

City of Providence, Rhode Island

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***DRAFT* 2016 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report**

*Community Development Block Grant
HOME Investment Partnership Program
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
Emergency Solutions Grant*

*Final Draft to be Submitted to the U.S. Department of
Housing & Urban Development by 9.30.17*

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan.

91.520(a)

The City of Providence is designated an Entitlement Community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Through this designation, the City receives annual funding from the following four programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). These funds assist the City in creating viable urban communities through the provision of quality affordable housing, creating suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities for the City's low- and moderate-income residents. The specific strategies the City is to undertake in detailed in the City's Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans. These plans identify the City's housing, community, neighborhood, and economic development needs, prioritize those needs, and develop goals and strategies regarding how funding will be allocated to eligible housing and community development activities to meet the City's priority needs.

These funding sources are used to increase the availability of affordable housing, revitalize neighborhoods through infrastructure improvements, capital improvements to community facilities, and supporting an array of social services and the enhancement of the City's planning and management capacity. Each year, the City prepares a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) which details how the City has spent its federal funds and whether or not the City is meeting the goals set forth in the most recent Consolidated Plan. This CAPER is a report on the accomplishments and progress made towards addressing annual and five-year goals for Program Year 2016 (July 1, 2016- June 30, 2017). Program Year 2016 (hereafter referred to as "PY16") is the 2nd year of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan period.

In PY16, the City identified a number of goals and objectives that it would accomplish in the year with HUD funds. A discussion of these goals and a progress report on funded projects follows.

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

A progress report on PY16-funded projects follows. *It is important to note that this draft CAPER is a living document due to the need to extend a number of CDBG contracts past the traditional program year end date of June 30, 2017 to enable successful completion of projects.* Contract extensions were precipitated by the unusually late receipt of PY16 CDBG funds—funds did not arrive from HUD until late November, 2016, rather than July 1, 2016. The late receipt of funds resulted in a postponed start to the program year, delayed contracting and bidding, and a missed fall construction season. Despite this, most activities have reached completion on schedule, accomplishments have been fully realized or will do so shortly (final draws or closeouts pending). Projects most impacted by delays were construction and improvement projects contingent upon weather.

PY2016 CDBG Public Services

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
Capital City Community Center	Child Care and Senior Services	3779	\$78,812.68	\$78,812.68	146 children ; 10 persons with special needs;-62 seniors.	Completed
Community Action Partnership of Providence	Elmwood Community Center Food Pantry	3782	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	890 clients; including adults with disabilities, seniors, unemployed.	Completed
DaVinci Center for Community Progress	Consolidated Social Services	3789	\$54,311.09	\$54,311.09	4300 including seniors, adults w/disabilities, unemployed, persons with HIV.	Completed
Federal Hill House	Community Case Management	3785	\$34,219.91	\$34,219.72	5686 clients, including adults w/disabilities, unemployed seniors, homeless ,domestic violence victims, persons w/ HIV/AIDS.	Completed
Joslin Community Center	Project Key	3806	\$18,506.69	\$0.00	52 youth	Grant closeout
Joslin Community Center	Bilingual Intake	3805	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	1433 clients including disabled,, seniors, unemployed homeless ,HIV/AIDS. Victims of domestic violence.	"
Mount Hope Neighborhood Association	Community Development & Public Services Programming	3774	\$33,361.63	\$31,464.63	600 clients including seniors, adults with disabilities, homeless, unemployed.	Grant closeout
Providence Housing Authority	Thomas J. Anton Community Center / Resident Services Dept. Programs	3795	\$42,342.93	\$42,324.93	677 clients including persons with disabilities ; unemployed, victims of domestic violence.	Completed
Silver Lake Community Center	Community Daycare	3775	\$58,718.13	\$58,517.13	74 children.	Completed
Washington Park Citizens Association	Intake/Youth Program	3778	\$66,200.08	\$66,200.08	255 youth	Completed

West End Community Center	Early Learning and Before / After School Programs	3768	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	452 children and youth	Grant closeout
YWCA Rhode Island	APPLE After School and Summer Enrichment	3787	\$19,219.87	\$19,220.00	37 youth	Completed
Building Futures	Construction Pre-Apprenticeship	3801	\$20,695.82	\$20,695.82	28 unemployed persons	Completed
Center for Dynamic Learning	The Center for Dynamic Learning	3794	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	64 youth; 10 with disabilities	Completed
City Year Providence	Whole School Whole Child Program	3818	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	1021 youth	Completed
Clinica Esperanza/ Hope Clinic	Bridging the [Health Equity] Gap	3798	\$25,000.00	\$24,989.00	3109 uninsured and underinsured persons	Completed
College Visions	College Visions: Supporting Low-Income Providence Students to and through College	3783	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	57 youth, high school and college age	Completed
Federal Hill House	Providence EITC & Volunteer Income Tax Program	3784	\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	2898 persons including seniors and adults with disabilities.	Completed
FirstWorks	FirstWorks Arts Learning-broadening students learning and career options to attain success in school and life.	3777	\$29,000.00	\$29,000.00	3301 youth	Completed
Mt. Hope Learning Center	Before and After School Program	3802	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	99 youth	Completed
OpenDoors	Community Reentry Services	3788	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	106 unemployed & previously incarcerated persons.	Completed

Providence Children's Youth Cabinet	Familias Unidas	3807	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	28 youth suffering from post traumatic stress disorder	Grant closeout
Providence CityArts for Youth	CityArts Creative Futures Afterschool Program	3808	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	338 youth	Completed
Providence Community Library	Spanish-language jobs training programs offering GED preparation and computer skills	3790	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	102 Spanish-speaking persons	Completed
RI Urban Debate League	Evidence-Based Argumentation	3804	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	431 youth	Completed
Serve Rhode Island	Providence High School Youth Service Learning and Work Experience for Career Exploration and Development	3797	\$25,000.00	\$14,932.25	100 youth	Grant closeout
Sojourner House	Comprehensive Drop-In and Resource Center for Survivors of Domestic Abuse	3771	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	273 victims of domestic violence.	Completed
Sojourner House	Supportive Housing Subsidies and Services	3772	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	73 victims of domestic violence.	Completed
The Providence Plan	YouthBuild Providence	3803	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	28 youth	Completed
Young Voices	Afterschool Leadership Program for Youth	3786	\$25,000.00	\$24,997.18	90 youth	Completed
Beautiful Day RI	The Providence Granola Project: On the Job Training and Workplace Orientation for Newly Arrived Refugees	3793	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	22 refugees	Completed

