## CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

The City concentrated its Community Development efforts in four (4) principal areas: Housing, Economic Development, Public Services, and Public Facility Improvements. Major projects included, but were not limited to, Home Repair Programs, Down-Payment & Closing Cost Assistance, and New (housing) Construction.

**Housing**

Most recent estimates of the housing stock within the City of Hamilton reveals that there are approximately 59,544 total housing units. 33,712 are owner-occupied while 25,832 are renter-occupied housing units available in the City of Hamilton (per 2020 ACS 5-year estimates)

The development and maintenance of the City's affordable housing stock is imperative to community development and quality of life. As a result, the City will continue to fund minor home repairs, housing rehabilitation, Down-payment Assistance and other housing stabilization and production programs. The City will work with partner agencies to develop additional affordable housing including units targeting very low and low to moderate income residents. Through funding provided to the City's Health Department the City has cleared vacant, unsafe and blighted residential nuisance properties that adversely impact the health, safety and welfare of residents.

**Economic Development**

Expanded economic development opportunities by encouraging investments, retaining and creating jobs, revitalizing business districts and increasing employment-training opportunities have been a priority for the City. In addition, the City has continued to provide the access to the Commercial Revolving Loan Fund (CRLF) to key business and start-up investments.

**Public Service**

The City of Hamilton has focused its efforts in Public Service in order to address the unique needs of the LMI resident population. The City has continued to concentrate on fair housing, homeless services, affordable public transportation, youth recreation, and crime victim advocacy. More specifically, Women Helping Women provided case management, criminal court advocacy, and accompaniment on behalf of the victims of domestic violence to approximately **535** city residents; YWCA Hamilton served **110** persons via its Empowering Minority Businesses program; Transit Alliance of Butler County provided transportation services to approximately **1632** persons/families; and Serve City provided Supportive Services to approximately, **570** homeless persons. While the YMCA BTW Programming served approximately **242** local residents, Hamilton Living Water served approximately **323** families, and the Fitton Center for Creative Arts served approximately **6,719** community members.

**Public Facility Improvements**

Improvements to public facilities and infrastructure located in the City that serves LMI residents and LMA areas of the city has been critical to community development and quality of life efforts. The City has made public improvements that enhance and compliment neighborhood and community economic development activities. In FY 22-23, Public Facility Improvements included Boys & Girls Club Fence Installation, and the much needed purchase of the Fire Department's Rehabilitation to Station 22 and Life Squad Replacement.

**CDBG-CV**

In addition to general entitlement CDBG projects the City also utilized CDBG-CV funds. More specifically, funds were used to prepare, preventand/or respond to the Coronavirus Pandemic through projects that included, but were not limited to, public health projects, public facility improvements to promote safe environments to prevent the spread of COVID, outdoor education for youth, and rental/utility/mortgage assistance for persons/familes financially impacted by the pandemic.

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

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Goal** | **Category** | **Source / Amount** | **Indicator** | **Unit of Measure** | **Expected – Strategic Plan** | **Actual – Strategic Plan** | **Percent Complete** | **Expected – Program Year** | **Actual – Program Year** | **Percent Complete** |
| Address Fair Housing Concerns | Fair Housing | CDBG: $ | Other | Other | 200 | 132 |  66.00% | 100 | 132 |  132.00% |
| Affordable Housing - Homeowner Assistance | Affordable Housing | CDBG: $ / HOME: $ / General Fund: $ | Homeowner Housing Added | Household Housing Unit | 3 | 10 |  333.33% | 1 | 10 |  1,000.00% |
| Affordable Housing - Homeowner Assistance | Affordable Housing | CDBG: $ / HOME: $ / General Fund: $ | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated | Household Housing Unit | 40 | 62 |  155.00% | 8 | 62 |  775.00% |
| Affordable Housing - Homeowner Assistance | Affordable Housing | CDBG: $ / HOME: $ / General Fund: $ | Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers | Households Assisted | 20 | 22 |  110.00% | 4 | 22 |  550.00% |
| Aid in Addressing Homelessness | Homeless | CDBG: $ | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 0 | 0 |   | 40 | 570 |  1,425.00% |
| Aid in Addressing Homelessness | Homeless | CDBG: $ | Other | Other | 500 | 0 |  0.00% |   |   |   |
| Clearance & Demolition | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: $ | Buildings Demolished | Buildings | 5 | 0 |  0.00% | 1 | 0 |  0.00% |
| Development of Affordable Rental Housing | Affordable Housing | HOME: $ | Rental units constructed | Household Housing Unit | 4 | 0 |  0.00% |   |   |   |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: $ | Jobs created/retained | Jobs | 5 | 0 |  0.00% | 1 | 0 |  0.00% |
| Economic Development | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: $ | Businesses assisted | Businesses Assisted | 2 | 0 |  0.00% | 1 | 0 |  0.00% |
| Planning & Administration | All CDBG & HOME Planning & Administration | CDBG: $ / HOME: $ | Other | Other | 10000 | 0 |  0.00% | 10000 | 0 |  0.00% |
| Public Facilities Improvements | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: $ | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 31000 | 60000 |  193.55% | 31000 | 60000 |  193.55% |
| Public Services | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: $ | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit | Persons Assisted | 10000 | 10256 |  102.56% | 4095 | 10256 |  250.45% |
| Transportation | Non-Housing Community Development | CDBG: $ | Other | Other | 900 | 1632 |  181.33% | 900 | 1632 |  181.33% |

