a searchable internet database, available free at any library.

### **Discharge Policies**

The McKinney-Vento Act requires State and local governments to develop and implement Discharge Coordination Policies and Protocols to ensure that a person being discharged from a publicly funded

institution or system of care, such as health care facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program and institution, is not discharged into homelessness. The CoC has adopted existing State policies and procedures or developed its own policies and procedures to address this need.

### **Cuyahoga County Office of Re-Entry**

The Cuyahoga County Office of Re-entry addresses the needs of persons returning to Cuyahoga County from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. In collaboration with the City of Cleveland, United Way, and local foundations, the comprehensive re-entry strategies include housing, behavioral health access, and employment support. For youths, the Ohio Department of Youth Services' (ODYS) written policy is to return youth to their own home, if possible. Release planning for all youth begins within 60 days of admission to the facility and continues for the duration of commitment.

### **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**

#### **Funding Allocation**

The Cuyahoga Urban County is a recipient of Emergency Solutions Grant funding. The Strategic Plan section of this Five-Year Consolidated Plan describes goals, objectives and strategies for addressing the problem of homelessness. The Plan references the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care's (CoC) *Blue Print for Change*, which states: "... the CoC has developed an approach to transform the current community response to homelessness to emphasize **prevention and rapid re-housing.**" Among the specific strategies included in the *Blue Print for Change* plan are:

- Implement a Centralized or Coordinated Intake System whereby all persons seeking shelter are assessed immediately to determine if there are any potential options to shelter.
- Within the shelter system provide assessment and linkages to case management and mainstream social services.
- Utilize rapid re-housing resources to reduce the length of shelter stays.

The Cuyahoga Urban County's ESG allocation is made available to all interested nonprofit institutions and participating units of local government who have the capacity and interest in delivering services that meet the priorities described above. The process is administered by the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) under the supervision of Cuyahoga County's Office of Procurement and Diversity.

#### **Performance Standards and Outcome Evaluation**

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OHS is the Systems Administrator for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Agencies receiving sub-awards of ESG are required to participate in the HMIS. The HUD-required sixteen data elements are entered for every client accessing ESG services (except victims of domestic violence). Exit data is also collected. The HMIS data enables outcomes to be evaluated based on the following measures:

- **Diversion**: 20% of persons/households, seeking shelter will be successfully diverted to alternative, safe housing.
- **Length of Stay**: Implementing rapid exit strategies will shorten the Average Length of Stay (ALOS) by 10%. The ALOS benchmark will be determined based on the 2011 Annual Homeless Assessment report (AHAR).
- **Return to Shelter**: Utilizing the 2011 AHAR, the benchmark for the percentage of persons who return to shelter from CoC funded services will be established. ESG participants who return to shelter will be tracked in HMIS and demonstrate a reduction of 5%.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CHN Housing Partners (Formerly Cleveland Housing Network)
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Health Agency Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga Housing Consortium members and the Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.

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<b>2</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	City of Cleveland - Department of Community Development
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Other government - Local Grantee Department
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	County and City of Cleveland Department of Development staff meet frequently throughout the year to coordinate funding and programming in many areas including economic development, fair housing, housing services and regional planning.
<b>3</b>	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	County staff meet at least monthly with agency staff on counseling and foreclosure prevention issues. The agency is also a major nonprofit housing developer and manager, with ongoing interaction between County staff and agency staff on development issues.

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4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cleveland Tenants Organization/Legal Aid Society of Greater Cleveland
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Fair Housing
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	During 2017 CTO ceased operations, but the local Legal Aid office has taken over responsibilities around landlord/tenant support and training.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Other government - County

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	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Office of Homeless Services (OHS) is a partner with the Department of Development in matters relating to homeless populations that may be homeless. OHS administers the ESG allocation received by the Development.
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga Housing Consortium and Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.



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7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Board of Health
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Health Health Agency Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga County Consortium members have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents. Consortium members and this agency jointly plan, implement, and administer programs that are part of the countywide lead paint strategy.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-housing community development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga County Consortium members have program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the infrastructure needs of county communities. Consortium members and this agency jointly plan and implement infrastructure projects that positively impact low- and moderate-income areas.
9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services - Victims Other government - County

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	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	County Development staff meet several times each year with county senior and adult services staff to coordinate programming and assess housing needs of the elderly and disabled adult population.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Market Analysis
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga County Consortium members have program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis related to real estate data for county communities. Condition of housing data was obtained from this agency and analyzed as part of the 5-Year Plan and this Annual Plan.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga Housing Consortium members have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address foreclosure and property disposition issues in county communities. Consortium members and this agency jointly plan and implement projects that impact low- and moderate-income areas, including acquisition sale, demolition and rehabilitation of buildings.

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12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - County Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga Housing Consortium members have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis related to planning, community development and neighborhood revitalization issues. As a U. S. Census Bureau affiliate, this agency also provides data, data analysis and customized products to Consortium members. This agency served as the consultant to the Consortium in the preparation of the 5 Year Consolidated Plan. The agency and the Department of Development jointly participate in a project to identify midcentury (1040 to 1970) neighborhoods that are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs

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	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga Housing Consortium members have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents. In addition, on a regular basis, this agency shares countywide program usage information with the members of the Consortium member communities.
14	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Empowering and Strengthening Ohio's People (ESOP)
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Non-profit organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	County staff and agency staff meet at least monthly to discuss foreclosure prevention and housing counseling issues.
15	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Greater Cleveland Partnership
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Business Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Market Analysis Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Greater Cleveland Partnership is the regional chamber of commerce for the greater Cleveland areas. It concentrates on business retention and civic initiatives of interest to business leaders. County economic development staff work closely with the Greater Partnership staff to understand the factors that motivate businesses to remain and expand in Cuyahoga County, and to coordinate resources for business retention and expansion.

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16	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Cuyahoga Housing Consortium members have program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the current public transit system and needs of county communities, particularly the impact on low- and moderate-income areas.
17	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Heights Community Congress
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Service-Fair Housing Non-profit organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Fair housing
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	As an organization providing fair housing services to the Cuyahoga County Urban County, the Cuyahoga County Department of Development and HCC have policy and program discussions on an ongoing basis to address housing issues in the 51-members communities.
18	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Home Repair Resource Center
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Non-profit organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis

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	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	County staff and agency staff meet at least monthly to discuss foreclosure prevention and housing counseling issues. The agency serves as a HOME program subrecipient for homebuyer assistance and, in this capacity, provides insight into homebuyer market conditions.
19	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Jobs Ohio
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - State Business and Civic Leaders Private Sector Banking / Financing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Market Analysis Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Jobs Ohio is the nonprofit organization created by the State of Ohio to carry out State funded economic development activities statewide. County economic development staff work closely with Jobs Ohio staff to understand business financing needs and coordinate resources for business attraction and retention.

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

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

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care	Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care	The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals support the goals of the Continuum of Care (CoC). The Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS) serves all 59 communities in Cuyahoga County and coordinates the CoC, an extensive network of public, private, and non-profit agencies that facilitate and/or provide, either directly or indirectly, assisted housing, health services, and/or social services to persons in Cuyahoga County who are chronically homeless, homeless, or are at-risk of homelessness.

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Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Economic Development Plan	Cuyahoga County	<p>This plan, updated annually by Cuyahoga County government, focuses on the areas of innovation, investment, collaboration, and education as themes for County economic development decisions. Although primarily intended to be implemented with funds other than dollars provided by HUD, the Plan emphasizes that investments should create high-quality, well-connected places, ensure access to and preparation for jobs and careers, and accelerate business growth. The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals, using HUD funds, reinforce these investment objectives of the Cuyahoga County Economic Development Plan. <a href="https://www.cuyahogacounty.us/docs/default-source/development/economicdevelopmentplan.pdf">https://www.cuyahogacounty.us/docs/default-source/development/economicdevelopmentplan.pdf</a></p>
Cuyahoga County Housing Plan	Cuyahoga County	<p>As County Executive, Armond Budish, took office he saw the need for a county-wide plan to curb these negative trends and keep any positive trends growing. The ultimate goal is to make Cuyahoga County one of the most desired places to live in the country. In order to get there, there needs to be a plan. The Cuyahoga County Housing Plan (Plan) was developed in coordination with countywide stakeholders over the course of the past two years. The plan identified six primary objectives that need to be addressed to improve our housing conditions and values.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Access to Capital</li> <li>2. Tax Collection and Delinquency</li> <li>3. Housing Insecurity</li> <li>4. Special Populations</li> <li>5. Fair Housing</li> <li>6. Confidence in the Housing Market</li> </ol>

