# Executive Summary

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

**1. Introduction**

"The only City in the United States where air, sea, rail and road all connect within a one square mile radius." Settled in 1664 and incorporated in 1855, the historic colony of Elizabethtown was the first permanent settlement, the first English speaking community and the first capital of New Jersey. The City of Elizabeth is located on the Arthur Kill, which flows into Newark Bay then to New York Harbor.  
  
This historic settlement became a bustling seaport fostering commerce and industry and became home to the early immigrants from Europe. Elizabeth flourished in this advantageous location and the population grew in response to the needs of industry and commerce. Only minutes from New York City, the City of Elizabeth is the gateway of the state and is at the hub of air, rail and road transportation network serving the Northeast corridor from Boston to Washington, D.C. Almost half of Newark Liberty International Airport lies within Elizabeth's borders, as does Port Elizabeth, the largest containership terminal in the United States. A major hospital, Trinitas Regional Medical Center, is based in the City, as well as Union County College. The campus of Kean University rests on the City's Union border.  
  
Much of the housing in the City of Elizabeth is high-density, in the form of multi-family dwellings, which are present in all neighborhoods. Elmora and Westminster have the largest remaining concentration of single-family housing in the City. With a population count of 125,660 in 12.32 square miles, Elizabeth is the fourth largest City in the State of New Jersey and the seat of Union County. This location, so strategically advantageous to commerce and industry, has attracted new waves of working class residents, who see this compact, low-rise City as offering accessibility to jobs, transportation, educational opportunities and urban conveniences. Despite the perception of stability that the City enjoys, evidenced by the population increase of the last census, it shares with many of the national urban socio-economic problems arising from unemployment, homelessness, crime and aging housing stock.

**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.

Throughout the Consolidated Planning process, it became more and more evident in Task Force discussions that community, economic and social needs are interconnected:

* Job creation diminishes unemployment and associated needs.
* Increased income makes housing more affordable and lessens threat of homelessness.
* A true Continuum of Care requires living wage job opportunities and affordable housing to attain self-sufficiency and self-esteem.
* Neighborhoods are revitalized by upgraded housing stock and commercial enterprises that serve and provide job opportunities to residents.

The City of Elizabeth Consolidated Plan has examined, discussed, and assessed needs based on existing demographics and conditions. Priorities have been established within each of the following categories:

* Public Services
* Continuum of Care: Housing for Homeless, Special Needs and Supportive Services
* Affordable Housing/Economic Development
* Public Facilities/Public Improvements

Public Service priorities are:

1. Employment Training (especially for the underserved population).
2. Youth Services.
3. Child Care.
4. Senior Services

Continuum of Care priorities are:

1. Affordable Housing (Most agencies are in crisis trying to place families in affordable housing).
2. Maintaining existing housing through homeless prevention, rental assistance and case management.
3. Emergency shelters/Street Outreach.
4. Living wage jobs.

Affordable Housing priorities are:

1. Stabilize neighborhoods by creating, maintaining, and promoting safe, decent and affordable rental housing opportunities.
2. Maintain and preserve decent, safe and affordable owner-occupied housing.
3. Provide Tenant Based Rental Assistance to help those being supported by local social services agencies.

Public Facilities

1. ADA Compliance Related Projects
2. Park Improvements
3. Renovation Projects

Economic Development

1. On the Job Training
2. Micro Enterprise Loans
3. Business Technical Assistance

**3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

The City of Elizabeth monitors agency spending, performance and capacity during the course of the year. City staff provides technical assistance to organizations participating in the grants program or looking to participate. Information from desk monitoring and on-site monitoring is reviewed and summarized for the Mayor's Community Development Advisory Committee. This information is taken into consideration when making future funding decisions. Staff reviews IDIS reports quarterly; monitoring, phone calls and email inquiries are made and letters are sent out to agencies not on target.

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

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Task Force Meetings were held to review the City's existing programs and priorities, current data and statistics. Discussions included barriers/problems and solutions. Each Task Force identified unmet needs and developed prioritized strategies to address those needs. The Task forces met as follows:

* Continuum of Care 12/4/18 (10 People attended)
* Public Services 12/03/18 (14 People attended)
* Affordable Housing/Economic Development 11/30/18, (12 People attended)
* Public Facilities/ Public Improvements 12/7/18, (12 People attended)

The first public hearing was held on January 18, 20198 at 1:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall in Midtown Elizabeth, accessible to all City residents via private and public transportation. The building has access ramps and elevators for special needs accessibility. Attendees of the hearing were provided with a discourse on the applicability of the Consolidated Plan, a description of the formula grants, a list of funding priorities, eligibility and uses, application packages for the formula grants and technical assistance by Community Development staff.

A second public hearing was held on May 9th, 2019 at 1:00 PM in City Council Chambers. This hearing will allow for public comment and discussion of the draft planning document.

Public Notice of each public hearing and the public comment period is published via City of Elizabeth web page, and the Star-Ledger. A draft copy of the plan is made available upon request to all directors, residents, agencies, county representatives, community groups, Task Force members, and Advisory Committee members who made funding recommendations.

**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 were received and none were not accepted.

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

No comments were received and none were not accepted.

**7. Summary**

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING ESTIMATED AVAILABLE AMOUNTS AND PROPOSED USES**

At the time that the draft plan was published for comment, HUD had yet to finalize allocations for Fiscal Year 2019. On May \_\_\_\_, 2019, HUD announced final allocations. This plan has been updated to reflect the final allocation amounts.  The information below summarizes the changes made based on the difference between the estimated allocations and the actual allocations. Per HUD guidance, the City may publish a draft plan if it provides for funding contingencies in case the actual allocation is different than the estimated amounts. The following adjustments will be made based on the actual allocations received by HUD. More detailed information on estimated sources can be found in AP-15 Expected Resources and more detailed information on expected uses can be found in AP-35 Projects.

**CDBG**

1. Administration will equal 20% of the allocation.
2. If the actual allocation is less than the estimated amount, the City will reduce the budgeted amounts for Public/Neighborhood Improvements. The overall public services budget will be decreased to comply with the public service requirements of CDBG. The City will determine which subrecipient awards can be adjusted with the minimum impact to meeting its overall Consolidated Plan priorities.
3. If the actual allocation is more than the estimated amount, the City will increase the budgeted amounts for Park Improvements.

**ESG**

1. If the actual allocation is less than the estimated amount, the City will first reduce activity funding for agencies that are not spending existing funding in timely manner. If additional adjustments are needed, the City will reduce funding for rapid rehousing.
2. If the actual allocation is more than the estimated amount, the City will increase funding for homeless prevention.

**HOME**

1. Administration will equal 10% of the allocation plus 10% of any program income received.
2. The set-aside for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) will be equal to at least fifteen percent of the allocation.

After the above adjustments are made, any increase or decrease will be applied to the Housing Development budget.

## 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** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CDBG Administrator | ELIZABETH | Department of Planning and Community Development |
| HOME Administrator | ELIZABETH | Department of Planning and Community Development |
| ESG Administrator | ELIZABETH | Department of Planning and Community Development |

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

**Narrative (optional)**

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Eduardo J. Rodriguez, Director, Planning & Community Development, is the contact person for the Consolidated Plan. Elizabeth City Hall, Room #114, 50 Winfield Scott Plaza, Elizabeth, NJ 07201-2408, Telephone (908) 820-4160, Fax (908) 352-2275 or email: erodriguez@elizabethnj.org.

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

**1. Introduction**

Consulting agencies, residents and homeless representatives participated in Task Force Meetings to set priorities in:

* Economic Development/Affordable Housing
* Continuum of Care
* Public Services
* Public Facilities/Public Improvements

Since the City of Elizabeth does not provide direct services to the public, 501(c)(3), non-profit and faith-based agencies, housing providers, private and governmental agencies served as a valuable asset in the development of funding priorities.