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

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

Neighborhood Development Division (NDD) of the City of Hamilton is responsible for administering the CDBG and HOME programs and will strive in thefinal program year of the current Consolidated plan to meet the community's needs as well as continue to expend funds in a timely manner.

·       The City has been extremely proactive in improving the quality of life of its residents by addressing issues such as Affordable/Public Housing, Community Development, and Homeless services.

·       Economically challenged census tract and block group eligible neighborhoods remain a focus of the City's redevelopment plan under the CDBG and HOME program. The City in collaboration with Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton (NHSH) continue to work to create affordable housing in the area in order to create a more economically stable, sustainable community and mixed income neighborhood.

·       There were nine ***(9)*** non-profit agencies and three***(3)*** city departments that received CDBG funding this fiscal year for services including, but not limited to, increasing & sustaining affordable/public housing, transportation, economic development, fair housing, tenant-landlord services, homeless services, youth services, victims of violence, public facilities/improvements.

**CDBG-CV**

In addition to general entitilement CDBG and HOME funds for FY 2021-2022 the city utilized CDBG-CV funds for the following projects in FY 22-23: Great Miami Valley Gas Line Improvement, CHIPs, Career Re-Invention, Station 25 Modernization & Rehabilitation, NHSH-Technology Support for Rental/Utility/Mortgage Assistance, and Parachute - Volunteer Recruitment Campaign.

## CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

**Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted). 91.520(a)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **CDBG** | **HOME** |
| White | 1,151 | 34 |
| Black or African American | 352 | 4 |
| Asian | 5 | 0 |
| American Indian or American Native | 3 | 0 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 8 | 0 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| **Total** | **1,519** | **38** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Hispanic | 124 | 8 |
| Not Hispanic | 1,395 | 30 |

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

**Narrative**

The City of Hamilton has a diverse geographic area consisting of a varying range of income levels and minority groups. Historically, the jurisdiction is split into six (6) wards (1 (North), 1(South), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (North), 6 (South). Wards 2, 4, 5, and 6 (North) are the most integrated areas of the jurisdiction. The four (4) wards have populations of Black, Non-Hispanics, Hispanics, and White, Non-Hispanics. The highest population of Black, Non-Hispanics reside in the 2nd ward. The 4th, 5th and 6th (North) wards also possess a very small population of Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanics.

Results from the City's most recent AFH suggests that individuals/families residing in the 2nd and 4th wards of the jurisdiction are more likely to be exposed to areas of concentrated poverty. The 2nd and 4th wards also possess a greater population of Black, Non-Hispanics and Hispanics.

The above data has prompted the City to focus on projects that benefit individuals/persons residing in areas of the jurisdiction that are segregated (e.g. utilizing CDBG funds the City provides support to the YMCA Booker T Washington Community Center, which is located with the 2nd ward of the City) or experience increased levels of poverty.

NOTE - The One (1) listed under HOME and"Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander" actually in the category of "Other, Multi-Racial". Which was not provided as an option.

