Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD) assists low-income communities by providing and supporting community programs, facilities and services through the distribution of Community Development Block Grant(CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). Harris County will receive $15,702,816 for use towards community development activities during Program Year 2015 (PY2015), which begins March 1, 2015 and ends February 29, 2016. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) determines this allocation amount based on Harris County's Service Area population, poverty, housing overcrowding and age of housing. In order to receive these annual grant funds, Harris County must submit a five-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to HUD for approval.

The 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan and PY2015 Annual Action Plan represents Harris County's vision for improving the quality of life in the low-and moderate-income areas of the county. It is a comprehensive plan addressing the County's housing, homelessness, and a non-housing community development needs for the five-year period. The plan contains goals, performance outcome objectives, and implementation strategies for each of the plan's elements. The Annual Action Plan is a one year plan that describes the activities that the county will fund, implement, and/or support the implementation of 2015 projects using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Grant funds.

HCCSD is required to submit a Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive funding for program years 2013-2017. This money is provided to Harris County in order to benefit low-and moderate-income persons, eliminate slum and blight and to provide for urgent needs within the County.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

Existing needs in Harris County are largely driven by current difficulties in the housing market, limited opportunities in employment sectors, aging infrastructure, and shifting population trends. Population size and location are dependent upon a number of factors. These include but are not limited to a

community's ability to provide quality infrastructure such as roads and bridges, satisfactory levels of basic public services and facilities, such as police, fire, public health and emergency medical services, schools, and utilities. All of these impact the natural environment and affect quality of life for residents and visitors.

Many communities within the Harris County service area lack the basic necessities for a suitable living environment. There are often significant deficits in affordable housing options, supportive services for special needs populations, available homeless facilities, education and job training opportunities, and necessary infrastructure. Unfortunately, statistics regarding changes in the Harris County population potentially indicate that the need for community services and facilities is likely to continue to grow while the ability to cover rising costs, especially those related to construction, may shrink. In order to address these needs, Harris County through a collaborative planning process has developed goals and measurable objectives in coordination with community partners over the next five years in Housing; Homeless; Public Facilities; Economic Development; Infrastructure; and Public Services.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Harris County evaluates its past performance every year as part of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) as required by HUD. The PY2013 CAPER was completed in May of 2014 and evaluated the County's performance for PY2013 and the first year of the PY2013-2017 Consolidated Plan.

During 2013, Harris County addressed issues in housing, homelessness, access to public services and facilities, provided infrastructure improvements and assisted with the elimination of slum and blight. Listed below are the Harris County 2013 Annual Action Plan, and first year of the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, accomplishments as detailed in the PY2013 CAPER:

<u>Housing</u>

- Provided 92 households with direct down payment and closing cost assistance.
- Rehabilitated 33 owner-occupied housing units for the purpose of supplying decent and safe housing.
- Abated 28 lead contaminated housing units occupied by low-income persons to assist in the control of lead based paint hazards.
- Constructed 10 new affordable housing units all of which all were rental units.

Homeless

- Assisted 11,192 homeless individuals and families with shelter and supportive services utilizing ESG funds.
- 1,604 homeless individuals were provided with supportive services utilizing CDBG funds.

Public Services

- Provided 1,231 seniors with Senior Services to enable them to increase or maintain quality of life and promote physical, mental, and social well-being.
- Provided 1,805 youth with Youth Services for the purpose of enriching, protecting, and improving quality of life.
- Provided Transportation services to 223 persons to increase mobility and access.
- Provided 25 persons with Substance Abuse Services to assist with well being.
- Provided 260 persons with Child Care services for the purpose of enriching, protecting and improving quality of life.
- Assisted 764 children with Abused and Neglected Children services for the purpose of enabling a secure and stable environment.

Public Facilities and Infrastructure

- Provided improvements or construction of parks and recreational facilities for 11,640 persons to serve recreational and leisure needs.
- 29,173 persons have improved access to cleaner water and sewer improvements.
- Provided street improvements to 4,590 persons for the purpose of improving the living environment.

Other

- Demolished 18 abandoned homes that contributed to slum and blight in the county.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

As part of the citizen participation process, Harris County provides several opportunities and activities to solicit participation from county residents and consults with the many organizations within the county. The participation of citizens and professionals is crucial to the process of planning for a community. Harris County residents are encouraged to participate throughout all stages of planning, review, and

execution of community development activities. The Citizen Participation Plan emphasizes the involvement of low-income residents including non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with mobility, visual or hearing impairments. The plan outlines the process through which the public can access general information, receive technical assistance, provide comments on critical issues, and receive timely responses to questions raised. Harris County offers multiple opportunities for participation during the drafting of the Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan, as well as the Request for Proposal (RFP) Process. These opportunities include public hearings, public notices, HCCSD website postings and emails to Harris County's interested parties mailing list.

During Harris County's PY2015 annual RFP process, all prospective applicants interested in applying for Harris County entitlement funds were notified of funding opportunities through the issuance of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) on June 2, 2014. The NOFA was made available in three languages, English, Vietnamese, and Spanish, and posted in local newspapers, the HCCSD webpage and sent to interested parties via email and mail. To ensure full participation in the RFP process Harris County provided applicant conferences June 11-12, 2014. The conferences were specific to each program area, CDBG Public Services, CDBG General (for prior year funding), and ESG. A conference for HOME funds was not held as a later RFP will occur for HOME-funded Permanent Supportive Housing Projects. During the conferences, HCCSD staff presented information on program guidelines and instructions on completing the applications. Harris County Development, Grants Management, and Finance staff was also available to provide instruction the completion and submission of the application and program guidelines. Technical Assistance was also provided June 23-27, 2014, prior to the July, 7, 2014 deadline, for applicants that may need addition assistance with the application.

The PY2015 Annual Action Plan and PY2015 public notice of CDBG and ESG projects (as well as in-house projects) were presented for public comment on November 3, 2014. During the following 30-day public review period, comments and suggestions were recorded by staff. On November 18, 2014 and January 6, 2015 at 10:00 am, public hearings were held in which Harris County residents could voice their opinions on conditional PY2015 awarded projects and the draft 2015 Annual Action Plan. All comments recorded during the public review period and public hearings are added to the Annual Action Plan.

Upon receiving notification of HUD's PY2015 actual allocation amounts for Harris County's CDBG, HOME and ESG programs, a public notice of proposed amendments to the Annual Action Plan may be published in the Houston Chronicle and posted to HCCSD's website per the County's Amendment Policy.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

No comments have been received.

Comments could be submitted to HCCSD by phone, email, a letter or in person by visiting the HCCSD office to review the draft PY2015 Annual Action Plan. The public could also offer comments by attending public hearings held at HCCSD's office on November 18, 2014, at 10 am or on January 6, 2015, at the Harris County Commissioners Court Meeting.

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

No comments have been received by Harris County.

7. Summary

The PY2013-2017 Consolidated Plan and the PY2015 Annual Action Plan represent Harris County's vision for improving the quality of life in the low- and moderate-income areas of the county. The PY2015 Annual Action Plan is based on the Consolidated Plan's elements that identify housing, homeless, community, and economic development needs, available resources, and establishes a strategic plan for meeting those needs. In its completed form, the Consolidated Plan aids decision makers in creating strategies and documents such as the PY2015 Annual Action Plan that address such issues as employment and employability, business opportunities, adequate streets, water, sewage and drainage systems, proper and useful education, parks and green spaces, community facilities, quality health care, and safe, peaceful, productive neighborhoods to persons living in low-income communities. The completed Consolidated Plan guides the county's distribution of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for each Annual Action Plan over all five years from PY2013 to PY2017.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	HARRIS COUNTY	
CDBG Administrator	HARRIS COUNTY	Harris County Community Services Department
HOPWA Administrator	N/A	N/A
HOME Administrator	HARRIS COUNTY	Harris County Community Services Department
ESG Administrator	HARRIS COUNTY	Harris County Community Services Department
HOPWA-C Administrator	N/A	N/A

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The Lead Agency for preparing the Consolidated Plan is the Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD). The department is responsible for the administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) grant programs and preparation of federal reports.

The 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan and PY2015 Annual Action Plan contains plan elements that will address long-term goals and objectives for improving the quality of life for low and moderate-income residents and communities. The plan describes the activities the county will fund, implement, and/or support using its annual federal allocation. It provides useful information about current conditions within the county and identifies its strengths and weaknesses on community development issues.