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Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Rebuilding as 1: A Common Sense Approach 2 Housing	Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium	This 2013 report outlines issues and strategies to address housing issues, particularly in the Cuyahoga County suburbs that geographically form the first ring of development beyond Cleveland. Building on the Cuyahoga County Economic Development Plan goal of creating high-quality, well-connected places that provide our residents with great communities to live, work, and play, the report emphasizes strategies focusing on the four policy areas of preserving older housing stock, reducing vacancy and blight, tax base strengthening, and promoting stability. The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals focus significant housing funds on investment in existing housing through rehabilitation and homebuyer programs plus code enforcement, which reinforce the strategies of the Rebuilding as One report.
Vibrant NEO 2040	Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium Initiative	Funded by a HUD/USDOT/USEPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities Initiative grant, this twelve-county regional project guided by 33 organizations developed a vision for the future of Northeast Ohio. The eight objectives include promoting investment in established communities, developing the regional economy with accessible employment opportunities, and enhancing the regional transportation network. The Consolidated Plan Strategic Plan goals focus on investing funds in housing, businesses, and infrastructure in developed neighborhoods, commercial districts, and industrial areas, which reinforce the goals of Vibrant NEO 2040. <a href="http://vibrantneo.org">http://vibrantneo.org</a>

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative**

This section left intentionally blank.



## AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The five Consortium jurisdictions take actions to encourage participation by all residents. For example, jurisdictions conduct outreach on a communitywide basis through various types of media, such as community-based newspapers and newsletters, electronic newsletters, home mailings, websites, and public access TV channels. Outreach is expanded through members of citizen advisory committees or special interest groups, as well as program sub recipients. Outreach is conducted at community facilities, such as posting notices at recreation centers, senior centers, libraries, and municipal buildings. These actions increase the opportunity for residents from throughout a community to participate in the process, including low- and moderate-income residents, minorities, and residents living in HUD-assisted housing.

The Consortium jurisdictions undertake the following types of actions to encourage citizen involvement:

- Translation services for non-English speaking residents.
- Meeting locations and office space housing Consortium staffs are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- Meetings, hearings and other public activities are scheduled at times and locations convenient to encourage attendance.
- Reasonable and timely access is provided to information and records relating to the Consolidated Plan and use of HUD assistance.
- Each Consortium jurisdiction has a Citizen Participation Plan.

The Cuyahoga County Department of Development, as the lead administrative entity for the Consortium, is tasked by HUD for overseeing physical submission of all 5 CDBG Entitlement entities as one group. HUD's software requires submission by the lead entity (the County).

**Table 4** shows the public comment process undertaken by the Cuyahoga County Urban County. The two public meetings were publicized in a newspaper of general circulation. Citizens were invited to provide comments via telephone, mail, or email. During the 30-day comment period, copies of the Draft FY 2018 Annual Plan document were available in public places, such as government offices and libraries. The document was also posted on the County's website.

Public meetings were held on weekday evenings or weekdays during the day. The meetings linked the 5-Year Plan and FY 2018 Annual Plan, providing continuity for discussing short-term and long-term timeframes.

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Public meetings were held at well-known local facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. At each public meeting, the 5-Year Plan was listed and discussed as a separate agenda item. The discussions included presentations of background information, data, and priorities, and time was allotted for audience questions.

County staff provides technical assistance to groups developing proposals for funding assistance under the Consolidated Plan. Offers of technical assistance are included as part of application materials, published notices, and/or made verbally during group meetings. Staff also provides contact information on their website. Technical assistance, on a one-on-one basis, often includes explanations concerning programs, potential projects, and application procedures.

**Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted /broad community	The County published a public notice in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on December 8, 2017 describing the Annual Action Plan for 2018, listing the first public meeting date, time and location and inviting citizen review and comment.	Not applicable	Not applicable	

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<b>Sort Order</b>	<b>Mode of Outreach</b>	<b>Target of Outreach</b>	<b>Summary of response/attendance</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Summary of comments not accepted and reasons</b>	<b>URL (If applicable)</b>
2	Public Meeting	Non-targeted /broad community	The FY 2018 Annual Action Plan, December 14, 2017, County Administration Building, Council Chambers 10AM.	Explanation on purpose of meeting was given but no comments were received.	Not applicable	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted /broad community	Cuyahoga County published a public notice in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on May 31, 2018. The public notice announced the start of the 30-day comment period beginning on May 31, 2018, for the Draft 2018 Annual Plan, listed the library locations and other public locations at which the plans would be available for public review, listed the second public hearing date, and invited citizen review and comment. The 30-day public comment period closed June 29, 2018.	No Comments Received	Not applicable	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted /broad community	The Cuyahoga County Department of Development made the proposed FY 2018 Annual Action Plan available through the Cuyahoga County Department of Development's main web page. The various sections of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan, and Draft Annual Plan for 2018 could be opened on the web site, read, and downloaded individually or the entire document could be downloaded.	No comments received	No comments received	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Public Hearing	Non-targeted /broad community	FY 2018 Annual Action Plan, June 21, 2018, 9 AM, 4th Floor, Room 4-015, Cuyahoga County Administrative Headquarters, 2079 East Ninth, Cleveland, OH 44115.	No comments were received on the Plan in writing, via email or by verbal conversation.	Not applicable	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other questions in this section.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	3,894,692	300,000	2,007,504	6,202,196	3,800,000	Annual allocation is a conservative estimate based on recent allocations and federal budget deficit reduction trends. Program Income is based on recent years. Program Income is technically Revolving Loan Program earned on loan repayments and used for similar purposes according to HUD regulations. Amount available in future depends on will of Congress to keep program. The President's Budget for 2018 sought to zero funding for the CDBG Program.

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Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	2,703,220	150,000	0	2,853,220	2,500,000	Annual allocation is a moderately conservative estimate based on recent annual allocations. Program income is based on recent experience. Staff at DoD unable to remove TBRA as a Amount available in future depends on will of Congress to keep program. The President's Budget for 2018 sought to zero funding for the HOME Program.



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Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	314,059	0	0	314,059	310,000	Annual allocation is a conservative estimate based on recent annual allocations. ESG funded activities do not produce program income, but are matched 1 to 1 at the local level with private fund raising and financial support from charitable agencies. The President’s Budget in 2019 for shelter programs is uncertain.

**Table 2 - Expected Resources – Priority Table**

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

Cuyahoga County continually looks for partners to share project financing or management expertise to create successful projects.

HOME matching requirements are met by participating in funding rental housing developments which have leveraged large amounts of investments from HOME match eligible sources.

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Housing construction and renovation activities funded by HOME typically leverage tax credit equity and loans from other funding sources far in excess of the HOME funds invested.

ESG match requirements are met with local government contributions, foundation's philanthropic donations and charitable event fundraising sponsored by homeless shelter providers that are funded with county ESG. Match documentation is required at the time that the RFP proposal is submitted to the Office of Homeless Services for review and award recommendation. Match is further tracked through the reimbursement request process, when it is documented by the subrecipient as part of the request documentation.

Cuyahoga County has adopted a five-year economic development plan, with annual updates, to guide its investment of local resources for job creation through economic development. Housing and community development activities are noted in this plan, although the county economic development plan is not intended to provide the level of needs analysis achieved in the Consolidated Plan. While no other funding is certain, Cuyahoga County leadership has publicly stated a commitment to use local tax revenues to fund loans to private businesses in support of job creation through economic development as well as community development projects with a program modeled after the County's municipal grant program, funded with CDBG dollars. Additionally, Cuyahoga County leadership has also created a fund of \$50 million for local communities throughout Cuyahoga County to defray their cost to demolish blighted, vacant, and abandoned structures which depress property values and hamper development.

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

County government does not itself own substantial amounts of vacant land or buildings suitable for redevelopment in the suburban communities for which this plan is developed. Several suburbs have acquired ownership of vacant residential lots through a land banking program, and Cuyahoga County has established an innovative Land Bank which holds an increasing number of vacant houses and vacant lots for redevelopment. Land Bank owned houses do not remain vacant for long periods; they are either renovated for re-occupancy, or demolished if the cost of needed repairs would make renovation and re-occupancy economically unsound.