***The above chart generated by IDIS does not include an option for Black & White, or Other/Multi-Racial. As a result, and as recorded in IDIS we have attached a more detailed chart highlighting the racial and ethnic groups as recorded.***

## CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

**Identify the resources made available**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Source of Funds** | **Source** | **Resources Made Available** | **Amount Expended During Program Year** |
| CDBG | public - federal | 1,810,263 | 1,372,317 |
| HOME | public - federal | 416,573 | 763,019 |
| General Fund | public - local |   |   |

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

**Narrative**

During FY 2022-2023 the City of Hamilton utilized CDBG-HOME, and CDBG-CV funds.

The CDBG "Amount Expended During Program Year 2022" includes amounts received from the Revolving Loan Funds. The RLF amount for FY 2022 is **$31,578.89**.

The HOME "Amount Expended During Program Year 2022"includes amounts received from the Program Income. The PI amount for FY 2022 is **$4,773.24.**

**NOTE -**The city found it necessary to make adjustments to the PR-26 CDBG Financial Summary Report. More specifically, lines 01, 07, and 20. Line 01- Unexpended CDBG Funds... was adjusted to **$2,052,429.72**. Which ultimately caused the adjustment on line 07 to become ($31,578.89).

**Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Target Area** | **Planned Percentage of Allocation** | **Actual Percentage of Allocation** | **Narrative Description** |
| All HUD eligible areas within the City of Hamilton |   | 100 |   |
| Low/Moderate Income Areas | 100 | 100 |   |

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

**Narrative**

As an entitlement the City of Hamilton received $1,350,621 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and $386,885 in HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program funds in fiscal year 2022-2023.

The City of Hamilton through the Consolidated Planning process as well as the creation of the Annual Action Plan has continued to be responsive to the needs of very low-, low-, and moderate-income residents. The City has concentrated its Community Development efforts in four (4) areas: Housing, Public Facility Improvements, Public Services, and Economic Development.

·       ***Housing*** - The development and maintenance of the City's affordable housing stock is imperative to community development and quality of life. The City will continue with emergency /minor home repair, housing rehabilitation, and other housing stabilization and production programs. The City will work with partner agencies to develop affordable housing including units targeting very-low, low and moderate income residents.

·       ***Public Facilities and Improvements***- Improvements to public facilities and infrastructures located in the City serving very-low and low -moderate income residents is critical to community development and quality of life efforts. The City will make public improvements that enhance and compliment neighborhood and community economic development activities.

·       ***Public* Service** - The City of Hamilton focuses its efforts with Public Service in order to address the unique needs of the LMI resident population. The City will continue to  concentrate on fair housing, homeless services, affordable public transportation, senior/youth recreation, and crime victim's advocacy.

·       ***Economic Development***- Expanding economic development opportunities  to encourage investments, retain, and create jobs, revitalize business districts, and increase employment/training opportunities remain a priority for the City. Additionally, the City will continue to provide access to the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to key business and start-up investments.

The above objectives will continue to be assessed to ensure consistency with citizen input and survey results and feedback. As indicated in the Citizen Participation section of the Consolidated Plan, the City not only conducts the required public input meetings and makes draft documents available for review and comment but also solicits input from service providers and conducts and annual needs survey of City residents. Note - The HOME Amount Expended During Program Year Program Year 2022 includes funds that remained available from previous program years but spent in FY 2022.

The Annual Action Plan encompasses both the CDBG and HOME program funded projects for the 2022-2023 program year for the period of May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023.

**Leveraging**

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

The City of Hamilton had no Match liability this fiscal year. Nonetheless, the city anticipates donating vacant lots for the creation of additional affrodable housing.

| **Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match** |
| --- |
| 1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year | 0 |
| 2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year | 0 |
| 3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2) | 0 |
| 4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year | 0 |
| 5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4) | 0 |

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

|  **Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year** |
| --- |
| **Project No. or Other ID** | **Date of Contribution** | **Cash****(non-Federal sources)** | **Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges** | **Appraised Land/Real Property** | **Required Infrastructure** | **Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor** | **Bond Financing** | **Total Match** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

**HOME MBE/WBE report**

| **Program Income** – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period |
| --- |
| **Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period****$** | **Amount received during reporting period****$** | **Total amount expended during reporting period****$** | **Amount expended for TBRA****$** | **Balance on hand at end of reporting period****$** |
| 56,603 | 39,110 | 19,778 | 0 | 75,935 |