As a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to receive funding for PY2013-2017, HCCSD has developed and submitted a Consolidated Plan. Funds received through HUD entitlement dollars will be used to benefit Harris County low and moderate income persons, eliminate slum and blight and assist with urgent needs identified within the County.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

For questions regarding the PY2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, contact Harris County Community Development (HCCSD) Planning and Development Section by phone at (713) 578-2000, by email at jared.briggs@csd.hctx.net or submit your comments in writing to Jared Briggs, Development Manager at Harris County Community Services Department, 8410 Lantern Point Drive, Houston, Texas 77054.

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

1. Introduction

Harris County is dedicated to obtaining input from citizens, professionals, non-profits and other governmental entities. Input from these groups is of the utmost importance not only during the development of community plans, but as a part of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plan process itself. Effectively planning for a community would be difficult, if not impossible, without the support of its residents, especially low-income citizens directly affected by community development projects and programs. It is for these reasons that citizen participation is strongly encouraged throughout the processes of community revitalization planning, short and long range departmental planning, plan implementation and assessment of plan effectiveness.

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

Harris County completed extensive consultation with local housing, health, mental, and service agencies as they developed the PY2013-2017 Consolidated Plan. Through these consultations the county is working on several coalition, such as the local initiative to end homeless through the 100,000 Homes campaign with the local housing authorities, HCCSD Social Services Department, the Mental Health Authority, Veterans Administration, local housing providers and numerous service providers; working with the Center for Independent Living and other partners to build advocacy for Barrier Free housing; and partnering with the local MPO, Fair Housing organizations, housing authorities, service and housing providers and other government organizations to develop a regional Fair Housing Assessment. This is in addition to providing input and consultation on local plans such as the complete Regional Sustainability Plan supported by a HUD grant, Regional Transportation Plan for submission to the Federal and State Departments of Transportation and the City of Houston's Consolidated Plan.

Harris County consulted with numerous public, private and non-profit agencies to improve the coordination services and activities. Agencies consulted included local governments, organizations within our target areas, cooperative cities, community development organizations, housing providers, non-profit organizations, civic clubs, management districts, economic development groups, local business, education entities, homeless service providers, and health care providers. Consultation was performed through the use of meetings with large groups, smaller focus groups, one-on-one meetings and phone interviews. At least one meeting was held in each of Harris County's precincts. Additional consultation was achieved with a survey distributed by email, posted on the county's website for electronic submission and distributed at community centers and housing authority properties. The relationships between the various community partners and feedback received form meetings and survey's, assisted with the identification of community needs and issues throughout the County. Once

identified, these assisted with the creation of coordinated goals and strategies focused on the needs of low and moderate income individuals.

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

The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County serves as the lead agency for the Houston/Harris/Ft. Bend County Continuum of Care structure. Since its inception, Harris County has served in a leadership role guiding the policies and funding for homelessness priorities for the Continuum of Care. In 2010, the Department of Housing and Urban Development identified the Houston region as a Priority Community. With this designation, the area and the Continuum of Care has received strategic technical assistance in developing its homelessness response and service system as well as the Continuum of Care (CoC) governance structure. Under the new structure, Harris County is a member of the CoC steering committee. As one of 17 members representing public and private interests, the steering committee uses recommendations from network and tasks groups to guide policy development for the CoC, including funding and project prioritization. This structure allows for diverse stakeholders to participate in the decision making process for funding while providing a transparent leadership around homelessness funding and priorities for the region. This structure was also put in place to provide a more coordinated response to homelessness where all funding in the region is targeted toward strategic solutions working to end homelessness in the region.

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

Harris County regularly consults with the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, the lead agency for the Houston, Harris County, Fort Bend County Continuum of Care structure. Through consultation efforts with the Coalition and other Continuum of Care members Harris County aligned the priorities of the County's homeless strategies with the Continuum-wide priorities for homelessness. The Coalition is a recipient of Harris County's ESG funds for the operation of the HMIS as they are the system administrator. The Coalition also assists in evaluation of projects requesting ESG funds by providing input on the quality and timeliness of an applicants HMIS data entry. The Continuum of Care members, including Harris County, meet regularly to discuss strategies and develop standards for ESG funded projects.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	**Agency/Group/Organization**	COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS OF HOUSTON/HARRIS COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Harris County attends meetings and workgroups to address needs of the homeless and implement coordinated access system.
2	**Agency/Group/Organization**	HARRIS COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	HCHA staff is consulted regarding the placement of Low Income Tax Credit developments, ensuringconsistency with the Consolidated Plan, the Housing Choice Voucher Program and community housingneeds. HCHA residents participated in focus groups to identify strengths and weaknesses of their communityalong with future needs of seniors, persons with disabilities and low-to-moderate income residents.

3	**Agency/Group/Organization**	HOUSTON AREA URBAN LEAGUE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Staff met with HAUL representatives to discuss fair housing issues and training. Anticipated outcome is that HAUL will assist in future fair housing training to Harris County subrecipients while providing the county with fair housing complaint data.
4	**Agency/Group/Organization**	HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Neighborhood Nuisance
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	PHES provides Harris County with Lead-based Paint information and data. The county provides PHES withCDBG funding for lead-based paint abatement efforts. PHES also receives funds for neighborhood nuisance abatement to improved area safety.
5	**Agency/Group/Organization**	AIDS FOUNDATION HOUSTON
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Organization was contacted to provide data regarding the individuals living with AIDS and/or HIV within the county.
6	**Agency/Group/Organization**	LEE COLLEGE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with survey participation. Provided feedback on previous project performed with Harris County.
7	**Agency/Group/Organization**	HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS-HOUSTON SEARCH INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation through review of data and attendance of CoC Charrette, steering committee and meetings. Anticipated outcome is improved services to homeless persons.

8	**Agency/Group/Organization**	YWCA Houston
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Staff visited the YWCA facility that provides support and housing for young women that have aged out of foster-care and are attending college. An interview was conducted with the facilities director. Consultation will allow the county to better serve this particular population.
9	**Agency/Group/Organization**	THE CHILDREN'S ASSESSMENT CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The CAC was asked to provide data on their services and children served. Data was also collected from annual reports and the organizations website. Improved coordination providing services to abused/neglected children.
10	**Agency/Group/Organization**	COALITION FOR BARRIER FREE LIVING HOUSTON CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Staff met with HCIL staff to discuss issues facing persons with disabilities and potential improvements in housing and services. Member of HSP Community Team with HCIL.
11	**Agency/Group/Organization**	AIRLINE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The district provided feedback on revitalization efforts in the community and projects funded by Harris County. Consultation should aid coordination on future projects and serve as a model for others areas in the county facing similar difficulties.
12	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Houston-Galveston Area Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Harris County staff meets with members of H-GAC as part of the Sustainable Communities Grant from HUD, fair housing equity assessment, opportunity mapping, transportation needs, GIS data coordination, and regional environmental issues. A copy of draft AAP was sent for review. Outcomes expected are improved coordination and administration of services.
13	**Agency/Group/Organization**	MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency consulted about facility needs and methods to improve and create more resilient services throughout the county.
14	**Agency/Group/Organization**	HARRIS COUNTY PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Child Welfare Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Review of data and justification of continuing community needs.

15	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Harris Health System
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Information on healthcare needs for homeless and community needs for services to low income residents.
16	**Agency/Group/Organization**	TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Correspondence regarding housing market, LIHTC data, and the annual QAP for LIHTC process.

17	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Housing and Urban Development - Houston Field Office
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Service-Fair Housing Other government - Federal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	FHEO Office consultation to discuss data and complaints for better understanding of fair housing issues. Staff also attending fair housing events coordinate by HUD FHEO Houston Office.
18	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Hettig/Kahn Holding, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted with survey, email, phone calls to discuss region's housing market, rental market and tax credits was well as overall economic condition.

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

Harris County contacted numerous agencies and organizations through e-mail, phone calls and meetings to solicit their input and participation in the planning process for both the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan and PY2015 Annual Action Plan. Harris County thinks that all critical agency types were consulted and provided any opportunity for comment during the participation and consultation process.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County	Harris County aligned the priorities of the county's homeless strategies with the Continuum-wide priorities for homelessness.
Regional Transportation Plan	Houston-Galveston Area Council	The goals of Harris County's Strategic Plan overlap with the Regional Transportation Plan by improving transit services particularly to underserved and low-income communities.
Regional Plan for Sustainable Development	Houston-Galveston Area Council	The goals of Harris County's Strategic Plan overlap with the RPSD by improving the quality of life for county residents. The goals of both plans include increasing the availability affordable housing, improving social equity and improving the region's economic competitiveness.
Fair Housing Equity Assessment	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Harris County's goals and the FHEA both work to further fair housing in the region.
Social Equity Profile	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Harris County's goals and the Equity Profile overlap to further social equity with economic, education and quality of life improvements to low-income residents.
City of Houston Consolidated Plan	City of Houston	Harris County and the City of Houston have many overlapping goals to address homelessness and improved the quality of life to underserved and low-income communities. Harris County and City have also partnered on a collaborative funding structure to assist the homeless and develop Permanent Supportive Housing units.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
PHA Plan	Harris County Housing Authority	Harris County's Strategic Plan and the PHA Plan goals include increasing the availability and supply of affordable housing, improving the quality of life for residents, promoting economic improvements/vitality, promoting self-sufficiency and asset development of low-income families and affirmatively furthering fair housing throughout the county.
Healthy Living Matters	Public Health and Environmental Services	PHES and HCCSD both have goals to improve underserved and low-income resident's health, such as reducing childhood obesity through a better environment and access to health services.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Regional collaboration and coordination is facilitated by the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) which covers a thirteen county region of southeast Texas and includes Harris County. The county works with H-GAC and surrounding counties and communities on transportation, population growth, sustainability, water quality and many other issues.