**Discussion**

The Dept. of Development has budgeted for expenditures to cover administration, staffing and program activities that may be incurred before submission of its FY 2018 Annual Action Plan. This conforms to CPD Notice 18-01 (January 24, 2018), stating that grantees are not to submit consolidated plans or one-year action plans until they receive their letters announcing their FY 2018 formula allocations. To provide the required public disclosure of the County's intent to use unobligated carry forward funds as necessary for such pre-award costs, the regulatory provisions for incurring pre-award costs under 24 CFR 570.200(h)(1) were noted in this Draft Plan and was discussed at the public hearing. This may also include using unobligated carry forward funds for housing and community development program operating costs and administrative operating costs, as well as operation of loan programs including housing, economic development, municipal grant, and commercial revitalization. There is no impact on future years funding as the 2018 CDBG entitlement is larger than the 2017 entitlement.

The Dept. of Development uses approved staffing levels set in the County 2018-19 biennial budget. For CDBG eligible operating activities, funds are reserved in the appropriate section of the Draft FY 2018 Annual Plan budget items. These are pre-award costs and are noted as such in the proposed activity descriptions. These expenses were monitored for compliance with 2 CFR 200(h).

## Annual Goals and Objectives

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

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Cuyahoga Urban County	Affordable Housing Non-homeless Persons with Special Needs	CDBG: \$1,237,200 HOME: \$1,745,843	Rental units constructed: 40 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 60 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 60 Households Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 16 Households Assisted
2	Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness	2015	2019	Homeless	Cuyahoga Urban County	Homelessness	HOME: \$550,000 ESG: \$314,059	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 40 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 400 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 1000 Persons Assisted

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Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Cuyahoga Urban County	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$3,150,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 12000 Persons Assisted
4	Increase Economic Opportunities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Cuyahoga Urban County	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$225,000	Businesses assisted: 15 Businesses Assisted
5	Provide Needed Public Services	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Cuyahoga Urban County	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$350,000	Homelessness Prevention: 8 Persons Assisted

**Table 3 – Goals Summary**

**Goal Descriptions**

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<b>1</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>The Cuyahoga Urban County will administer activities to improve, maintain, and expand owner- and renter-occupied housing. The activities may include - but may not be limited to - down-payment assistance; rehabilitation; new construction; weatherization and energy efficiency improvements; home modifications for disabled persons and elderly homeowners to assist them to remain in their homes; and rental assistance.</p> <p>Some activities under this goal will utilize HOME funds provided by HUD and administered by the Cuyahoga Urban County as the lead jurisdiction.</p> <p>Opportunities for linking of projects that increase the availability of affordable housing units in areas where jobs are being created but low wage workers cannot find affordable housing units necessitating excessive travel times is a goal for 2018. Funding would come from existing appropriations in prior year HOME appropriations.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>In carrying out all of its homeless assistance programs, the Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS) as the lead agency for the Continuum of Care, works in close collaboration with the City of Cleveland’s Department of Community Development and homeless service providers. The OHS is the Collaborative Applicant for the annual CoC Homeless Assistance Grant application. The OHS administers both the Cuyahoga County ESG entitlement and the City of Cleveland’s ESG entitlement through a single RFP process. This promotes coordination and alignment with HEARTH act goals. The State of Ohio, Ohio Development Services Agency has awarded OHS funding through its “Homeless Crisis Response Program “(HCRP). The funding source is the Ohio Housing Trust Fund. Project activities are intended to align with ESG and CoC program priorities and activities</p>

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<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>The Department of Development will work with the 51 communities that comprise the Urban County to assist in improving the quality of life by investing in projects nominated by communities in the Competitive Municipal Grant Program. Projects awarded funding meet the announced criteria and improve quality of life by improving neighborhood streets, investing in upgrading deteriorated public infrastructure and upgrading senior centers that meet HUD guidelines. In communities with ITA areas, the Department works with an agency to perform litter control services in public right-of-ways to reduce the blighting effect of litter and improve the livability of neighborhoods.</p> <p>The second element of the Municipal Grant Program may be used again to work with communities that have signed agreement for financing the cleaning and relining of sanitary sewer lines as well as the separation of sewer and storm sewer lines. Participants must have signed agreements with Department of Public Works. Funding would come from CDBG prior year unused Muni and other CDBG appropriations. Such work immediately improves the quality of life and livability of neighborhoods that have experienced sewer backups into basements during rain storm events.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>Provide reinvestment of economic development revolving loan funds in several innovative efforts to supplement the Department’s Skill-up Program by funding innovative job creation or retention of jobs for persons who are principally low- and moderate-income. Goal will be accomplished by using federal funds, county tax receipts and bond proceeds to increase opportunities for all Cuyahoga County residents by investing in worthwhile projects eligible under the CDBG regulations.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	<p>Utilize CDBG funds to provide counseling services to low- and moderate-income persons on budgeting and home maintenance for potential home buyers. As noted in section AP-15, the County has significant non-federal resources to fund needed public services regardless of incomes. The Department of Development attempts to use their federal resources for programming that complements their ongoing affordable housing initiatives.</p>

## AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

### Introduction

The attached projects are proposed for 2018 (*Table 56*):

#	Project Name
1	Competitive Municipal Grant Program
2	Storefront Renovation Program
3	Economic Development Loan Program
4	Community Development Program Staffing
5	Housing Rehabilitation
6	Foreclosure Prevention Counseling Program
7	Energy Efficiency Improvement Program
8	Downpayment Assistance
9	HOME CHDO Funding
10	HOME Administration Funding
11	HOME Single Unit Rehabilitation
12	HOME Affordable Rental Program
12	E S G Program
13	CDBG Administration
14	Community Capacity Building subject to inclusion in 20% calculation
15	Fair Housing Activities subject to inclusion in 20% calculation
16	Housing Counseling & Training Program as a PS subject to 15% calculation
17	Targeted Assistance Program

**Table 4 – Project Information**

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

The Cooperation Agreements currently in force with the 51 local communities participating in the Urban County in program year 2014 provide that *not less than forty percent (40%) of the total Urban County Entitlement Funds for Cuyahoga County will be expended by Cuyahoga County on behalf of the participating political subdivisions to finance, through a Municipal Grant Program, eligible Community Development activities and projects in said participating political subdivisions*

This commitment to expend funds on behalf of municipalities is realized by the Competitive Municipal Grant Program (CMGP). There are two elements to the county’s Municipal Grant Program. 1) the Competitive Municipal Grant Program under which communities submit applications for CDBG funding that are scored under a point system disclosed when the application process begins. These projects must be eligible under the CDBG regulations and meet a national objective and 2) a Public Works Sewer



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Maintenance Program in which CDBG funds supplement existing sewer maintenance funds to investigate sewer inflows and make repairs to damaged and cracked storm and sanitary sewer lines. Neighborhoods selected for sewer investigation and repair must be low/moderate income areas and are in cities that have signed agreements with the county's Department of Public Works for sewer maintenance purposes. Expenditures in the second aspect of the Municipal Grant Program have been applied in situations where CDBG expenditures must be made to meet HUD requirements for timeliness. Under this program communities submit applications for CDBG funding that are scored under a point system disclosed when the application begins. In the Competitive Municipal Grant Program, communities are encouraged to coordinate their proposed CDBG activities with other investments occurring in their communities in an attempt to obtain more synergistic investments. To take advantage of the bulk of the 2018 construction season, the competitive applications were issued in may 2018 with expected projects to start July 1, 2018. All recommended projects will undergo environmental review before awards were announced. Due to delays in budget approval in 2017, the recommended projects will occur in 2018 as well.

All other programs operated by the Department of Development require an application from an individual for a homeowner rehabilitation loan, from a family for down payment assistance, from a business to apply for a commercial revitalization/rehabilitation loan/grant, or from a business to request assistance to expand its operations. The new county government is attempting to coordinate/concentrate activities with other investments, both public and private, to increase the quality of place and quality of lives for the citizens of Cuyahoga County. For example, the Department of Development used CDBG administrative funding from 2013 to 2014 to pay for additional recommendations to the Economic Development Plan to identify areas where investment is occurring and opportunities for additional investment will have synergistic affects.

Any potential reductions in HUD funding present the greatest obstacle in meeting underserved needs.