Table 7 – Program Income

|  |
| --- |
| **Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises –** Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total** | **Minority Business Enterprises** | **White Non-Hispanic** |
| **Alaskan Native or American Indian** | **Asian or Pacific Islander** | **Black Non-Hispanic** | **Hispanic** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Contracts** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

|  |
| --- |
| **Sub-Contracts** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total** | **Women Business Enterprises** | **Male** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Contracts** |
|  |  |  |  |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |
| --- |
| **Sub-Contracts** |
|  |  |  |  |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

|  |
| --- |
| **Minority Owners of Rental Property** – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total** | **Minority Property Owners** | **White Non-Hispanic** |
| **Alaskan Native or American Indian** | **Asian or Pacific Islander** | **Black Non-Hispanic** | **Hispanic** |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dollar Amount | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

|  |
| --- |
| **Relocation and Real Property Acquisition –** Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Number** | **Cost** |
| Parcels Acquired | 0 | 0 |
| Businesses Displaced | 0 | 0 |
| Nonprofit Organizations Displaced | 0 | 0 |
| Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Households Displaced** | **Total** | **Minority Property Enterprises** | **White Non-Hispanic** |
| **Alaskan Native or American Indian** | **Asian or Pacific Islander** | **Black Non-Hispanic** | **Hispanic** |
| Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cost | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

## CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

|  | One-Year Goal | Actual |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 40 | 21 |
| Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units | 0 | 85 |
| Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units | 0 | 5 |
| **Total** | **40** | **111** |

Table 11 – Number of Households

|  | One-Year Goal | Actual |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Number of households supported through Rental Assistance | 0 | 0 |
| Number of households supported through The Production of New Units | 1 | 0 |
| Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units | 8 | 44 |
| Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units | 4 | 22 |
| **Total** | **13** | **66** |

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

**Number of Households Supported Summary:**

**Rental Assistance (CDBG-CV) -**NHSH Provided rental assistance to approximately

**Homeless Households Supported -**SERVE City Choices/Shekinah (**8** homeless persons-Choices, **10** homeless persons -Shekinah); and remains in its affordability period and are therefore is being counted. *This also includes NHS (Campbell Ave) (3 households supported). NHSH provided rental assistance using CDBG-CV funds to approximately eighty-five (85) households.*

**Non-Homeless Households Supported -**Art Space (**11** households).

**Special Needs -**Partnerships for Housing (**5** households) (Remains in its affordability period)

**The Production of New Units** - The City provided HOME funds to NHSH for the creation of one (**1**) new construction single-family unit.

**Rehab of Existing Units** - NHSH utilized CDBG funds to conduct fourteen (**14**) home-repairs and SELF conducted thirty (**30**) home repairs for extremely low/low-income home owners in the City of Hamilton.

**Acquisition of Existing Units**- NHSH assisted twenty-two (**22**) households through the Down-payment Assistance Program.

**Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.**

The city will continue its efforts to provide and support the creation and sustainability of affordable housing in the community. Efforts may include, but not be limited to, supporting projects using CDBG, HOME, and HOME-ARP funds.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Number of Households Served** | **CDBG Actual** | **HOME Actual** |
| Extremely Low-income | 29 | 9 |
| Low-income | 15 | 47 |
| Moderate-income | 0 | 0 |
| **Total** | **44** | **56** |

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

**Narrative Information**

***NHSH DPA (HOME funded)***

Extremely Low Income - **1**

Very Low Income -**5**

Low Income - **16**

***Serve City (HOME funded):***

Low-Income - **18**

***Partnerships for Housing (HOME funded):***

Extremely Low-Income - **5**

**ArtSpace (HOME funded):**

Extremely Low-Income - **3**

Very Low Income - **8**

***NHSH Home Repair (CDBG funded):***

Extremely Low-Income - **11**

Very Low Income - **3**

***SELF (CDBG funded):***

Extremely Low-Income - **18**

Very Low-Income - **12**

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

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

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

The City of Hamilton is an active participant in the Butler County Homeless and Housing Coalition (BCHHC) – the “Continuum of Care” organization for the area.  BCHHC receives funding from the “Balance of State Continuum of Care” process through the Ohio Department of Development.  In addition, the City of Hamilton provides financial assistance to some City-based member agencies.