Harris County actively works with the Houston/Harris County/Ft. Bend Continuum of Care to improve coordination and quality of services to the area's homeless population. Members of the Continuum of Care developed a process for providing Certifications of Consistency for agencies seeking funding through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to ensure that state funds are aligned with local priorities.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The Citizen Participation Process for the development of the PY 2015 Annual Action Plan utilizes elements from Harris County's PY2013-2017 Consolidated Plan Citizen Participation Plan and includes public notices, public hearings, website postings, community/organization meeting attendance by staff and email notifications to interested parties.

The primary goal of the Citizen Participation Plan is to provide all citizens of the community with adequate opportunity to participate in an advisory role in the planning, implementation, and assessment of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans. The Plan details the proposed use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) and other funding sources.

The Citizen Participation Plan also sets forth policies and procedures for citizen participation, which are designed to maximize the opportunity for citizen participation in the community development process. Special emphasis has been placed on encouraging participation by persons of low-incomes, residents in target areas, residents in affordable housing developments, and residents of areas where community development funds are utilized. Additionally, emphasis was placed on encouraging participation from local housing authorities, residents of subsidized housing, non-English speaking persons, minorities, and persons with disabilities or special needs. Participation was also solicited from county residents who live in blighted/and or identified low-to-moderate income neighborhoods to participate in the planning effort.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Non-targeted/broad community	PY 2015 NOFA publication requested submission of RFPs for PY2015 funding.	HCCSD received 40 proposals for PY2015 projects.	N/A	http://www.csd.hctx.net/ps_rfp.aspx
2	Internet Outreach	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish, Vietnamese Non-targeted/broad community	PY 2015 NOFA information posted to HCCSD website requesting proposals.	HCCSD received 40 proposals for PY2015 projects.	N/A	http://www.csd.hctx.net/ps_rfp.aspx
3	Mailing of pamphlet to interested parties	Non-targeted/broad community	Mailed PY2015 NOFA pamphlet to interested parties.	HCCSD received 40 proposals for PY2015 projects.	N/A	http://www.csd.hctx.net/ps_rfp.aspx

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Emails	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish, Vietnamese Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Harris County CSD sent numerous emails using the Interested Parties contact list of several hundred individuals and organizations to notify them of public notices, the NOFA, hearings and applicant conferences.	Numerous applicant conference attendees reviewed a presentation and received guidance. HCCSD received 40 proposals for PY2015 projects.	N/A	http://www.csd.hctx.net/ps_rfp.aspx

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	PY2015 Public Notice of awards. Harris County CSD did not receive any response from citizens or organizations regarding the public notice.	No comments were received.	N/A	
6	Newspaper Ad	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish	PY2015 Public Notice of awards in La Voz newspaper. Harris County CSD did not receive any response from citizens or organizations regarding the public notice.	No comments were received.	N/A	
7	Internet Outreach	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish, Vietnamese Non-targeted/broad community	PY2015 Public Notice of awards. Harris County CSD did not receive any response from citizens or organizations to the posting.	No comments were received.	N/A	http://www.harriscountytx.gov/CmpDocuments/103/AAP15/Annual_Action_Plan_PY2015_Final_Spanish.pdf

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
8	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	PY 2015 AAP public hearing held at HCCSD offices on November 18, 2014.	No public comments were submitted at the public hearing.	N/A	
9	Emails	Non-targeted/broad community	HCCSD sent emails to select organizations requesting review and comment on the draft Annual Action Plan during the public review period.	No public comments were submitted.	N/A	
10	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	PY2015 Annual Action Plan was posted to the January 6, 2015 Commissioners Court Agenda and approved at the public hearing by county commissioners.	No public comments were received at the public hearing.	N/A	
13	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Harris County posted a draft of the Annual Action Plan to the HCCSD website for public review.	No public comments were received.	N/A	http://www.csd.hctx.net/aap15.aspx

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD) administers CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding for Harris County. HCCSD holds an annual Request for Proposal (RFP) process to allocate funding according to the priorities, goals and objectives of its Consolidated Plan. HCCSD also coordinates with the Harris County Housing Authority on the Authority's projects for low-income tax credits and partners with the Houston Housing Authority to extend HUD resources to rapidly house the homeless. Harris County also acts as sponsor for two Continuum of Care (CoC) applicants and is a steering committee member of the CoC.

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	11,844,232	23,777	0	11,868,009	23,688,464	Harris County Community Development Priorities

OMB Control No: 2506-0117 (exp. 07/31/2015)

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	2,899,993	7,503	0	2,907,496	5,399,810	Improve the affordability of Affordable Housing for low and moderate income families.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	958,591	0	0	958,591	1,917,182	Assist homeless persons and persons at-risk of becoming homeless with necessary services to regain stability in permanent housing.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
Other	private	Financial Assistance	1,000,000	0	0	1,000,000	2,000,000	Combination of funding from Emergency Assistance, EFSP PHASE 31, Reliant Care, TXU Energy Aid to assist eligible customers with emergency utility assistance for low-income households on the verge of utility disconnection or whose services have been disrupted due to economic hardship.
Other	public - federal	Public Improvements Services	3,000,000	0	0	3,000,000	5,000,000	FTA 5307 grant funding for the operations of transit services
Other	public - state	Financial Assistance Rental Assistance Other	300,000	0	0	300,000	500,000	Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance grant to provide homelessness prevention for rent, homelessness prevention for utilities and transportation services for up to 40 veterans who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homelessness due to the inability to pay rent or utilities.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
Other	public - state	Homeowner rehab Housing Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership Public Improvements	96,000,000	0	0	96,000,000	70,000,000	Disaster Recovery funding from HUD to the State of Texas and allocated to Harris County for the recovery of housing and non-housing projects affected by Hurricane Ike/Dolly.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

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

Discussion

Harris County verifies all leverage and match documentation submitted by subgrantees for prospective project match or leverage. The range of resources leveraged to support Harris County projects is broad and includes local and national foundations, the United Way, State and Federal Agencies such as TDHCA, Health and Human Services, Texas Department of Justice, Area Agency on Aging, Texas Veterans Commission as well as private donations from individuals in the form of cash and/or volunteer services.

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Homeownership for Owners	2013	2018	Affordable Housing		Housing	HOME: $507,503	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 35 Households Assisted
2	Single-family Home Rehabilitation Owners	2013	2018	Affordable Housing		Housing	CDBG: $360,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 24 Household Housing Unit
3	SF Lead Based Paint Abatement Owners	2013	2018	Affordable Housing		Housing	CDBG: $350,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 20 Household Housing Unit
4	Homeless Emergency and Transitional Housing	2013	2018	Homeless		Homelessness	CDBG: $330,865 ESG: $265,717	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 75 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 5475 Persons Assisted
5	Rapid Re-Housing	2013	2018	Homeless		Homelessness	CDBG: $265,051 ESG: $531,477	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 125 Households Assisted
6	Homeless Management Information System	2013	2018	Homeless		Homelessness	ESG: $50,000	Other: 72 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Water/Sewer Improvements	2013	2017	Non-Housing Community Development		Infrastructure	CDBG: $3,572,223	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 8887 Persons Assisted
8	Senior Services (Special Needs Population)	2013	2018	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Services	CDBG: $103,578	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 707 Persons Assisted
9	Youth Services/Child Care	2013	2018	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Services	CDBG: $383,315	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1411 Persons Assisted
10	Transportation Services	2013	2018	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Services	CDBG: $575,489	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1071 Persons Assisted
11	Abused and Neglected Children	2013	2018	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Services	CDBG: $142,113	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 510 Persons Assisted
12	Clearance and Demolition	2013	2018	Non-Housing Community Development		Other	CDBG: $135,000	Buildings Demolished: 15 Buildings
13	Homeless Street Outreach	2013	2018	Homeless		Homelessness	CDBG: $39,503	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 870 Persons Assisted
14	Parks	2013	2018	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facilities	CDBG: $469,098	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1805 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	Homeownership for Owners
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide individuals and families with the opportunity for homeownership through financial assistance to prospective homebuyers.
2	**Goal Name**	Single-family Home Rehabilitation Owners
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide single-family rehabilitation assistance to low-to-moderate income or senior homeowners.
3	**Goal Name**	SF Lead Based Paint Abatement Owners
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide lead paint abatement to low-to-moderate income or senior single-family homeowners.
4	**Goal Name**	Homeless Emergency and Transitional Housing
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide homeless persons with emergency shelter and services.
5	**Goal Name**	Rapid Re-Housing
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide rental assistance and case management services to chronically homeless individuals and families.
6	**Goal Name**	Homeless Management Information System
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to administer the Homeless Management Information System.
7	**Goal Name**	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to make improvements to water and sewer systems in Harris County.