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

The City of Elizabeth and the Continuum of Care, (CoC), Committee encourage all Homeless Service providers to work cooperatively with area hospitals, jails, Housing Authorities and all health service providers, including mental health, to address the needs of those being discharged to prevent homelessness. Representatives from these establishments attend the County Continuum of Care, (CoC) Meetings. The City annually reports on the services the funded agencies provide at the CoC meeting. This ensures that agencies have the most current information about available services for referral purposes. The City, in its funding allocation decisions for FY2018, again prioritized assistance to City-based providers of emergency shelters, transitional housing, and social service agencies engaged in the inter-related and complex socio-economic needs required to move people from poverty and homelessness to self-sufficiency. Inter-agency networking and referral system strengthened the continuum process and increased collaboration of services.

Being the largest City and the Seat of Union County, Elizabeth is maximizing the continuum process by collaborating with Union County's Department of Human Services and sitting on the County Continuum of Care (CoC)/Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System (CEAS) Committee. CEAS is a functional, planning sub-committee of Union County Human Services Advisory Council. A majority of the CEAS agencies are located within the City. The following CEAS Committee member agencies are funded by the City of Elizabeth with CDBG and/or ESG allocations for FY2017: YWCA of Eastern Union County, Gateway Family YMCA, the Salvation Army, Urban League of Union County, Community Access Unlimited Inc. and the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless. All of these agencies work closely with public and assisted housing providers, the Trinitas Regional Medical Center for mental and physical health care and other social services providers in and out of the City to access needed services for residents.

In addition, the City has taken an active role in the Union County Prisoner Re-Entry Task Force in an effort to assist individuals to re-enter the workforce, reunite with family and attain housing and employment.

Developers are in the process of creating 500+ market-rate housing units within the City of Elizabeth. However, the availability of affordable housing is dwindling. Agencies are finding it more and more difficult to place working class, low- and very low-income individuals and families in affordable units. Persons who have ever been evicted are finding it impossible to find a habitable apartment. To this end the CoC members were asked to support State of New Jersey Senate Bill #3036, which addresses the issue of habitability, and Senate Bill #3037, which will establish the confidentiality of landlord-tenant court records. The latter will address the issue of adverse actions on rental applications. The Bills did not pass. There is hope that they will be brought up again under the new governor. In this session the bills are numbered S805 and S806.

**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.**

Many of the identified gaps in the Action Plan have been addressed through a comprehensive resource referral system directory published through the assistance of the Continuum of Care (CoC)/Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System (CEAS) Committee and the United Way. More agencies are now better equipped to share information and network together to better service the needs of their clients. Through CEAS and CoC involvement, agencies are successful in applying for and receiving HUD funding collectively through the County SuperNOFA application.

The homeless of this City have the same needs as most residents, but require more resources and services. Due to the diligent work of the County CoC/CEAS Committee, public access to services has been improved and has fostered inter-agency collaboration. In many cases, this population is lacking knowledge on legal rights and resources. The challenge is to ensure that agency contact personnel are continually updated on client eligibility and what services are available and where for individuals, families, families with children, veterans and unaccompanied youth.

Union County estimates that there are 20 sheltered chronically homeless individuals and 7 unsheltered on any given day. It is likely that these numbers are conservative. Therefore, the City of Elizabeth and the County work together to focus on a strategy to eliminate chronic homelessness for individuals and families with children. Veterans make up less than 7% of this population. Union County CoC (receiving the largest pot of money from the State and the Federal government) takes the leading role to eliminate homelessness; the City of Elizabeth assists in developing and implementing same policy.

Chronically homeless individuals are deemed eligible for immediate short-term emergency assistance giving advocates and service providers additional time to secure the necessary documentation and determine additional support needed and/or eligibility for mainstream resources, such as Food Stamps, Social Security Disability and other benefits. This change in practice is an example of existing systems adapting to service the specific needs of the chronically homeless. The CEAS Committee and the City continue to explore areas of change to improve access to the Continuum of Care services for this vulnerable population.

The City and its agencies are finding it hard to meet the very restrictive definition of chronic homelessness. HUD defines a chronically homeless person as a disabled, head of household who has been homeless 12 consecutive months or 4 months per year for 3 years. Any deviation of that or inability to document it renders the person NOT chronically homeless. Very few residents in the City fit this definition. If a person is homeless for YEARS, but is not documented as disabled, then they are not considered chronically homeless. If they do not meet the bar at or more than the requisite months homeless, then they are not homeless. For instance, Bill Smith was homeless for 12 months, but he lived doubled up with his brother for the first 3 months on the floor of the brother's room. When the landlord found out, he had to leave. He then lived on the streets for 9 months. Because only the 9 months count, he cannot meet the definition of chronic homelessness.

The City of Elizabeth is are dealing with people in all sorts of situations. They are chronically homeless, but they don’t meet the eligibility criteria as it is written. Therefore, at this point, the criteria is now a barrier to solving chronic homelessness. In addition, the chronically homeless need a tremendous amount of case management services to transition out of homelessness. Quite often these type of needs are not met due to underfunding of case management.

**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**

The purpose of Continuum of Care (CoC) is to provide a coordinated, locally developed system to assist homeless persons, especially the chronically homeless, to move to self-sufficiency and permanent housing. In addition to homeless prevention, a CoC system consists of four basic components:

1. Permanent housing, or permanent supportive housing, to help meet the long-term needs of homeless individuals and families;
2. Emergency shelters with appropriate supportive services to help ensure that homeless individuals and families receive adequate emergency shelter and referrals to necessary service providers or housing finders;
3. Transitional housing with appropriate supportive services to help those homeless individuals and families who are not prepared to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living;
4. A system of outreach and assessment for determining the needs and conditions of an individual or family who is homeless.

The fully implemented Homeless Management Information System, (HMIS), provides a more reliable count as well as information on the progress of chronic homeless persons in the Continuum of Care (CoC) system in Union County. This County and City were the first to pilot and implement the HMIS system and have been using the HMIS system since the implementation of the American Recovery Act for the Homeless Prevention/Rapid Re-Housing Program, (HPRP).

The City of Elizabeth continues to work with the CoC directly to develop and refine the following:

* Centralized/Coordinated Assessment System
* Written Standards for Providing ESG Assistance
* System for Allocating ESG Funds (which component and which activity)
* Project Performance Standards (to include outcome measures for projects and activities)
* Funding Policies and Procedures for HMIS Administration and Operation

**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** | Housing Authority - City of Elizabeth |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans 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?** | Housing Authority works closely with the City to provide safe and affordable housing placement of low- and very low-income residents. Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. |
| 2 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | CITY OF ELIZABETH |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Other government - Local |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Public and recreational services for families, youth and seniors. |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | Recreation and Health Department, Office on Aging, Office of Youth, Department of Planning and Community Development, Elizabeth Home Improvement Program and Human Resources participated in identifying funding priorities and shared citywide activities taking place in local playgrounds, parks, senior and recreation centers. |
| 3 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | COUNTY OF UNION |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Child Welfare Agency Other government - County |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs 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?** | Union County, Division of Planning, participated in identifying funding priorities for ESG funding. In addition, the County is the Continuum of Care for the City of Elizabeth and as such runs the CEAS/CoC meetings. |
| 4 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization Neighborhood Organization |
| **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 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?** | Participated in identifying funding priorities for ESG funding. Agency assists the City in identifying the needs of residents with developmental and mental disabilities. |
| 5 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Neighborhood Organization |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy 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?** | Participated in identifying funding priorities for ESG funding. Agency provides transitional housing to the working poor, housing placement and case management services to prevent homelessness. |
| 6 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | YWCA OF EASTERN UNION COUNTY |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Housing Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Employment Regional organization Neighborhood Organization |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Anti-poverty Strategy House and service victims of domestic violence. |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. Agency assits the City on issues of domestic violence. |
| 8 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | The Gateway Family YMCA |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Regional organization |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children 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?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. Serves the City as transitional housing, affordable housing and single room occupancy facility. |
| 9 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | CENTRAL JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services - Housing Regional organization Neighborhood Organization |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Provides legal services to prevent homelessness. |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities in Continuum of Care. Agency alerts the City on housing trends in dealing with the homeless. |
| 10 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Trinitas Regional Medical Center |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Hospital Major Employer |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Neighborhood Health Needs |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. Assists the City in identifying health issues that are most prevalent in the community. Trinitas serves as the regional hospital for this area. |
| 11 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | ELIZABETH DEVELOPMENT COMPANY |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Employment City's Economic Development Company Neighborhood Organization |
| **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?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. Serves as the City right arm in identifying economic development projects that result in job creation. Promote small business development. |
| 14 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | UNITED WAY-COMMUNITY COORDINATED CHILD CARE PROTECTIVE SER DAY CR |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Children Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization Neighborhood Organization |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Anti-poverty Strategy Job Training |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. Trains parents to be home daycare providers. |
| 15 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | CEREBRAL PALSY LEAGUE, INC. |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization Neighborhood Organization |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Services Adults with Disabilities |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | Agency participated in identifying funding priorities. Provides health and educational services to adults with disabilities. |

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

The range of residents, agencies, housing providers and services consulted spanned very wide. Anyone who was interested in assisting the City of Elizabeth in developing needs and priorities, including the homeless, were invited to join in the process.

