

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)**Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)**

The Lehigh County Housing Authority has been found in compliance with section 504. No additional compliance is needed.

The Lehigh County Housing Authority currently has 15 fully accessible units and 11 semi-accessible units.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

There are currently no Resident Councils at properties owned and managed by the Lehigh County Housing Authority. Previous attempts have been made to create Resident Councils. However, these councils have all disbanded due to lack of interest on the part of tenants.

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) programs are provided to Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Holders and public housing tenants. FSS program residents work with a case manager to develop goals that will, over a five (5) year period, lead to self-sufficiency. These goals may include education, specialized training, job readiness, job placement activities, and career advancement objectives. The goals for each participating family member are set out in Individual's Training and Service Plan. LCHA has a baseline of 1,652 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, with 1,100 applications on the waiting list. The Lehigh County Housing Authority has selected residents to access and review its Annual Action Plan when available.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

The Lehigh County Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

Not Applicable.

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Lehigh County's 2018 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice has identified the following impediments, along with goals and strategies to address those impediments and affirmatively further fair housing in the County:

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

Impediment 1: Lack of Affordable Housing - There is a lack of affordable housing in Lehigh County due to the influx in the number of unskilled and semi-skilled workers who have moved into the County, which has created a high demand and a corresponding increase in the cost of rental and sales housing.

Goal: Increase the supply of affordable housing by new construction and rehabilitation of various types of housing that is affordable to lower income households.

Strategies: In order to address the need and achieve the goal for more affordable housing, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **1-A:** Continue to promote the need for affordable housing by supporting and encouraging private developers and non-profits to develop, construct, and/or rehabilitate housing that is affordable.
- **1-B:** Encourage and promote the development, construction, and/or rehabilitation of mixed-income housing in areas of the County which do not have a concentration of low-income households.
- **1-C:** Encourage and promote the development, construction, and/or rehabilitation of affordable housing in mixed-use properties with retail/office space on the lower levels and residences above.
- **1-D:** Support financially, the rehabilitation of existing housing owned by seniors and lower-income households to conserve the existing affordable housing stock in the County.
- **1-E:** Provide financial and development incentive to private developers and non-profits to construct and/or rehabilitate affordable housing.
- **1-F:** Continue to work with the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Housing Study Group to promote the development, construction, and rehabilitation of affordable housing.

Impediment 2: Lack of Accessible Housing - There is a lack of accessible housing in Lehigh County since the supply of accessible housing has not kept pace with the demand caused by the increase in the percentage of elderly persons in Lehigh County and more disabled persons desiring to live independently.

Goal: Increase the supply of accessible housing by new construction and rehabilitation of accessible housing for persons who are disabled.

Strategies: In order to address the need and achieve the goal for more accessible housing, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **2-A:** Continue to promote the need for accessible housing by supporting and encouraging private developers and non-profits to develop, construct, and/or rehabilitate housing that is accessible to persons who are disabled.
- **2-B:** Support financially, improvements to single-family owner-occupied homes to make them accessible for the elderly and/or disabled so they can continue to live in their homes.
- **2-C:** Encourage and promote the development of accessible housing units in multi-family buildings as a percentage of the total number of housing units.
- **2-D:** Encourage and financially support landlords to make accommodations to units in their building so persons who are disabled can reside in their apartments.
- **2-E:** Enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Fair Housing Act (FHA) in regard to making new multi-family housing developments accessible and visitable for persons who are physically disabled.

Impediment 3: Barriers Limiting Housing Choice - There are physical, economic, and social barriers in Lehigh County which limit housing choices and housing opportunities for low-income households, minorities, and the disabled members of the County's population.

Goal: Eliminate physical, economic, and social barriers in Lehigh County and increase housing choices and opportunities for low-income households and members of the protected classes throughout Lehigh County.

Strategies: In order to achieve the goal for more housing choice, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **3-A:** Deconcentrate pockets of racial and ethnic poverty by providing affordable housing choices for persons and families to move outside of these areas.
- **3-B:** Support and promote the development of affordable housing in areas of opportunity where low-income persons and families may move.
- **3-C:** Support and promote the planning and model zoning efforts of the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to eliminate "exclusionary zoning" and land development ordinances which restrict the development of affordable housing.
- **3-D:** Eliminate architectural barriers in public accommodations, public facilities, and multi-family new housing developments.
- **3-E:** Encourage LANta (the public transportation system) to develop additional routes to provide better access to job opportunities for low-income households.

Impediment 4: Lack of Housing Awareness - There is a lack of knowledge and understanding concerning the rights of individuals, families, and members of the protected classes in regard to the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and awareness of discriminatory practices.

Goal: Improve knowledge and awareness of the Fair Housing Act (FHA), related housing and discriminatory laws, and regulations, so that the residents in Lehigh County can Affirmatively Further Fair Housing (AFFH).

Strategies: In order to address the need and achieve the goal of promoting open and fair housing, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **4-A:** Continue to educate and make residents aware of their rights under the Fair Housing Act (FHA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- **4-B:** Continue to educate and make realtors, bankers, and landlords aware of discriminatory housing policies and to promote fair housing opportunities for all County residents.
- **4-C:** Sponsor and participate in a “Regional Housing Summit” to discuss housing needs and approaches to achieve more affordable housing in the County.
- **4-D:** Continue to financially support the Fair Housing organizations and legal advocacy groups to assist persons who may be victims of housing discrimination and/or not aware of how to file a housing complaint.
- **4-E:** Continue to monitor the data from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) to ensure that discriminatory practices in home mortgage lending not take place.

Impediment 5: Lack of Economic Opportunities - There is a lack of economic opportunities in the County for lower-income households to increase their income and thus improve their choices of housing.

Goal: Improve the job opportunities in the County, which will increase household income and make it financially feasible to live outside concentrated areas of poverty.

Strategies: In order to address the need and achieve the goal for better economic opportunities, the following activities and strategies should be undertaken:

- **5-A:** Encourage and strengthen partnerships between public and private entities to promote economic development, improve the local tax base, and create a sustainable economy.
- **5-B:** Promote and encourage the expansion of existing commercial and light industrial enterprises, which will create more employment opportunities.
- **5-C:** Provide financial and development assistance to enterprises, which will create new job opportunities and higher wages for County residents.
- **5-D:** Identify development sites for potential private investment and/or expansion of existing enterprises.
- **5-E:** Continue to improve the infrastructure to underdeveloped areas of the County to promote new development and create new job opportunities.

- **5-F:** Continue to partner with Lehigh Career & Technical Institute to develop training programs for unemployed and underemployed persons in the County.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The Eastern PA Continuum of Care operates a Coordinated Entry System, which was piloted in the Lehigh Valley and expanded to all 33 counties of the CoC, to ensure that those at-risk of homelessness or, who are experiencing homelessness, are connected to resources and services. The system ensures the management of access, assessment, prioritization, and referral to housing and social services for any person experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness throughout the region. A call center operated by PA 2-1-1 provides live voice intake and there are 17 access sites that provide face-to-face intake. Service providers are trained in housing first, the VI-SPDAT assessment, and other best practices to assist homeless persons in receiving proper services. The CoC conducts mobile outreach for vulnerable populations and includes ESL translation services with its intake services, as well as access for those who are hearing impaired. Coordinated Entry processes also provide information about service needs and identify gaps to help communities plan their assistance and resources.

Outreach to homeless persons is conducted by service providers. Organizations like the Lehigh County Conference of Churches will contact the homeless individuals that use the emergency shelters during weather advisory. Lehigh County Conference of Churches will also make outreach to the chronically homeless that live in communities and attempt to assess them. This outreach, combined with case management, was funded by the CoC in FY 2018.