Center for Southeast Asians	Victims of Crime Assistance	3791	\$22,500.00	\$18,430.23	101 victims of crime	Contract extended 9/30/17
Amos House	A Hand Up—Jobs Program for Homeless	3799	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	222 panhandlers/homeless	Completed
House of Hope	Providence Navigation Center: Community Connectors at Providence Public Library	3845	\$23,211.66	\$8,848.57	22 homeless persons	Grant closeout

PY2016 CDBG Housing

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
City of Providence	EveryHome: Abandoned Property Rehabilitation	3878; 3858 3865; 3942	\$318,000.00	\$187,397.94	4 low-income homebuyers upon sales.	Gap financing for receiver projects: 93 Superior; 120 Camden; 95 Providence; 145 Sunbury
City of Providence	Home Repair Program	3792- 3892	\$300,000.00	\$219,007.00	22 low/mod household properties w/ 42 units.	22 deferred payment, 0% interest loans issued to income-qualified owner-occupants.
Providence Housing Authority	Manton Heights Domestic Hot Water Heater Replacements	3888	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	580 public housing residents.	Install underway
Operation Stand Down Rhode Island	Veterans Housing Boiler Replacement (963 Chalkstone Avenue)	3941	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	10 units housing formerly homeless veterans.	Install underway
YouthBuild	YouthBuild Housing Rehabilitation	3872	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	TBD	City refining scope with agency.

PY2016 CDBG Facility & Infrastructure Improvements

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
City of Providence	Sports Fields Improvement Program	3929	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	1,590 persons	Expected completion: Spring 2018
City of Providence	Central/PCTA Practice Field Improvement	3853	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	1,415 persons	Expected completion: Spring 2018
City of Providence	Lighting for Classical High School Al Morro Complex Field	3846	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	760 persons	Completed
City of Providence	Aldo Freda Field Improvements - Walking Path	3897	\$84,000.00	\$0.00	915 persons	Expected completion: 10/31/17
Community Action Partnership of Providence	Acquisition of 305 Laurel Hill Avenue	3943	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	24,000 persons	Expected completion: Spring 2018
Providence Redevelopment Agency	American Tourister EDA Matching Funds--\$300,000 for Commercial Infrastructure Development	3880	\$300,000.00	\$0.00	9 jobs created	Expected completion: Summer 2018
New Urban Arts	ADA Platform Lift Install	3876	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	400 persons	Expected completion: 9/22/17
Providence Community Library	Mt. Pleasant Library Building Improvements	3848	\$67,000.00	\$0.00	785 persons	Expected completion: 9/22/17
Roger Williams Day Care	Fire Alarm System Replacement	3884	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	91 children	Expected completion: 9/22/17
West End Community Center	Youth Bathroom Build-Per DCYF	3893	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	377 youth	Expected completion: 10/31/17

PY2016 CDBG Neighborhood Investments

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	DATE OF COMPLETION
Ward 1	Ward 1 Sidewalk Improvements	3931	\$35,000.00	0.00	3575 persons	Estimated completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 1	Wickenden Street Tree Guards	3877	\$15,000.00	0.00	1480 persons	Estimated completion date: Spring 2018
Ward 2	Hope High School Improvements	3955	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	1700 persons	Estimated completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 2	Sidewalk Improvements	3932	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	930 persons	Estimated completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 3	Billy Taylor Park Fence & Lights	3759	\$23,500.00	\$0.00	565 persons	Project should be completed by 9/30/17
Ward 3	Collyer Field Equipment	3947	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	755 persons	Estimated completion date: Spring 2018
Ward 3	Pleasant Street Park Benches	3950	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	565 persons	Estimated completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 4	Prete Metcalf Playground Expansion	3855	\$20,000.00	\$17,935.69	2215 persons	Estimated completion date: 9/22/17
Ward 4	Wanskuck Boys & Girls Club Building Improvements	3891	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	1780 persons	Estimated completion date: 10/31/17
Ward 4	Providence Community Library Wanskuck Branch	3820	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	1080 persons	Estimated completion date: 9/30/17
Ward 5	Ward 5 Tree Planting Project	3874	\$5,000.00	\$4,908.00	1615 persons	Completed
Ward 5	Sidewalk Improvements	3933	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	3145 persons	Estimated completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 5	Obediah Brown Field Improvements	3951	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	835 persons	Estimated completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 6	Manton Avenue Skate Park	3867	\$51,800.00	\$1,800.00	1175 persons	Estimated completion date: Spring 2018
Ward 7	Neutaconkanut Field Improvements & Scoreboard	3852	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	1120 persons	Estimated completion date: 10/31/17

Ward 7	Paul Grande Park (Daniel Avenue)	3882	\$21,000.00	\$10,557.00	1120 persons	Estimated completion date: 9/22/17
Ward 7	Silver Lake Memorial Park	3952	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	960 persons	Refining scope
Ward 8	Sidewalk Improvements	3934	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	5175 persons	Estimated completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 9	Roger Williams Park Baseball Field Concession Stand	3953	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	1590 persons	Refining scope
Ward 9	Amos Earley Park-Cadillac Drive Lights	3854	\$30,000.00	\$11,995.00	1050 persons	Estimated completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 10	Sidewalk Improvements	3935	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	4450 persons	Estimated completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 11	Sidewalk Improvements	3936	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	4030 persons	Estimated completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 12	Roger Recreation Center Improvements	3954	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	3015 persons	Refining scope
Ward 12	Ward 12 Tree Planting Project	3875	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	1770 persons	Completed.
Ward 12	Smith Hill CDC	3719	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	N/A	300-308 Douglas; expected completion 11/30/17
Ward 13	Bainbridge Broadway ADA Improvements	3937	\$20,225.00	\$0.00	1760 persons	Expected completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 13	Ellery Street Park Improvements	3889	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	970 persons	Completed.
Ward 13	West Broadway Middle School Improvements	3940	\$6,775.00	\$0.00	915 persons	Expected completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 13	Westminster Trash Receptacles	3949	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	2390 persons	Expected completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 13	Carl Lauro School Improvements	3944	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	1280 persons	Expected completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 14	RFK School Improvements	3946	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	8270 persons	Expected completion date: 11/30/17
Ward 14	Corliss Park	3939	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	670 persons	Expected completion date: 12/31/17
Ward 15	Sidewalk Improvements	3938	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	3995 persons	Expected completion date: 11/30/17