8	**Goal Name**	Senior Services (Special Needs Population)
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide services to seniors that improve their quality of life.
9	**Goal Name**	Youth Services/Child Care
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide services that improve area children's health, well-being and educational opportunities.
10	**Goal Name**	Transportation Services
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide transportation services to low-to-moderate income persons, seniors and individuals with disabilities.
11	**Goal Name**	Abused and Neglected Children
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide therapy and advocacy for abused and neglected children.
12	**Goal Name**	Clearance and Demolition
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to provide nuisance abatement/demolition for abandoned structures.
13	**Goal Name**	Homeless Street Outreach
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to perform engagement activities with homeless individuals to assist in accessing emergency essential services, housing resources and/or urgent care resources.
14	**Goal Name**	Parks
	Goal Description	Funds will be used to construct a park/recreational facility that benefits a low-to-moderate income area.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

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

Harris County Community Services Department estimates providing affordable housing to the following number of families as defined by HOME 91.215(b).

Owner (79 Households)

- Extremely Low - 9
- Very Low - 25
- Low - 45

Renters (125 Households)

- Extremely Low - 125

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

For PY2015, Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD) proposes to fund thirty-five (35) qualifying projects. In addition, included in the list below are Harris County Community Services Department Administrative projects and Unprogrammed funds numbered 1 through 4.

#	Project Name
1	Unprogrammed CDBG
2	Unprogrammed HOME and CHDO
3	Harris County HOME Administration
4	Harris County CDBG Administration
5	Child Advocates Inc. - Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
6	Children's Assessment Center - Therapy and Interviewing Services for Sexually Abused Children
7	Communities in Schools - Southeast Harris County
8	Harris County CSD - Case Management
9	Harris County CSD - Transportation Program
10	Harris County Precinct 1 - Seniors Drama
11	HC PSCA - TRIAD Prevention Truancy Learning Camp
12	Harris County Pct. 1 Street Olympics - Aquatics
13	Harris County Pct. 1 Street Olympics - Discovery Camp
14	Harris County Pct. 1 Street Olympics - Summer Games
15	Healthcare for the Homeless - Dental Care for the Homeless Program
16	Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston - Meals on Wheels for Greater Houston
17	Northwest Assistance Ministries - Meals on Wheels
18	Precinct2gether - After-School, Summer Day Camp and Aquatics
19	Precinct2gether – Transportation Voucher Program
20	SEARCH Homeless Services - Housing for the Homeless
21	Harris County CSD - Northline Case Management
22	Crosby MUD - Water Storage Tank and Emergency Generators
23	Harris County CSD - Health and Safety Home Repair Program
24	Harris County CSD - Minor Home Repair Program
25	Harris County MUD #148 - Youth Multi-use Park Facility & Trails
26	Harris County PHES - Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program
27	Harris County PHES - Neighborhood Nuisance Abatement
28	Harris County Precinct 1 - Airline ID Zone 2 Hanley St. West Water & Wastewater Improvements
29	Harris County Precinct 2 - Water & Wastewater Improvements to Rosemary Lane (West)
30	Harris County WCID 21 - Phase 2 Water Supply & Fire Protection Improvements
31	Sunbelt FWSD - Oakwilde Sanitary Sewer Rehab Pkg. No. 7

#	Project Name
32	ESG Projects
33	Harris County CSD - Downpayment Assistance Program

Table 8 – Project Information

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

For the PY2015 RFP and Annual Action Plan, Harris County determined that a high priority level should be assigned to the following CDBG Public Service objectives: General Services, Senior Services, Youth Services/Child Care, Health Services, Services to Persons with Disabilities, Transportation Services, Services to Persons with HIV/AIDS, Abused/Neglected, and Crime Awareness and Juvenile Justice. Projects selected for funding should address at least one of the high priority level objectives. CDBG General projects were selected during the PY2013 pre-application process for the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan. One project was selected from the PY2015 RFP for prior year funding and awarded PY2015 funding for a medium priority level objective. Harris County ESG funds focused on Emergency and Transitional Shelters, Street Outreach and Rapid Rehousing. Harris County HOME funds seek to provide affordable housing options in the form of homeownership activities and construction and/or rehab of single family/multifamily housing units for low-income households. One of Harris County's programs is the Downpayment Assistance Program which seeks to overcome obstacles such as disproportionate cost burdens of low-income families to purchase housing and in the current financing market which has enacted stricter lending and credit requirements.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 9 – Project Summary

1	**Project Name**	Unprogrammed CDBG
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: $2,812,431
	Description	Unallocated CDBG funds.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	N/A
2	**Project Name**	Unprogrammed HOME and CHDO
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	

	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: $2,109,994
	Description	Unallocated HOME funds.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	N/A
3	**Project Name**	Harris County HOME Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	HOME: $289,990
	Description	Funds used for program administration.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A

	Planned Activities	HOME program administration by Harris County.
4	**Project Name**	Harris County CDBG Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: $2,368,846
	Description	Funds used for program administration.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	CDBG program administration by Harris County.
5	**Project Name**	Child Advocates Inc. - Court Appointed Special Advocates Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Abused and Neglected Children
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $65,000
	Description	Child Advocates will supervise court appointed advocate volunteers in their efforts to provide court appointed advocacy services to 175 abused and neglected children.
	Target Date	2/29/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities will benefit 175 families with abused or neglected children.
	Location Description	County-wide activity; Facility is located at 2401 Portsmouth Street Suite #210, Houston, Texas 77098.
	Planned Activities	Advocacy for children who have been abused and neglected.
6	**Project Name**	Children's Assessment Center - Therapy and Interviewing Services for Sexually Abused Children
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Abused and Neglected Children
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $77,113
	Description	The Children's Assessment Center will provide therapy and interviewing services to 335 sexually abused child victims by providing therapy and mental health services.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 335 families with children that have experienced sexual abuse.
	Location Description	County-wide activity; Facility is located at 2500 Bolsover Street, Houston, Texas 77005.
	Planned Activities	Therapy and forensic interviewing services to abused and neglected children.
7	**Project Name**	Communities in Schools - Southeast Harris County
	Target Area	South Houston
	Goals Supported	Youth Services/Child Care

	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: $41,096
	Description	Communities in Schools - Southeast Harris County proposes to serve a minimum of 120 unduplicated, economically disadvantaged students who will receive a minimum of 30 case-managed sessions of tutoring, mentoring or enrichment activity services.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit to 120 low-income families.
	Location Description	Southeast Harris County; South Houston Target Area
	Planned Activities	Recreational, tutoring, mentoring and counseling services to children and their parents.
8	**Project Name**	Harris County CSD - Case Management
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Rapid Re-Housing
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: $265,051
	Description	Harris County's Division of Social Services will provide rapid re-housing case management services to 105 literally homeless households.
	Target Date	2/29/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 105 literally homeless families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity; Harris County CSD Social Services facility is located at 9418 Jensen Drive, Houston, Texas 77093.
	Planned Activities	Case management services to rapid re-housing clients.
9	**Project Name**	Harris County CSD - Transportation Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Transportation Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $461,240
	Description	The Harris County CSD Transportation Program will: (1) provide non-emergency medical demand response transit services to low income and disabled persons for essential services in the non METRO service areas. (2) provide a connector shuttle service for La Porte to transport low-income or disabled persons to social services and medical facilities. This service that will have a flex component for ADA demand response trips. (3) provide a lifeline deviated route service in Highlands/Crosby that will extend operating times to provide access to low income clinics and employment centers within the low income areas on the east side of Harris County. Both the La Porte shuttle and the Crosby / Highlands deviated route service will serve unduplicated persons.
	Target Date	2/29/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 820 low-income, senior and/or families that have a person with a disability.
	Location Description	County-wide activity. Harris County Transit offices are located at 8410 Lantern Point Drive, Houston, Texas 77054.
	Planned Activities	1. Non-emergency medical demand response to low-income and persons with disabilities. 2. Connector shuttle in La Porte for low-income and persons with disabilities to social services and medical facilities with 1 hours extension per day. 3. Lifeline deviated route in Highlands/Crosby area for low-income areas to provide access to clinics and employment centers in East Harris County with extended service times.
10	**Project Name**	Harris County Precinct 1 - Seniors Drama
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Senior Services (Special Needs Population)
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $17,150
	Description	Project will use dramatic and performing arts to raise awareness of senior issues to 67 senior participants.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activity benefits 67 low-income families with seniors.
	Location Description	Southeast Harris County within Harris County Precinct One facilities.