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**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

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<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Competitive Municipal Grant Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$3,150,000
	<b>Description</b>	At least 40% of the CDBG Entitlement grant is committed to assisting participating jurisdictions - that commitment is fulfilled through this project. Funding is for eligible activities under codes 1-5,10,15,17 & 20 and also includes potential national objective codes 570.208(a) (1), (2) and (4) and 208(b)(1). If any repayments are received from communities, the amounts will be included with 40% for distribution.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2018
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Residents of 2017 Urban County Communities awarded funding listed on page 56.
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	03J Water/Sewer Improvements; 03K Street Improvements; 03F Parks, Recreational Facilities; 03E Neighborhood Facilities; Public Facilities and Improvements (General); Senior Centers all 570.201(c)
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Storefront Renovation Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$300,000
	<b>Description</b>	Providing assistance to commercial businesses and/or property owners. The Storefront Program Revolving Loan funds will be allocated to storefront rehabilitation projects. The revisions to the program were made in consultation with urban county government leaders. Communities can now create their own program based on local need matched with federal eligibility rules. Pre-agreement costs would be made available through existing CDBG RLF proceeds on hand.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2018

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	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	10 businesses in communities awarded funding
	<b>Location Description</b>	2017 communities awarded funding as noted on page 58
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	14E Rehab; Publicly or Privately-Owned Commercial/Industrial Businesses
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Economic Development Loan Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$225,000
	<b>Description</b>	Loans are provided to for-profit businesses primarily in Urban County communities to stimulate the creation or retention of low/moderate income jobs and/or removal of slum and blight conditions. Loans are recommended by a loan review committee and then approved by the County government. Expenditures from this project includes loan proceeds, a portion of 108 repayments on existing debts, credit reports, appraisals and loan filing fees. All existing CDBG 108 financed loans were placed in permanent financing following HUD procedures. Repayment information on 108 loans to HUD will be reported in IDIS thru Project 14 Administration. Opportunities for using RLF funds for innovative CDBG eligible activities to support Development's Skill Up projects will be sought as well as partnerships with the County's SNAP administrators and recipients.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	10 jobs created or persons assisted
	<b>Location Description</b>	N/A
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	18A ED Direct Financial Assistance to For-Profits 570.203(b) 18C Micro-Enterprise Assistance 05H Workforce/SNAP Employment Training

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<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Community Development Program Staffing
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$529,639
	<b>Description</b>	Consists of general salaries, operating expenditures and other costs to support the delivery of housing and community development related programming administered by the Department of Development. Pre-agreement costs to continue delivery of rehabilitation services would be incurred to maintain an uninterrupted delivery of ongoing programs
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Recipients are counted through entering demographic data on the families and individuals receiving assistance reported on activities in Projects described on these pages.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Urban County wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Project left blank/open to allow the order of 2017 projects to be consistent with prior year project numbers.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$500,000 HOME: \$850,000
	<b>Description</b>	Included in this project are activities that provide loans for needed home repairs to income eligible recipients. Both CDBG and HOME Program funds are directed to this Project. If CDBG funding permits, continuing a pilot program for accessibility modifications to the homes of low-income disabled persons and seniors will be carried out and may be programmed for innovative activities delivering CDBG eligible home repair services through nontraditional avenues such as energy audits and accessible housing enhancements.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2019

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	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	60 families
	<b>Location Description</b>	Residents in Urban County Communities
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	14A Rehab Single Unit Residential
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Foreclosure Prevention Counseling Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$250,000
	<b>Description</b>	Due to the continued high foreclosure rate in the Urban County, funds will be allocated to counsel persons in danger of losing their homes through mortgage foreclosure or tax delinquencies. Non-profit organizations will provide this service via a competitive process. Those organizations awarded funding contracts must be HUD certified and also be in full standing with HUD. Full funding for this activity is dependent on HUD's allocation of CDBG funding to Cuyahoga County.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2018
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	100 households
	<b>Location Description</b>	Urban County residents
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	05U Housing Counseling 570.202
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Energy Efficiency Improvement Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$50,000

**DRAFT**

	<b>Description</b>	This program provides heating unit repairs for low- and moderate-income homeowners and tenants. A portion of the funding is also available for furnace replacement. Pre-agreement costs would use carry forward appropriations.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2018
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	15 households
	<b>Location Description</b>	Urban County Residents
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	14F Energy Efficiency Improvements 570.202
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Downpayment Assistance
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$550,0000
	<b>Description</b>	Provides assistance to new homebuyers with the purchase of a home either newly constructed or renovated in the Urban County and other Consortium communities under section 92.205 and 206. Funding also includes Downpayment Assistance work from our Consortium partners.
	<b>Target Date</b>	10/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	18 households
	<b>Location Description</b>	Home for Sale in Consortium Communities
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	13 Direct Home Assistance 570.201(h)
<b>9</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME CHDO Funding
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$405,483

**DRAFT**

	<b>Description</b>	Financial assistance to organizations recognized by Cuyahoga County as CHDOs (Community Housing Development Organizations) that undertake eligible housing activities.
	<b>Target Date</b>	10/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	6 special needs persons
	<b>Location Description</b>	Location has not been determined when this application was prepared.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	14B Multi-unit
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Administration Funding
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Non-homeless Persons with Special Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$151,894
	<b>Description</b>	General administration of the HOME Program operated by the Department of Development and four Consortium municipal partners. This includes staffing and support costs as well as indirect and space maintenance charges. Pre-agreement operating costs would be incurred to maintain administration of ongoing programming.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A administration
	<b>Location Description</b>	Housing Consortium Communities
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	19A HOME Administration
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Affordable Rental Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County



**DRAFT**

	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Non-homeless Persons with Special Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$850,000
	<b>Description</b>	HOME funds are proposed to assist two or more projects that would create additional affordable housing units. Projects could involve construction of new units or rehabilitation of existing structures. Plans are developing to maximize our resources and provide incentive funding. The Department will explore one or more partnerships in assisting low- and moderate-income workers obtain housing near employment clusters.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	6 affordable rental units
	<b>Location Description</b>	Housing projects are selected in an open funding process. Projects have not been selected at this time
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	12 Construction of Housing
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	E S G Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homelessness
	<b>Funding</b>	ESG: \$314,059
	<b>Description</b>	Funding supports: a) Basic shelter services, including outreach and daytime shelter for single adults, families, and youth; and b) Rapid re-housing, short term rental assistance to reduce shelter length of stay and promote housing stability.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2019

**DRAFT**

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Target population: very Low-income households Shelter: over 5,000 persons RRH: over 400 Households
	<b>Location Description</b>	Existing Homeless Services Delivery Organizations
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	ESG Activities per Regulations
<b>13</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Provide Needed Public Services Increase Economic Opportunities Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Non-homeless Persons with Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Homelessness Public Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$590,357
	<b>Description</b>	General administration of the Community Development Program operated by the Department of Development. This includes staffing and support costs as well as indirect and space maintenance charges. Pre-agreement operating costs would be incurred to maintain administration of ongoing programming.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A Administration Payments of 5 HUD 108 loans will be noted under this Project in IDIS. Repayments of an estimated \$499,000 in principal and \$61,591.10 in interest will be made to HUD in 2018. Repayments are made from loan repayments and reserves.
	<b>Location Description</b>	N/A Administration

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	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>21A Administration</p> <p>19F Planned Repayment of Section 108 Loans. These funds will not be recorded in the budget as the funds would then raise the amount of Administrative funds available as IDIS is presently constituted.</p> <p>24A Payment of 108 Interest. These funds will not be recorded in the budget as the funds would then raise the amount of Administrative funds available as IDIS is presently constituted.</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Community Capacity Building subject to inclusion in 20% calculation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	<p>Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing</p> <p>Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods</p> <p>Provide Needed Public Services</p>
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$75,000
	<b>Description</b>	Provide assistance to communities in the identification of slum and blighted areas, historical preservation compliance, and miscellaneous forms of technical assistance and community planning activities.
	<b>Target Date</b>	8/31/2018
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	N/A Planning Activity
	<b>Location Description</b>	Urban County
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	20 Planning 570.205
<b>15</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Fair Housing Activities subject to inclusion in 20% calculation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$150,000

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	<b>Description</b>	The Department coordinates a comprehensive fair housing program from CDBG and local government resources. Activities include education and outreach, discrimination complaint services, and the systematic audits of sales. An RFP process for housing services is combined with low/moderate benefit activities to achieve a comprehensive grouping of services. Implementation of actions to address issues found in the Analysis of Impediments Study may be partially made with HOME funding noted in Project 10.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	200 households will be advised. Depending on program design, 10-20 low- and moderate-income alleged victims of discrimination may receive investigation services.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Cuyahoga County with concentrations on Urban County residents and communities
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	21D Fair Housing Activities (subject to 20% Admin cap) 570.206
16	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Counseling & Training Program as a PS subject to 15% calculation
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$50,000
	<b>Description</b>	Provides counseling in landlord tenant disputes to develop a resolution and investigate cases of discrimination to documented low- and moderate-income persons in the Urban County. Those services for which beneficiary information can be readily obtained are grouped in this Project.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2018
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	