PY 2016 Providence Business Loan Fund

BUSINESS	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES*	STATUS
275 Group LLC	Durk's BBQ equipment loan	3767	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	6 FTEs created to date; 1 additional L/M job required	Job monitoring ongoing
Raymond Brothers Tailor Shop & Laundromat, LLC	Leasehold improvements loan	3817	\$49,000.00	\$48,963.90	1 FTE created to date; 2 L/M jobs required	Job monitoring ongoing
Farm Fresh RI	Farm Fresh loan	3873	\$850,000.00	\$850,000.00	24 jobs required	Acquisition complete; construction completion expected 2019
Los Andes, LLC	Los Andes expansion loan	3881	\$280,000.00	\$48,091.57	8 jobs required	Job monitoring ongoing

*HUD regulations dictate 51% of jobs created must be for low/moderate income

PY2016 HOME Investments

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
SWAP	FHDC Southside Homes 159 Rugby; 125 Byfield 164 Pavilion; 172 Pavilion 176 Pavilion; 182 Pavilion 201 Pavilion; 22 Greeley	3523; 3524 3525; 3526 3527; 3528 3530; 3735	\$1,134,365.00	\$1,093,595.76	8 low-income homebuyers upon sales.	Substantially complete; closings underway
60 King LLC	Redevelopment of Imperial Knife Factory-60 King Street	3754	\$1,358,351.00	\$618,203.93	55 units of affordable housing; 11 HOME units	Selective demolition complete; rehab underway. Expected completion: Summer 2018

PY2016 HOPWA Investments

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
AIDS Care Ocean State	Facility Based Housing Subsidy Assistance	3868	\$458,263.38	\$455,157.24	Awaiting final reports	Substantially complete; grant closeout underway
	Supportive Services	3869	\$171,448.42	\$133,899.32		
Justice Resource Institute	Supportive Services	3828	\$32,971.29	\$32,792.39	Awaiting final reports	Substantially complete; grant closeout underway
	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	3830	\$83,501.34	\$83,388.31		
Stanley Street Treatment & Resources	Supportive Services	3861	\$73,000.00	\$35,267.84	Awaiting final reports	Substantially complete; grant closeout underway
	Short Term Mortgage and Utility Payments (STRUM)	3862	\$30,000.00	\$5,110.12		

PY2016 Emergency Solutions Grant Investments

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	IDIS #	TOTAL FUNDED	TOTAL DRAWN IN PY16	ACTIVITY BENEFICIARIES	STATUS
Crossroads Rhode Island	Rapid Rehousing	3822	\$143,128.30	\$143,128.00	Awaiting final HMIS data from State of RI	Substantially complete; grant closeout underway
Crossroads Rhode Island	Essential Services	3823	\$164,238.00	\$164,238.00	Awaiting final HMIS data from State of RI	Substantially complete; grant closeout underway
Providence In-Town Churches	Street Outreach	3823	\$67,000.00	\$67,000.00	Awaiting final HMIS data from State of RI	Substantially complete; grant closeout underway

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

Housing

The City identified the need to increase the availability of safe and affordable housing for City residents and households, including units with supportive services for extremely low-income and/or special needs populations, as high priority.

The identified lack of maintenance of the City’s housing stock makes many housing units in need of repair and rehabilitation. The City used CDBG in PY16 to offer deferred payment, 0% interest loans to qualifying homeowners to rehabilitate property with the goal of improving quality of occupied housing units through its Home Repair Program. Taking a blended “whole house” approach, these funds were routinely aligned with the City’s Lead Hazard Control Grant and other programs available either through the City or its partners to holistically address lead paint, health and safety, code violations, energy efficiency, historic preservation, and quality of life issues in properties. A total of 22 properties (42 units) were assisted through this program.

In PY16, the City also partnered with receivers and housing developers to address properties that had been long-blighted due to complicated title issues to conduct rehabilitation of vacant and abandoned homes for affordable homeownership or rental units in order to return abandoned property into productive use. These assisted properties (14 addresses in various stages of contracting, court approval, or on-site renovations) will be sold to income-eligible buyers as completed.

Homelessness

In collaboration with the Consolidated Homeless Fund and the state Continuum of Care, the City used federal funds to support the elimination of chronic and veteran homelessness through street outreach, funding for emergency shelters, homelessness prevention, and rapid re-housing assistance.

The City also used HOPWA funds to ensure that low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) obtained and maintained stable housing through support for costs for facility operations; rental assistance; short-term payments to prevent homelessness; and the delivery of support services including assessment and case management and assistance with daily living.

Public Facilities

The physical condition of many of the structures which community organizations and social service agencies use are in significant disrepair, have multiple code violations, are not accessible to the disabled, or have repair needs so extreme that portions of the building cannot be used. The City used CDBG funds to improve these facilities so that the City's low- and moderate-income population could continue to receive services. Finally, emergency repairs to public school buildings are underway to create safer learning environments for school children.

Streets, Sidewalks and Public Infrastructure

PY16 CDBG funds were used to improve the physical condition of the City's streets, roads, and sidewalks, and create more options for non-automobile transportation options for convenient access to community destinations and public places.

Improve Parks, Open Space, Community Gardens, and Sports Fields

The City supported the improvement of existing parks, open space, and sports fields. CDBG funds were also used to increase the number of urban trees throughout the City.

Provide for Basic Needs of LMI Persons

Through ongoing support of the City's network of community centers and other service organizations, funds were used to provide for the basic needs of low-income residents including food assistance, clothing, case management services, provision of health and wellness services to low-income and uninsured residents, job training, youth enrichment and educational programs, recreation activities for youth, and day care services.

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CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

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

91.520(a)

City of Providence CDBG, HOME, and ESG projects and activities funded in PY16 were targeted at every low- and moderate-income area of the City. HOPWA funding supported operations throughout the Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA.

With limited exception, most neighborhoods throughout the City of Providence have areas with low- to moderate-income populations. As such, the actual beneficiaries served, as reported in the table above, reflect that resources were fairly dispersed throughout the City, targeting the most economically distressed areas of the City's neighborhoods.

The areas of concentration for persons of color in Providence are located in the Upper South Providence, Lower South Providence, West End and Olneyville neighborhoods. Providence has rich diversity in its population. Minority populations in the City of Providence are the majority, with the White, non-Hispanic/Latino population only comprising 36.7% of the population. The City's HUD-funded activities benefitted its diverse populations, neighborhoods, and racial and ethnic groups equitably.