	Planned Activities	Services to the elderly that raise awareness of senior issues through dramatic performances.
11	**Project Name**	HC PSCA - TRIAD Prevention Truancy Learning Camp
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Youth Services/Child Care
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $44,000
	Description	Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults will provide truancy prevention with 15 camps and early intervention activities for at least 81 youth ages 10-17 and their families.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit approximately 81 low-income families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Youth intervention with educational camps and activities.
12	**Project Name**	Harris County Pct. 1 Street Olympics - Aquatics
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Youth Services/Child Care
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $42,024

	Description	Project provides learn-to-swim classes, instructional swim program for inner-city youth, nationally competitive swim team and coordinates US Swim sanctioned meets for 325 children in the HCCSD Service Area.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit approximately 325 low-to-moderate income families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity that utilizes Harris County Precinct One facilities.
	Planned Activities	Instructional program for low-mod youth to learn to swim and compete in events.
13	**Project Name**	Harris County Pct. 1 Street Olympics - Discovery Camp
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Youth Services/Child Care
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $28,993
	Description	The Discovery Camp provides an opportunity for youth to discover nature through a summer day camp, an all-year 'Traveling Naturalist' and summer internship program for 210 youth.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 210 low-to-moderate income families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.

	Planned Activities	1. Youth education of nature through summer camp 2. Travelling Naturalist for youth education 3. Internship program for older youth at summer camp
14	**Project Name**	Harris County Pct. 1 Street Olympics - Summer Games
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Youth Services/Child Care
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $58,502
	Description	Program provides character building participatory and competitive summer recreational activities for 225 children (6 - 16 years old) who reside in Harris County and work training opportunities for high school and college students via a summer work program.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 225 low-to-moderate income families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Competitive youth recreational events for 6 to 16 year olds during the summer and summer work program for older youth.
15	**Project Name**	Healthcare for the Homeless - Dental Care for the Homeless Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	

	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $65,647
	Description	Project will provide urgent, routine and restorative dental care services to 295 homeless individuals.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 295 homeless families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Emergency and routine dental-health services to homeless individuals in need of dental care.
16	**Project Name**	Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston - Meals on Wheels for Greater Houston
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Senior Services (Special Needs Population)
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $43,428
	Description	Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston will provide meals and case assessment to 350 homebound seniors in the Harris County area per specified guidelines.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 350 low-to-moderate income or disabled seniors.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.

	Planned Activities	Provide support through delivery of daily meals and case assessment of homebound seniors.
17	**Project Name**	Northwest Assistance Ministries - Meals on Wheels
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Senior Services (Special Needs Population)
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $43,000
	Description	Northwest Assistance Ministries' Meals on Wheels Program will provide case management and direct assistance (meals) to 290 home bound senior citizens.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 290 low-to-moderate income or disabled seniors.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Provide daily meals and case assessment to homebound seniors through home visits.
18	**Project Name**	Precinct2gether - After-School, Summer Day Camp and Aquatics
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Youth Services/Child Care
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $168,700
	Description	Precinct2gether will provide a summer day camp, aquatics program and after-school care to 450 youth.
	Target Date	2/29/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 450 low-to-moderate income families.
	Location Description	East Harris County with activities taking place in Precinct 2 facilities.
	Planned Activities	1. Recreational summer day camp for youth. 2. After-school care and activities for youth. 3. Aquatics program for youth.
19	**Project Name**	Precinct2gether – Transportation Voucher Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Senior Services (Special Needs Population) Transportation Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $90,472
	Description	Precinct2gether will provide case management services and transportation voucher cards to 251 seniors.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 251 low-to-moderate income or disabled seniors.
	Location Description	East Harris County.

	Planned Activities	Transportation vouchers distributed to seniors for access area services.
20	**Project Name**	SEARCH Homeless Services - Housing for the Homeless
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeless Emergency and Transitional Housing
	Needs Addressed	Housing Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: $90,218
	Description	SEARCH will provide housing assistance, outreach and intensive case management services to homeless for 75 households.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 75 homeless families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Outreach to homeless for case management and housing assistance.
21	**Project Name**	Harris County CSD - Northline Case Management
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeless Emergency and Transitional Housing
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: $175,000

	Description	Project will provide housing and case management services for 105 unduplicated homeless residents of the Northline complex and The Men's Center.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 105 homeless families.
	Location Description	County-wide activity for program participants. Northline Apartments are located at 3939 North Frwy., Houston, Texas 77022. The Men's Center is located at 3809 Main St., Houston, Texas 77002.
	Planned Activities	Housing and related case management services.
22	**Project Name**	Crosby MUD - Water Storage Tank and Emergency Generators
	Target Area	Crosby
	Goals Supported	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $323,000
	Description	Crosby MUD will construct a 427,000 gallon ground storage tank and two (2) 60 kW emergency power generators at Crosby MUD's Surface Water Treatment Plant. This will allow Crosby MUD to provide increased water storage capacity at the Surface Water Treatment Plant and also provide emergency generator back-up power in the event of a power loss from Center Point Energy.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit approximately 450 low-to-moderate income families.

	Location Description	Crosby MUD Surface Water Treatment Plant located at 5318 6th Street, Crosby, Texas 77532.
	Planned Activities	Installation of a larger non-elevated water storage tank to expand water storage capacity and emergency generators to ensure continuous operations.
23	**Project Name**	Harris County CSD - Health and Safety Home Repair Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Single-family Home Rehabilitation Owners
	Needs Addressed	Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $160,000
	Description	The Harris County Home Repair Program provides grants to low-income and elderly (62 years or older) households for up to $40,000 for septic system and/or water well repairs that have a current health and safety code violation citation(s). The home must be a single-family dwelling and owner-occupied by an elderly or disabled family that demonstrates they are unable to afford the repair(s) needed.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 4 families in low-income, disabled or elderly households.
	Location Description	Scattered sites to be determined upon review of submitted applications - County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Rehabilitation of single-family homes with water/sewer health or safety code violations.
24	**Project Name**	Harris County CSD - Minor Home Repair Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Single-family Home Rehabilitation Owners
	Needs Addressed	Housing

	Funding	CDBG: $200,000
	Description	The Harris County Home Repair Program provides grants to low-income and elderly (62 years or older) households for up to $10,000 for minor home repairs. The home must be a single-family dwelling and owner-occupied by an elderly or disabled family that demonstrates they are unable to afford the repair(s) needed.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities benefit 20 families in low-income, disabled or elderly households.
	Location Description	Scattered sites to be determined upon review of submitted applications - County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Rehabilitation of single-family homes for low-income, senior or disabled residents.
25	**Project Name**	Harris County MUD #148 - Youth Multi-use Park Facility & Trails
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Parks
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: $469,098
	Description	Proposed project would construct a pavilion which includes a covered basketball court and could be used for various youth activities. Youth within the area also need a safe path to the nearby Sheldon ISD School. These youths are presently crossing a drainage channel by climbing around barricades on the existing 12 inch water line and taking paths which are hazardous. This project will include a pedestrian bridge and sidewalks and paved pathways. All area youth and citizens would be able to use the pathways, pedestrian bridge and pavilion.
	Target Date	2/29/2016

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 600 low-to-moderate income families will benefit from the project activities.
	Location Description	Harris County MUD #148 located in northeast Harris County.
	Planned Activities	Construct a covered court, access trail and install a bridge over a nearby bayou to provide safer and more convenient access.
26	**Project Name**	Harris County PHES - Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	SF Lead Based Paint Abatement Owners
	Needs Addressed	Housing
	Funding	CDBG: $350,000
	Description	Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services (PHES) will reduce lead-based paint hazards in 20 single-family housing units throughout Harris County.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activities will benefit 20 low-income families.
	Location Description	Scattered sites - County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Housing rehabilitation with the primary goal to remove/reduce lead or lead-based paint hazards.
27	**Project Name**	Harris County PHES - Neighborhood Nuisance Abatement
	Target Area	