These are some objectives under the strategic plan for our Continuum of Care.

* Maintain the level of Section 8 vouchers for low income and/or homeless individuals and families.
* Securing safe and affordable housing and coordinate with local and regional housing and service providers.
* Partner regionally to provide financial assistance for outreach and appropriate services to assist the homeless to end chronic homelessness.

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

FY 2023 Point in Time Data reveals that approximately 1067 under all applicable Projects participating in the PIT. Specific data may be found in the attached chart.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Number of Persons Served** | **Total** |
| Adults | 935 |
| Children | 129 |
| Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused | 1 |
| Data Not Collected | 2 |
| Total | 1067 |
|  |  |
| Race | Total |
| White | 769 |
| Black, African American, or African | 249 |
| Asian or Asian American | 2 |
| American Indian, ALaska Native or Pacific Islander | 7 |
| Multiple Races | 35 |
| Client Doesn't Know/Client Refused | 2 |
| Data Not Collected | 0 |
| Total | 1067 |

**Table** 1 **- Homeless Persons Demographics FY 2023**

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

The City of Hamilton has invested resources in developing affordable housing not only in the Neighborhood Initiative Area (NIA) but also supported down payment and closing cost assistance through Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) of Hamilton, Inc.'s, funding for acquisition of vacant properties to be utilized for new development.

The City also invested resources in the development of rental housing in conjunction with NHS. The City worked with NHS to prioritize neighborhoods, identify sites, and guide the architectural design of rental housing developments.

In regards to future investments and partnerships, City NDD staff has reached out and spoken about future partnerships with the Talbert House regarding support to their halfway house programs. The Talbert House runs two halfway homes within the City of Hamilton that provide services to men exiting correctional institutions or are mandated to stay by the Butler county Probation/Parole Authority. It is anticipated that representatives, if needed, may apply for funding support to fulfill their organization's activities in the near future. City NDD staff will include the Talbert House on their email list for prospective applicants for CDBG & HOME funds for the FY 23-24 Annual Action Plan process. Due to the recent Coronavirus Pandemic the City has devoted CDBG-CV funds to the stabilization of current residents by providing rental and utility assistance through NHSH.

**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 City of Hamilton provides direct financial support (i.e. CDBG funds) to Serve City. Serve City is a local homeless shelter for men and women which provides services in the form of a food pantry, homeless shelter, and housing provider.

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

**Actions taken to address the needs of public housing**

Butler Metropolitan Housing Authority (BMHA) will continue to be responsible for carrying out the Comprehensive Public Housing Grant and Section 8 Voucher programs as well as operating low-income housing units.  BMHA operates countywide and its composition is set by state enabling legislation - one appointment from the largest city, one housing authority resident, one county appointee, one probate judge appointee, and one Court of Common Pleas appointee.

With the exception of units in Middletown, Ohio, BMHA owns and operates the majority of housing units in the City of Hamilton. The City routinely partners with BMHA concerning present and future voucher unit and low-income housing unit expansion.

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

The City of Hamilton encourages all residents to participate in community planning efforts including public housing residents. The City also encourages public housing residents to be involved in the management of their units.

**Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs**

The city is not located in a region with a "troubled PHA".

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

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

Two factors that affect the affordability of housing in the community are local property taxes and utility costs. According to the Butler County Auditor, Rates of Taxation in Butler County, Ohio Tax Year 2023, the total effective rate class for the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton City School District were the lowest in the immediate area. For example, Hamilton’s taxes have decreased and are 53.39 mills and are compared to: 52.82 mills for Fairfield City; 55.68 mills for West Chester Township; 44.10mills for Oxford; and 65.79 mills for Middletown.

Hamilton owns and operates its own water, sewage treatment (natural gas), and electric utilities. Hamilton's water costs are nearly one third less than the County rates. Neither local taxes nor municipal utility costs are deemed barriers to affordable housing in Hamilton.