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CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	CDBG	\$6,354,409	\$4,170,708
HOME	HOME	\$1,258,623	\$885,753
HOPWA	HOPWA	\$878,237	\$778,216
ESG	ESG	\$440,396	\$402,318

Table 1 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The City of Providence fully obligates all federal HUD entitlement funds it receives through its Annual Action Plan process. These funds are expended on a *reimbursement* basis through contracts for funded activities. Funds expended, above, reflect payments made as of early September, 2017. As stated previously, many contracts are still underway.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation
Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	96	96
Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA	4	4

Table 2 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

All CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds were deployed within the jurisdiction of the City of Providence, particularly within the City's lowest-income neighborhoods. HOPWA funds were provided to subrecipients located within the Providence-Fall River-New Bedford EMSA area to benefit clients regionally living with HIV/AIDs.

Leveraging

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

The City's PY16 HOME program required recipient organizations to contribute at least 25 percent of the value of the HOME award as a contribution match as a condition of the award in order to satisfy HUD regulations without financial impact to the City.

In this 2nd ConPlan year, the City continued its partnership with the Consolidated Homeless Funds CHF Partnership, which oversaw a variety of homeless service funding grants including: City of Pawtucket ESG ; City of Providence ESG; City of Woonsocket ESG; State of Rhode Island ESG; State of Rhode Island Housing Resource Commission Homeless Funds; and Providence Consolidated Plan 282 Social Service Block Grant Funds (from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, passed through the Rhode Island Department of Human Services).

Due to this unique collaboration, the CHF Partnership continues to be able to provide 100% matching funds without transferring the match responsibility to ESG subrecipients. The CHF Partnership uses the rules, regulations, and policies in the ESG regulations as the basis of the program design for all CHF programs (even those that are not directly funded under ESG).

In PY16, the City continued the "Every Home Initiative", which sought to transition privately-owned vacant and abandoned property and lots, City-owned lots, Providence Redevelopment Authority-owned property, and tax reverted property back to productive use. A myriad of strategies were developed to facilitate program goals based on the particular circumstances of the property or lot, and the available stakeholder partners. The use of CDBG funds for eligible activities when appropriate (such as acquisition or demolition/clearance) was one of the tools used for this program; gap financing with CDBG proved a successful tool to ensure substantial rehabilitation of properties while maintaining affordable resale prices.

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

	One-Year Goal	Actual***
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	96	HMIS
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	42	HMIS
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	99	HMIS
Total	237	HMIS

Table 3 – Number of Households

***Data compiled via State of RI Consolidated Homeless Fund HMIS reports. This document will be updated upon receipt of requested data from CHF.

	One-Year Goal	Actual***
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	102	HMIS
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	24	19
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	10	31
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	36
Total	136	86

Table 4 – Number of Households Supported

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

In the case of affordable housing construction or rehabilitation, outcomes do not often occur within the same program year. Due to the resolution of a number of older, stalled housing projects associated with prior year Action Plans, beneficiary counts and accomplishments occurring within PY16 are higher than anticipated. The City continues to seek technical assistance from HUD to determine how best to reflect these resolved, older projects within its Performance Reports, as the IDIS online system reporting framework does not adequately capture or account for reporting on older activities.

The accomplishments, as reported in IDIS, often do not come until occupancy or re-occupancy by low- and moderate-income households of constructed or rehabbed units occurs. More often than not,

projects with layered funding sources and subsidies (such as LIHTC, CDBG, and HOME) can take multiple years to complete pre-development and construction, and ultimately achieve full occupancy.

Accomplishments in the tables above reflect current counts as of early September, 2017. These accomplishment numbers will continue to be updated as additional projects achieve completion and occupancy.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

Activities that have drawn down funds but are not yet occupied have been updated with regular progress reports in the IDIS system, and accomplishments will be reported in future CAPERs. If projects fail to move forward or achieve occupancy within the contracted period, funds will be recaptured and reprogrammed through future annual action plans.

The City prioritizes the funding of “shovel-ready” affordable housing projects, and will continue to do so in future Action Plans and budget cycles in order to maximize its unit production.

The City also continues to prioritize its Home Repair Program and Down Payment Assistance Programs as tools to preserve or create affordable housing, as these programs are able to assist large volumes of low-income clients in either purchasing homes, or preserving the suitability and affordability of existing properties through rehabilitation.

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

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	31	8
Low-income	16	16
Moderate-income	10	49
Total	57	73

Table 5 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Occupied housing demographics (income levels) for rental and homeownership housing completed to date reflected above.

"Extremely low income" is defined by HUD as households earning 0-30% area median income.

"Low income" is defined as 31-50% area median income.

"Moderate income" is defined at 51-80% area median income.

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

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

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

There are several agencies that conducted outreach efforts in the City of Providence in PY2016. In collaboration with the Rhode Island Continuum of Care and the Consolidated Homeless Fund, the City used its Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) to support outreach efforts and case management services to connect the unsheltered homeless population with emergency shelters, permanent housing, and the supportive services necessary to maintain their housing.

As part of broader efforts to eliminate chronic homelessness, the City supports agencies that engage hard-to-reach street homeless, individuals existing the criminal justice system or aging out of the foster care system, homeless veterans, and individuals with substance abuse or mental health issues. Through the Downtown Safety Outreach Collaboration, chronic homeless individuals are identified in order to provide this information to agencies so that services can be brought to bear to address their individual needs.

In PY2016, the City funded Providence In-Town Churches Association Homeless Outreach, Crossroads Essential Services with ESG, as well as House of Hope "Community Connectors" engagement through a \$25,000 CDBG allocation. Additionally, Amos House created a pilot program, called "A Hand Up" with a CDBG seed grant, which connected homeless panhandlers with day work and case management. This new program assisted a total of 222 homeless clients.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Crossroads Family Shelter is the only emergency shelter for homeless families in the City of Providence. The goal is to keep shelter stays at 30 days but no longer than 45 days. The Family Center was purposely designed to accommodate the multiple needs of families. First, the main floor of the center is handicapped accessible, ensuring that all persons, regardless of physical limitations, have equal access to decent safe shelter. With fifteen bedrooms, up to fifteen families can be housed at one time in the Center. The bedrooms vary in size and were uniquely designed as 'suite style' so that we can accommodate larger families without having to separate them. Case management, shelter activities and interactions with families are focused on housing solutions and solving the problems that contributed to their homelessness or present barriers to stable housing. Families with the most complex needs are assigned to housing first case managers who focus on placement in permanent supportive housing. Families with mid-range acuity are assigned to a rapid-rehousing case manager for supportive services including financial assistance to place in a market rate or subsidized apartment.