	Goals Supported	Clearance and Demolition
	Needs Addressed	Other
	Funding	CDBG: $135,000
	Description	The Neighborhood Nuisance Abatement Program will identify, investigate and abate 15 abandoned structures within Harris County.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Number and type of families benefiting from activities is not applicable. Identified nuisance structures to be abated are abandoned and unoccupied.
	Location Description	Scattered sites - County-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Clearance or demolition of abandoned buildings identified as neighborhood nuisances in Harris County.
28	**Project Name**	Harris County Precinct 1 - Airline ID Zone 2 Hanley St. West Water & Wastewater Improvements
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $1,047,920
	Description	The project, located in Harris County Precinct One, is in the northwest portion of the Airline Improvement District's (AID) Service Zone 2. Approximately 5,650 LF of 8-inch and 3,800 LF of 12-inch water lines will be constructed on Aldine Mail Route and Hawkins Road from Airline Drive to before Lillja Road, along W. Lorino Road from Airline Drive west towards Sweetwater Blvd and along Airline Drive from Lorino to Raymac. There are no public water and wastewater systems in this area. It has one of the highest rates of current and previous on-site sewer system violations identified in the AID Water and Wastewater Study.

	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 700 low-to-moderate income families will benegit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	118-522 Aldine Mail, 106-521 Hawkins, and 113-327 W. Lorino Houston, TX 77037
	Planned Activities	Site preparation and installation of water and wastewater lines.
29	**Project Name**	Harris County Precinct 2 - Water & Wastewater Improvements to Rosemary Lane (West)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $1,009,283
	Description	Harris County Precinct 2, in partnership with the East Aldine Management District, will construct 2,300 LF of 8" sanitary sewer line, 3,350 LF of 8" water line and service connections.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 480 low-to-moderate income families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Rosemary Lane West from Eastex Freeway to Percy St in north-central Harris County.
	Planned Activities	Installation of water and sewer lines along with required service connections.
30	**Project Name**	Harris County WCID 21 - Phase 2 Water Supply & Fire Protection Improvements
	Target Area	Channelview

	Goals Supported	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $667,020
	Description	Replacement of approximately 9,100 linear feet of existing 2-inch and 6-inch diameter potable water mains. The water system is between 50 and 60 years old in this area and is unable to provide fire flows up to local requirements and standards. The project will take place on the following streets within the CDBG target area: Cedar St.; Second St.; Pecan St.; Lakeside Lane; and Market St. The project will improve drinking water supply and fire protection in the area.
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 700 low-to-moderate income families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Cedar St, Pecan St, Lakeside Dr, 2nd St, and Market St. in Channelview, TX 77530.
	Planned Activities	Replacement of 9,100 linear feet of inadeqaute potable water mains with new, larger diameter mains.
31	**Project Name**	Sunbelt FWSD - Oakwilde Sanitary Sewer Rehab Pkg. No. 7
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure
	Funding	CDBG: $525,000
	Description	Rehabilitation of sanitary sewer system to reduce the inflow/infiltration (I/I) of storm water into the sanitary sewer system. Rehabilitation of approximately 7,425 linear feet of sewer lines, 96 vertical feet of manholes, 19 access chambers and 156 sewer service connections.

	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 500 low-to-moderate income families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Brea Crest to Aldine-Westfield, Somerset, Maymount Lane, Wardmont, and Brea Crest, Houston, TX 77093 within Sunbelt FWSD's service area.
	Planned Activities	Rehabilitation of approximately 7,425 linear feet of sewer lines, 96 vertical feet of manholes, 19 access chambers and 156 sewer service connections.
32	**Project Name**	ESG Projects
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeless Street Outreach Homeless Emergency and Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing Homeless Management Information System
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness
	Funding	ESG: $958,591
	Description	
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 1,800 homeless families will benefit from the proposed direct ESG shelter/service activities. All families with agencies participating in the HMIS system will benefit from the HMIS services provided.
	Location Description	Multiple locations within Harris County to serve homeless persons county-wide.

	Planned Activities	1. HMIS 2. Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance and case management services 3. Emergency and Transitional Shelters 4. Street Outreach 5. ESG Administration / Unprogrammed Funds
33	**Project Name**	Harris County CSD - Downpayment Assistance Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeownership for Owners
	Needs Addressed	Housing
	Funding	HOME: $507,503
	Description	
	Target Date	2/29/2016
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Activity benefits 35 low-to-moderate income families.
	Location Description	Scattered sites dependent upon applications for a county-wide activity.
	Planned Activities	Homeownership assistance to low-to-moderate income households through the form of down-payment assistance.

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

Harris County does not use geographic target areas as a basis for providing funding, but requests that all proposals submitted through the annual Request for Proposals process identify the geographic boundaries and specific target areas each project will serve.

Most projects will provide assistance to residents throughout the Harris County Service Area, though some target areas will receive funding for services specifically for that area. The majority of this targeted funding will be in the Northern and Eastern portions of the Harris County service area. These areas are primarily low-to-moderate income communities with high concentration of minorities. The areas have strong existing neighborhoods but are in need of revitalization assistance for aging infrastructure, lack of water/sewer systems and to improve local community amenities. In four of these areas, HCCSD staff has worked with the local community to identify specific revitalization goals.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Harris County does not prescribe a specific percentage of funding to target areas; however, during the competitive Request for Proposals process target areas have access to apply for funding along with Low-to-Moderate Income Clientele facilities or organizations. Harris County has identified target areas within the county that have 51% or greater low- to moderate-income population and that have aging infrastructure. These target areas are priorities for infrastructure and neighborhood facilities funding. Harris County will continue to fund geographic priorities identified in the Strategic Plan and adjust funding annually to ensure that priorities goals are met.

Discussion

The County is mindful of the location of services and seeks to ensure equitable distribution of funding to serve families in need across the County. Target areas have been identified that are 51% or greater LMI population and are in need of revitalization efforts. The county allocates funding based on priorities identified in its Consolidated Plan and proposals submitted in its annual Request for Proposals process.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The lack of quality, affordable housing choice can be an impediment to fair housing. To foster decent, safe, and affordable housing, Harris County will continue to collaborate and partner with local non-profit housing developers, for-profit builders, the Harris County Housing Authority and the residents of Harris County to measure the needs, discuss the issues and find solutions to problems of the Harris County housing market. Through these programs, Harris County will work to foster and maintain decent and affordable housing for low-income residents of Harris County through homeownership, rehabilitation programs, and new construction projects.

Harris County will promote the transition of low-income families to self-sufficiency through funding support of homeownership programs, which allow an eligible low-income household to choose a home that meets their needs throughout the county's service area.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	125
Non-Homeless	55
Special-Needs	24
Total	204

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	125
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	44
Acquisition of Existing Units	35
Total	204

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

Discussion

During PY2015, Harris County anticipates providing 204 households assistance to address barriers to affordable housing. These may include accessibility, adequacy, services and long term affordability. Approximately 125 households will receive rental assistance to ensure rapid transition from homelessness into permanent housing. Through downpayment assistance and rehabilitating existing single-family residences with lead-based paint, HCCSD expects to assists 55 low income families in

achieving homeownership. HCCSD also expects to repair and improve accessibility for 24 special needs households including elderly and disabled.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Harris County Housing Authority (HCHA) does not manage or own public housing projects but supplies housing choice vouchers to assist low income residents of Harris County accessing affordable housing.

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

While the HCHA does not own public housing it does provide approximately 25,000 housing choice vouchers annually. Harris County Community Services Department will continue to collaborate and partner with the Harris County Housing Authority to measure the needs of low income residents, discuss the issues they face and find solutions to problems of the Harris County permanent housing market.

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

The Harris County Housing Authority does not own or operate public housing facilities and therefore does not work with residents to participate in management. Formerly, Harris County Community Services Department and the Harris County Housing Authority had a formal partnership to link eligible HCHA residents to the Community Services department downpayment assistance program. HCCSD will work with the Housing Authority to identify if there are current or future opportunities for similar programs.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

The Harris County Housing Authority established a new leadership and management team that has been in charge for over a year continues to evaluate the agency's priorities. Harris County Community Services Department plans to continue its partnership with the Housing Authority and support the new initiatives through seeking potential partnerships for downpayment assistance and other grant opportunities that arise.