**DRAFT**

	<b>Location Description</b>	Provides counseling in landlord tenant disputes to develop a resolution, in home ownership issues, and other areas to assist low- and moderate-income persons in the Urban County improve and maintain affordable housing. Those services for which beneficiary information can be readily obtained are grouped in this Project.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	05 Public Services (General) 570.201(e) as multiple benefit groups are assisted under this code.
<b>17</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Targeted Assistance Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Cuyahoga Urban County
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$50,000
	<b>Description</b>	Activities in ITAs that address one or more of the conditions that contributed to blighting conditions. This project's activities are public services in the regulations. Assistance would include additional trash pick-up in neighborhood commercial areas in the public right-of-ways where conditions exist that impact the quality of the neighborhood.
	<b>Target Date</b>	5/31/2019
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	115,000 residents of the county live in or interact with areas where litter control services are being performed in areas with blight and local government will allow Court Community Services to have a base when they are working in an area.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Urban County Neighborhood Commercial Areas
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	05V Neighborhood Clean Ups

## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)**

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

The Cuyahoga County Department of Development does not target funds on a geographic basis. Instead, the Department selects projects and activities through application processes. For example, persons desiring rehabilitation or down payment assistance are required to submit applications. Any citizen may apply for assistance as long as they meet HUD eligibility, program criteria, and are located in the Urban County for CDBG assistance. Each of the Home Consortium entitlements establish the programs delivered in their jurisdictions. Municipalities seeking assistance for community projects apply for Competitive Municipal Grants in once a year funding rounds. All 51 participating communities in the Urban County may apply for funding. Awards are based on a competitive basis with known criteria presented at the opening of applications.

The dispersal of the poor into suburban areas and their migration out of the urban centers has been documented for years by the Council for Economic Opportunities, the Mandel School at Case Western Reserve University and the College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. These trends are predicted to continue as part of the population dispersion that is occurring in the metropolitan Cleveland area. In 2014 HUD released the results of special runs of census data to determine the census tracts and block groups where low and moderate-income households reside; and, thus, where CDBG funds can be applied to address community needs. By CDBG regulation, activities must benefit a majority of low and moderate-income persons. In 2014, the threshold was defined by HUD as 38.68%. Those census block groups with low/mod percentages greater than 38.68% would meet the area benefit provisions. Activities in more than one block group can meet the threshold by combining their data to be at or under the 38.68% threshold. The largest concentration of minority populations is in the seventeen inner ring suburbs that are contiguous to the City of Cleveland. The majority of the Department of Development applications for households seeking financial assistance for housing rehabilitation or down payment assistance occur in these areas, as they contain the households with the greatest needs.

Areas of blight are identified every ten years in cooperation with our municipal partners. The methodology and process have been consistent for over thirty years and is approved by HUD. These areas, known as Improvement Target Areas (ITAs) are used to identify areas where activities fundable under HUD's national objective of eliminating conditions of slum and blight can occur. An RFQ was issued in the summer of 2013 and a contract was awarded to the County Planning Commission in late fall of 2013 for undertaking a new ITA survey, which was completed in the summer of 2014. County general fund revenues were approved for funding the study. New maps of the areas that meet HUD's slum and blight national objectives have been shared with our municipal partners and submitted to the

Columbus HUD Area Office. These maps are maintained within the Department of Development.

**Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Cuyahoga Urban County	90

**Table 5 - Geographic Distribution**

**Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

The Cooperation Agreements currently in force with the 51 local communities participating in the Urban County in program year 2018 provide that “not less than forty percent (40%) of the total Urban County Entitlement Funds for Cuyahoga County will be expended by Cuyahoga County on behalf of the participating political subdivisions to finance, through a Municipal Grant Program, eligible Community Development activities and projects in said participating political subdivisions.”

Applications for 2018 awards were released in May 2018 with expected project start date of July 1,2018.

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A list of the 2017 awarded and County Council approved activities is listed below:

**Municipality Project Name Award**

City of Maple Heights Park Improvement \$150,000.00

City of Berea Road Resurfacing \$150,000.00

City of Broadview Heights Road Reconstruction \$150,000.00

City of Mayfield Heights Safety/ADA \$150,000.00

City of North Olmsted Sidewalk Repair \$150,000.00

City of South Euclid Road Reconstruction \$150,000.00

City Of Parma Heights Road Resurfacing \$150,000.00

City of Brooklyn Road and Sewer Repair \$150,000.00

City of Fairview Park Sidewalk Repair \$150,000.00

City of Middleburg Heights \$150,000.00.

The following communities were awarded grants for the 2017 Storefront Program

City of Fairview Park Commercial Property Reinvestment Program \$50,000.00

City of Shaker Heights Lee Road Storefront Renovation Program \$50,000.00

City of Berea Berea Commons Storefront Renovation Program \$50,000.00

City of Lyndhurst Marshall Power Equipment Storefront Project \$50,000.00

All other programs operated by the Department of Development require an application from an individual for a homeowner rehabilitation loan, from a family for down payment assistance, from a business to apply for a commercial revitalization/rehabilitation loan/grant, or from a business to request assistance to expand its operations. The Department is attempting to coordinate/concentrate activities with other investments, both public and private, to increase the quality of place and quality of lives for



the citizens of Cuyahoga County.

Even with the increase in HUD funding, demand for more resources presents the greatest obstacle in meeting underserved needs.

**Discussion**

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other responses in this section.

## Affordable Housing

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

#### Introduction

This section intentionally left blank. Please refer to other sections in this narrative.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	80
Non-Homeless	125
Special-Needs	20
Total	225

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	20
The Production of New Units	45
Rehab of Existing Units	80
Acquisition of Existing Units	80
Total	225

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

#### Discussion

N/A

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

### **Introduction**

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other responses in this section.

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

Within the Cuyahoga County Urban County, there are only two small public housing developments totaling 116 units. Cuyahoga MHA has responsibility for Oakwood Garden and Oakwood Villas. Oakwood Villas has 91 one-bedroom units and one two-bedroom unit, all for elderly persons. Oakwood Garden consists of 25 three-bedroom, single-family homes designated for families. These properties have been constructed on bus routes, with retail establishments accessible by walking, bus, or automobile.

The Cuyahoga MHA has a maintenance and improvement plan for the facilities and allocates funds on an ongoing basis to accomplish those tasks. Cuyahoga County does not intend to fund any activities related to these two facilities.

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

In terms of management, Cuyahoga MHA has a system in place for residents and administrators to meet on an ongoing basis to discuss management/building issues, which Cuyahoga County believes is appropriate for that purpose. Public housing facilities are also subject to the building codes of the local communities, when repair issues arise. In addition, Cuyahoga MHA staff has met with the staffs of the County Department of Development and Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Assistance to work together to identify suitable units to accommodate formerly homeless persons.

In terms of participation in homeownership, the 91 units in Oakwood Villas are occupied by elderly residents. It is likely that many residents would feel that the physical burden and financial responsibility of maintaining a home would be beyond their capabilities. The 25 units at Oakwood Garden are occupied by families. A shift to homeownership for a family may be possible under the proper set of circumstances, such as steady employment and appropriate financial management skills. If a resident wishes to pursue the possibility of homeownership, Cuyahoga County has existing programs to assist that family.

### **If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be**

**provided or other assistance**

Not applicable. Neither the Cuyahoga MHA nor the Parma PHA is designated as “troubled” by HUD.

**Discussion**

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other responses in this section.

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

### **Introduction**

Cuyahoga County intends to combine its 2018 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds with those received by the City of Cleveland, along with Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) funds allocated to Cuyahoga County by the State of Ohio's Department of Development, for HEARTH Act defined activities intended to reduce homelessness, shorten shelter lengths of stay, and promote housing stability. Cuyahoga County is aligned with the US Interagency Council's goals to make homelessness "Brief, Rare, and Non-recurring."

These funds will be administered by the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS), recognized by HUD as the lead agency for the Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care. The staff of the OHS supports the CoC Advisory Board which is in compliance with the HEARTH Act requirements for representation and membership.

The goals of the CoC's strategic plan are:

1. To make homelessness Brief, Rare, and Non-recurring;
2. Reduce the number of individuals and families who experience homelessness;
3. Implement a Coordinated Intake and Assessment system to allocate limited resources in the most effective and efficient way;
4. Implement strategies and to use CoC resources to move people from shelter and the streets to housing as quickly as possible;
5. Align resources to promote rapid re-housing; and
6. Increase the supply of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals, families, and youth.