Youth homelessness is a major problem in the Lehigh Valley Area, particularly for individuals in the 18-24 age group. It is estimated that up to 20% of the homeless people in the area fall into this age group. There is a need for a year-round shelter for this age group, as Valley Youth House does not serve youth over the age of 18. Focused outreach has been conducted by the CoC on this age group in partnership with Valley Youth House, and this population continues to be a priority for Lehigh County. The Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center partners with the Regional Homeless Advisory Board to provide housing and services to youth experiencing homelessness, as well as toiletry supplies and other products to homeless and housing-insecure LGBT youth in the Lehigh Valley. Valley Youth House is providing quarterly youth training to focus on educating providers in best practices for youth, including LGBT youth.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Lehigh County addresses the housing needs of the homeless population within the County through the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board's (RHAB) steering of CoC funds to various projects. In partnership with the City of Allentown, the Lehigh Valley RHAB determines the projects that most effectively assist the homeless population of Lehigh County through coalition meetings. The Lehigh Valley RHAB does not receive ESG funding.

The shelter and transitional housing that is available in Lehigh County included the following:

- Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley - Sixth Street Shelter (Emergency Shelter)
- Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley - Turner Street Apartments (Transitional Housing)
- Salvation Army Emergency Shelter (Emergency Shelter)
- Salvation Army Transitional Shelter (Transitional Housing)
- Allentown Rescue Mission (Emergency Shelter)
- Allentown Rescue Mission Christian Living and Values Transitional Program (Transitional Housing)
- Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley (Domestic Violence) (Transitional Housing)
- The Program for Women and Families, Inc. (Transitional Housing)
- Valley Youth House (Emergency Shelter)
- Valley Youth House - Maternity Group Home (Transitional Housing)
- Valley Youth House - Supportive Housing for Families (Transitional Housing)
- Valley Youth House - Supportive Housing for Youth (Transitional Housing).

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 implemented various strategies to ensure that those transitioning out of homelessness are able to procure permanent housing, which have led to a 4% increase in the transition from Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Rehousing into permanent housing during 2018. Diversion strategies have been used to place those that go through intake with the CoC into Rapid Rehousing. Many of the CoC funded transitional housing beds have been converted into Rapid Rehousing beds across the 33 county area. Rapid Rehousing providers have been trained in best practices including housing first strategy, focused case management, harm reduction, motivational interviewing, and trauma-informed care. Currently, there are 111 Rapid Rehousing beds in Lehigh County; 75 of these 111 Rapid Rehousing beds are dedicated to youth.

Rapid Rehousing programs are connected to the landlords and households with affordable units to sustain permanent housing. The CoC makes sure to focus on in-home case management and engage with landlords. Additionally, the CoC partners with mainstream service providers, such as workforce development, child care, transportation, and other resources to promote long-term stability for persons and their families that have transitioned out of homelessness. There are also 243 Permanent Supportive Housing beds dedicated to chronically homeless households.

Valley Youth House is a major provider of services for the homeless youth in the area. Valley Youth House will assist individuals that may have been in foster care. Valley Youth House receives funding for both Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing projects. Youth homelessness is a major problem in the Lehigh Valley area, particularly for individuals in the 18-24 age group. It is estimated that up to 20% of the homeless people in the area fall in this age group. There is a need for a year-round shelter for this age group, as Valley Youth House does not serve children over the age of 18. Focused outreach has been conducted by the CoC on this age group in partnership with Valley Youth House, and this population continues to be a priority for Lehigh County.

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley will provide housing to victims of domestic violence and their families. They provide 32 transitional housing beds for survivors fleeing immediate abuse and will partner with other agencies to find permanent housing for victims, including Third Street Alliance, which is the major Rapid Rehousing provider for this population.

Previously, Lehigh County had a robust program to assist veterans experiencing homelessness that received SSVF funding. Because of the success of the program and the resulting lower numbers of veteran homelessness, the Federal government cut funding for the program.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

The Eastern PA CoC's strategy for preventing low-income individuals and families from becoming homeless addresses the goal of increasing the economic security of households. To meet this goal, the CoC collaborates with local and statewide service providers, with Pennsylvania CareerLink® being an important partner across the entire CoC for job training and outreach to at-risk clients. Other partners provide income supports, employment and non-employment sources of income, and may address barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment for these populations.

In the Eastern PA Continuum of Care's Five-Year Strategic Plan to Reduce and End Homelessness (2017-2021), the CoC outlines the following goals and actions under "Strategy 1: Prevent and Divert Homelessness."

A. Evaluate and Improve Discharge Planning where Needed

- Evaluate current discharge planning from these systems to help stem the flow of individuals leaving institutional settings and entering homelessness because they lack stable housing options.

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- Research and provide information to other systems/organizations on effective discharge planning policies/procedures for individuals and households at risk of entering homelessness upon discharge, as well as information on available housing resources.
 - Engage with statewide efforts to improve discharge planning policies across systems, emphasizing the need for permanent housing placement for those exiting institutions.

B. Increase Coordination of Homeless Prevention Sources

- Assess the use of existing funding available for prevention and identify gaps.
- Coordinate funding (including ESG, HAP, PHARE) across the CoC to ensure that resources are used effectively. For example, the CoC may decide to channel prevention resources to geographic areas where emergency shelter access is limited, either due to wait lists or lack of shelter facilities.
- Investigate the use of tools, such as the Prevention VI-SPDAT, to help the CoC more effectively assess households requesting assistance.
- Ensure coordination of prevention activities with Coordinated Entry to increase the effectiveness of the system.

Furthermore, “Strategy 2” of the CoC’s Five-Year Strategy Plan focuses on the streamlining of the system and better coordination among housing and social services through the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System. Lack of resources, combined with the lack of a well-developed coordinated entry process, results in severe hardships for persons experiencing homelessness who often face long wait times to receive assistance or are screened out of needed assistance. Coordinated entry processes help communities prioritize assistance based on vulnerability and severity of service needs to ensure that people who need assistance the most can receive it in a timely manner. Coordinated entry processes also provide information about service needs and identify gaps to help communities plan their assistance and resources.

Additionally, the CoC is submitting an application to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh and the PA Housing Finance Agency for additional resources in the implementation of housing construction for homeless prevention assistance. The CoC is targeting households that would become homeless under other circumstances with financial resources.

Lehigh County funds Catholic Charities – Self-Sufficiency & Intervention Program to assist at-risk households. This program provides counseling, short-term rental assistance, and utility payments to assist in the prevention of homelessness. In addition, at-risk persons will receive housing counseling services. Catholic Charities will also provide food for at-risk persons and families in conjunction with the Lehigh County Conference of Churches. Lehigh County, through its various human services programs, provides support to all the categories of non-homeless special needs populations. The County also funds for Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living - People Living in Accessible Community Environments

(PLACE) Program, which will assist at-risk disabled persons with housing location assistance and provide for fair housing workshops for landlords.

The Lehigh County Department of Human Services provides a wide range of programs for its elderly, substance abusers, people with mental health and intellectual disabilities, children and youth, and veterans. The County also provides funding for Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley to deliver meals to homebound seniors and adults with disabilities.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

The revised Federal lead-based paint regulations published on September 15, 1999 (24 CFR Part 35) have had a significant impact on many activities – rehabilitation, tenant-based rental assistance, and property acquisition – supported by the CDBG program. Lehigh County will comply with Title 24 Part 35: Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention in Certain Residential Structures (Current Rule).

When accepting applicants for its housing rehabilitation program, Lehigh County will ensure that:

- Applicants for rehabilitation funding receive the required lead-based paint information and understand their responsibilities.
- Staff properly determines whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead-based paint requirements.
- The level of federal rehabilitation assistance is properly calculated and the applicable lead-based paint requirements determined.
- Properly qualified personnel perform risk management, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance services when required.
- Required lead hazard reduction work and protective measures are incorporated into project rehabilitation specifications.
- Risk assessment, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance work are performed in accordance with the applicable standards established in 24 CFR Part 35.
- Required notices regarding lead-based paint evaluation, presumption, and hazard reduction are provided to occupants and documented.
- Program documents establish the rental property owner’s responsibility to perform and document ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.
- Program staff monitors owner compliance with ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

According to the Pennsylvania 2017 Childhood Lead Surveillance Annual Report, in 2017 for the State of Pennsylvania, the rate of Childhood Lead Poisoning (percent of those tested ages 1-5 with BLLs 10 or more micrograms/deciliters) was 1.18%. In Lehigh County, 0.4% of children aged 0-71 months tested were confirmed elevated blood lead levels, and 0.22% of children aged 0-71 months tested were confirmed with lead poisoning.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

When accepting applicants for its housing rehabilitation program, Lehigh County will ensure that:

- Applicants for homeownership assistance receive adequate information about lead-based paint requirements.
- Staff properly determines whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead based paint requirements.
- A proper visual assessment is performed to identify deteriorated paint in the dwelling unit, any common areas servicing the unit, and exterior surfaces of the building or soil.
- Prior to occupancy, properly qualified personnel perform paint stabilization and the dwelling passes a clearance exam in accordance with the standards established in 24 CFR Part 35.
- The home purchaser receives the required lead-based paint pamphlet and notices.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

Approximately 13.3% of Lehigh County’s residents live in poverty, while 13.1% of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania residents live in poverty. 27.3% of the City of Allentown’s residents live in poverty. Female-headed households in the County with children are particularly affected by poverty at 36.8%.