The City is unaware of any agency type that was not invited to join the process.  The City makes every effort to be inclusive and as comprehensive as possible.

**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 | Union County, Division of Planning | Job creation and retention, job training, business attraction and retention and development of affordable housing result in homeless prevention. |
| Economic Development | City of Elizabeth and the Elizabeth Development Company | The Neightborhood Revitalization strategy for Elizabethport and Midtown was developed by the City's Economic Development Company with the following priorities in mind: job creations and retention, job training , business attraction and retention and affordable housing. |
| Public Services | City of Elizabeth | The redevelopment of Midtown and Elizabethport will create jobs diminishing unemployment and associated needs. Many of the funded agencies service children and young adults in aftercare activities, which allow parents to work and improve their quality of life by rejoining the workforce. |

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

**Narrative (optional)**

For many years, the City of Elizabeth has actively participated in Union County Reconnections Program. This County Re-Entry Task Force Committee is run by the State Parole Board. The committee works closely with Union County College and the One-Stop Center in Elizabeth and Plainfield to assist with educational and/or vocational training, GED, referral services for housing, mental health, family reunification, substance abuse, education, etc., as needed. The program seeks to insure that the prisoner population does not get released into homelessness and is provided needed life skills, mentoring and referrals.

The Mayor’s Community Development Advisory Committee is made up of local volunteer residents, businesses, and civic leaders of varied economic status representing different areas of the City. Members are appointed by the Mayor and take on the responsibility of reviewing the CDBG and ESG applications consistent with evaluation criteria and make funding recommendations to the Mayor and the Department of Planning and Community Development. The review criteria takes into consideration the City's priorities, agency's past performance, capacity, monitoring findings, financial stability, leveraging, location, etc.

Task Forces in Housing, Economic Development, Continuum of Care, Public Facilities, and Public Services serve as focus groups for discussions, decisions, and prioritization of needs. The Task Force members represent a wide spectrum of community groups, state, local and county government representatives, social service agencies, developers, banks, realtors, non-profit agencies, hospitals, attorneys, educational institutions, Special Improvement Districts, concerned and homeless citizens.

## 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 first public hearing was held on January 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall in Midtown Elizabeth, accessible to all City residents via private and public transportation. The building has access ramps and elevators for special needs accessibility. Attendees of the hearing were provided with a discourse on the applicability of the Consolidated Plan, a description of the formula grants, a list of funding priorities and eligibility, application packages for the formula grants and technical assistance by Community Development staff.

A second public hearing was held on May 9th, 2019 at 1:00 PM in City Council Chambers. This hearing will allow for public comment and discussion of the draft planning document. No comments were received.

The general public was notified of both public hearings via the City of Elizabeth web site, and the Star-Ledger.

A draft copy of the plan was made available to all directors, residents, agencies, county representatives, community groups, Advisory Committee members and Task Force members, upon request.

Task Force members impacted goal-setting by determining community needs and priorities for Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Public Services, Public Facilities, Public Improvements and Continuum of Care. The Mayor's Community Development Advisory Committee based funding allocations on community needs and priorities set by these Task Forces.

**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 | Public Hearing | Minorities   Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish   Persons with disabilities   Non-targeted/broad community   Residents of Public and Assisted Housing   Homeless | The First Public Hearing was held on Friday, January 19th at 1:00 pm and was attended by 50 people. | The notice of funding availability was published inviting residents and agencies to participate in training on the application process. Applications and step-by-step guidance was provided to all who attended followed by a question and answer session. | N/A All questions were answered promptly at the meeting and through subsequent phone calls to Community Development staff. |  |
| 2 | Newspaper Ad | Minorities   Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish   Persons with disabilities   Non-targeted/broad community   Residents of Public and Assisted Housing   Homeless | The First Public Hearing was advertised in the Star-Ledger and City website. The hearing was held on Friday, January 18th at 1:00 pm and was attended by 50 people. | The notice of funding availability was published inviting residents and agencies to participate in training on the application process. Applications and step-by-step guidance was provided to all who attended followed by a question and answer session. | N/A All questions were answered promptly at the meeting and through subsequent phone calls to Community Development staff. |  |
| 3 | Internet Outreach | Minorities   Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish   Persons with disabilities   Non-targeted/broad community   Residents of Public and Assisted Housing   Homeless | A total of 50 people attended the meeting. | The notice of funding availability was published on the City website inviting residents and agencies to participate in training on the application process. | N/A All questions were answered promptly at the meeting and through subsequent phone calls to Community Development staff. |  |
| 4 | Email | Minorities   Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish   Persons with disabilities   Non-targeted/broad community   Residents of Public and Assisted Housing   Homeless | Notice of funding was emailed to previously funded agencies, task force participants and anyone who had previously expressed an interest in CDBG and/or ESG funding. | No comments were received except to say that they will attend. | N/A All questions were answered promptly at the meeting and through subsequent phone calls to Community Development staff. |  |

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

# Expected Resources

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

**Introduction**

For the goals and project described in this plan, the City will primarily rely on the federal funds it receives directly from HUD, such as CDBG, ESG and HOME. A brief description of each of the funding sources is included below. When considering how the funds are budgeted, it is important to note that each funding source has limitations on how the funds can be used. This plays a large role in terms of how the funds are budgeted.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds received by the City can be used for a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development, and improved community facilities and services, provided that the activities primarily benefit low- and moderate-income residents. Eligible projects include:

* housing rehabilitation for income-eligible homeowners,
* down payment assistance for homebuyers,
* social service programs,
* economic development programs,
* clearance and demolition of blighted structures, and
* public facility and infrastructure improvements.

**HOME**

The HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds received by the City must be used for affordable housing projects. Beneficiaries of HOME-funded projects must earn less than eighty percent of the area median income. Eligible types of activities include:

* Rehabilitation of existing affordable housing,
* Acquisition or development of new affordable housing, and
* Tenant-based rental assistance.

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)**

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds must benefit homeless persons and families and those at risk of homelessness. The City uses ESG funds to support homeless prevention, rehousing programs, and to support homeless shelters. Eligible program components:

* Street Outreach
* Emergency Shelter
* Homeless Prevention
* Rapid Re-Housing
* Administration

**Anticipated Resources**

| **Program** | **Source of Funds** | **Uses of Funds** | **Expected Amount Available Year 1** | | | | **Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan**  **$** | **Narrative Description** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Annual Allocation: $** | **Program Income: $** | **Prior Year Resources: $** | **Total:**  **$** |
| CDBG | public - federal | Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,800,000 | See above |
| HOME | public - federal | Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA | 0 | 392,934 | 0 | 392,934 | 1,171,535 | See above |
| ESG | public - federal | Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 160,000 | See above |
| Other | public - local | Public Improvements | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |

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**

For the HOME Program, the City is required to match twenty-five percent of all HOME project expenditures. However, HUD will reduce or waive the match requirement when a jurisdiction meet’s HUD fiscal distress criteria. In federal fiscal year 2017 (October 2016 to September 2017), the City of Elizabeth HOME program received a reduction of 50%, meaning the City would only need to match 12.5% of project expenditures. Match reductions are expected to be published in May 2018. In order to satisfy its match obligations, the City will rely on a combination of Regional Contribution Agreement (RCA) funds, foregone taxes and fees for affordable housing projects under development, and excess, carry-over match from prior years:

* The City receives match credit from the use of local cash, received from the City of Fairfield and the City of Summit via Regional Contribution Agreements (RCA), authorized by the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (COAH). Funds received through the RCA must be used for affordable housing programs that serve households earning less than 80% of area median income. The City uses RCA funds for HOME and HOME-like activities, such as homeowner rehabilitation and the development of rental projects. The City expects this program to generate approximately $30,000 of matching funds.
* The City receives match credit for "forgone taxes" for large affordable rental projects that make Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). Any tax savings realized by the development from the PILOT is counted as match.
* The City has been generating excessive match in prior fiscal years, over and above the required obligation amount. Under HOME rules, the City is allowed to carry forward this excess match credit and apply it to the current year’s obligation.