The City of Hamilton recently reviewed the building and zoning codes. The following is a summary of those, which many believe affect housing affordability:

1. Hamilton utilizes a "one-stop" permitting process to expedite permitting and review procedures to ultimately eliminate delay costs.
2. Hamilton's zoning code is not unduly restrictive. In fact, the minimum lot size for the least dense residential zoning district (10,000 square feet) is well below other areas such as Cincinnati (20,000 square feet minimum), Middletown (20,000 square feet minimum), and Fairfield (12,000 square feet minimum). The City is actively encouraging affordable mixed use development that includes residential properties at higher densities in certain areas, including CORE Area and affordable new single family construction in neighborhoods.
3. The City's subdivision regulations require the installation of sidewalks, curbs/gutters, and storm water retention methods; which may increase housing costs. However, Hamilton's regulations are not unduly harsh nor are they any more restrictive than other population centers in Butler County (i.e. Middletown and Fairfield). With regard to infrastructure requirements for subdivisions, they are again the minimum standard to ensure public health, welfare, and safety. In addition, sidewalks and curbs/gutters promote walkability within and between neighborhoods particularly for households with limited transportation options.
4. Hamilton may employ certain incentive practices in negotiating with developers to aid in the reduction of construction costs. The zoning code allows for Planned Unit Developments (PUD's), form-based mixed use zoning, clustered housing, zero lot line zoning and certain density bonuses. The Hamilton Planning Department has made modifications to the current PUD regulations to include: the promotion of providing greater mixtures of housing types, styles, and sizes to facilitate housing choice and density bonuses to encourage the development of affordable LMI housing by private sector investors. providing greater mixtures of housing types, styles, and sizes to facilitate housing choice and density bonuses to encourage the development of affordable LMI housing by private sector investors.

The City's policies and regulations do not significantly impact housing choice or affordability. Thus, the City has not outlined a strategy for modifications or amendments. The City will continue to routinely review policies/regulations and propose changes when deemed necessary.

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

The City has and plans to continue to invest resources into community development efforts that leverage and increase positive activities in distressed neighborhoods. These investments include affordable housing development activities, promoting Lead-Safe Workplace Practices, and the Neighborhood Overlay Conservation Zoning District.

Additionally, City personnel sit on the local Butler County Housing & Homeless Coalition (BCHHC) board. Board members work to establish and maintain collaboration amongst local service providers, address issues with the homeless population, determine and develop new services, etc. The City provides CDBG funds to the local homeless shelter for infrastructure improvements and services. In addition to funding, and unrelated to HUD funding, the City's mayor has partnered with local service provider Family Promise to develop a local Task Force to Combat Homelessness. The Task Force's mission is to directly tackle the issue of homelessness in the community by creating a collaborative bridge amongst local service providers, businesses, faith-based organizations, and other willing participants.

The City also partners with fair housing provider Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.) to provide outreach services to low-moderate income community members including within the latino community. Both the City and H.O.M.E. provide translation services, fair housing information/education, and support to LEP residents.  In FY 2022-23, the City and H.O.M.E provided assistance to persons/households within the City of Hamilton. More specifically, the City's NDD staff assisted **27** persons/households while H.O.M.E. assisted **105**persons/households. H.O.M.E. also performed **22** Random Rental Tests for city residents, and **2** Real Estate Tests, **11** Outreach Distributions. Lastly, H.O.M.E provided **3**fair housing consumer events.

Additionally, The City of Hamilton continuously strives to address the needs of those in need within the jurisdiction by assessing individuals considered "worst case needs". Through partnerships with NHSH, the YWCA, YMCA, and SERVE City, persons acknowledged as "worst case needs" are provided direct assistance and access to available housing (permanent & transitional).

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

The results of several studies have indicated that children exposed, even moderately, to lead-based paint may develop permanent learning disabilities.  The greatest concern is for young children (under the age of 7).  The use of lead-based interior and exterior paints often occurred on structures constructed prior to 1978; and, generally speaking, its use was more prevalent on older (pre-1940) houses.  Considering the age of the City's housing stock, and thus, the likelihood of an increased presence of lead-based paint hazards, Hamilton will respond to the problem of lead-based paint (LBP) hazards.   The EPA booklet "Protect Your Family from Lead In Your Home" is distributed through the home repair programs to homeowners and to potential downpayment and closing cost assistance homebuyers.  Visual Assessment/Paint Stabilization (24 CFR 35.1015) visual assessment of paint is conducted with each downpayment/closing cost assistance acquistion along with independent property inspections and ongoing rental inspections which assess paint conditions throughout the affordability period.