Poverty is related to education, job training, and employment. Lehigh County remains committed to addressing the needs of its residents who live at or below the poverty level. The presence of poverty and the related social and economic problems can be a destabilizing element in communities.

In Lehigh County, the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (CACLV) is the official anti-poverty agency. CACLV provides rent and utility assistance, case management, and counseling services to assist with financial management, benefit entitlement assistance, home weatherization to reduce utility costs, furniture and household goods, alcohol and mental health counseling, foreclosure mitigation counseling, child care, transportation to work for up to six (6) months and assistance in purchasing a dependable vehicle, and other various programs that empower low-income households by assisting them to develop the skills needed for independent living.

Lehigh County provides CDBG funds to public service agencies to assist households below the poverty level with services and program support. The County will work with service providers to pursue resources and innovative partnerships to support the development of affordable housing, homelessness prevention, and emergency food and shelter.

The County over the next five (5) years plans to use its CDBG funds to fund the following types of economic development and anti-poverty programs include:

- Workforce development
- Support services for new employees
- Assist in job creation and retention
- Assistance for food, shelter, and training programs
- Small businesses assistance
- Revitalization efforts
- New job opportunities
- Commercial/industrial infrastructure development
- New commercial/industrial development

To assist with economic development and to promote job creation, Lehigh County administers various programs and supports agencies for economic development:

- Lehigh County works in conjunction with Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC), community organizations, other economic development groups and the Workforce

Investment Board to help enhance programs and create opportunities in the County.

- Lehigh County Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC) is able to provide manufacturing, industrial, and nonprofit organizations with low-interest financing generated through tax exempt revenue bonds.
- Pennsylvania CareerLink® Lehigh Valley offers job search counseling, skills assessment programs, GED courses, information on training programs and workshops on many subjects, including resume writing and interview skills. Considered a one-stop location for all employment needs, CareerLink® offers a multi-faceted approach to the job market.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

Providing access to housing and increasing the supply of decent, safe, sound, and affordable housing is integrally tied to the County's anti-poverty strategy. Because housing is such a large portion of expenses for residents of the County, residents are not able to save or invest and work their way out of poverty. The most successful way to implement this is through job training and creation/retention activities while providing affordable housing.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

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

Performance monitoring is an important component in the long-term success of the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The County, through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), has developed standards and procedures for ensuring that the recipients of CDBG funds meet the regulations and that funds are disbursed in a timely fashion. The County has promulgated sub-recipient monitoring procedures and developed checklists to ensure that each activity is completed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Community Development Block Grant Program. Municipal sub-recipients are desk audited through submission of quarterly and annual reports.

The DCED staff regularly monitors the progress of every activity to ensure timeliness. Municipal projects and sub-recipients are held to a performance schedule through contract obligations. When these milestones are not met, the DCED staff works closely with the municipality to get the project back on track or reallocate the funds.

The DCED's standards and procedures for monitoring are designed to ensure that:

- Objectives of the National Affordable Housing Act are met;
- Program activities are progressing in compliance with the specifications and schedule for each program; and
- Recipients are in compliance with other applicable laws, implementing regulations, and with the requirements to affirmatively further fair housing and minimize displacement of low-income households.

Activities of sub-recipient non-profit agencies will be closely monitored and will include review and approval of budgets, compliance with executed grant agreements, review and approval of vouchers, review of fiscal reports on a quarterly basis, and a review of audits on an annual basis. Monitoring will also occur through on-site monitoring visits. These visits will occur as necessary, but will be conducted at least once a year.

All sub-recipients must identify the personnel working on the project, keep accurate records and filing systems to document program benefits and compliance, maintain an appropriate financial management system and submit an audit.

There are monitoring responsibilities that go beyond the time of completion of various activities. The overall performance of the program relative to the Five-Year Strategic Plan goals is monitored at least bi-annually through the selection of the annual activities and again during the preparation of the

Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). If it appears that proposed goals are not being addressed, the County will re-evaluate the goals, project performance and determine the course of action needed to bring the program into compliance.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Lehigh County is receiving \$1,216,119 from CDBG funds. The program year goes from October 1st through September 30th of each year. These funds will be used to address the following priority needs:

- Housing
- Homeless
- Other Special Needs
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- Administration, Planning, and Management

The accomplishments of these projects/activities will be reported in the FY 2019 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

CARES Act Substantial Amendments:

The following financial resources are identified for the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan – Substantial Amendment to address the priority needs and goals/strategies identified in Lehigh County's Five Year Consolidated Plan using the CARES Act funds.

The County will receive two (2) allocations of the Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds. The first allocation received by the County was \$757,860 and in the third round of funding, the County received an allocation of \$1,267,910 for a total allocation of \$2,025,770 CDBG-CV funds.

Substantial Amendment # 4:

The following financial resources are identified for the FY 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated – Substantial Amendment to address the priority needs and goals/strategies identified in Lehigh County's Five Year Consolidated Plan using the HOME funds.

Lehigh County has been notified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that it is eligible to receive HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds as a Federal entitlement community. To accept these funds the County needs to amend its FY 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Plan to add the HOME funds into this document.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$1,216,119.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,216,119.00	\$4,286,067.00	Five Years of funding at a reduction level each year of 5%. 16 projects/activities were funded based on FY 2019 CDBG allocations.
HOME	public federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Housing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$569,699.00	3 projects/activities were funded based on FY 2022 CDBG allocations.

Other: CDBG-CV	public federal	Admin and Planning Public Services Other	\$2,025,770.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,025,770.00	\$0.00	CDBG-CV funds to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.
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Table 52 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

In addition to the entitlement funds, Lehigh County anticipates the following Federal resources may be available to local non-profit organizations to undertake the housing strategies identified in the Five Year Consolidated Plan.

- Supportive Housing Program
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC)
- Section 8 Rental Assistance Program
- Shelter Plus Care
- Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program for Single Room Occupancy (SRO)
- Public Housing Development

Lehigh County is eligible to receive funds during this program year from the following Federal, State, County, and Private Organizations:

- **Lehigh County Affordable Housing Trust Funds (AHTF)** - The Pennsylvania Optional County Affordable Housing Trust Funds Act of 1992 (Act 137), allows counties to raise revenues for affordable housing efforts by increasing the fees charged by the Recorder of Deeds Office for recording deeds and mortgages. The County raised the fee from \$13 to \$26 per document. Affordable Housing Trust Funds revenue is used to fund affordable housing initiatives and up to 15 percent may be used for the administrative costs to implement the initiatives. Eligible activities include using the revenues as the local matching funds to secure Federal and State Funds, construction or rehabilitation financing, housing related services, match for other State or Federal funds, and supporting first-time homebuyer second mortgage programs. Lehigh County has recommended allocating \$574,736 for FY 2019 from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to allow the funds to grow and be used for future projects.
- **HOME Investment Partnership** - Lehigh County will be receiving HOME funds from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of Community and Economic Development. The County will receive \$500,000 in HOME funds in FY 2019.