The City is required to provide a 1:1 match for its ESG allocation. The City will require each of its subrecipients to provide matching funds in a manner consistent with the ESG requirements.

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

The City of Elizabeth owns the property in Midtown which is slated to be developed into multiple, mixed-use dwellings. The development will include 425 market rate and 125 affordable residential units with on-site parking. The development will include 35,000 square feet of commercial space and a 9 story hotel with 135 rooms and 18,000 square feet of meeting space.

**Discussion**

# Annual Goals and Objectives

**AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives**

**Goals Summary Information**

| **Sort Order** | **Goal Name** | **Start Year** | **End Year** | **Category** | **Geographic Area** | **Needs Addressed** | **Funding** | **Goal Outcome Indicator** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | Economic Development | 2015 | 2019 | Non-Housing Community Development |  | On the Job Training Micro-Enterprise Business Technical Assistance | CDBG: $140,000 | Businesses assisted: 12 Businesses Assisted |
| **2** | Affordable Housing | 2015 | 2019 | Affordable Housing | MIDTOWN ELIZABETHPORT | Affordable Housing | HOME: $1,202,934 |  |
| **3** | Homeless Prevention | 2015 | 2019 | Homeless | MIDTOWN ELIZABETHPORT | Homeless Prevention | ESG: $160,000 |  |
| **4** | Public Services | 2015 | 2019 | Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development | MIDTOWN ELIZABETHPORT | Supportive Public/Social Services | CDBG: $360,000 |  |
| **8** | Public Facilities | 2016 | 2019 | Public Facilities | MIDTOWN ELIZABETHPORT | Neighborhood Improvements Public Facilities Park Improvements | CDBG: $940,000 |  |
| **9** | Planning, Administration & Capacity Building | 2015 | 2019 | Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development administration | MIDTOWN ELIZABETHPORT | Planning, Admin. & Capacity Building | CDBG: $360,000 HOME: $90,000 |  |

Table 6 – Goals Summary

**Goal Descriptions**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Goal Name** | Economic Development |
| **Goal Description** |  |
| **2** | **Goal Name** | Affordable Housing |
| **Goal Description** |  |
| **3** | **Goal Name** | Homeless Prevention |
| **Goal Description** |  |
| **4** | **Goal Name** | Public Services |
| **Goal Description** |  |
| **8** | **Goal Name** | Public Facilities |
| **Goal Description** |  |
| **9** | **Goal Name** | Planning, Administration & Capacity Building |
| **Goal Description** |  |

## Projects

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

**Introduction**

Unlike many entitlement HUD funded communities, the City of Elizabeth heavily invests, 20.8%, in faith-based and non-profit agencies to address public service needs. This investment has realized a dividend in addressing poverty, teenage pregnancy, access to social services, reduction in crime and drop-out rates, gang prevention, prisoner re-entry initiatives, senior services, child care, youth services, mentoring and counseling for all age groups.

**Projects**

| **#** | **Project Name** |  | **#** | **Project Name** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2019 ESG |  | 21 | Elizabeth Presbyterian Center |
| 2 | HOME Program Administration |  | 22 | Elizabeth Youth Theater Ensemble |
| 3 | Magill Real Estate Holdings, LLC - 731-735 New Point Rd |  | 23 | The Gateway Family YMCA |
| 4 | Magill Real Estate Holdings, LLC - 30-34 Bank St |  | 24 | Groundwork Elizabeth |
| 5 | Magill Real Estate Holdings, LLC - 822 E. Jersey Street |  | 25 | Holy Redeemer ( Visiting Nurse) |
| 6 | CHDO Affordable Housing Development |  | 26 | Institute of Music for Children |
| 7 | CDBG Program Administration |  | 27 | Jefferson Park Ministries |
| 8 | Elizabeth Public Library/Main Branch |  | 28 | Jewish Family Services |
| 9 | Jefferson Park Day Care Improvements |  | 29 | Josephine’s Place |
| 10 | Trinitas Health Mental Health Facility Improvements |  | 30 | Literacy, NJ |
| 11 | Habitat for Humanity |  | 31 | Prevention Links |
| 12 | Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program/EHIP |  | 32 | Restore Ministries |
| 13 | City of Elizabeth/EHIP (Senior Emergency Repair) |  | 33 | The Salvation Army |
| 14 | City of Elizabeth/ Miller Playground |  | 34 | Someone’s Daughter |
| 15 | Big Brothers Big Sisters |  | 35 | Temple Community |
| 16 | CASA of Union County |  | 36 | United Youth of NJ |
| 17 | Community Coordinated Child Care |  | 37 | YM-YWHA |
| 18 | Central Jersey Legal Services |  | 38 | YWCA of Easter U.C. |
| 19 | Cerebral Palsy |  | 39 | Elizabeth Development Company (EDC) |
| 20 | Covenant House |  |  |  |

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The needs of the aging urban centers in New Jersey have never been more challenging than they are today. Factors such as de-industrialization of the City of Elizabeth, deteriorating infrastructure, lack of available space, environmental contamination, movement of jobs to the suburbs, southern states and out of the country, increased population density and crime contribute to an overwhelming sense of frustration and discouragement.

The lagging economy makes it difficult for residents to find living-wage employment. Clients on public assistance are timing out and emergency assistance funding has been reduced to the disabled and elderly. The unintended consequence is that shelters have fewer clients paid by welfare making it impossible to keep their doors open. Several have closed and many are looking to change their mission from sheltering.

Task Forces on Affordable Housing and Economic Development, Public Services, Continuum of Care and Public Facilities/ Public Improvements determined community needs and priorities for the City of Elizabeth. The Mayor's Community Advisory Committee was guided by these priorities in allocating funding. Throughout the Consolidated Planning Process, it became more and more evident in Task force discussions that community, economic and social needs are interconnected:

* Job creation diminishes unemployment and associated needs.
* Increased income makes housing more affordable and lessens the threat of homelessness.
* A true Continuum of Care requires living wage job opportunities and affordable housing to attain self-sufficiency and self-esteem.
* Neighborhoods are revitalized by upgraded housing stock and commercial enterprises that serve and provide job opportunities to residents.

Because the City of Elizabeth has a vested interest in encouraging, developing and inspiring productive citizens, a large portion of Public Services programming is dedicated to youth, families and senior services. This programming has improved the quality of life for residents.

The City continues to heavily invest in economic development as a deterrent to homelessness. Recurrent in the discussion on homelessness and the threats of homelessness were the priorities for employment skills, job development and job opportunities that effectuate housing affordability. This is reinforced in the City strategy for economic development initiatives and established pro-development policies for manufacturing, commercial space, market rate and low-income housing.