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

Introduction

Harris County has worked with the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, as well as other entitlement grantees receiving ESG funding throughout the community, to align priorities and funding across the continuum for programs addressing the needs of Harris County residents experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

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

Harris County is funding Covenant House Texas to provide street outreach to homeless youth, ages 18 - 21, which will address youths' needs for food, clothing, agency shelter and service information, referrals to other service providers, and follow-up support. Harris County is funding several projects with its entitlement funds that assess the individual homeless person's need for housing and other essential services. In collaboration with the local Continuum of Care, Harris County requires their rapid re-housing, homeless prevention and permanent supportive housing providers to utilize individual assessments through the Coordination Access System.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Harris County is funding four emergency shelters with $265,717. Three of the four shelters will provide services to survivors of domestic violence or women with chemical dependency and substance abuse disorders. These agencies will provide overnight shelter for over 800 households. The fourth shelter is a day shelter which also serves as the central hub for the Coordinated Access System.

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

Harris County is a member of the Houston/Harris County Continuum of Care (CoC). The CoC has developed a community plan, The Way Home, which sets a path to end all homelessness. For the CoC, one of the ways to end homelessness includes expanding the use and effectiveness of rapid re-housing. Harris County has come together with other entitlement communities within the CoC to form a rapid re-housing funders collaborative which changes the way the CoC will fund and deliver rapid re-housing services. Funds will be aligned and service delivery will be standardized. The redesigned rapid re-

housing system is intended to reduce the length of shelter stays and provide housing with intensive short-term assistance and connections to resources for long-term stability. Harris County will provide $531,477 for rapid re-housing activities for households experiencing homelessness. A portion of funding will go towards the provision of case management services only. The remaining funding will be used for utility and rental assistance.

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.

Harris County has previously funded both homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing programs. With HUD currently encouraging communities to create and implement more rapid re-housing programs, Harris County has decided to provide HCCSD ESG funds for rapid re-housing programs rather than homelessness prevention programs. Harris County expects this shift in focus to be temporary and for funding of homelessness prevention programs to be revisited in future funding years. However, homelessness prevention services will still be offered at Harris County and local agencies through other funding sources as they are available.

Harris County also has developed a Jail Diversion Program under the Texas 1185 Waiver. This program seeks to assist individuals, which includes those individuals at risk of becoming homeless, to access affordable housing, healthcare (including mental health services), social services and employment services who are being released from the Harris County Jail.

Discussion

Harris County has worked closely with the Coalition for the Homeless and other ESG grantees within the Continuum to develop continuum wide strategies to end and prevent homelessness for the region's most vulnerable populations. As part of the strategy, Harris County Community Services Department requires all agencies providing services with HCCSD ESG funds to participate in the Coordinated Access System (as it reaches full implementation), which uses a common assessment tool to ensure the most vulnerable populations receive prioritization and are matched to appropriate housing interventions.

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family – Not Applicable
Tenant-based rental assistance – Not Applicable
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated – Not Applicable
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds – Not Applicable
Total – Not Applicable

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

Introduction

Harris County Community Services Department is committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing and overcoming identified barriers to affordable housing. These efforts have resulted in the creation of the a Fair Housing Plan, development of specific goals and objectives to overcome barriers to affordable housing and support for projects that counter the negative effects of public policies.

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

Harris County Community Services Department (HCCSD) has 5 projects that ameliorate the negative effects of public policies. The projects are as follows: Harris County Community Services Department Downpayment Assistance Program will serve 35 households, HCCSD Health and Safety Home Repair Program to serve 4 households, HCCSD Minor Home Repair Program will serve 20 households and HC Public Health and Environmental Services will serve 20 households with the Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program and 15 households through the Neighborhood Nuisance Abatement respectively. Additionally, HCCSD has completed and updated the county's Fair Housing Plan which has identified barriers to affordable housing and strategies to overcome these barriers. Information about the Fair Housing Plan is included as an appendix to the Annual Action Plan and contains a list of local fair housing enforcements contacts.

Discussion

HCCSD has developed specific goals and objectives that address the housing needs of low- to moderate-income populations within the county's service area. These housing goals are aimed at creating the opportunity for adequate, affordable, accessible housing for extremely low-, very low-, and low-income persons through eventual elimination of lead based paint hazards, encouragement of homeownership, minor home repair, rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family housing, provision of rental assistance, new construction, and development of partnerships. In its PY2013-2017 Fair Housing Plan, HCCSD identifies possible barriers to housing choice and affordable housing which are violations to the Fair Housing Act and strategies to overcome these barriers. With all projects Harris County places a high priority on projects serving seniors and persons with disabilities.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

Harris County will fund projects in PY 2015 that meet the needs of the underserved through public services and infrastructure improvements, will improve and maintain affordable housing, prevent homelessness for extremely low-income families, reduce lead-based paint hazards, eliminate neighborhood nuisances and increase coordination among public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Harris County Community Services Department selected 35 projects in the areas of housing, homelessness, infrastructure, public services and other to address the varying needs of the underserved. The Community Services Department (CSD) will continue working with the Public Infrastructure Department, Public Health and Environmental Services (PHES), Harris County Public Library, as well as the County Commissioners' Precincts on projects. Efforts with the Public Infrastructure Departments will continue in order to develop and implement strategies to address the capital improvement efforts in the County¿s target areas. CSD will fund and coordinate infrastructure improvement activities with Fresh Water Supply Districts (FWSD), Municipal Utility Districts (MUD) and Water Control & Improvement Districts (WCID) that serve target area and low-to-moderate income populations.

Coordination with PHES will continue to provide much-needed health care services to low-income residents of Harris County. The Community Services and Public Library Department will continue to meet with residents, especially in the communities participating in neighborhood revitalization programs, to ascertain the needs and desires for libraries within those communities. Community Services will also continue to work with the Commissioners¿ Precincts to provide funding to implement their community development projects.

Harris County will continue to support non-profit organizations, Community Development Corporations (CDCs), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) and Community-Based Development Organizations (CBDO). The Department will actively recruit eligible organizations to become CHDOs and CBDOs. In addition, the department will continue to offer regulatory training to these organizations in order to ensure a better understanding of CDBG, ESG and HOME rules.

Harris County will continue to support the Harris County Housing Authority's efforts to expand the availability of affordable housing units to county residents.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The lack of quality affordable housing choice can be an impediment to fair housing. Issues such as the continued rise of average monthly rents while wages remain relatively stagnant is a challenge. To foster decent, safe, and affordable housing, Harris County will continue to collaborate and partner with local

non-profit housing developers, for-profit builders, the Harris County Housing Authority and the residents of Harris County to measure the needs, discuss the issues and find solutions to problems of the Harris County housing market. Through these programs, Harris County will work to foster and maintain decent and affordable housing for low-income residents of Harris County through homeownership, rehabilitation programs, and new construction projects.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

To reduce lead-based paint hazards, Harris County Community Services Department will fund Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Program. The program will reduce lead-based paint hazards in 20 single-family housing units in Harris County. Project activities include community outreach and education, blood lead testing, program coordination with medical institutions, relocation, risk assessment, lead safe work project design and oversight, and lead clearance testing.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Many Harris County residents are currently living at or below the federal poverty level, with many of these people being homeless or at risk of becoming homeless because of insufficient income. There is a great need among these individuals to expand their opportunities for education and employment, thus improving their quality of living. The Annual Action Plan's activities support the Consolidated Plan's comprehensive collection of goals, programs, and policies which work to reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop affordable housing, and coordinate with other programs and services to increase education and economic opportunities.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Harris County is working with the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County to create a coordinated access system for homeless service programs. Lessons learned in developing this system will be used to better coordinate delivery of services across systems. HCCSD would like to build upon the existing partnerships with organizations such as TDHCA, as well as create new partnerships with public, private, non-profit, philanthropic, and non-profit organizations. With respect to specific gaps, HCCSD will continue trying to research and develop a linking of services between institutional discharge cases (persons being discharged from jail, mental institutions, foster care, etc, and likely to be released into homelessness) and community essential services. With the continued uncertainty of public support dollars, HCCSD has been and will continue to expand its partnership with private funding foundations in the community and coordinating funding systems.

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

Harris County will continue to support non-profit organizations, Community Development Corporations (CDCs), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) and Community-Based Development

Organizations (CBDOs). The Department will actively recruit eligible organizations to become CHDOs and CBDOs. In addition, the department will continue to offer regulatory training to these organizations in order to ensure a better understanding of CDBG, ESG and HOME rules.

The Harris County Housing Resource Center (HRC) provides unique coordination opportunities for local multifamily housing providers and the public via a website that provides updated listings of the available rental units and community homeownership programs that seek to assist first-time homebuyers and provides information on fair housing issues and resources. In addition to the website, the HRC has a phone line to access Housing Navigators that provide one-on-one services for those seeking housing and community resources.