- **Continuum of Care Grant** - Lehigh County is part of the Lehigh Valley Regional Housing Advisory Board. This is a two (2) county region that applies for Continuum of Care funds each year. In FY 2018, the Lehigh Valley received funding for thirteen (13) projects totaling \$2,466,453.00 for support services and permanent supportive housing projects throughout the region. Of the thirteen (13) projects funded, twelve (12) were Tier 1 awards, and one (1) was a Tier 2 award. HUD will contract with these agencies during the FY 2018 program year.
- **The Lehigh County Housing Authority** - Expects to receive \$506,299.00 in FY 2019 funds from the Public Housing Capital Fund Program, as well as Public Housing Operating funds and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher assistance.
- **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Funds** - Lehigh County will apply for ESG grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development during FY 2019.
- Other federal funds that may be used in support of housing, community development, and economic development during FY 2019 include loans through HUD's Section 108 Loan Program, Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants, and HUD Supportive Housing Programs.

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

Not applicable. The County has not acquired or improved any land, property, or buildings that are available for sale with CDBG funds.

Discussion

Not applicable.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	HSS-3 Housing Rehabilitation	2019	2023	Affordable Housing	County Wide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$200,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 3 Household Housing Unit
2	HSS-6 Fair Housing	2019	2023	Affordable Housing	County Wide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$10,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 40 Households Assisted Other: 1 Other
3	HOM-1 Housing	2019	2023	Homeless	County Wide	Homeless Priority	CDBG: \$29,700	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted
4	CDS-1 Community Facilities	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	County Wide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$98,085	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4265 Persons Assisted Other: 1 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	CDS-2 Infrastructure	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	County Wide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$374,894	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3290 Persons Assisted Other: 2 Other
6	CDS-3 Public Services	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	County Wide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$100,562	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 201 Persons Assisted
7	CDS-4 Accessibility	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development	County Wide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$159,700	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6440 Persons Assisted Other: 3 Other
8	APM-1 Coordination	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development administrative management	County Wide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$243,220	Other: 1 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	APM-2 Planning	2019	2023	Non-Housing Community Development administrative management	County Wide	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority	CDBG: \$0	Other: 1 Other

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	HSS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Promote and assist in the preservation of existing owner and renter occupied housing stock in the County.
2	Goal Name	HSS-6 Fair Housing
	Goal Description	Affirmatively further fair housing by promoting fair housing choice throughout Lehigh County.
3	Goal Name	HOM-1 Housing
	Goal Description	Promote and assist in developing housing opportunities for homeless persons, families, and those who are at-risk of becoming homeless.
4	Goal Name	CDS-1 Community Facilities
	Goal Description	Assist in improving parks, recreational centers, trails, libraries, and other public and community facilities throughout the County.
5	Goal Name	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Goal Description	Assist in improving the public infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction.

6	Goal Name	CDS-3 Public Services
	Goal Description	Assist in improving and increasing public safety, municipal services, and public service and human service programs throughout Lehigh County.
7	Goal Name	CDS-4 Accessibility
	Goal Description	Assist in improving the physical and visual accessibility of community facilities, infrastructure, and public buildings throughout the County.
8	Goal Name	APM-1 Coordination
	Goal Description	Continue to provide sound and professional planning, program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, state, and local funded programs.
9	Goal Name	APM-2 Planning
	Goal Description	Continue to develop and plan for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

List below are the FY 2019 CDBG and FY 2020 CDBG-CV Activities for Lehigh County:

Projects

#	Project Name	Budget
1.	Catholic Charities - Self-Sufficiency & Intervention Program	\$ 29,700.00
2.	Communities in Schools of the Lehigh Valley - Career Supports at LCTI	\$ 25,000.00
3.	County of Lehigh - County-Wide Housing Rehabilitation Program (CWHR)	\$ 200,000.00
4.	Emmaus Borough - Curb Cuts / Accessibility	\$ 34,700.00
5.	Fountain Hill Borough - Street Reconstruction	\$ 284,050.00
6.	Lehigh Carbon Community College Foundation - ESL for Communication Success	\$ 6,000.00
7.	Lehigh Career & Technical Institute - Scholarships for Low-Income Residents	\$ 19,500.00
8.	Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living – People Living in Accessible Community Environments (PLACE)	\$ 15,062.00
9.	Macungie Borough - Curb Cuts / Accessibility	\$ 11,600.00
10.	Meals on Wheels - Meal Preparation and Delivery	\$ 20,000.00
11.	North Penn Legal Services - LMI Legal Aid Help	\$ 10,000.00
12.	Salisbury Township - Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation	\$ 90,799.00
13.	Slatington Borough - Memorial Park	\$ 98,085.00
14.	The Literacy Center - ESL & ABE Courses	\$ 15,000.00
15.	Whitehall Township - Curb Cuts / Accessibility	\$ 113,400.00
16.	Administration	\$ 243,223.00

17.	CV - Catholic Charities - Rent Conciliation Program	\$118,500.00
18.	CV - CACLV - CAFS - Foreclosure Assistance	\$15,000.00
19.	CV - CACLV - Sixth Street Shelter	\$50,000.00
20.	CV - Conference of Churches - Rental Assistance Program	\$105,480.00
21.	CV - LCTI - COVID Scholarships	\$60,000.00
22.	CV - Literacy Center - Workforce Development Online Education	\$30,000.00
23.	CV - NPLS - Legal Aide	\$20,000.00
24.	CV - Administration	\$100,770.00
25.	CV - Technology Adaptations	\$150,000.00
26.	CV - Food Security	\$800,000.00
28.	CV - Housing Stabilization	\$800,000.00
29.	CV-COVID Support Program	\$175,000.00

Table 54 – Project Information

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

Lehigh County has allocated its FY 2019 CDBG funds to principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

- The infrastructure improvement activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or clientele over 51% low- and moderate-income.
- The Public Services activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census area or have a low- and moderate-income services area benefit or clientele.
- The Public Facilities activities are either located in a low- and moderate-income census area or have a low- and moderate-income service area benefit or clientele.
- Demolition of structures that are either located in a low- and moderate-income census area, or fall under removal of slum and blight on a spot basis.
- The housing activities for the first time homebuyers and housing rehabilitation program have an income eligibility criteria, therefore the income requirement restricts funds to low- and moderate-income households throughout the County.

- Economic development projects will either be located in a low- and moderate-income census tract/block group, or a poverty tract greater than 20%, or part of a redevelopment plan, or making 51% of the jobs available to low- and moderate-income population.

The proposed activities and projects for FY 2019 are located in areas of the County with the highest percentages of low- and moderate-income persons, and those block groups with a higher than average percentage of minority persons. The following census tracts and block groups have at least 51% of the households with low- and moderate-incomes:

- C.T. 1900, B.G. 1 – South Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5100, B.G. 3 – Slatington Borough
- C.T. 5100, B.G. 4 – Slatington Borough
- C.T. 5702, B.G. 2 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5702, B.G. 3 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5703, B.G. 3 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5704, B.G. 1 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5800, B.G. 1 – Coplay Borough
- C.T. 5901, B.G. 4 – Catasauqua Borough
- C.T. 5901, B.G. 5 – Catasauqua Borough
- C.T. 6001, B.G. 2 – South Whitehall Township
- C.T. 6101, B.G. 1 – South Whitehall Township
- C.T. 6800, B.G. 1 – Fountain Hill Borough
- C.T. 6800, B.G. 4 – Fountain Hill Borough

Additionally, because Lehigh County is an exception grantee and all Census Tracts where at least 39.01% of households with low- and moderate-incomes are CDBG eligible, the following Census Tracts and Block Groups are eligible:

- C.T. 5100, B.G. 2 – Slatington Borough (47.57% LMI)
- C.T. 5200, B.G. 3 – Washington Township (44.52% LMI)
- C.T. 5601, B.G. 1 – Whitehall Township (43.24% LMI)
- C.T. 5602, B.G. 4 – Whitehall Township (43.41% LMI)
- C.T. 5702, B.G. 1 – Whitehall Township (49.31% LMI)
- C.T. 5704, B.G. 2 – Whitehall Township (43.46% LMI)
- C.T. 5800, B.G. 3 – Coplay Borough (50.39% LMI)
- C.T. 5901, B.G. 3 – Catasauqua Borough (41.35% LMI)
- C.T. 5902, B.G. 1 – Hanover Township (42.22% LMI)
- C.T. 6001, B.G. 3 – South Whitehall Township (44.62% LMI)
- C.T. 6001, B.G. 5 – South Whitehall Township (41.46% LMI)
- C.T. 6101, B.G. 3 – South Whitehall Township (46.80% LMI)