## AP-38 Project Summary

**Project Summary Information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Project Name** | 2019 ESG |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Homeless Prevention |
| **Needs Addressed** | Homeless Prevention |
| **Funding** | HESG: 160,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to funds different |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 200 Shelter. 300 Homeless Prevention. 15 Rapid Rehoused. |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | **Shelter and Services**   * The Gateway Family YMCA $34,500 * The Salvation Army $15,000 * The YWCA of Eastern U.C.  $20,000   **Homeless Prevention**   * Community Access Unlimited $25,000 * Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless $35,500   **Rapid Re-Housing**   * Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless $15,000   **Outreach**   * Community Access Unlimited $15,000 |
| **2** | **Project Name** | HOME Program Administration |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Planning, Administration & Capacity Building |
| **Needs Addressed** | Affordable Housing |
| **Funding** | : |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the general administration and oversight of all HOME-funded projects. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** |  |
| **Location Description** |  |
| **Planned Activities** | HOME General Administration |
| **3** | **Project Name** | Magill Real Estate Holdings, LLC - 731-735 New Point Road |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Affordable Housing |
| **Funding** | HOME: $450,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to construct a 9 affordable housing rental units at 731-735 New Point Road. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 9 |
| **Location Description** | Project located at 731-735 New Point Road. |
| **Planned Activities** | New Construction |
| **4** | **Project Name** | Magill Real Estate Holdings, LLC - 30-34 Bank St |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Affordable Housing |
| **Funding** | HOME: $437,934 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to construct 9 rental affordable housing units at 30-34 Bank Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Target Date** |  |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | A total of 9 low-mod income families will benefit from this project. |
| **Location Description** | 30-34 Bank Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | New Construction |
| **5** | **Project Name** | Magill Real Estate Holdings, LLC - 822 E. Jersey Street |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Affordable Housing |
| **Funding** | HOME: $180,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used toward the rehabilitation of 6 affordable rental housing units in which 3 were funded with 2018 grant year and the remaining 3 with 2019 grant year funding. |
| **Target Date** |  |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | A total of 8 low-mod families will be benefiting from this project. |
| **Location Description** | 822 E. Jersey Street |
| **Planned Activities** | Rehab |
| **6** | **Project Name** | CHDO Affordable Housing Development |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Affordable Housing |
| **Funding** | HOME: $135,000 |
| **Description** | HOME funds will be used to newly develop or to acquire, rehabilitate, decent, affordable housing for qualified low to moderate income home buyers and renters. This project will be carried out by a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) and will be used to meet the 15% set-aside requirement of the HOME Program. |
| **Target Date** |  |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** |  |
| **Location Description** |  |
| **Planned Activities** | New construction or acquisition of substandard housing, rehabilitation, and disposition. |
| **7** | **Project Name** | CDBG Program Administration |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Planning, Administration & Capacity Building |
| **Needs Addressed** | On the Job Training Micro-Enterprise Business Technical Assistance Affordable Housing Rehab & Preservation of existing housing stock Neighborhood Improvements Public Facilities Park Improvements Homeless Prevention Supportive Public/Social Services Planning, Admin. & Capacity Building |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $360,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the general administration and oversight of all CDBG funded projects. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** |  |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG General Administration (24CFR 570.206) and CDBG Planning (24 CFR 570-205); National Objective is not required for administrative and planning activities. |
| **8** | **Project Name** | Elizabeth Public Library/Main Branch ADA Improvements |
| **Target Area** | MIDTOWN |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Facilities |
| **Needs Addressed** | Public Facilities |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $30,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used for ADA Improvements to the Main Branch parking lot to facilitate a greater level of accessibility located at 11 So. Broad Street |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** |  |
| **Location Description** | 11 So. Broad Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Facilities (24 CFR 570.201 (c)) that will satisfy the low-mod area national objective 570.208(a)(1) |
| **9** | **Project Name** | Jefferson Park Day Care Improvements |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Facilities |
| **Needs Addressed** | Public Facilities |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $40,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to make necessary improvements to the facility including replacing the HVAC system. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** |  |
| **Location Description** | Agency located at 485 Madison Ave. |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Facilities (24 CFR 570.201 (c)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24CFR 570.207(a)(2) |
| **10** | **Project Name** | Trinitas Health Mental Health Facility Improvements |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Facilities |
| **Needs Addressed** | Public Facilities |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $260,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to continue improvements to the behavioral health and Psychiatric facility to purchase a generator. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately over 8000 behavioral and psychiatric patients will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 655 E. Jersey Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Facilities (24 CFR 570-201(c) that will satisfy the Low Mod Area National objective (24CFR 570.208(a)(2) |
| **11** | **Project Name** | Habitat for Humanity |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Rehab & Preservation of existing housing stock |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $100,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to assist with Rehab for Single Unit Residential owner occupied. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approx. 8-10 families |
| **Location Description** |  |
| **Planned Activities** | Provide low-mod income owner occupied single unit’s funds for home rehab. |
| **12** | **Project Name** | Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program/EHIP |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Rehab & Preservation of existing housing stock |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $50,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to assist owner occupied single units for rehab |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Funds will be used to assist with rehabilitation of home owner occupied single units. |
| **Location Description** |  |
| **Planned Activities** | Owner Occupied single unit rehab. |
| **13** | **Project Name** | City of Elizabeth/EHIP (Senior Emergency Repair Program) |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Affordable Housing |
| **Needs Addressed** | Rehab & Preservation of existing housing stock |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $25,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will use for emergency repair and safety grants for seniors. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 5 low-mod homeowner will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | Provide emergency repair grants to insure senior safety. |
| **14** | **Project Name** | City of Elizabeth/ Miller Playground |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Facilities |
| **Needs Addressed** | Park Improvements |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $435,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to continue the renovation of the Miller Playground located at 714-736 Court Street (E'Port Low Income Area). |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | This activity will benefit the entire City of Elizabeth, although located in a low income area (E'PORT). |
| **Location Description** | 714-736 Court Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | Renovate a deteriorated  public park. |
| **15** | **Project Name** | Big Brothers Big Sisters |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's youth mentoring program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 34 youth will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Multiple locations |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **16** | **Project Name** | CASA of Union County |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | CDBG funds will be used to support the agency's foster care youth advocacy program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately a total of 100 youth will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Various locations |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **17** | **Project Name** | Community Coordinated Child Care |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $ 15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's program that provides employment training to child care specialist. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately a total of 12 child care specialist will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | various locations citywide. |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **18** | **Project Name** | Central Jersey Legal Services |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to provide legal services to tenants that are at risk of homelessness. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately a total of 75 tenants at risk of homelessness will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **19** | **Project Name** | Cerebral Palsy |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's Disabled Audit Service Program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 80 disabled clients will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **20** | **Project Name** | Covenant House |
| **Target Area** | ELIZABETHPORT |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: 15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency's homeless shelter operating cost. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately a total of 22 mothers with children will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 231 Court Street, Elizabeth NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **21** | **Project Name** | Elizabeth Presbyterian Center |
| **Target Area** | ELIZABETHPORT |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support their food pantry located at E'Port although will service citywide. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Funds will benefit approximately 500 people citywide although located at E'Port. |
| **Location Description** | 231 Court Street, Elizabeth NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
|  |  |  |
| **22** | **Project Name** | Elizabeth Youth Theater Ensemble |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the organizations Crime Awareness Multi-media program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 500ppl will benefit |
| **Location Description** | Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **23** | **Project Name** | The Gateway Family YMCA |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s infant & toddler child care services. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 25 infants/toddler will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | City Wide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **24** | **Project Name** | Groundwork Elizabeth |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG:$15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's green initiative employment training program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 10pp will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **25** | **Project Name** | Holy Redeemer (Visiting Nurse) |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG:$15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency's home-based services to abused and neglected children. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 50 neglected children will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Citywide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **21** | **Project Name** | Institute of Music for Children |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: 15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s after school music program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 120children will benefit. |
| **Location Description** | 780 Salem Ave, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
|  |  |  |
| **27** | **Project Name** | Jefferson Park Ministries |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's after school program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 30 youth will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | various locations citywide. |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **28** | **Project Name** | Jewish Family Services |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s Senior Health Program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 80 seniors will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | City Wide |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **29** | **Project Name** | Josephine’s Place |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG:$15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's developmental and soft-skills employment training for women. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 125 women will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 622 Elizabeth Avenue |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **30** | **Project Name** | Literacy, NJ |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency's soft skill employment program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 100ppl will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Elizabeth Public Library (Main Branch) |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **31** | **Project Name** | Prevention Links |
| **Target Area** | ELIZABETHPORT |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s youth drug prevention afterschool program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 30 youth will benefit from activity. |
| **Location Description** | 250 Second Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
|  |  |  |
| **32** | **Project Name** | Restore Ministries |
| **Target Area** | Midtown |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's after school and summer enrichment program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately a total of 15 child care specialist will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 1161 E. Jersey St, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **33** | **Project Name** | The Salvation Army |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s shelter operating cost for the permanent housing program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 100 at risk of homelessness will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 1018 E. Grand Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **34** | **Project Name** | Someone’s Daughter |
| **Target Area** | ELIZABETPORT |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's STEM Program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 20 youth will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 161 First Street, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **35** | **Project Name** | Temple Community |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s after school and summer prog. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 75 youth will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 128 Broadway, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **36** | **Project Name** | United Youth of NJ |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support agency’s afterschool/summer program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 50 youth will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 860 Anna St. , Elizabeth NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
|  |  |  |
| **37** | **Project Name** | YM-YWHA |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's transportation services to City of Elizabeth residents. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 100 people will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | 501 Green Lane, Union NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **38** | **Project Name** | The YWCA of Easter U.C. |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used support battered women shelter. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 10 women will benefit from this activity. |
| **Location Description** | Cannot disclose to the nature of this activity (battered women). |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
| **39** | **Project Name** | Elizabeth Development Company (EDC) |
| **Target Area** | Citywide |
| **Goals Supported** | Public Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Supportive Public/Social Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 |
| **Description** | Funds will be used to support the agency's economic development program, Micro-enterprise, Business technical assistance, and on the job training program. |
| **Target Date** | 6/30/2020 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Approximately 100 pp will benefit from on the job training program, 50 businesses for Technical assistance, and 50 form Micro-Enterprise Program. |
| **Location Description** | 205 First St, Eliz NJ |
| **Planned Activities** | CDBG Public Services (24 CFR 570.201(e)) that will satisfy the LMC national objective (24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)) |
|  |  |  |