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

The City has determined (through the AFH process) that some of the issues affecting poverty-level families includes but may not be limited to: location and type of affordable housing; the availability of affordable units in a range of sizes; and the availability, type, frequency, and reliability of public transportation.

The City partners with local housing providers, Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton (NHSH) develops new and also maintain/expand housing unit availabilty within the City. For example, NHSH provided down payment assistance to 19 extremely low/very low/low income households in the City. The home repairs aid in sustaining the home while also maintaining their integrity. Ultimately, this maks the homes safer and healthier for the low income resident(s) to reside. NHSH's commitment aids the City in addressing the issue of increasing, and maintaining affordable housing in a range of sizes in various locations in the City.

Additionally, the City continues to partner and provide funding to local transportation provider, Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA). Through the partnership BCRTA has expanded its routes within and outside of the City to provide transportation to employers and resources in and surrounding the community.

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

The delivery system in the City of Hamilton was enhanced by the development of a communications process with public service providers. Representatives from social service agencies and housing providers are part of the system. The formation of this process resulted in community collaboration to identify problems, priorities, strategies and action plans to assist Hamilton citizens. The City is working toward closing the gaps through consultation with citizens, community service providers, and local public institutions, private industry, and nonprofit organizations.

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

**Public Institution:**

The City of Hamilton's Finance Department - Neighborhood Development Division will administer both the CDBG and HOME programs. Funds will be used for a variety of activities including, but not limited to, owner (home) rehabilitation, home buyer assistance, capital improvements, economic development, and technical assistance to nonprofits and public services operated by nonprofits. The City may assist other public or nonprofit groups in providing other types of affordable housing assistance. The City may apply for State Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) or other forms of state assistance as specific projects develop.

Butler Metropolitan Housing Authority (BMHA) will continue and is responsible for carrying out the Comprehensive Public Housing Grant and Section 8 Voucher programs as well as operating low-income housing units. BMHA operates countywide and Hamilton City Council appoints one board member and the remaining are selected by the County Commissioners. With the exception of units in Middletown, Ohio; BMHA owns and operates the majority of housing units located in the City of Hamilton. The City of Hamilton encourages all residents to participate in community planning efforts including public housing residents. THe City also encourages public housing residents to be involved in the management of their units.

**Private Industry**

Private sector involvement includes financial institutions providing assistance via mortgage loans to assist with private rehabilitation (owner and renter) and a first-time homebuyer program operated by Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton. Also, there may be private sector involvement in low-income housing tax credit projects for housing rehabilitation or new construction to increase affordable rental and homeownership opportunities.

**Nonprofit Organizations**

The nonprofit groups that the City of Hamilton partners with provide various types of housing assistance, rehabilitation, rental assistance, homebuyer assistance, services to the elderly, homeless and special needs population. Nonprofit and direct housing providers include: Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton (NHSH), Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families (S.E.L.F.), Greater Miami Valley YMCA, Serve City, Fitton Center, Hamilton Law Department (Women Helping Women). Additionally, the City works with nonprofits that provide direct public services not only including housing assistance but also health, domestic violence, homeless prevention, youth programs, education, fair housing, and transportation services.

Nonprofits that qualify as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO's) have the opportunity to operate construction of rental and first-time homebuyer programs. The CHDO for the City is Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton (NHSH). The City continues to provide needed technical assistance to NHSH and will continue to build sound working relationships with other agencies in the community. The City has also worked with the local Chamber of Commerce and the City's Economic Development Department regarding economic issues, increasing employment, and revitalization of the City's business districts.

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

Please see AFH Achievement Update attached in appendix.

## CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

CDBG and HOME subrecipients are monitored pursuant the City of Hamilton's Subreceipienet Monitoring Policy. The City takes a proactive approach, each subreceipient at the beginning of their contract term are assessed for risk via the city's Risk Assessment Tool. The City then determinies the level of monitoring that will be needed for the subreceipient. More specifically monitoring may include, but not be limited to desk monitoring (e.g. monthly as invoices and draw requests are received), onsite, monitoring,  and/or virtual monitoring.

In regards to the City ensuring compliance and that minority business outreach is achieved, the City's subrecipient, YWCA Hamilton, utilizes CDBG funds for its Empowering Minority Businesses Program. The program has successfully worked to eliminate racism and empower current and potential minority business owners by providing training, information sessions, community outreach, and other applicable activities. Additionally, in monitoring subrecipients the city encourages that each applicable project complies with Section 3 standards and strives to utilize minority businesses as needed.