In 2016, the City provided ESG resources to fund rapid rehousing and shelter operations through Crossroads to assist homeless persons requiring emergency housing as well as placement into housing units. Additionally, HOPWA resources were provided multiple HOPWA providers to support the housing needs of persons living with HIV/AIDs who are often facing homelessness or experiencing a housing crisis.

Recognizing an intense demand for services and shelter in the downtown area, the City released a RFP in late 2016 to qualified providers to obtain proposals for a day shelter in downtown Providence. House of Hope CDC, the respondent, will be initiating and operating a new "Providence Navigation Center" during the 2017 program year, which will provide day shelter as well as case management and essential services to homeless persons. These services will include an on-site mental health provider, strategic referrals and partnerships with partner agencies, on-site employment and education programs, as well as a Housing Locator to assist clients in locating and securing affordable housing. In anticipation, the City provided \$23,211 in 2016 CDBG to House of Hope to establish a greater presence and boost case management and outreach operations in the downtown area while a final site is located.

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

Through the case management services funded by the City's PY16 allocation of ESG funds, many of these prevention services were supported. However, the State of Rhode Island's DCFY system does not provide the necessary services to youth who are about to exit the foster care system to live independently. Often times, these individuals fall into homelessness or are in precarious situations and are at imminent risk of homelessness. Similarly, for those exiting the criminal justice system, many are at-risk of homelessness.

To address the potential homelessness of foster youth, Adoption Rhode Island, in partnership with Family Service of RI, Lucy's Hearth, and House of Hope Community Development Corporation has developed the "Bridges to Hope Project", a collaboration to help disconnected youth who are at risk of aging out of the foster care system without permanency or who have aged out. This collaboration continues to formalize working relationships between these organizations to provide comprehensive and outcomes-oriented services for youth who are or have been involved in the child welfare system who are facing barriers to stability as young adults.

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

All HUD-funded programs include financial eligibility criteria and are targeted to low-income households. Local providers such as Crossroads Rhode Island and Providence In-Town Churches offer essential services to prevent homelessness and work closely with other service providers like Open Doors to assist formerly incarcerated young adult males who are at risk of homelessness and to connect them with other programs as in subsidized transitional housing, addiction treatment programs, mental health facilities who will otherwise be homeless or living in highly unstable housing after release into stable, sustainable housing.

Homeless prevention initiatives are centered on short and long term initiatives. The long term strategy, on the other hand, is to facilitate employment and increase support networks as a means to preventing homelessness or return to homelessness. By preventing homelessness and supporting homeless services and outreach efforts, the City aims to identify and target those individuals and families who would otherwise become homeless without timely assistance. Supportive services and housing assistance for the special needs population are particularly important because of their vulnerability to homelessness.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The City of Providence supports the ongoing operations of the Thomas J. Anton Community Center at the Hartford Park Housing Authority property. Through the City's PY16 support of public service activities, the Department of Resident Services was able to provide adult education classes, family self-sufficiency program, financial opportunity center and financial coaching programs, income support, and employment counseling.

As is common with many housing authorities, there are several high cost restoration and revitalization needs in the portfolio of public housing throughout the City. Sprinkler systems need to be replaced or installed in high-rise buildings at a cost of approximately \$5 million. There are elevator modernization needs at each of the high-rise buildings. At the scattered site developments, many properties require improvements and repair to the wood exterior, replacement of vinyl windows, and porch replacement and painting. At Hartford Park, there is a need for rehabilitation of the wood structure buildings and exterior concrete step repairs or replacement. While the PHA incorporates needed improvements into its Capital Improvement Plan, declining federal allocations to public housing make it difficult to afford all needed repairs or upgrades.

To assist with this list of high cost capital improvements projects, the City provided multiple CDBG awards to PHA properties in PY16. The City provided \$25,000 to enable the replacement of boilers at Manton Heights. These improvements improved the housing quality of PHA units occupied by low- and extremely-low income renters.

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

In PY16, the Providence Housing Authority continued to cultivate Resident Advisory Board and Resident Association relations and communication to maintain transparency, and to provide a forum for valuable resident participation in planning activities guided by PHA goals and objectives. The PHA has a Resident Association (RA) and Resident Planning Committee (RPC) at every development. The president of each Resident Association, as well as a representative from each Planning Committee, serves as a delegate to a larger "Resident Advisory Board", which meets monthly to provide feedback and guide PHA policies and policy-making.

Aside from the provision of safe and affordable housing, the PHA's core mission also includes provision of services to address economic and social service needs of PHA residents.

The PHA's Resident Services Department (RSD) furthers the agency's mission to address the self-sufficiency needs of residents by providing a comprehensive continuum of programs including:

- Resident Service Coordinator (RSC) Program (coordination of general social services; case management including limited counseling and crisis intervention)
- Adult Education Program (ESL; ABE/GED; Digital Literacy)
- Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program (supports for financial independence through employment/increased earned income; an escrow savings plan is available as an incentive)
- Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) Program (financial coaching; income (benefits) supports; work readiness training; job search/placement; employment supports)
- Jobs Plus Providence (JPP) Program (workforce development through job training and employment supports; an Earned Income Disregard (EID) is available as an incentive)
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program (free tax preparation for eligible individuals/families); and
- After-School Youth Program (on-site activities for youth age 6-12 provided through a formal partnership with the Providence Boys and Girls Club) that supports working parents.

The Providence Housing Authority is also a HUD-certified Housing Counseling Center, and provides qualified guidance to clients exploring homeownership, as well as pre- and post-purchase counseling.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

Not applicable, Providence Housing Authority was not designated as a troubled PHA in PY16 or in any recent history. The PHA has completed its five year plan and its capital improvement plan. The City continues to engage the PHA to discuss funding priorities and the urgent rehabilitation needs of its facilities to ensure safe and habitable public housing.

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

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

The City has partnered with the Housing Network of Rhode Island to provide a down-payment and closing cost assistance program to alleviate the significant upfront cost burden that often makes it difficult for low-income homebuyers to purchase a new home in a competitive real estate market.

The City also implemented a new centralized permitting software (ProvSmart) to streamline the permitting process (in order to save developers time and money during the time period where they are often financing their project with an interest-bearing private construction loan and waiting for tax credits or other subsidy sources), and has implemented a new tax abatement policy for owners who are unable to pay their full property tax rate due to limited financial means.

The City, through its Department of Inspections and Standards, has conducted a citywide evaluation of every abandoned and vacant residential structure in order to facilitate the rehabilitation and reuse of these properties for residential use. This will also allow for the expansion of affordable housing opportunities in a variety of City neighborhoods. This process has served to help inform the "Every Home Initiative", which is utilizing HUD, City, and Attorney General funds to identify vacant properties, remediate blight and hazards, and return the properties to productive use as affordable housing whenever possible.