- C.T. 6202, B.G. 2 – Upper Macungie Township (44.80% LMI)
- C.T. 6202, B.G. 3 – Upper Macungie Township (40.70% LMI)
- C.T. 6303, B.G. 3 – Macungie Borough (40.51% LMI)
- C.T. 6500, B.G. 2 – Emmaus Borough (50.00% LMI)
- C.T. 6500, B.G. 3 – Emmaus Borough (47.89% LMI)
- C.T. 6701, B.G. 2 – Salisbury Township (40.12% LMI)
- C.T. 6702, B.G. 2 – Salisbury Township (39.01% LMI)
- C.T. 6703, B.G. 3 – Salisbury Township (43.81% LMI)
- C.T. 6902, B.G. 2 – Coopersburg Borough & Upper Saucon Township (43.95% LMI)

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1.	Project Name	Catholic Charities – Self-Sufficiency & Intervention Program
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	HOM-1 Housing CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Strategy – HOM Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$29,700.00
	Description	Funds provide case management services and rent and utility assistance to eligible, low-income families in Lehigh County.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 households.
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 900 South Woodward Street, Allentown, PA 18103
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services 570.201 (e) The Matrix Code is 05Q, Subsistence Payments The National Objective is Low/Mod Clientele Benefit, 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
2.	Project Name	Communities in Schools of the Lehigh Valley – Career Supports at LCTI
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000.00
	Description	Communities in Schools Career Supports at LCTI will target at-risk students who require truancy interventions and additional case managed support to overcome challenges while supporting marketable skill development.
	Target Date	9/30/2020

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 persons.
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 739 North 12th Street, Allentown, PA 18102
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services 570.201 (e) The project matrix code is 05D, Youth Services The National Objective is Low/Mod Clientele (LMC), 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
3.	Project Name	County of Lehigh – County-Wide Housing Rehabilitation Program (CWHR)
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	HSS-3 Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy – HSS
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used to rehabilitate owner-occupied LMI properties. Program delivery is also included.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 housing units
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem. 17 South Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18101.
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Rehabilitation, Single-Unit Residential, 570.202(a)(1) The Project Matrix Code is 14A, Rehabilitation (Single-Unit Residential) The National Objective is Low/Mod Housing, 570.208(a)(3)
4.	Project Name	Emmaus Borough – Curb Cuts
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-4 Accessibility
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$34,700.00

	Description	Removal of architectural barriers in the public rights-of-way by installing curb cuts and ramps, which meet ADA handicap accessibility requirements. The Borough will install approximately 23 curb cuts.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,817 disabled persons
	Location Description	George Street and Keystone Avenue; George Street and North 1st Street; Ridge Street and Perkiomen Street; South 6th Street and Furnace Street; South 6th Street and Wood Street; and South 6th Street and Fairview Street, Emmaus, PA 18049
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Facilities & Improvements (General), 570.201(c) The Project Matrix Code is 03B, Facilities for Persons with Disabilities The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC), 570.208(a)(2)(ii)(A)
5.	Project Name	Fountain Hill Borough – Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$284,050.00
	Description	Project consists of the full depth reconstruction of portions of two Borough Streets: Stanley Avenue from Bergen Street east to North Hoffert, and North Hoffert Street from Stanley Avenue north to Jeter Avenue.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Stanley Avenue and North Hoffert Streets serve a Low-Moderate Income (LMI) area, with 2,035 people served, and 1,125 at or below 80% of median income.
	Location Description	Stanley Avenue and N. Hoffert Street; C.T. 6800, B.G. 2 & B.G. 4
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Facilities & Improvements (General), 570.201(c) The Project Matrix Code is 03K, Street Improvements The National Objective is Low/Mod Area Benefit (LMA), 570.208(a)(1)

6.	Project Name	Lehigh Carbon Community College Foundation – ESL for Communication Success
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,000.00
	Description	Lehigh Carbon Community College will offer an English as a Second Language class at Whitehall High School for low-income residents of Whitehall and Coplay.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 low-moderate income persons
	Location Description	Residents of Whitehall Township and Coplay Borough; Whitehall High School, 3800 Mechanicsville Road, Whitehall, PA 18052
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services, 570.201(e) The Project Matrix Code is 05Z, Other Public Services Not Listed in 03T and 05A-05Y The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Limited Clientele (LMC), 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
7.	Project Name	Lehigh Career & Technical Institute – Scholarships for Low-Income Residents
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$19,500.00
	Description	Lehigh Career & Technical Institute (LCTI) proposes to provide four (4) scholarships for LMI individuals to attain a CDL-A and/or HEO certification.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four (4) persons.
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 4500 Education Park Drive, Schnecksville, PA 18079.

	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services, 570.201(e) The Matrix Code is 05H, Employment Training (Public Services) The National Objective is Low/Mod Clientele (LMC), 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
8.	Project Name	Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living - People Living in Accessible Community Environments (PLACE) Program
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,062.00
	Description	Funding to provide housing location assistance to 42 disabled low- and moderate-income Lehigh County households in avoiding becoming homeless. Additionally, funding to be provided for fair housing workshops for landlords.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	42 households
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 713 N. 13th Street, Allentown, PA 18102
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services, 570.201(e) The Matrix Code is 05B, Handicapped Services (Public Services) The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele, 507.208(a)(2)(i)(A)
9.	Project Name	Macungie Borough – Curb Cuts
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-4 Accessibility
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$11,600.00
	Description	Construction costs to install sixteen (16) ADA compliant ramps on S. Church Street from Main Street to Spruce Street in advance of the S. Church Street Reconstruction Project in 2021.
	Target Date	9/30/2020

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	381 disabled persons
	Location Description	S. Church Street, Macungie, PA 18062; C.T. 6303, B.G. 3
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Facilities & Improvements (General), 570.201(c) The Project Matrix Code is 03B, Facilities for Persons with Disabilities The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC), 570.208(a)(2)(ii)(A)
10.	Project Name	Meals on Wheels – Meal Preparation and Delivery
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000.00
	Description	Funds will be used to subsidize meals for elderly and disabled households through the purchase of supplies and prepared food. Volunteers will deliver one or two meals to homebound seniors and adults with disabilities who meet project criteria.
	Target Date	9/30/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 persons
	Location Description	County-Wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 4234 Dorney Park Road, Allentown, PA 18104
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services, 570.201(e) The Matrix Code is 05A, Senior Services The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele, 507.208(a)(2)(i)(A)
11.	Project Name	North Penn Legal Services – LMI Legal Help
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	HSS-6 Fair Housing CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Housing Strategy – HSS Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000.00

	Description	NPLS will provide advice, referrals, advocacy, and other housing-related legal aide to 40 low- and moderate-income people, as well as one (1) Fair Housing outreach session.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 persons 1 other
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 559 Main Street, Suite 100, Bethlehem, PA 18018
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services (General), 570.201(e) The Matrix Code is 05C, Legal Services The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele, 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
12.	Project Name	Salisbury Township – Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-2 Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$90,799.00
	Description	The Township proposes to use CDBG funds in census block group 006701, 3 to perform sanitary sewer rehabilitation and repairs in an effort to comply with an EPA Administrative Order.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1,255 people served; 570 at or below 80% of median income.
	Location Description	Emmaus Avenue, Paxford Road, and the easement south along the Harry S. Truman Elementary School, Allentown, PA 18103; C.T. 6701, B.G. 3
Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Facilities & Improvements (General), 570.201(c) The Matrix Code is 03J, Water/Sewer Improvements The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele, 570.208(a)(2)(ii)(A)	
13.	Project Name	Slatington Borough – Memorial Park
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-1 Community Facilities