## 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**

The census tracts with the highest concentration of people living below the poverty rate are: 308.01-42.4%, 304-31.4%, 306-29.1%, 302-27.6%, 310-26.9%, and 312-26.2%. In addition, the following census tracts have the highest foreclosure and abandonment risk scores: 302, 303, 305, 307, 308.1, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 318, and 319. These are the target areas for CDBG, ESG and HOME funds.

However, all CDBG, HOME and ESG programs are citywide. The Mayors Community Development Advisory Committee, (the group responsible for CDBG and ESG funding decisions), makes a conscious effort to allocate funding to every Ward expressing a need based on the priorities developed by the Task Forces.

In addition, the City of Elizabeth focuses on the Elizabethport and Midtown as revitalization areas.

**Geographic Distribution**

| **Target Area** | **Percentage of Funds** |
| --- | --- |
| MIDTOWN | 4 |
| ELIZABETHPORT | 45 |

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

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

The City of Elizabeth is focusing on certain census tracts in an effort to alleviate pockets of poverty and to revitalize the Midtown and Elizabethport areas. All of the above priorities were collectively determined through annually held Task Force Meetings with input from the Continuum of Care, City residents, the homeless population, business community, non-profit agencies and local and county officials. The main obstacle to addressing underserved needs is financing. Because HUD funding continues to be cut year after year, the community needs far outweigh the ability to provide solutions due to limited funding and lack of living wage job opportunities.

**Discussion**

The City of Elizabeth is very focused on addressing the needs of the community in all geographic areas. This is especially evident in the fact that the City is able to attract 552 units of market-rate housing. This has taken a true "bite" out of abandoned properties that may have created additional pockets of poverty.

# Affordable Housing

## AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

**Introduction**

2019 Affordable Housing Projects include the following:

* Magill Development: 21 rental rehab units

| **One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported** | |
| --- | --- |
| Homeless | 5 |
| Non-Homeless | 5 |
| Special-Needs | 0 |
| Total | 10 |

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

| **One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through** | |
| --- | --- |
| Rental Assistance | 0 |
| The Production of New Units | 21 |
| Rehab of Existing Units | 2 |
| Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 |
| Total | 23 |

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

**Discussion**

## AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

**Introduction**

The Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth (HACE) administers five public housing complexes located throughout the City, with a total of 1,345 rental units for low- and moderate-income households. All complexes participate in the Capital Fund Program. Four of the projects are devoted to senior citizen/disabled housing. A complete listing follows.

**Family Facilities:**

* Mravlag Manor - 423 units;
* Pioneer Homes and Migliore Manor - demolished;

**Senior/Disabled Facilities:**

* Farley Towers - 249 units;
* Kennedy Arms - 125 units;
* Ford Leonard Towers - 126 units;
* O'Donnell-Dempsey - 100 units;
* J Christian Bollwage Towers - 31 units.

The general condition of the unit’s ranges from good to excellent. All four senior citizen complexes have undergone extensive 504/Handicapped Accessibility renovations and updates. The waiting list for public housing low-income units is as follows: families with children - 685; families with disabilities -70; elderly families - 329. A total of 1,084 families are on the waiting list.

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

**Preservation of Affordable Housing**

HACE has acquired the Marina Village Development in order to preserve the affordable and low-income housing units. The project consists of 35 units of which 20 are public housing units. A Rental Demonstration application (RAD) was submitted to HUD and a 4% LIHTC application will be submitted to generate the financial resources needed to make the necessary $1.7 Million capital improvements. HACE has acquired F&B Gardens located on 132 First St; it is a mixed-use building with commercial on the ground floor and 10 units funded with HOME funds.

**New Construction of Affordable Housing**

HACE is in the process of securing financing for the development of 60 new units of affordable housing as a scattered site development known as E’port Family Homes. The development will consist of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and Public Housing Units. This development will include three separate sites and HACE will be the sole developer of the project. The site, located on First Street, will be a 27-unit, 3-story new construction building. The construction will include grade-level entrances along First Street, with a potential parking entrance along Court Street. The building will include one and two-bedroom apartment units and 27 on-grade parking spaces. The one site located on Third Street will consist of 33 units with a mix of two and three-bedroom apartments.

The pre-development phase of the project is completed. The development has site plan approval, the design and construction documents were completed and approved by NJHMFA, the Pilot agreement was executed by HACE and the City. The project has been awarded NJHMFA Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) 4% program. Because of financing opportunities, the project is divided into two phases; Phase I is the site on First Street and Phase II will include the sites on Third Street. HACE is presently applying for financing for the site on First Street.

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

During the HOPE VI initiative, the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth (HACE) provided a counseling program that included providing education and training in homeownership, budgeting, credit maintenance and paying bills. Participation in the program was a prerequisite for a public housing resident to move into a home at the Waterfront Developments. Additional participants found the basic educational services provided as part of that counseling.

HACE has also partnered with other local agencies and secured Section 8 rental subsidies that afforded 3 families to transition from leasing to purchasing their own homes utilizing the subsidy for their mortgage.

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

The Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth is a model HOPE VI agency and is classified by HUD as a “HIGH PERFORMER“and has never been designated as "troubled." In fact, HACE is a model agency and serves as a resource for other housing authorities.

**Discussion**

The Elizabeth Housing Authority and the City of Elizabeth work cooperatively on many projects to improve the quality of life of its residents. The transformation of Elizabethport is a true testament to this cohesive effort.  
  
The Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth is committed to continuing with the redevelopment of the Elizabethport Neighborhood and with other low- and moderate-income neighborhoods within the City of Elizabeth while creating and preserving low-income and affordable housing units for its residents. The development and preservation of these units not only provides the residents with affordable housing opportunities but it protects property values and attracts very much desired private investment in the neighborhood.