Additional discussion of actions taken to remove barriers to affordable housing follows (see Fair Housing).

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

The City of Providence continually seeks to increase the beneficial impact to low- and moderate-income individuals of all programs and activities that are funded with CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG funds.

Limited funding is the primary barrier to addressing underserved needs in the Community. In Providence, there are tens of thousands of lower income households and households living below the poverty level. HUD entitlement funds support programs and services that directly reach this population, but growing demand and decreasing state, federal and local resources present a continuous challenge. The City will continue to utilize local, state and federal funds, including CDBG monies to support programs, public facility improvements, and the maintenance of affordable housing for the homeless, hear homeless and non-homeless special needs. In PY16, the City committed to allocating the maximum allowable percentage of CDBG funds to public services.

Further, the Division of Community Development initiated a 2016 partnership with multiple universities (Roger Williams University, Brown University, and Harvard University) to develop research internships and opportunities in order to provide rich research opportunities to faculty, service learning for students, and valuable data and information for the City and its service providers at low or no cost.

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

The City of Providence is privileged to be a successful repeat grantee through HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Lead Hazard Control and Reduction Demonstration Programs, which it has used to develop a comprehensive and cohesive Lead Safe Providence Program (LSPP) to coordinate lead hazard reduction with existing housing programs to integrate HUD funded lead poisoning prevention and "Healthy Homes" interventions. The current LSPP will produce 250 lead safe, healthy, and energy efficient units in the LSPP's citywide target area by December 31, 2017.

The City received notification of grant renewal for 2018-2021 in summer 2017. Through this next grant (\$3,400,000), the LSPP will address lead hazards in another 200 units.

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

The following are the actions taken during the program year to lift people out of poverty:

- **Adult Basic Education, Literacy, and GED Training:** Working with the Providence Community Library, the City engaged low-literacy adults and newly arriving immigrants in English language programs to ensure they have the language skills to be full participants in the local and regional economy.
- **Job Training and Skill Development:** Working with Amos House, Building Futures, and the Granola Project, as well as in coordination with the public workforce system, the City bolstered workforce development efforts to build job skills among low-income Providence residents, including homeless persons, refugees, and underemployed or unemployed youth.
- **Youth Training and Summer Youth Employment:** Every summer, the City of Providence, in collaboration with the Governor's Workforce Board Job Development Fund and the State Department of Human Services, offers summer employment to help teenagers and young adults develop job skills, learn positive work habits, and stay engaged in the community. These Providence youth work as seasonal employees of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or are employed by one of the many employer partners including AS220, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Providence, Goodwill Industries of Rhode Island, the Institute for the Study & Practice of Non-Violence, Rhode Island Hospital/Lifespan, the Rhode Island Parent Information Network, Young Voices, or Youth in Action.
- **Increase Access to Work Supports:** The City promoted Providence residents signing up for work support programs, such as child care subsidies, Rite Care health insurance, SNAP benefits, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and RI Works through partnerships with community centers and public service organizations. Increased work supports helped low-wage families meet their basic needs and move toward financial security.

- **Support for New and Existing Businesses:** Working with the Rhode Island Black Business Association through a 2015 contract, the City provided funds for a collateral enhancement program, leveraging private bank financing to provide small business loans for low-income persons. The City also continued to support Providence businesses through low-interest Providence Business Loan Fund (PBLF) loans, which provided flexible lending with the goals of fostering local business growth and increased job creation/retention for low/mod employees.
- **Expand Procurement and Growth Opportunities for Businesses Owned by Persons of Color and Women:** In order to support to the fullest extent possible participation of firms owned and controlled by minorities or women, the City has a mandate that all requests for procurement shall be inclusive of M/WBEs, and that the City shall strive to achieve at least 10% procurement from MBEs and 10% procurement from WBEs. By increasing the availability of City contracts to these businesses, greater revenues will flow to local businesses owners, facilitating greater local economic growth and more local employment. The City's Community Development Division continues to enforce the bidding of federally-supported projects to MBE/WBE and Section 3 (low-income) firms.

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

Providence is rich in the number and type of agencies and organizations that provide social services to populations in need. This network of agencies and organizations provide a broad variety of housing, economic, and social service programs that serve many community residents. These include community development corporations (CDCs), other non-profit housing developers, non-profit service providers, human services and shelter providers, organizations working with special needs populations, and other community-based organizations. Most of these organizations are funded through a combination of public and private sources.

While there is no shortage of community organizations in the City, the unfortunate reality is that many of these service agencies struggle with resource constraints, compete for the same limited funding opportunities, and often offer duplicative services. There is a general lack of communication among the various groups in the City which impedes the efficient delivery of services in a coordinated fashion. Providers in the City need to consider more pro-active collaboration or consolidation to eliminate the duplication of services and to align resources and effort to have greater impact in the communities they serve. In an effort to facilitate collaboration as well as provide a clearer pathway to needed services for the public, the Division of Community Development, in collaboration with Roger Williams University, has built a centralized, searchable database of service providers in the City, the services offered, and the clients served.

Through dialogue with CDBG subrecipients, proactive outreach with other community organizations, technical assistance and capacity building workshops, and through regular focus groups and interviews, the City has, and will continue to assist, in expanding and enhancing the existing institutional delivery system.

Finally, the City's Community Development Division continues to always strive to improve its own delivery and administration, as well as institutionalize policies and procedures to ensure better management of its federal entitlement funds. In 2016, the City instituted many programmatic changes in response to HUD findings and concerns pertaining to the CDBG, HOME, and NSP programs. The City has updated its environmental review procedures, HOME and CDBG underwriting guidelines, and Providence Business Loan Fund materials in order to better comply with federal guidelines, to ensure applicants and the public have a clear understanding of how awards are made and federal requirements associated with such awards, and federal resources are allocated appropriately and effectively.

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

As stated above, the City has hosted working sessions with agencies, organizations, and providers to better coordinate programming and align resources to create a holistic and targeted offering of services that account for the myriad needs found in particular neighborhoods, and developed a "Taxonomy" web tool to assist the public and providers in being able to search for and identify local service providers by population served or services offered. By working in partnership with locally-based providers and community development organizations, the City promoted the coordination of services. With the ongoing reduction in resources from the Federal government, the City continues to stress efficiency and maximum value creation to deliver long-term impact in a strategic way.