	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$98,085.00
	Description	Installation of lighting, addition of street parking along the north side of Kuntz Street, including ADA compliant parking spaces, addition of sidewalks, and replacement of ADA accessible curb ramps to make an accessible route to the public park.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,265 people served; 1,945 at or below 80% of median income.
	Location Description	443 Main Street, Slatington, PA 18080; C.T. 5100, B.G. 2
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Facilities & Improvements (General), 570.201(c) The Matrix Code is 03F, Parks, Recreational Facilities The National Objective is Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA), 570.208(a)(1)(i)
14.	Project Name	The Literacy Center – ESL & ABE Courses
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000.00
	Description	Funding to prepare 30 Lehigh County adults to successfully pursue their professional and educational goals through literacy instruction.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The project will assist thirty (30) low- and moderate-income persons.
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 1132 West Hamilton Street, Suite 300, Allentown, PA 18101
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Services, 570.201(e) The Matrix Code is 05H, Employment Training The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele, 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
15.	Project Name	Whitehall Township – Curb Cuts

	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-4 Accessibility
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Strategy – CDS
	Funding	CDBG: \$113,400.00
	Description	Installation of sixty-two (62) ADA curb ramps at various locations throughout the Township to improve handicap accessibility.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,242 disabled persons
	Location Description	Specific intersections TBD; Whitehall Township, PA
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is Public Facilities & Improvements (General), 570.201(c) The Project Matrix Code is 03B, Facilities for Persons with Disabilities The National Objective is Low/Mod Limited Clientele (LMC), 570.208(a)(2)(ii)(A)
16.	Project Name	Administration
	Target Area	County wide
	Goals Supported	APM-1 Coordination APM-2 Planning
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Strategy – APM
	Funding	CDBG: \$243,223.00
	Description	Funds for oversight, management, and administration of the CDBG Program.
	Target Date	9/30/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	46,195 low- and moderate-income persons and 1 organization.
	Location Description	County-Wide; 17 South Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18101
	Planned Activities	The Regulatory Citation is General Program Administration, 570.206 The Matrix Code is 21A, General Program Administration
17.	Project Name	CV - Catholic Charities - Rent Conciliation Program

	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HOM-3 Homeless Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$118,500
	Description	A program to stay eviction proceedings for renters who are on the verge of being evicted due to lack of income from COVID-19.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The goal is to assist 30 households on the verge of becoming homeless.
	Location Description	Project will assist households living throughout Lehigh County, outside the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	Case management of households receiving financial assistance. Financial assistance includes monthly rent not to exceed 3 months.
18.	Project Name	CV - CACLV - CAFS - Foreclosure Assistance
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HOM-3 Homeless Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$15,000
	Description	Foreclosure mitigation counseling for households impacted by COVID-19.
	Target Date	9/1/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At least 37 households outside of the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem will be counseled to avoid foreclosure as a result of the impact of the pandemic.
	Location Description	County-wide but outside of the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem.
Planned Activities	Foreclosure mitigation counseling which diverts households from direct foreclosure through conciliation in civil court with the attempt to waive the foreclosure and retain ownership.	
19.	Project Name	CV - CACLV - Sixth Street Shelter

	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HOM-1 Housing
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$50,000
	Description	Assistance to families impacted by COVID-19 which are leaving the shelter with up to 3 months of rental assistance for apartments located in eligible areas of Lehigh County.
	Target Date	9/1/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At least 10 low-income households will benefit from the activity.
	Location Description	Households moving into apartments located outside the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	Up to 3 months of rental assistance as well as case management to assist in housing and financial stability.
20.	Project Name	CV - Conference of Churches - Rental Assistance Program
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HOM-3 Homeless Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$105,480
	Description	Short-term rental assistance to avoid eviction for households living in eligible areas of Lehigh County.
	Target Date	9/1/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is anticipated that 30 homeless households, and also those on the verge of homelessness, will be assisted under this program.
	Location Description	Households living within Lehigh County but outside the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem will be able to be assisted.
Planned Activities	The CDBG costs include rental assistance up to 3 months. The Grantee will cover housing case management for CDBG-assisted households.	
21.	Project Name	CV - LCTI - COVID Scholarships

	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	EDS-1 Employment
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$60,000
	Description	Scholarships for households impacted by job loss due to COVID-19. Short-term training options in high demand fields leading to industry certifications and immediate job placements at sustainable wages.
	Target Date	9/1/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 30 households experiencing COVID-19 job loss will be impacted by the scholarship program.
	Location Description	Households eligible for scholarships will live within Lehigh County but outside the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	The provision of scholarships to retrain in one of Lehigh County Technical Institute's manufacturing, transportation, or construction program options, leading to industry certifications and immediate job placement at sustainable wages.
22.	Project Name	CV - Literacy Center - Workforce Development Online Education
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	EDS-1 Employment
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$30,000
	Description	Online classes to combat unemployment caused by COVID.
	Target Date	9/1/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 60 households impacted by COVID-19 will benefit from online literacy instruction.
	Location Description	Eligible households living within Lehigh County but outside the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	Online literacy and workplace skills training for households impacted by COVID-19.

23.	Project Name	CV - NPLS - Legal Aide
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	HOM-3 Homeless Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$20,000
	Description	Advice and referrals to low-income people impacted by COVID-19 who are being evicted, foreclosed upon, denied housing, struggling with health problems, or living in housing with habitability issues.
	Target Date	9/1/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 100 households will benefit from the virtual housing clinics; however, 20 low-income households will receive advice, referrals, advocacy, and/or direct representation.
	Location Description	Eligible households will live within Lehigh County but outside the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	COVID-19 virtual housing clinics, update resources regarding COVID-19 housing rights, as well as advice, referrals, advocacy, and some direct representation to people being evicted, denied housing, or forced to live in uninhabitable conditions due to COVID-19 related circumstances.
24.	Project Name	CV - Administration
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	APM-1 Coordination
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning, and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$100,770
	Description	Program administration related to CDBG-CV projects.
	Target Date	9/1/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	46,195 low- and moderate-income persons and 1 organization.
	Location Description	County-Wide; 17 South Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18101

	Planned Activities	
25.	Project Name	CV - Technology Adaptations
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$150,000
	Description	Funding for the purchase and implementation of technology to address alternative service delivery needs due to COVID-19.
	Target Date	9/1/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 100 low-income families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
26.	Project Name	CV - Food Security
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$800,000
	Description	Funding towards the purchase, storage, and distribution of food to banks and pantries.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 600 unduplicated, low-income households will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	County-wide, except for Allentown and Bethlehem
	Planned Activities	Purchase and distribution of food and sanitary care items, as well as supplies necessary to manage programs.
27.	Project Name	CV - Housing Stabilization
	Target Area	County Wide

	Goals Supported	County Wide
	Needs Addressed	CDS-3 Public Services
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$800,000
	Description	Subsistence payments, income generation, as well as COVID health information services to help stabilize households in crisis and/or at risk for homelessness due to COVID.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 100 low-income families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	Funding for security deposits, six months of rental, mortgage, and utility payments, mortgage arrears, case management, emergency expenses, counseling for job and education opportunities, COVID-related health information, and housing search.
28.	Project Name	CV - COVID Support Program
	Target Area	County Wide
	Goals Supported	CDS-3 Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$175,000
	Description	Funding for projects offering health and service related information and support to households impacted by COVID-19.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 56 low-income persons will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	County-wide, excluding Allentown and Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

Lehigh County undertakes projects using CDBG funds in Low- and Moderate-Income areas of the County. Many of the Boroughs in the County have high Low- and Moderate-Income populations, and projects are frequently targeted to these areas. Additionally, Lehigh County is an exception grantee where at least 39.01% of households with low- and moderate-incomes are CDBG eligible. There are no racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty within Lehigh County's CDBG jurisdiction.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
County wide	100%

Table 55 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The proposed activities and projects for FY 2019 are located in areas of the County with the highest percentages of low- and moderate-income persons, and those block groups with a higher than average percentage of minority persons. The following census tracts and block groups have at least 51% of the households with low- and moderate-incomes:

- C.T. 1900, B.G. 1 – South Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5100, B.G. 3 – Slatington Borough
- C.T. 5100, B.G. 4 – Slatington Borough
- C.T. 5702, B.G. 2 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5702, B.G. 3 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5703, B.G. 3 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5704, B.G. 1 – Whitehall Township
- C.T. 5800, B.G. 1 – Coplay Borough
- C.T. 5901, B.G. 4 – Catasauqua Borough
- C.T. 5901, B.G. 5 – Catasauqua Borough
- C.T. 6001, B.G. 2 – South Whitehall Township
- C.T. 6101, B.G. 1 – South Whitehall Township
- C.T. 6800, B.G. 1 – Fountain Hill Borough
- C.T. 6800, B.G. 4 – Fountain Hill Borough

Additionally, because Lehigh County is an exception grantee and all Census Tracts where at least 39.01% of households with low- and moderate-incomes are CDBG eligible, the following Census Tracts and Block Groups are eligible:

- C.T. 5100, B.G. 2 – Slatington Borough (47.57% LMI)
- C.T. 5200, B.G. 3 – Washington Township (44.52% LMI)
- C.T. 5601, B.G. 1 – Whitehall Township (43.24% LMI)
- C.T. 5602, B.G. 4 – Whitehall Township (43.41% LMI)
- C.T. 5702, B.G. 1 – Whitehall Township (49.31% LMI)
- C.T. 5704, B.G. 2 – Whitehall Township (43.46% LMI)
- C.T. 5800, B.G. 3 – Coplay Borough (50.39% LMI)
- C.T. 5901, B.G. 3 – Catasauqua Borough (41.35% LMI)
- C.T. 5902, B.G. 1 – Hanover Township (42.22% LMI)
- C.T. 6001, B.G. 3 – South Whitehall Township (44.62% LMI)
- C.T. 6001, B.G. 5 – South Whitehall Township (41.46% LMI)
- C.T. 6101, B.G. 3 – South Whitehall Township (46.80% LMI)
- C.T. 6202, B.G. 2 – Upper Macungie Township (44.80% LMI)
- C.T. 6202, B.G. 3 – Upper Macungie Township (40.70% LMI)
- C.T. 6303, B.G. 3 – Macungie Borough (40.51% LMI)
- C.T. 6500, B.G. 2 – Emmaus Borough (50.00% LMI)
- C.T. 6500, B.G. 3 – Emmaus Borough (47.89% LMI)
- C.T. 6701, B.G. 2 – Salisbury Township (40.12% LMI)
- C.T. 6702, B.G. 2 – Salisbury Township (39.01% LMI)
- C.T. 6703, B.G. 3 – Salisbury Township (43.81% LMI)
- C.T. 6902, B.G. 2 – Coopersburg Borough & Upper Saucon Township (43.95% LMI)

Discussion

The geographic locations and the public benefit for the FY 2019 CDBG Activities/Projects are as follows:

17. **Catholic Charities – Self-Sufficiency & Intervention Program** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 900 South Woodward Street, Allentown, PA 18103; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
18. **Communities in Schools of the Lehigh Valley – Career Supports at LCTI** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 739 North 12th Street, Allentown, PA 18102; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
19. **County of Lehigh – County-wide Housing Rehabilitation Program (CWHR)** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 17 South Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18101; Low/Mod Housing (LMH).
20. **Emmaus Borough – Curb Cuts** – TBD throughout Emmaus Borough, PA; C.T. 6401, B.G. 1; C.T. 6500, B.G. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5; C.T. 6600, B.G. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
21. **Fountain Hill Borough – Street Reconstruction** – Stanley Avenue and North Hoffert Street, Fountain Hill, PA 18104; C.T. 6800, B.G. 2 & 4; Low/Mod Income Area Benefit (LMA).

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22. **Lehigh Carbon Community College Foundation – ESL for Communication Success** – Whitehall Township and Coplay Borough; 3800 Mechanicsville Road, Whitehall, PA 18052; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 23. **Lehigh Career & Technical Institute – Scholarships for Low-Income Residents** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 4500 Education Park Drive, Schnecksville, PA 18078; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 24. **Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living – People Living in Accessible Community Environments (PLACE)** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 713 N. 13th Street, Allentown, PA 18102; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 25. **Macungie Borough – Curb Cuts** – Church Street, Macungie, PA 18062; C.T. 6303, B.G. 3; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 26. **Meals on Wheels – Meal Prep and Delivery** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 4234 Dorney Park Road, Allentown, PA 18104; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 27. **North Penn Legal Services – LMI Legal Aid Help** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 28. **Salisbury Township – Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation** – Emmaus Avenue, Paxford Road, and easement along the Harry S. Truman Elementary School, Allentown, PA 18103; C.T. 6701, B.G. 3; Low/Mod Area Benefit (LMA).
 29. **Slatington Borough – Memorial Park** – 443 Main Street, Slatington, PA 18080; C.T. 5100, B.G. 2; Low/Mod Area Benefit (LMA).
 30. **The Literacy Center – ESL & ABE Courses** – County-wide, excluding the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem; 1132 West Hamilton Street, Suite 300, Allentown, PA 18101; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 31. **Whitehall Township – Curb Cuts** – TBD throughout Whitehall Township, PA; C.T. 5702, B.G. 1, 2, & 3; C.T. 5703, B.G. 1, 2, & 3; C.T. 5704, B.G. 1, & 2; C.T. 5705, B.G. 1, 2, & 3; C.T. 5601, B.G. 1, 2, 3, & 4; C.T. 5602, B.G. 1, 2, 3, & 4; Low/Mod Clientele (LMC).
 32. **Administration** – County-wide; 17 South Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	30
Non-Homeless	3
Special-Needs	0
Total	33

Table 56 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	30
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	3
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	33

Table 57 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

During this program year the County is funding two (2) projects that assist affordable housing with CDBG funds: Catholic Charities - Self-Sufficiency & Intervention Program; and Lehigh County - Countywide Housing Rehabilitation. The County will begin to receive HOME funds from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to do affordable housing projects/activities during this Five Year Consolidated Plan period.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Lehigh County Housing Authority (LCHA) aims to address the needs of the extremely low-income, very low-income, and lower-income residents of Lehigh County. The mission of the Lehigh County Housing Authority is to provide affordable housing in the most efficient and effective manner to qualified individuals in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the County of Lehigh and/or any other entity providing funding for affordable housing programs. This is done through LCHA assisting individuals and families through its public housing communities and Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The Housing Authority promotes homeownership through its Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

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

Each year, the Lehigh County Housing Authority (LCHA) receives an allocation of funds from HUD under the Capital Fund Program to undertake physical improvements. In addition, the LCHA receives operating subsidies to offset the operating deficits associated with public housing units and to carry out maintenance. The Lehigh County Housing Authority anticipates that it will receive \$506,299.00 under a HUD Capital Fund grant for FY 2019 that it will use to replace windows at Clarence Aungst Towers, replace kitchens at the Cherokee and Delaware Apartments, and replace sheeting, siding, insulation, and windows at 17th Street Village.

The FY 2019 allocation will be used for the following activities:

- Operations \$50,629.90
- Administration \$50,629.90
- Fees and Costs \$25,000.00
- Dwelling Structures \$380,039.20
- **Total: \$506,299.00**

The Lehigh County Housing Authority (LCHA) maintains 289 units of public housing and has a 96.2% occupancy rate. LCHA has a baseline of 1,652 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, with 1,100 applications on the waiting list. The Lehigh County Housing Authority has selected residents to access and review its Annual Action Plan when available.

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

There are currently no Citizen Councils at properties owned and managed by the Lehigh County Housing Authority. Previous attempts have been made at the creation of Citizen Councils. However, these councils have all disbanded.

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) programs are provided to Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Holders and public housing tenants. FSS program residents work with a case manager to develop goals that will, over

a five (5) year period, lead to self-sufficiency. These goals may include education, specialized training, job readiness, job placement activities, and career advancement objectives. The goals for each participating family member are set out in Individual's Training and Service Plan. LCHA has a baseline of 1,652 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, with 1,240 applications on the waiting list. The Lehigh County Housing Authority has selected residents to access and review the Annual Action Plan when available.

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

The Lehigh County Housing Authority is not designated as "troubled" by HUD and is performing satisfactorily according to HUD guidelines and standards.

Discussion

Not applicable.