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

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

**Public Meetings:** The City also hosted ***three (3)*** virtual public input meetings as part of the preparation of the Annual Action Plan. The meetings were held on two **August 24, 2021** and one meeting on **August 25, 2021**.

**30 Day Public Comment Period:** After the draft Annual Action Plan was prepared, there is a 30-Day Public Comment Period. A Legal Notice was published and the City website was updated to inform residents and interested parties where the draft Annual Action Plan was available for public review, including a list of places the draft was available for viewing. The draft period was from **February 6, 2021** thru **March 6, 2021**. Any public comments received during this period were to be responded to in writing within fifteen (15) working days. The draft Annual Action Plan Update was also available for viewing or download from the City of Hamilton website. No comments were received. *In regards to the CAPER, the City provides a 15-Day Comment period. The period period for comment was listed in the local journal news on* ***July 5, 2023*** *and the actual comment period is* ***July 5 thru July 20, 2023****. A draft copy of the CAPER was also made available during this time period. During this period no comments were received. (A copy of the Public Notice is included in the attachments)*

**Public Hearings:** The city holds two public hearings in order to receive public comment on the Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 prior to submission to HUD. The first public hearing was held on **March 3, 2022** at 1:30 pm in City Council Chambers, and the second was held on **March 9, 2022** at 6:00 pm during the City Council Meeting in City Council Chambers. During the public hearing a presentation was made which included the proposed draft budget allocation, and at both meetings no questions, comments or objections were expressed.

The Annual Action Plan Update, including Community Development Block Grant Project Use of Funds, the HOME Program Description and City’s Displacement Policy were, historically, to be submitted to HUD by March 15, 2022 (at least 45 days prior to our City’s Community Development Program Year, which begins May 1). However, as instructed by HUD Columbus, the City did not submit the AAP until actual allocations were announced. Ultimately resulting in the submittal of the AAP before the August 15, 2022 deadline.

**CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)**

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

The City of Hamilton has adjusted its objectives in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to address the impediments revealed in the most recent Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH). The City has determined it necessary to continue to address housing availability and affordability for low-income persons/families.

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

No

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

## CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

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

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

Artspace - two units needed minor repairs and these were completed satisfactorily (bathroom vent inoperable and correction of ceiling) and two units were satisfactory.  The City of Hamilton is in the process of conducting on-site inspections for up to eleven affordable rental housing units located at the following organizations: Hamilton ArtSpace Lofts,  SERVE City - Shekinah Place & CHOICES, and Partnerships for Housing - Group Homes.

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

Projects of 5 units or more, shall comply with affirmative marketing requirements set forth in 24 CFR 92.351. Written documentation of affirmative marketing plan, efforts, and actions demonstrating compliance should be placed in project files.

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

Program income totaling *$19,495.90 ($15,004.42 & $4,491.48)* was used for one homeowner CHDO Reserve project.

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

## CR-58 – Section 3

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Labor Hours** | **CDBG** | **HOME** | **ESG** | **HOPWA** | **HTF** |
| Total Number of Activities | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Labor Hours | 0 |   |   |   |   |
| Total Section 3 Worker Hours | 0 |   |   |   |   |
| Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours | 0 |   |   |   |   |

Table 15 – Total Labor Hours

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program** | **CDBG** | **HOME** | **ESG** | **HOPWA** | **HTF** |
| Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships). | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching). | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts. | 3 | 1 |   |   |   |
| Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes,preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services. | 1 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Held one or more job fairs. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Assisted residents with finding child care. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |
| Other. | 0 | 0 |   |   |   |

Table 16 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

**Narrative**

The city has committed ongoing efforts to promote Section 3 efforts. More specifically the Neighborhood Development Division has provided "technical assistance" to approximately three (2) potential Section 3 business concerns requiring assistance completing Section 3 forms and accessing the Section 3 Business Registry. NDD also *"provided or connected" four (4) residents with supportive services that can provide direct services and referrals*  (e.g. SELF, OHIO Means Jobs, etc.). Lastly, the city promoted the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities... to *approximately four (4) applicants* (e.g. proposed projects in FY 22-23).