The Division of Community Development, with active support of the Mayor's Office and the City Council, has also sought to change the nature of CDBG investments away from a large number of small dollar grants of marginal and diminishing value to a smaller number of larger grants to allow for more transformational place-based projects. As the resources allocated to the City continue to decrease, maintaining a commitment to progress in this area will be all the more important. Coordination by service providers will be even more vital as funds continue to decrease, and the number of individual awards made decreases.

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

The City's most recent AI, the State's Regional AI, and the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Planning process all identified an array of impediments to the creation or availability of housing, and the barriers facing protected classes seeking fair housing choice.

These impediments included: high costs, development delays, and design challenges for affordable housing developers often linked to code requirements, historic preservation requirements, and zoning. Also, due to the limited availability of land in Providence for new residential development, it is important for affordable housing providers to maintain their focus on rehabilitation and infill development. This often requires land-banking, which has significant carrying costs.

Unhealthy and unsafe housing disproportionately affects the low income and communities of color. Healthy housing is a fair housing issue as it relates to families with children, as children are most likely to suffer irreversible damage as a result of lead-based paint poisoning. However, the protections found in the law which prevents landlords from evicting or raising the rent on tenants that report code violations to local Departments of Inspections and Standards are found to be not well known or understood.

Additionally, the City has a dual tier property tax system that can cause negative externalities for renters. For non-owner-occupied residential property, the tax rate is approximately 72% higher. For this market rate rental housing, the property tax burden is merely passed on to tenants. This is seen by many as an additional burden on renters that contributes to an increased affordability concern for low- and moderate-income renters.

With the recent introduction of ProvSmart, the City's Online Permitting and Plan Review system, builders have an online dashboard where they can track and keep a record of all permits submitted to the City. This has greatly reduced the length of time for the permitting and inspection process. The Providence Redevelopment Agency has been successful in land-banking property to be developed later. The PRA does not require a 6% holding fee. Additionally, the PRA can leverage the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund to provide low cost construction financing.

The City's Office of the Tax Assessor now offers two programs for low-income households in the City: the Indigent Program and the Tax Freeze Program. The former allows those judged by the assessor unable to pay taxes due to their impoverishment to have their tax burdens reduced, while the latter limits the increase of taxes to 5.5% from year to year for households that makes \$25,000 or less per year.

The City partnered with the Housing Network of Rhode Island to develop a down-payment and closing cost assistance program to alleviate the significant up-front cost burden that are difficult for low-income homebuyers to incur when purchasing a new home, and funded a Home Repair Program, which offers assistance to homeowners seeking to make needed repairs in order to remain safely and affordably-housed.

The City is actively looking for partner organizations that can provide housing counseling in languages other than English. Further, the City has engaged with the Roger Williams University Law Clinic and the Rhode Island Center for Justice to assist with finding legal services for low-income renters that have experienced housing discrimination. The DCD continues to work with Inspections and Standards to develop a process to notify tenants of their rights and will seek assistance from community organizations regarding the dissemination of this information.

Fair Housing, Cont.

Additionally, the City signed on as a cooperating agency for Question 7, a \$50M bond question for general election vote in fall 2016 that allocated \$40M towards the financing of affordable housing

development, and \$10M targeted at the revitalization of vacant and abandoned commercial and residential property. The City has offered its support to a number of Providence applicants for potential projects; and will leverage its affordable housing resources (HOME, CDBG) with RIH dollars wherever possible.

The City has made strides in overcoming impediments to fair housing through the recent overhaul of its local zoning ordinance. In late 2014, the City underwent its first full general amendment since 1994, and including revision of regulations dating back to the 1950s. This zoning ordinance is the regulatory tool for implementing the City's Comprehensive Plan (2012), which includes goals related to preserving and increasing the stock of affordable, sanitary housing (ownership and rental, geared towards a variety of needs, such as workforce housing, elderly housing, special needs housing, student housing, and more).

A noteworthy update to the Zoning Ordinance includes establishment of "T.O.D. Districts", or transit-oriented development districts that allow for mixed-use and housing construction in proximity to public transit (such as the commuter rail stations) to benefit commuters and lower-income workers reliant on public transportation.

Additionally, many zoning districts and boundaries were established or revised to allow for increases in residential density, which will serve to boost the supply of affordable housing (whether it be condos or rentals) when development or redevelopment occurs. (Large lot sizes, high parking requirements, and limits on density are often a common impediment to the development of affordable housing.)

Commercial historic districts were expanded to include more residential and industrial properties, increasing the number of properties potentially eligible for historic tax incentives for preservation and redevelopment as housing. Height bonuses were also included to allow waivers on height limits for developments offering open space, affordable housing, and/or active ground-level uses. This new zoning ordinance was financed through a HUD Community Challenge Planning Grant.

Additionally, the City has engaged the Rhode Island Commission on Human Rights, HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, as well as Sojourner House as training partners on the issues of Fair Housing, Equal Opportunity, Section 504, and the AFFH Rule. These trainings occurred October and November 2016, and February 2017. Trainees included delegates from almost all City departments, and the full DCD staff. The City intends to pursue future training opportunities for its subrecipients, CDCs, and others with these identified training partners.

Finally, the City updated its website to include information for the public on their fair housing rights, and resources available to those who might be victims of discrimination. This website is <http://www.providenceri.gov/planning/fair-housing-equal-opportunity-programs/>.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

Monitoring of activities and projects funded during the program year is conducted on a frequent, routine basis.

Monitoring of public service activities and community centers includes meeting with the subrecipients, reviewing project files (including staff timesheets, beneficiary information, and expenditures) and observing the services or activities whenever possible. The City also reviews social service agencies' annual audits for any potential findings or concerns related to administration, recordkeeping, or financial management.

Monitoring of public facility, infrastructure, and other construction or rehabilitation projects includes site visits, routinely taking photographs of work-in-place and progress, and Davis Bacon employee interviews (if applicable).

Monitoring of economic development activities (such as loans issued by the PBLF) includes site visits, as well as compilation of income certifications and other reports to document hiring of low/moderate income workers and achievement of sufficient public benefit (i.e. job creation/retention) to support the lending to private enterprises.

All subrecipients are informed of the program requirements associated with the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs prior to, and during, the execution of their contract or subrecipient agreement. All relevant program requirements are included in these contracts with grantees, including (but not limited to) Section 3, Non-Segregated Facilities, Davis Bacon wage requirements, Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace, and more.