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

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

The CoC has four primary outreach efforts that operate 365/days a year:

- 1) PATH workers, supported by mental health funding, work early morning and in the evening visiting camps and places known to be used by homeless. PATH refers many persons to the permanent

supportive housing/chronically homeless units;

2) Care Alliance, the Federally Qualified Health Center serving homeless persons, also searches streets, under bridges, and empty buildings to find street homeless and provide medical assistance and to engage with clients;

3) Supportive Services to Veterans Families (SSVF): the SSFV program is funded through the Veterans Administration. In addition to providing short term rental assistance, SSVF funding provides outreach staff to identify homeless veterans sleeping in places not fit for human habitation. SSVF outreach staff are able to link homeless veterans with CoC resources as appropriate;

4) The CoC funds a cold weather, weekend shelter for people who refuse 'traditional' shelter. Outreach staff go to this site to engage these chronic homeless persons.

## **2. Providing Shelter and Access to CoC resources to all**

Homeless persons are assessed through Coordinated Intake and Assessment (CI). The CoC implemented CE for men in FY2012 and for single women and families in FY 2014. CI enables the CoC to:

- use limited resources most effectively, by matching client need with CoC resources.
- permits a single door of entry at which a standardized HMIS assessment form is utilized, promoting consistency and quality of data entry and outcomes.
- enables every household seeking shelter to have the opportunity to be assessed for Diversion – an intervention to keep the household from entering the shelter system.
- assures that all CoC funded beds are available and being used by legitimately homeless persons;
- permits the CoC to assess housing barriers for each household and recommend an exit housing plan to be implemented by the receiving shelter.
- enables the CoC to track the Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) and permanent supportive housing referrals initiated through CI.

## **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

In FY 2012 the CoC implemented Coordinated Intake (CI) at the 365 bed Men's Shelter and at the 160 bed Norma Herr Women's Shelter and in 2014, CI began to include families, to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the utilization of HUD funded housing and services for homeless persons. Prior to the implementation of CI, some individuals and families seeking shelter were turned away by nonprofit agencies because of behavioral health issues. This resulted in there being unused resources and people on the street, or doubling up in unsafe situations. Other resources in the CoC system were also being allocated in a less than effective way. Since higher barrier individuals and families were being denied access, that meant that households with fewer or very low barriers, were being referred for the more costly and high intensity programming of transitional and permanent housing resources. This

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mismatch of services with needs was corrected by implementing a system wide Coordinated Intake.

Agencies which receive federal homeless funding, (ESG, CoC, or State Funded HCRP) must align with the HEARTH Act's directions to serve the highest barrier persons. People may not be turned away because of behavioral or physical health challenges, low or no income, or criminal justice background.

CI operates from 8 AM to 8 PM M- F, and can be accessed by phone after hours and on weekends. CI staff have the ability to outreach to individuals or families who are unable or who are fearful to come to the centrally located and bus accessible, CI office. 2-1-1, First Call for Help, directs callers to CI who state that they are literally homeless.

CI plays a critical role in re-linking individuals and families with systems and resources in the community. During the Assessment, case manager relationships with other community agencies may be identified and contacted. Sometimes these other systems will be able to provide resources to prevent the individual or family from entering shelter. Specific examples include:

a) Veterans are identified immediately and referred to the VA's Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) so that their eligibility for VA services and resources can be quickly verified. If a veteran received a dishonorable or less than honorable discharge, they will still receive services and housing funded through the CoC resources.

b) persons over 60 are linked with the resources targeted to senior citizens;

c) a youth focused Assessment tool at CI screens youth for system specific involvement and service linkage.

d) Families are screened for diversion when appropriate.

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

The CoC has stated a goal of making homelessness "brief, rare, and non-recurring". In FY 2015, the CoC was awarded funding through the HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grant process for Rapid Re-Housing for single adults and youth. With these additional resources, the CoC is able to offer RRH, short term rental assistance to all populations experiencing a housing crisis. The community is engaged in the effort to end Veteran homelessness which has as one of the benchmarks that newly identified

homeless veterans will be provided Permanent Housing in less than 90 days.

**PSH:** The Housing First Initiative (HFI) is the CoC's Plan to end Chronic Homelessness. Established in FY 2003, the HFI set a goal of developing 1,217 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for chronically homeless individuals by FY 2017. To date, there are over 630 units occupied with an additional 180 units either under construction, or in the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit application process. In FY 2011, the HFI expanded the target population from CH Individuals to include CH Families and Youth. The housing model for these subpopulations is scattered site units. Applying the HUD definition of chronic homelessness to the families and youth in the shelter system resulted in a very low number of eligible households. These households have been housed. As newly chronically homeless youth and families are identified at CI, they are added to the By Name List to access PSH subsidies as they become available.

**RRH:**

1. Families: The CoC implemented a "Progressive Engagement" model for RRH for families. Through this model, all families, regardless of income or other barriers, are offered RRH, short term rental assistance within 7 days of shelter placement. Between 70% and 75% of families are able to maintain their housing on their own after 4 months of assistance. Those who are not yet stable are provided an additional 8 months of subsidy with more intensive case management. At the end of this additional time period, about 50% of the cohort is stable; the remaining families are bridged to either a public housing subsidy or a PSH subsidy if eligible. This approach meets the two objectives of 1) reducing the shelter length of stay, and 2) of assuring that the family does not return to homelessness. Since the implementation of RRH for families, the average shelter length of stay has declined from 63 days to 47days. This reduction in length of stay enables the CoC to serve more families experiencing a housing crisis.
2. Single Adults: RRH for single adults is being implemented within a larger strategy to better serve the adult population experiencing a housing crisis. RRH will be offered to single adults who are on a clear path to income stability. There is no set threshold for income eligibility, but the shelter staff will work the client to document the ability to maintain housing at the end of the RRH rental assistance period. The CoC is also encouraging a "shared housing" model to encourage rapid exit and housing stability for very low-income persons.
3. Youth: The Cuyahoga County CoC is committed to ending Youth Homelessness by FY2020. Currently the CoC has developed a "By Name" List of homeless youth to track progress toward ending their homelessness quickly and permanently. Through bi-weekly meetings, Youth "Navigators" track RRH referrals, income efforts, housing placement and housing retention.

**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.**

**Foster Care Discharge Planning**

Through CE, youth aging out of foster care are identified at the shelter front door. CE staff contact the Department of Children and Family Services staff liaison to relink the client with agency services and divert them from shelter. In 2013, the CoC joined the Jim Casey Youth Opportunity Initiative to improve youth outcomes related to permanence, employment, health, education, housing, and financial capability, to prevent youth homelessness. The Jim Casey model will be replicated with the youth justice and mental health systems. Also in 2013, the CoC converted a 26 bed adult male shelter and a 26 bed adult male transitional housing program to target males aged 18-24. The objective is to have a safe emergency housing alternative for youth who are on the street, and who are less likely to go to the 365 bed men's shelter.

**Health Care Discharge Planning**

Although the Ohio Department of Health policy prohibits discharging people requiring ongoing medical care to shelter, the practice continues. A CoC Hospital Discharge Planning Group, established in FY 2011, focuses on the discharge policies and protocols of area nursing homes and hospitals. The group developed written "Health Status" guidelines which clearly state the minimum health status threshold to enter a shelter. This information has been distributed to all area nursing homes and hospitals. Further, the protocol states that prior to sending someone to a shelter by cab or by ambulance, the facility must call CA/I, who will discuss the referral in order to prevent someone who is medically inappropriate from being discharged to the shelter. Hospital and nursing home staff attend the Discharge Planning Group meetings. CA/I staff track medical discharges that are inappropriate. Facilities are contacted and held accountable to stop the practice.

**Mental Health Discharge Planning**

The Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board monitors state requirements prohibiting discharge to shelters. In addition, it provides a 10 bed mental health crisis shelter. The respite beds provide additional time for case workers to develop safe, permanent housing options for persons who may have been homeless prior to hospitalization. Chronically homeless individuals leaving the state hospital may access a permanent supportive housing/chronically homeless unit. Safe Haven placement is another option provided the client was homeless prior to the state hospital stay. Mentally ill persons living on the streets and in the shelter are prioritized for permanent supportive housing/chronically homeless units.

**Corrections Discharge Planning**

In 2009, Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland established an Office of Re-entry to link returning offenders with resources in order to reduce recidivism. A strategy to prevent homelessness that has

been promoted by the Office on Re-entry is outreach to inmates to assess housing, employment, and behavioral health needs, and begin the process of linking clients with resources prior to release. Two current programs are noteworthy: a) the VA goes into the institutions and identifies veterans, provides ID's, benefit determination, medical services and housing upon release; and b) The Corporation for Supportive Housing has sponsored a program that focuses on identifying persons who have serious mental health issues, engaging with them and providing housing upon release. Both programs have documented success with reducing homelessness for these high-risk populations as a result of the program interventions.