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

**Introduction**

Most low-income individuals and families with children have suffered an income loss or reduction as the main reason for needing rental assistance. That loss of income places them at-risk of homelessness. A perfect example is a working person who is laid-off and may wait over 8 weeks to receive unemployment which is 55% less than what they were making. This places the family two months behind in the rent and just able to pay the current rent. Most of these residents will need to be relocated as they are not able to maintain the rent without additional funding. Rental assistance simply buys time for them. The number of affordable housing units in Elizabeth is dwindling and it is becoming very challenging to find units for residents, especially the working poor. The greatest need for residents are **jobs, jobs, jobs.**

Small and large related families and the elderly are most affected by overcrowding and the cost burden of rent that is greater than 50% of resident income. Most landlords are not willing to rent to people who meet this threshold making it very difficult to find an apartment. In addition, the average property tax was $8767 in 2018, about $77 higher than in 2017. This swallows 20% of the median $43,568 household income.

**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**

Since the City of Elizabeth does not provide direct services to the homeless, it utilizes non-profit organizations to perform this function. Using HESG funds, the City expects to assist 20 households with rental assistance and 120 people with homeless prevention services. The County of Union acts as the Continuum of Care for this area and they fund Bridgeway to perform street outreach. Bridgeway focuses on people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Needs of individuals and families are assessed and reassessed on a monthly basis at a minimum or as needs arise. Referrals are made for needed services including: food, clothing, hygiene, medical services, etc. Transportation may be provided if needed, especially in an emergency situation.

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

The City is proposing to fund a number of emergency and transitional housing programs in the coming year, including Covenant House, YWCA of Eastern Union County, Salvation Army, and the Gateway Family YMCA.

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

The following agencies are funded through the City of Elizabeth HESG Grant: The Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, the Salvation Army, Community Access Unlimited Inc., the Gateway Family YMCA, and the YWCA of Eastern Union County. These agencies meet the needs of homeless persons, including chronically homeless individuals, through in house programs that target this population and make placement of the chronically homeless a priority. Services include but are not limited to: emergency shelter, meals for shelter and non-shelter residents, linkages to community, health, employment and educational services, entitlement and workforce development programs, rental assistance and rapid re-housing with case management services, behavioral health counseling for substance abuse and/or mental health, homeless prevention, case management services and permanent supportive housing. All services provided to homeless persons promote self-sufficiency and prioritize chronically homeless individuals, veterans, seniors, families with children and unaccompanied youth.  
By virtue of the calls the Bureau of Community Development is receiving on a daily basis, the number of residents seeking rental assistance has risen exponentially. To better address the chronically homeless issue in the City of Elizabeth, the Elizabeth Home Improvement Program (EHIP), HOME Program, in 2018 funded the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless to provide short-term tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA, funds are still available.

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

The City of Elizabeth, the County Continuum of Care (CoC) and its sub-recipient agencies (City and County) work closely with Trinitas Regional Medical Center which provides both inpatient and outpatient services for individuals with mental health or physical health issues. The hospital provides discharge planning to ensure individuals are referred to appropriate housing and services within the community, depending on the client's need.  
In order to be discharged from a corrections facility, the inmate must state that s/he has a place to move to or they will not be discharged. In many instances individuals will provide an address when in fact they have no place to go. An all-out effort is being undertaken to change this through the Union County Re-Entry Task Force through Reconnections programming and affiliated service agencies. The City of Elizabeth has been an active member/participant of this Task Force for over 15 years.  
City funded agencies work closely with Bridgeway and Community Access to refer any individuals in need of supportive housing, education and case management services. Bridgeway provides homeless street outreach, supportive housing and partial care, day programing for individuals with serious and persistent mental health needs. Community Access provides housing, youth street outreach and case management services to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities, and aged-out youth. It is very rare for funded agencies to work with moderate-income individuals. The services provided directly benefit low- and extremely low-income individuals and families. Both Bridgeway and Community Access addresses housing, health, social services, employment training and educational needs of their clients.  
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse services of NJ is working closely with individuals returning to the community after State hospitalization. They work with community based agencies and provide rental subsidies as well as supportive housing services to individuals being discharged from the State hospital.  
City of Elizabeth participates in the Continuum of Care Committee (CoC) which reviews any discharge planning issues and concerns as they arise.

**Discussion**

The City of Elizabeth continues to heavily invest in economic development and job training as a deterrent to homelessness. Recurrent in the discussion on homelessness and the threats of homelessness were the priorities for employment skills, job development, and job opportunities that effectuate housing affordability. This is reinforced in the City’s strategy for economic development initiatives.

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

**Introduction:**

The City is unaware of any public policies that negatively affect affordable housing or residential investment. Other barriers to affordable housing and actions being taken to address them are listed below.

**1. Lack of Resources**

* City and developers continue seeking additional funding sources for projects and programs;
* Give priority to projects within redevelopment areas to maximize neighborhood impact.

**2. Lack of Designated CHDOs**

* Continue working with former and potential CHDOs to achieve designation

**3. Limited Housing Related Knowledge**

* Continue providing “Developer Training” on various topics (accessibility, property management, green, Section 3, etc.);
* Continue holding Educational Forums, Seminars and other events for the public on various topics (financial literacy, avoiding foreclosure, buying a home, being a good tenant, being a good landlord, financial planning, energy efficiency, home maintenance and improvements, etc.).

**4. Underutilization of Programs**

* Work with lenders, area realtors and non-profits to inform them of the City’s financial programs, and learn about their programs;
* City to increase/expand housing program marketing efforts including bi-lingual mailings and presentations to neighborhood groups, associations, churches, cable TV, neighborhood tours, etc.

**5. Difficulty Grasping True Nature and Extent of Foreclosures and Stabilizing Neighborhoods Where They Exist**

* City to continue working with the Union County Foreclosure Task Force on gathering and analyzing relevant foreclosure related data, sponsoring events, and increasing public awareness;
* Strive to map foreclosure data and HOME loan data;
* City to continue referring owners with foreclosure problems to local HUD certified counseling agencies;
* Work with other City departments to coordinate and enforce Vacant and Foreclosed Property Ordinance.

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

The City of Elizabeth has a foreclosure registration ordinance that requires banks to register all foreclosed properties. The City hired a company that specializes in administering Foreclosed Property Registration Ordinances to improve efficiency and enable several City departments to work together to address and enforce the foreclosed property ordinance. Additionally, the company has assisted in contacting the appropriate bank contact to demolish vacant and abandoned homes.

The City has adopted a vacant and abandoned property procedure whereby vacant and abandoned structures have a Lis Pendens filed against the property. This ensures that any new potential purchasers go through the permitting process and also is the last step before notifying the bank / homeowner of pending demolition of the structure.

**Discussion:**

## AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

**Introduction:**

The City must describe the other actions it plans to take during the program year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structure, and enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

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

The lagging economy makes it difficult for residents to find living-wage employment. Clients on public assistance are timing out and emergency assistance funding has been reduced to the disabled and elderly. The unintended consequence is that shelters have fewer clients paid by welfare making it impossible to keep their doors open. Several have closed and many are looking to change their mission from sheltering.

In 2018, the Coalition served 500+ households. Seventy-one percent were ineligible for welfare due to child support or unemployment income. These families still fell below the poverty guidelines and pay more than 50% of their income for rent. Current grant funding is spent long before the end grant date. To afford market rent on a 2-bedroom apartment, a family needs to have an income of $56,000.

To address this, the City will continue to use HOME funds (2017-2018), for tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) as an essential element of the City of Elizabeth's effort to expand the supply, affordability and availability of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing. These TBRA vouchers will make housing more affordable for people who are homeless and/or marginally stable to help them to move to self-sufficiency.

Because of the variety and type of funding the City of Elizabeth provides to low-income children, youth, teens, battered women, families and seniors in public services and homeless prevention, it is meeting many social service needs. If residents are underserved, it is because the need and case load for case management, affordable housing, affordable childcare, rental assistance and referral services far outweighs the need created by this lagging economy.

Agencies are continuously encouraged to apply for additional federal, state and private funding to expand their programming. However, this funding continues to go dry as well.