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

Introduction

Lehigh and Northampton Counties are served by the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LVRHAB), which is a subdivision of the Eastern PA CoC. According to the Governance Charter for the Eastern PA Continuum of Care Collaborative, the mission of the Eastern PA CoC is to end homelessness throughout the 33 county Continuum of Care. The CoC works toward ending homelessness by providing a framework for a comprehensive and well-coordinated regional and local planning process. This includes identifying needs, conducting a system-wide evaluation of existing resources and program activities, and building a system of housing and services that addresses those needs. This mission is pursued through the development of long-range plans to prevent and end homelessness in the geographic area, as well as the coordination necessary for successful implementation. The objectives of the CoC include the following:

- Promote development of adequate funding for efforts for preventing homelessness, rapidly re-housing homeless persons, and stabilizing their housing;
- Maximize potential for self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness; and
- Promote full access to, and effective use of, mainstream programs.

The LVRHAB Funding Committee is responsible for project selection and ranking for submission through the CoC's annual HUD application. In this capacity, the Committee reviews all documents from the previous funding round; sets a schedule and time line for the current funding round; develops and edits forms for new project and renewal evaluations; develops ranking criteria; collaborates with the Data Management, Collection, and Outcomes Committee, as necessary; and provides ranking reports to the CoC. In order to increase CoC-wide performance, ensure the strategic use of HUD funds, and develop new resources, the Funding Committee is also in charge of developing the CoC's reallocation strategy, which includes setting policy addressing funding cuts or allocation of additional resources in response to HUD's Continuum of Care NOFA.

The CoC provides funds for projects that assist homeless populations in the area through CoC funding and creates partnerships with other entities to utilize additional sources of funding. The City of Allentown receives ESG funds and is included with the local homeless coalition, along with representatives of various stakeholders and service providers. The CoC also funds Shelter Plus Care projects and Supportive Housing Programs (SHP) through the Lehigh County Housing Authority and its development entity, the Valley Housing Development Corporation.

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 Continuum of Care completes an annual “Point in Time Count Survey” in January to determine the number of homeless individuals and families in the Eastern Pennsylvania Region. Based on the Point in Time Count (PITC) conducted during January 2019, the following numbers of homeless persons were reported in Lehigh County:

- **Unsheltered** - 56 individuals, 0 families with children, and 0 children only
- **Transitional Housing** - 53 individuals, 8 families with children, and 0 children only
- **Emergency Shelter** - 218 individuals, 43 families with children, and 0 children only

Current CoC policies place an emphasis on reducing Youth Homelessness. The CoC has developed the Lehigh Valley Youth Task Force to drive cross-sector systems to decrease homelessness among youth in the Lehigh Valley. Membership includes Children and Youth Services, the Allentown City Council, local schools, the Brady-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, Valley Youth House, and the Lehigh Valley Health Network. The CoC intends to increase knowledge of service providers and increase street outreach to target youth that may potentially become homeless.

Lehigh County funds the Catholic Charities – Self-Sufficiency & Intervention Program to assist at-risk households. This program provides counseling, short-term rental assistance, and utility payments to assist in the prevention of homelessness. In addition, at-risk persons will receive housing counseling services. Catholic Charities will also provide food for at-risk persons and families in conjunction with the Lehigh County Conference of Churches. Lehigh County, through its various human services programs, provides support to all the categories of non-homeless special needs populations. The County also funds the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living - People Living in Accessible Community Environments (PLACE) Program, which assists at-risk persons with housing location assistance and provides fair housing workshops for landlords.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Eastern PA Continuum of Care operates a Coordinated Entry program, which was piloted in the Lehigh Valley and expanded to all 33 counties of the CoC, to ensure that those at-risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness are connected to appropriate resources and services. The system ensures the management of access, assessment, prioritization, and referral to housing and services for any person experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness throughout the region. A call center operated by PA 2-1-1 provides live voice intake and there are 17 access sites that provide face-to-face intake. Service providers are trained in housing first, the VI-SPDAT assessment, and other best practices to assist homeless persons in receiving proper services. The CoC conducts mobile outreach for vulnerable populations and includes ESL translation services with its intake services, as well as access for those who are hearing impaired. Coordinated Entry processes also provide information about service needs and identify gaps to help communities plan their assistance and resources.

Outreach to homeless persons will be conducted by service providers. Organizations like the Lehigh County Conference of Churches will contact the homeless individuals that use the emergency shelters during weather advisory. Lehigh County Conference of Churches will also make outreach to the chronically homeless that live in communities and attempt to assess them. This outreach, combined with case management, was funded by the CoC in FY 2018.

Youth homelessness is a major problem in the Lehigh Valley area, particularly for individuals in the 18-24 age group. It is estimated that up to 20% of the homeless people in the area fall in this age group. There is a need for a year-round shelter for this age group, as Valley Youth House does not serve youth over the age of 18. Focused outreach has been conducted by the CoC on this age group in partnership with Valley Youth House, and this population continues to be a priority for Lehigh County. The Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center partners with the Regional Homeless Advisory Board to provide housing and services to youth experiencing homelessness, as well as toiletry supplies and other products to homeless and housing-insecure LGBT youth in the Lehigh Valley. Valley Youth House is providing quarterly youth training to focus on educating providers in best practices for youth, including LGBT youth.

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

Lehigh County addresses the housing needs of the homeless population within the County through the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board's (RHAB) steering of CoC funds to various projects. In partnership with the City of Allentown, the Lehigh Valley RHAB determines the projects that most effectively assist the homeless population of Lehigh County through coalition meetings. The Lehigh Valley RHAB does not receive ESG funding.

The shelter and transitional housing that is available in Lehigh County included the following:

- Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley - Sixth Street Shelter (Emergency Shelter)
- Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley - Turner Street Apartments (Transitional Housing)
- Salvation Army Emergency Shelter (Emergency Shelter)
- Salvation Army Transitional Shelter (Transitional Housing)
- Allentown Rescue Mission (Emergency Shelter)
- Allentown Rescue Mission Christian Living and Values Transitional Program (Transitional Housing)
- Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley (Domestic Violence) (Transitional Housing)
- The Program for Women and Families, Inc. (Transitional Housing)

- Valley Youth House (Emergency Shelter)
- Valley Youth House - Maternity Group Home (Transitional Housing)
- Valley Youth House - Supportive Housing for Families (Transitional Housing)
- Valley Youth House - Supportive Housing for Youth (Transitional Housing).

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

The CoC has implemented various strategies to ensure that those transitioning out of homelessness are able to procure permanent housing, which resulted in a 4% increase in the transition from Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Rehousing into permanent housing during 2018. Diversion strategies have been used to place those that go through intake with the CoC into Rapid Rehousing. Many of the CoC funded transitional housing beds have been converted into Rapid Rehousing beds across the 33 county area. Rapid Rehousing providers have been trained in best practices including housing first strategy, focused case management, harm reduction, motivational interviewing, and trauma-informed care. Currently, there are 111 Rapid Rehousing beds in Lehigh County; 75 of these 111 Rapid Rehousing beds are dedicated to youth.

Rapid Rehousing programs are connected to landlords and households with affordable units to sustain permanent housing. The CoC makes sure to focus on in-home case management for the tenant, as well as engagement with the landlord. Additionally, the CoC partners with mainstream service providers, such as workforce development, child care, transportation, and other resources to promote long-term stability for persons and their families that have transitioned out of homelessness. There are also 243 Permanent Supportive Housing beds dedicated to chronically homeless individuals.

Valley Youth House is a major provider of services for the homeless youth in the area. Valley Youth House will assist individuals that may have been in foster care. Valley Youth House receives funding for both Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing activities. Youth homelessness is a major problem in the Lehigh Valley area, particularly for individuals in the 18-24 age group. It is estimated that up to 20% of the homeless people in the area fall into this age group. There is a need for a year-round shelter for this age group, as Valley Youth House does not serve children over the age of 18. Focused outreach has been conducted by the CoC on this age group in partnership with Valley Youth House, and this population continues to be a priority for Lehigh County.

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley will provide housing to victims of domestic violence and their families. They provide 32 transitional housing beds for survivors fleeing immediate abuse and will partner with other agencies to find permanent housing for victims, including Third Street Alliance, which is the major Rapid Rehousing provider for this population.