***Due to restrictions on answer length, the remainder of this narrative is located in the accompanying Discussion Box.***

## **Discussion**

### ***Helping Low Income Individuals.... Narrative***

***(continued)***

#### **Assistance from Other Public or Private Agencies**

Approximately 96% of CoC program participants accessed non-employment income sources. Over the year, maintaining this percentage of participation will be attempted through maintaining focused efforts to assess and link clients quickly. Through CE, the CoC is better able to assess clients at shelter entrance to identify current income sources and potential benefit sources. The standardized data is entered into HMIS. The open HMIS system enables the agency accepting the client referral from CA/I to begin addressing client income issues more quickly. In addition, the State of Ohio has established an online "Benefit Bank." Using client data, case workers can identify additional income sources for which the client may qualify. Through CA/I, veterans are identified and referred immediately to the VA Homeless Outreach Coordinator to link the client with VA resources. Performance on income attainment is discussed at bi-monthly provider meetings.

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

### **Introduction**

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other responses in this section.

### **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**

Cuyahoga County will support affordable rental housing projects that utilize the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program. The County will continue to issue housing revenue bonds to support affordable housing development. Issuance of housing revenue bonds in combination with federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits keeps a project's cost in a workable range, which allows rents to be set at affordable levels.

The providers of housing for persons with special needs (such as persons who are physically challenged and persons with developmental disabilities) are a network of experienced organizations fulfilling a demonstrated need in the metropolitan area. The County Entitlement's Group is developing an education program for local governments and developers to understand the rights of individuals under state and federal law.

### **Discussion**

#### **Current State of Housing Market**

During the Great Recession property values dropped significantly across the Northeast Ohio region and financing for repairs or new unit construction slowed and/or halted. This shrinkage reduced development of new housing units in most parts of Cuyahoga County, and forced property owners to defer maintenance. As the economy started to improve, development followed slowly. While much of the County is built-out, there is still limited developable land, as well as areas suitable for redevelopment. The first-ring suburbs are beginning to see selected infill housing development and adaptive reuse of existing buildings, the outer-ring suburbs are experiencing an upsurge in new construction. Residential housing options in downtown Cleveland are beginning to strengthen. There is a growing demand for affordable, as well as more upscale, housing units for both owners and renters in many areas in Cuyahoga County. Projects creating housing units that are affordable to low- and moderate-income persons continue to require subsidies to bring rents down to the HUD benchmark of families expending 30% or less of household income on housing.

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

### **Introduction**

The County will apply its federal and non-federal resources to assist low- and moderate-income persons and families. Cuyahoga County was able to obtain resources for economic development activities using general fund tax receipts, bond proceeds and casino revenue funds. These revenues are applied to funding large-scale attraction, encouraging new start up high-tech businesses, and participating in micro-lending. The range of activities possible can be seen on the County's website <https://cuyahogacounty.us/> or the department's website <https://www.cuyahogacounty.us/development>.

Voters in Cuyahoga County have supported special tax levies to support funding of Health and Human services and funding for Metro Health Hospital deliverer of medical services as well as social services to those who cannot afford medical care.

Voters in November of 2015 continued support for Arts funding by renewing twenty-five cents a pack charge levied on tobacco sales and generating \$25 million a year in funding for arts and cultural programming. In May of 2018, the Health and Human Services levy was renewed. The levy raises \$125 million to fund social services. In addition, the United Way nonprofit charitable giving campaign was started in Cleveland and continues in 2018 to provide significant support for the less fortunate in the county.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

Over the past seven years, the issue of vacant and abandoned properties has changed from primarily a central city or urban core problem, to one that affects all communities in the county and throughout the United States. While housing markets have begun to return to stability across the United States and in outlying communities in Cuyahoga County, other communities that share borders with Cleveland and are part of the urban core have not witnessed the same level of housing price recovery. (Community Development Division staff reviews sale prices by community). The number of bank foreclosures is declining while the number of tax foreclosures has been increasing. (County CDBG funded data analysis by Cleveland State University). To address this situation, foreclosure counseling services was updated in 2017 to specifically include the ability to perform counseling services to Urban County residents/households experiencing foreclosure for failure to pay real estate taxes.

Support for continued economic recovery will benefit not only CDBG eligible residents but also those residents that are not CDBG eligible. Local government resources are being applied to encourage business growth and attract investment funding for Cuyahoga County businesses. To that end Cuyahoga County Executive, Armond Budish announced legislation on October 27, 2015 "...to launch county initiatives that will attract venture capital and accelerate fast-growing businesses in Cuyahoga County." After a broad and competitive process, Cuyahoga County selected Venture Development Organization,

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JumpStart Inc. as its partner to leverage the county investments in innovation and entrepreneurship. The county will lend up to \$4.5 million as part of the County's Innovation Match for Pre-Seed Capital (\$2.5 million) and Early Stage Loan Fund (\$2 million).

All concerned County elected officials have taken steps to speed up the judicial foreclosure process. Among these steps are a temporary foreclosure filing fee surcharge, adopted by the Judges of the Common Pleas Court, which will bring an estimated \$2 million per year of new revenue for staff and associated costs dedicated to streamlining judicial foreclosure cases. System improvements including mandatory case readiness certification by plaintiff's attorneys, and merger of four separate elected officials' offices into one County Fiscal Office, have greatly reduced unnecessary delays in processing foreclosure cases. Cuyahoga County Council authorized providing up to \$50 million of non-federal revenue to local governments and the County Land Bank to demolish vacant and abandoned structures which are certified as nuisance or blighted by the local community in 2014. This program will continue in 2018 in the third year of the program. In addition, the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (County Land Bank) has received over \$30 million from the Hardest Hit Funds to further reduce the blight in our community.

Even with the increase in federal funding in the 2018 budget process, lack of other resources presents the greatest obstacle in meeting underserved needs. Any elimination of the CDBG and HOME programs in the 2019 federal budget would further present an obstacle in meeting underserved needs.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

Cuyahoga County and the HOME Consortium is budgeting \$850,000 of HOME funding to support new housing by fostering affordable housing. The project selections will be through a competitive process and will conform to the requirements of the new HOME rule for analysis of all projects, the underwriting criteria and analysis of neighborhood conditions.

CDBG rehabilitation assistance for Urban County homeowners is used to assist the elderly, frail elderly, and persons with disabilities make needed repairs to their homes to enable them to live in place reducing additional burdens on social service providers.

The housing programs operated by the Department are designed to:

- Rehabilitate existing structures for renters and homeowners
- Encourage home ownership with down payment assistance programs
- Provide funds to communities to preserve existing and vacant housing stock by funding needed

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- repairs or demolition of municipal declared nuisances
- Provide supportive services and housing for the homeless and persons with disabilities

Support the County Land Bank efforts to rehabilitate or demolish vacant and abandoned properties with demolition financing.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

The Cuyahoga Department of Health was the recent recipient of HUD Lead hazard funds. The program is operated by the Board of Health with Development staff providing eligibility and inspection services for the grant. County projects will comply with federal regulations to remediate lead hazards when cases occur. If necessary, the Department of Development will use CDBG or HOME funds to comply with federal regulations to remediate lead hazards on rehabilitation cases in the Urban County.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

Please refer to the extensive discussion on this topic in **Section SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy** of the 5-Year Plan located at <https://www.cuyahogacounty.us/docs/default-source/development/hud-5yrplan.pdf>

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The institutional network utilized by the Cuyahoga Urban County jurisdictions to implement their housing strategies includes agencies and organizations from the public, private and non-profit sectors. Several of these agencies and organizations have an extensive service area and play a role throughout the Consortium jurisdictions. Other agencies and organizations have a service area that is limited to the 51-member communities of the Cuyahoga Urban County, and in the situation of a municipal government implementing an activity as a sub-recipient of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development, only within that respective community.

Within the public sector, Cuyahoga County government has one department with the lead role in the issue of affordable housing. The Cuyahoga County Department of Development (DOD) manages the federal funds received by the Cuyahoga Urban County (CDBG) and the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium (HOME). The Office of Homeless Services manages the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) received by the County in conjunction with EGS funds received by the City of Cleveland.

The Cuyahoga County DOD will continue to promote leveraging HOME funds with the private sector in activities implemented in conjunction with the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium.

The County has qualified partners capable of carrying out their activities. There are no major gaps in the institutional delivery system. The Cuyahoga County DOD will continue to use an open Request for Proposals process to solicit proposals from qualified nonprofit partners, so that newly formed or

growing organizations will have the opportunity to be considered for funding.