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

The City of Elizabeth maintains a considerable number of affordable housing through the HOME Program and the Elizabeth Housing Authority. The Oakwood Plaza Redevelopment will maintain 357 affordable (project based Section 8) housing units benefitting extremely low-income families in the Midtown area.  
The Housing Authority is in the process of developing an additional 60 affordable housing units in one of the redevelopment areas of the City, Elizabethport. In Addition, Magill Development will create an additional 21 units for affordable housing.

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

In the City of Elizabeth, contractors must agree to utilize Lead-Safe Work Practices, (LSWP), to reduce the generation of dust and prevent contamination of property. Unless the property is exempt or has been tested and no lead-based paint exists, LSWP must be utilized. Contractors must provide proof that they have completed LSWP training and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) training. Lead-Safe Work Practices include:  
1). Prohibition of specific methods of paint removal.  
2). Occupant protection and worksite preparation.  
3). Specialized cleaning.  
Following the work, a clearance examination of the worksite is conducted to ensure the site is safe for residents to enter. The cost for utilizing Lead-Safe Work Practices as well as the Clearance Testing is incorporated into the financial assistance and described in the Work Write-Up. Should clearance not be achieved the first time the tests are conducted, the contractor will be responsible for the costs involved with re-cleaning the site and obtaining additional tests until clearance is achieved.  
This policy does not apply to new construction projects or to housing built after 1978.

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

The City is undertaking major redevelopment housing and commercial projects in Midtown and Elizabethport. The expectation is that the projects in Elizabethport and Midtown will create many living wage jobs in construction and the hotel service industry. The City is currently undergoing a major renaissance in new housing development; in Midtown, 425 market rate and 302 affordable units are projected. Building a hotel and 727 units of housing will create many living wage jobs and reduce dependency on public assistance. In addition, the highest Public Service priority for the City of Elizabeth is Employment Training. The awarded $115,000 (which represents 28% of the total Public Service dollars) to five (5) agencies to provide such services to residents in an effort to enable greater self-sufficiency.

**Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City of Elizabeth has received CDBG, ESG and HOME funding since the inception of these programs at HUD. The institutional structure is well developed and the City has received several best-practice awards.

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

The City works very closely with the local Housing Authority and has in fact worked closely with them to develop the existing model HOPE VI project. The City will be funding E'Port Homes in this funding cycle. Because it heavily funds public service programming, a very close-knit relationship has developed with non-profits and faith-based organizations over these 44 funding years. Task Forces are held annually where agencies, the homeless, residents and local officials network to share information and assess needs. In addition, the City is an active member of the Union County Continuum of Care Committee where it advocates for and promotes the needs of its residents.

**Discussion:**

# Program Specific Requirements

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

**Introduction:**

The City of Elizabeth is very focused on addressing the needs of the community by spreading CDBG, HOME and ESG funding in all geographic areas.

The City is very successful in attracting many units of market-rate housing. This has taken a true "bite" out of abandoned properties that may have created additional pockets of poverty.

CD-45 is shaping up to be a banner year for the City of Elizabeth. With the infusion of an additional $375,261, the City is poised to provide additional housing units, repair and replace public bathrooms, install a HVAC system in a mental behavioral hospital, and community park improvements.  The City hopes that the construction of these projects will provide additional living-wage jobs for residents.

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

**Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)**

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

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

**Other CDBG Requirements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | |
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities | 0 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| 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. | 100.00% |

**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 City will only use forms of investment identified in 24 CFR 92.205, which includes:

* equity investments,
* interest-bearing loans or advances,
* non-interest-bearing loans or advances,
* interest subsidies consistent with the purposes of this part,
* deferred payment loans, and
* grants.

1. 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:

The City does not propose using HOME funds for Homebuyer activities. If the CHDO project involves homebuyer activities, the City will use the resale/recapture provisions located in the attachment to this plan.

1. 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:

If the City carries out any homebuyer or owner-occupied rehabilitation programs, the City will utilize the affordable homeownership limits provided by HUD.

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

The City of Elizabeth will not utilize HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing.

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)**

**Reference 91.220(l)(4)**

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

Please see Appendices for standards for providing ESG assistance.

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

The City of Elizabeth participated in developing the following:

* Centralized/Coordinated Assessment System is Used by Subrecipients (Please find Coordinated Assessment Guidelines and the Universal Intake Form attached).
* Written Standards for Providing ESG Assistance
* System for Allocating ESG Funds (which component and which activity)
* Project Performance Standards (to include outcome measures for projects and activities)
* Funding Policies and Procedures for HMIS Administration and Operation

The data collected by Union County CoC helped to identify needs and gaps in the homeless delivery system.  In addition, the Point-In-Time surveys were used as guidance in development of policies and procedures. The following strategies are used by the City of Elizabeth sub-recipients in administering the Emergency Solutions (ESG) Grant:

* Promotion of collaborative efforts amongst service agencies
* City and agencies strive to build capacity and knowledge to improve services
* City strives to fund affordable permanent housing
* Increase economic development to increase living wage job creation for residents
* Collaborate with educational facilities to train clients for living wage jobs to reduce financial vulnerability
* Integrate affordable housing availability with health care for youth, families and veterans.  (Special attention is paid to youth aging out of foster care and juvenile justice).
* Transform the crisis response system to return homeless people to stable permanent housing
* Utilize all above strategies to end chronic homelessness (The **"Chronically Homeless"** HUD definition is too narrow and is resulting in the inability to spend down this funding).

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

The availability of funding is advertised on the City's web site, the Star-Ledger and La Voz, a Spanish bi-monthly publication. A public hearing is held in an accessible facility, City Council Chambers. In addition, interested non-profits, community and faith-based organizations who had been funded previously, are Task Force members, or have expressed an interest in grant funding are sent emails to participate in the hearing. Applications are provided on-line and at the public hearing. Staff provides overview of the application, funding process, priorities, eligibility, reporting requirements, submission timetable, number of copies needed and deadline for submission.

Applications that meet the deadline date and time frame are reviewed by staff for eligibility and completeness of information. Those meeting the criteria are forwarded to the Mayor's Community Development Advisory Committee for review and recommendations. Based on the availability of funding, funding caps, matching requirements and priority needs, the Committee makes funding recommendations. Each application is rated on the agency's track record, capacity to provide the services and completeness of application. Funding allocations are posted for the required 30-day public comment period before they are submitted to HUD in an Action or C-Plan. ESG funding is awarded to community and faith-based organizations that possess 501(c) non-profit status.

1. 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.

Every year, before commencing on the Consolidated/Action Plan Process, the City of Elizabeth holds an annual Task Force Meeting for Continuum of Care to determine priorities. Homeless and formerly homeless individuals are invited and participate in the process. The homeless policies used were set up by the County CoC and included homeless and formerly homeless participants in its development.

1. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The City of Elizabeth follows procedures as outlined in the Integrity Bulletins describing Standards for Internal Control with strict adherence to agency monitoring, the Citizen Participation Plan, ESG Policies and Procedures Manual, and the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

Agency performance is monitored at least quarterly to make sure they are spending funding in a timely manner. City utilizes both desk audits as well as on-site monitoring using HUD monitoring forms. The City requests timely spending through the use of monitoring, phone calls, emails and letters. Agencies who do not comply may not be considered for funding in the next funding cycle. All ESG agencies are monitored annually and followed-up with technical assistance, if needed, to come into compliance with federal regulations.

Performance standards for ESG are automatically input into the HMIS system in real time. In order to receive reimbursement, the agency must input information on the clients they served. Without input into HMIS and proper back-up documentation, the agency is not reimbursed.

The City of Elizabeth participates actively in the Continuum of Care Committee. Through this participation, the City receives a lot of input from the homeless, the community at-large and its non-profit organizations.

The City's goal is to provide permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless and extremely low- and low-income residents.

**HOME - Eligible Applicants and Where to Obtain Additional Information**

All developers wishing to obtain HOME funds from the City, including Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), must submit an application to the City’s EHIP Department. Inquiries can be made to Victoria Rivera, 50 Winfield Scott Plaza- Room 109, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201.  
  
All persons interested in obtaining tenant-based rental assistance must contact the City’s subrecipient, the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, located at 118 Division Street in Elizabeth. The Coalition can be reached at 908-355-2060.