Harris County also works closely with the City of Houston, Harris County Housing Authority and the Houston Housing Authority to coordinate funding and other resources to develop affordable housing, particularly permanent supportive housing (PSH).

For the PSH units developed, Harris County and the local Continuum of Care plan to access the 1115 waiver which will give enhanced ability to utilize Medicaid.

Discussion

Harris County Community Services Department addresses these needs through project funding, but supplements projects with other services to provide resources for low income residents and neighborhoods. These include:

The Housing Resource Center, a virtual gateway to affordable housing throughout Harris County with updated listings provided by the Harris County Housing Authority, the local real estate community and our own neighborhood stabilization program for first time homeowners called H.O.M.E. (Home Ownership Made Easy).

HCCSD Economic Development Programs develop and implement strategies that will stimulate Harris County's economy by working with other taxing entities and economic development consortiums to implement programs that will convince businesses to build or expand within Harris County in order to revitalize communities and create new opportunities. The Housing & Community Development and Economic Development divisions work together to ensure that TIRZ affordable housing set-aside funds are dedicated to the development of affordable housing throughout HCCSD's service area.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Harris County continuously works to comply will all program specific requirements for CDBG, HOME and ESG. In addition, the department will continue to offer technical assistance to subrecipient organizations in order to ensure a better understanding of program specific CDBG, ESG and HOME rules.

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

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	23,777
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	**23,777**

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income.Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.32%

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

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

   The Harris County Downpayment Assistance Program (DAP) assists eligible, low-income Harris County residents in attaining affordable housing by providing financial assistance for downpayment and closing cost assistance. Funds for assistance are made available as deferred forgivable loans. Harris County utilizes recapture for this HOME funded program as required by 24 CFR 92.254(a).

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

   Harris County's homebuyer programs are designed to assist eligible, low-income applicants to purchase a decent, safe, and sanitary housing with financial assistance for downpayment, closing cost, and mortgage assistance. Funds for assistance or the HOME subsidy loan are made available as deferred and forgivable loans. Deferred and forgivable loans are loans that repayment is deferred until the end of the affordability period and then forgiven if the homebuyer complies with the affordability requirements, which is determined by the HOME subsidy provided to the homebuyer. As the HOME subsidy to the homebuyer is the basis for the period of affordability, the affordability period is determined by 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) Periods of Affordability and as reflected in the below table.

   Table: Periods of Affordability

Homeownership Assistance – HOME amount per unit	Years
Under $15,000	5
$15,000 - $40,000	10
Over $40,000	15

   To be eligible, both the housing and potential homebuyer must meet program requirements set by HUD and HCCSD. Recapture, per 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(ii), is triggered by any transfer of ownership, either voluntary or involuntary, during the established HOME period of affordability as outlined in the written agreement between the homebuyer and Harris County and enforced via lien on the property. The direct HOME subsidy to the homebuyer is what is recaptured with a voluntary or involuntary transfer.

Each HOME subsidy loan made includes recapture requirements should the homeowner trigger recapture by any transfer of ownership, either voluntary or involuntary, during the period of affordability. If the home is transferred during this period, Harris County will evaluate and trigger recapture of the entire HOME subsidy loan, including any program income, provided to the homebuyer from the net proceeds of the sale. If the net proceeds, which are the sales price minus superior loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and any closing costs, from the sale of the home are not sufficient to recapture the HOME subsidy loan amount, Harris County will collect what is available from net proceeds.

To ensure awareness of the recapture requirements involved in receiving a HOME subsidy loan through the Downpayment Assistance Program, all applicants are required to sign an Applicant Certification form.

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

Recapture, per 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(ii), is triggered by any transfer of ownership, either voluntary or involuntary, during the established HOME period of affordability as outlined in the written agreement between the homebuyer and Harris County and enforced via lien on the property. The period of affordability is based upon the HOME subsidy to the homebuyer that enabled the homebuyer to purchase the unit. To ensure awareness of the recapture requirements involved in receiving a HOME subsidy loan through the Downpayment Assistance Program, all applicants are required to sign an Applicant Certification Form.

Additionally, HCCSD conducts an annual mail-out to all homeowners still under the affordability period. Each homeowner must confirm residency/primary occupancy of the home purchased with federal funds. Any homeowner found to have transferred ownership, either voluntary or involuntary, during the period of affordability is referred to the Harris County Attorney's Office to pursue recapture of funds.

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

Harris County does not plan to utilize HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds.

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

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

   Written standards are included as an attachment.

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

   The Coordinated Access System (CAS) utilizes a uniform and standardized assessment process, uniform guidelines, priorities for accessing homeless assistance, and referral policies and procedures to provide coordinated and strengthened access to housing for families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

   Several roles play a part in the operation of the Coordinated Access system. These roles include: the Coordinating Entity, which is responsible for the daily administration of the Coordinated Access System (The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County serves as the Coordinating Entity); the Project Manager (staffed by the Coordinating Entity); Assessment Hubs, which are selected agency sites that provide prompt access to intake and assessments; Housing Assessors, who complete the Coordinated Access Housing Assessment using HMIS; Housing Navigators, who begin the process of securing an identified, available unit; Receiving Programs, which are all Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, and Transitional Housing programs and have responsibilities that include reporting vacancies to the Coordinating Entity and responding to referrals from the Coordinated Access System; and Authorized User Agencies, which are housing providers that volunteer or are required to participate in the Coordinated Access System and have access to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database.

   Assessment Hubs are located at several agency sites. At these hubs, intake and client assessment operations normally occur Monday through Friday during the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m. An additional hub, the Harris County Jail, will have assessors on site to assess individuals who are scheduled to be released within 7 days. Lastly, Mobile Outreach teams will conduct assessments in the field. In the future, a call center will also be established at one of the Assessment Hubs; however, the call center is currently intended to be used by social service staff or clients seeking assistance at other community agencies.

   All households who meet the HUD definition of homeless and have annual incomes below 50% AMI are the target population for the CAS. Applicant households will be ranked according to level of vulnerability (using vulnerability indices assessment tools) with the most vulnerable households being given top ranking. Depending on availability of units clients may be placed on a waitlist.

The pathway through the Coordinated Access System includes the following five steps:

1. Connecting to the Coordinated Access System/Initial Requests for Services
2. Housing Assessment
3. Housing Match
4. Housing Referral
5. Housing Navigation

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

Harris County releases a request for proposals annually to solicit projects for ESG funding. Harris County evaluated proposals received from organizations providing shelter and street outreach services. The PY2015 request for proposals did not solicit rapid-rehousing or homelessness prevention projects from non-profits.

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

Harris County ensures that every agency funded through ESG has a homeless or formerly homeless individual in a position to make recommendations on policies and services funded under ESG. In addition, Harris County has a policy committee that includes a formerly homeless individual. Harris County is also part of the CoC Steering Committee, which includes representation from the Consumer Advisory Council.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

In consultation with the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County and other Emergency Solutions Grants grantees with the Continuum, Harris County has developed the following program standards for Emergency Shelters, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing, Street Outreach and HMIS activities.

For all standards, the initial data collection will be used to establish baseline data. The progress towards outcomes will later be used to establish the community standard for achieving those outcomes. Emergency Shelters performance will be based on the community outcomes below.

- Number and percentage of people exiting to a known place
- Number and percentage of people assisted in overcoming a specific barrier to obtaining housing

- Number and percent of people who increase income from entry to exit in emergency housing programs

For Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing, the Continuum has decided to use the same performance standards to help measure the success of these interventions for the community. The County recognizes that clients who receive Rapid Re-Housing assistance will have a separate set of needs and likely higher barriers to maintaining permanent housing, so the outcome goals will be different, even though the measures for both programs are the same.

- Number and percentage of people who exit services to permanent supportive housing, transitional housing or unknown place
- Number and percent of people who increase income from entry to exit in emergency housing programs
- Number and percent of people who are still housed 30 days after exiting prevention program

Discussion

Harris County and other ESG grantees in the Continuum have been working to develop standards for performance and service delivery over the past year. As part of increasing coordination among providers, the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Planning and Service Coordination Workgroup was created. Members include 25 providers funded through ESG (mandatory), SSVF, and private sources, and city and county staff of the four ESG recipients. The workgroup is facilitated by Coalition for the Homeless staff. The CoC invites agencies that provide related services as it becomes aware of them. The group's planning role includes targeting clients and developing service standards and training, in conjunction with the Consumer Advisory Council and input from mainstream providers. The group's Service Coordination role includes implementing coordinated assessments to direct clients to the most appropriate provider, linking people with subsidized permanent housing, and system and program level performance improvement through training and data analysis.