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

Cuyahoga County government already supports numerous coordination activities between a wide variety of housing and social service agencies. These activities include regular meetings between County staff and nonprofit agency representatives in the areas of homeless services, foreclosure prevention and affordable housing. A very detailed listing of these agencies can be found in Section AP-10 Consultation of this 2016 Annual Plan. Additionally, County government provides financial support to the United Way First Call for Help 2-1-1 System which maintains accurate and timely information on thousands of public, private, religious, nonprofit, and charitable service organizations offering a wide variety of social services to all residents.

### **Discussion**

Cuyahoga County participates in the Vacant and Abandoned Properties Action Coordinating Council (VAPAC) with local government officials representing the City of Cleveland and suburban leadership, to identify and promote best practices to reduce vacant and abandoned properties.

The Urban County has partnered with the County Land Bank, by allocating \$6 million in county general funds over the past three years for use in demolishing blighted structures. In addition, the county was a partner in a successful NSP II application submitted by the CCLRC, the City of Cleveland and the Metropolitan Housing Authority which resulted a grant of \$40 million dollars to the problems created by vacant and abandoned properties. This grant is in the process of grant close out.

## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other responses in this section.

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

#### Other CDBG Requirements

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities   | 0      |
| 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. | 80.00% |

#### HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

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

Other forms of assistance are considered on a case-by-case basis after an application from a developer has been received and our staff has completed an analysis of the project to ensure that



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the additional subsidy is warranted and falls within existing federal guidelines on unduly enriching developers, and the project conforms to the requirements for underwriting analysis, review of market conditions for project feasibility and any additional requirements of the new HOME rule.

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:

Repayment and Recapture of HOME Assistance Homeownership Activities Cuyahoga County routinely uses HOME funds to provide deferred payment loans to income eligible homebuyers purchasing single family houses and condominium units that meet HOME program property standards. Proceeds of these deferred payment loans cover the down payment, in excess of the 3% that the buyer must provide from their own funds or a bona fide gift and closing costs. Normally there is no other HOME assistance involved in developing the house or condo unit, so the amount of HOME funds invested exactly equals the amount of the deferred loan.

Cuyahoga County will continue to use recapture as its method of assuring continued affordability for the required period. The Note and Mortgage will continue to reflect the following amounts due upon sale of the property during the period of affordability:

If the sale is from a foreclosure, the amount due is the net proceeds of foreclosure sale, if any, up to the full amount of the HOME funded deferred payment loan to the buyer.

If the sale is not from a foreclosure, the amount due is the full amount of the HOME funded deferred payment loan to the buyer. (Any forgiveness of the deferred payment loan will occur only upon completion of the required period of HOME affordability.)

The Note and Mortgage will also provide that the buyer's failure to occupy the unit as their principal residence for the entire affordability period will make the full amount of the deferred payment loan immediately due and payable, since Cuyahoga County must repay this amount.

When other HOME funds were invested as a development subsidy, the Note and Mortgage will also provide that a buyer who converts their unit to rental property during the period of affordability must conform to current HOME program income and rent limits, to preserve the unit as affordable housing.

Some units may be sold to eligible owner-occupants under a Land Trust model. In this situation, resale restrictions may be used instead of recapture restrictions, to conform with other program design elements of the Land Trust program.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired

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with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

Please refer to Section 2 above.

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:

Not Applicable

Additional Note on HOME Program as administered for the Cuyahoga County HOME Consortium

In the 2017 Annual Plan comment was specifically sought on raising the per unit subsidy for HOME funded multi-family projects. No official comments were received, however, the HOME Consortium Board at a public meeting before the 2017 Annual Plan was submitted did discuss the issue and gave direction to County staff to review a possible maximum per unit subsidy of \$125,000.

Staff were directed to use the CPI Inflation Calculator to create a present value for \$75,000 in 1993 to a present (2018) dollar value. If the result was greater than \$125,000, the new limit for future multi-family projects would be a maximum per unit HOME subsidy not to exceed \$125,000.

### **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)**

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

As indicated, the primary focus for the use of the new Emergency Solutions Grant funds will be on providing rapid-re-housing services and assistance that will allow homeless persons to move from shelter to housing as quickly as possible. Homeless Prevention activities will be carried out under specified circumstances. The CoC is in process of developing written standards for the implementation of the RRH programs. These will be posted on the Office of Homeless Services web page after they are approved by the OHS Advisory Board.

#### **Policies and Procedures for evaluating eligibility for ESG Assistance**

Rapid re-housing assistance is available to homeless individuals and families who are in one of the

following circumstances:

- sleeping in an emergency shelter
  - sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, abandoned buildings, streets/sidewalks
  - graduating from or timing out of a transitional housing program, with a documented status of homelessness before entering the program
  - fleeing domestic violence **Homeless prevention assistance** will only be made available **if**:
  - The Cleveland Department of Aging has determined that an elderly person is facing imminent homelessness through the loss of their current housing unless ESG assistance can be provided.
2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

Based on the local experience with the former HPRP program and the very clear directive from HUD concerning ESG, Cuyahoga County will make the continuation of its formerly HPRP-funded Coordinated Assessment, Diversion and Rapid Re-housing activities a priority using the following procedures:

#### **Coordinated Intake**

Leveraging the strategies of Coordinated Intake, ESG funds for homelessness prevention will be focused very specifically at the door of the shelter through **diverting** newly homeless persons and households.

As part of the **Coordinated Intake** process, all persons seeking entry into emergency shelter are assessed to determine if they may have a safe, preferable alternative to shelter. If there is a safe, stable alternative, the household may be diverted from entering the shelter system. This diversion effort is not intended to discourage persons that have critical shelter needs. Diversion is intended to identify specific issues leading to homelessness that can be immediately addressed, so that a stay in shelter may be avoided. In such cases, the use of ESG funds for **diversion/prevention** can directly reduce the number of persons utilizing emergency shelter.

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).

The Five Year Strategic Plan element of Cuyahoga County's Consolidated Plan 2015 - 2019 describes goals, objectives and strategies for addressing the problem of homelessness.

Within the discussion of **Priority Homeless Needs**, the Consolidated Plan document has included the CoC document: *Â Blueprint for Change*, which states *the CoC has developed an approach to transform the current community response to homelessness to emphasize **prevention and rapid re-***

**housing.**

Among the specific strategies included in the Blueprint for Change plan are:

- Implement a **Centralized or Coordinated Intake System** whereby all persons seeking shelter are assessed immediately to determine if there are any potential options to shelter
  - Within the shelter system provide assessment and linkages to case management and mainstream social services
  - Utilize rapid re-housing resources to reduce the length of shelter stays. Funding is made available to all interested nonprofit institutions and participating units of local government who have the capacity and interest in delivering services through an open RFP process administered by the Office of Homeless Services under the supervision of the County's Office of Procurement and Diversity. These strategies have shaped Cuyahoga County's funding priorities for the use of the ESG funds for FY 2016. Since late 2009, the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services has been utilizing the HPRP funds to support a comprehensive program of homeless prevention, diversion and rapid re-housing services aimed at reducing the number of person entering homeless shelters and helping those in shelters move into housing as quickly as possible. This has included the development of a **Coordinated Intake system** at the 2100 Lakeside Avenue - Men's Shelter and the Norma Herr Women's Center. The experience gained and lessons learned from implementing HPRP activities form the basis for the funding priorities for ESG allocation.
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 Cuyahoga County's Office of Homeless Services in collaboration with the City of Cleveland, will consult with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering and making policies and decisions regarding any facilities, services or other assistance that will receive ESG funding. In so doing, the Office of Homeless Services is in compliance with the requirements of 24 CFR 576

The policies of the OHS are directed by an Advisory Board which meets no less than every 2 months throughout the year. The Advisory Board also has a number of committees that work closely with OHS staff to develop policy recommendations to bring before the full board for review and approval. The Advisory Board includes representation of both formerly homeless individuals and the advocacy organization that has ongoing contact with shelter residents.

In addition to the OHS Advisory Board, a HPRP Steering Committee was established to specifically review policies and monitor the performance of the activities funded through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program. With the end of HPRP funding in July 2012, many of its rapid re-housing and diversion services were continued with ESG funds. Therefore, a new oversight

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committee will be constituted to carry out a similar ongoing review and monitoring function. Formerly homeless persons were active members of the HPRP Steering Committee and their participation in the new committee was actively encouraged.

The Program Director of the Office of Homeless Services also attends meetings of the Homeless Congress, a group that is organized by the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH). The Congress includes persons currently staying in local shelters.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

This question intentionally left blank. Please refer to other responses in this section.