Additionally, the City has its own requirements for any subrecipients who will be creating jobs or hiring contractors as a result of their grant award. Providence requires any hiring to include a preference for "FirstSource" list employees (who are mainly-unemployed or underemployed Providence residents seeking work). When bidding home repair, deleading, or construction jobs, the City also requires that bids be obtained from a minimum number of minority or women-owned businesses (MBE/WBE). Both the City and State of Rhode Island maintain a current list of bonafide MBE/WBE businesses.

The City's Community Development Division is housed within the City's Planning and Development Department. As such, it is an active participant in the development of the City's Comprehensive Plan, and has a responsibility to ensure all activities funded comply with the Comp. Plan.

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

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

Under its Citizen Participation Plan, the City identifies methods to ensure citizens have reasonable notice and opportunity to comment on annual performance reports. The City provides legal notice through the Providence Journal, published in both English and Spanish, notifying the public of the right to comment, the dates of the comment period, where to view the document, and appropriate contact information. The City also posts the CAPER to its website, at its office at 444 Westminster Street, and at the City Clerk's Office.

DRAFT

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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

The City's CDBG Program objectives were identified through an extensive public process and market and needs analyses conducted through the most recent Consolidated Plan process. This Action Plan is Year 2 of the 5-Year Plan. As such, the objectives of the program remained consistent throughout PY16. However, while projects funded and associated goals remained constant, program policies were changed in response to experiences.

As a result of its recent experiences and HUD monitoring, the City has placed new emphasis on funding housing activities with CDBG that are "shovel ready" and can create or preserve housing in a timely and cost-effective manner. Increased scrutiny and improved underwriting procedures are now in place to ensure all project financing is committed, subsidy is minimized, and the project is viable and shovel ready.

The City continues to work with HUD to improve its programs and services. In response to recent HUD monitorings, the City implemented change in 2015 to improve its program policies and procedures in order to better serve the community and target services. In PY16, the City continued to place emphasis on the funding of fewer activities, but with higher awards in order to make sure that the funds were more impactful in neighborhoods and for target clientele.

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

No

CR-50 - HOME 91.520(d)

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

The City of Providence has managed a successful HOME Housing Program to benefit low-income renters and homeowners for decades. The City's Division of Community Development maintains records of all projects and associated expenditures made to support the goal of fostering and maintaining affordable housing. Prior to occupancy or re-occupancy, all HOME projects are inspected by City Inspectional Services and Fire Department staff before occupancy permits were granted or units rented to ensure fire and code safety.

To better address HUD's directives regarding inspections and on-site monitoring, the City of Providence adopted formal, written Program Policies, and developed a database to better track all HOME-assisted units during their affordability periods. This database includes information on the property address, level of HOME investment, number of HOME-assisted units, funding contract date, and affordability period information (such as book and page of recorded Affordability Restriction and required duration). This database assists the City in tracking the need for annual inspections and recertification of tenant income to ensure units remain habitable and affordable.

Additionally, the City hired an additional Lead and Healthy Housing Inspector to increase staff capacity for inspections. The City has a backlog of inspections caused by a lapse in monitoring. This increased staff capacity enabled the City to continue to conduct UPCS inspections on all HOME-assisted rental units identified in its database on an annual basis throughout their applicable affordability periods. Owners of units that fail health and safety inspections are issued a notice to correct any deficiencies in a timely manner. The appropriate level of enforcement then occurs to ensure code and safety compliance and ongoing maintenance of federally-assisted units. *In PY16, all inspected units passed UPCS.*

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 92.351(b)

The City requires all developers of HOME-assisted units (and private landlords with HOME-assisted rental units) to rent or sell them under an appropriate "Affirmative Marketing Plan". This requirement is stipulated in all HOME funding agreements with recipients. Prior to lease-up or occupancy, the City assesses the developers' plans to rent the units, confirms prices conform to HOME guidelines, appropriate utility allowances are employed, and that any "preference" in tenancing is allowable under the law.

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

No HOME program income received within PY16.

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

The City continues its efforts to rehabilitate, preserve, and create new affordable housing in the City, with an emphasis on identifying new areas of the City that would allow for mixed-use and mixed-income developments in higher income neighborhoods and Census tracts. Additionally, the City structured a number of HOME projects to include both affordable and market rate units to enable low-income homeowners to receive sustainable income from a rental unit, and allow for mixed-income developments in the City's higher- and lower-income neighborhoods.

Finally, the City continued to partner with RI Housing and other funders to leverage resources wherever possible to maximize the creation of affordable housing. As a result of a 2016 partnership, City and RIH HOME funds, tax credits, and bank financing supported the \$22M rehabilitation of the Imperial Knife Factory at 60 King Street by Trinity Financial into 55 units of affordable housing with construction now underway.

DRAFT

CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

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

Table for report on the one-year goals for the number of households provided housing through the use of HOPWA activities for: short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments to prevent homelessness of the individual or family; tenant-based rental assistance; and units provided in housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds.

Number of Households Served Through:	One-year Goal	Actual*
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	20	20
Tenant-based rental assistance	15	16
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	40	32
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0

Table 6 – HOPWA Number of Households Served

Narrative

In PY16, the City used its HOPWA funds for the following: short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family, tenant-based rental assistance, and operating costs for permanent housing developments for people with HIV/AIDS.

**Actual goals are reflect anticipated numbers at this time; HOPWA contracts to close out 9/30.*

CR-60 - ESG 91.520(g) (ESG Recipients only)

ESG Supplement to the CAPER in *e-snaps*

For Paperwork Reduction Act

1. Recipient Information—All Recipients Complete

Basic Grant Information

Recipient Name	PROVIDENCE
Organizational DUNS Number	069853752
EIN/TIN Number	056000329
Identify the Field Office	BOSTON
Identify CoC(s) in which the recipient or subrecipient(s) will provide ESG assistance	

ESG Contact Name

Prefix	Miss
First Name	Emily
Middle Name	A
Last Name	Freedman
Suffix	0
Title	Director of Community Development

ESG Contact Address

Street Address 1	444 Westminster Street
Street Address 2	Suite 3A
City	Providence
State	RI
ZIP Code	02903-
Phone Number	4016808435
Extension	0
Fax Number	0
Email Address	efreedman@providenceri.gov

ESG Secondary Contact

Prefix	Ms
First Name	Xiomara
Last Name	Gonsalves
Suffix	0
Title	Senior Compliance Officer
Phone Number	4016808404
Extension	0
Email Address	XGONSALVES@PROVIDENCERI.GOV

2. Reporting Period—All Recipients Complete

Program Year Start Date	07/01/2016
Program Year End Date	06/30/2017

See: State of RI Consolidated Homeless Fund e-snaps CAPER

DRAFT