



City of Providence  
DRAFT Annual Action Plan  
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor  
City of Providence

Bonnie Nickerson, Director of Planning & Development  
Emily Freedman, Director of Community Development

# Executive Summary

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

### 1. Introduction

The 2021-2022 Action Plan represents the second year of investment under the City of Providence's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The Action Plan is the City of Providence's application for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Entitlement grants and identifies the proposed programs and projects to be funded during Federal Program Year 2021 (local FY2022). Four HUD entitlement grants are covered in this Action Plan:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): the primary goal of the CDBG program is the development of viable urban communities through improved living environments, expansion of economic opportunity, and provision and preservation of decent, affordable housing. Funds are intended to serve low- and moderate-income residents and neighborhoods.
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME): the HOME program is dedicated to increasing the availability, as well as the access to, affordable housing for low-income households.
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG): The purpose of the ESG program is to assist individuals and families to gain housing (temporary and permanent) after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness.
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA): HOPWA funds may be used for a wide range of housing and social services to benefit individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

The purpose of the Action Plan is to 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 and priorities as described in the ConPlan. It is important to note that the City's ConPlan sets goals and strategies to be achieved over the 2020-2024 period and identifies a list of funding priorities. The ConPlan goals represent high priority needs for the City of Providence and serve as the basis for the PY 2021 programs and activities identified in this Action Plan.

The Con Plan goals are listed below in no particular order:

- Enhance the City's economic stability and prosperity by increasing opportunities for job readiness and investing in economic development programs.
- Strengthen neighborhoods by investing in the City's public infrastructure needs and community amenities.
- Improve housing opportunities by creating and preserving affordable rental and homeowner housing.

- Assist individuals and families to stabilize in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness by providing client-appropriate housing and supportive service solutions.
- Invest in community services and non-profits facilities that maximize impact by providing new or increased access to programs that serve highly vulnerable populations such as youths, seniors and food for insecure households.
- Meet the needs of persons with HIV/AIDS and their families through the provision of housing, health and supportive services.

## 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.

The City of Providence’s housing and community needs were identified through a series of community meetings and outreach (including direct outreach to neighborhood and community centers, local CDCs, and other local service agencies) during its most recent Consolidated Planning process and this Year 2 Action Plan process. Data obtained from partner organizations, the US Census, HMIS, and other sources was also evaluated.

Additional outreach through public hearings was conducted as part of this Year 2 Action Plan Process. The needs identified below informed the development of goals and intended outcomes throughout the ConPlan Process; these identified needs inform the goals of Year 2.

### Housing Needs

**Housing Affordability:** Public outreach and data analyses strongly indicate that housing affordability and housing cost burden are a significant issue in Providence. Many residents fall within the low- and moderate-income brackets, and many homeowners continue to struggle to recover from the ongoing pandemic.

**Sub-standard Housing Stock:** Deferred maintenance of a large portion of the City’s housing stock (compounded by its age, a high number of absentee landlords, and a lack of resources for property owners to maintain their properties), affects the quality of housing within the City. Hundreds of properties within the City have been identified as vacant, abandoned, and blighted.

**Public Housing:** Providence Housing Authority is the sole agency in the City that provides public housing. Its portfolio consists of 2,601 units that serve over 5,000 residents. It also provides housing assistance to over 6,000 individuals as the contract administrator of Section 8 housing. Waiting lists for housing assistance or PHA units can currently run 2-5 years.

### Homeless Needs

**Homelessness:** To address identified issues surrounding the need for re-housing and supportive services, the City is focused on quickly responding to homelessness through rapid re-housing for those that fall into homelessness and the Housing First model of providing homeless individuals with permanent housing and the appropriate "wrap-around services" needed for them to regain stability and maintain their housing.

### Non-Homeless Special Needs

There are households throughout the City that have special needs unrelated to homelessness. Some of these population groups include the elderly and frail elderly; those living with some type of physical or cognitive disability; those living with HIV/AIDS and their families; persons with substance use disorders; persons with Severe Mental Illness (SMI) and Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI); and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. These groups may face greater challenges than the general population due to their specific circumstances and the City's housing stock, particularly the large pools of homes in the City built before 1940, may not be suitable for households with special needs. In this Year 2 Action Plan, the City identifies that these groups require specialized social services and housing.

### Non Housing Community Development Needs

**Schools, Libraries, Parks, and Community Centers:** Due to aging facilities and finite tax resources, the City struggles to finance all of its public facility capital improvement needs. A consistent point highlighted throughout the community meetings was the condition of the City's school, library, and community facilities, as well as its parks.

These much-needed capital repairs were identified for financial assistance with 2021 CDBG funds.

## **3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

With the assistance of regional HUD staff, the City has been making consistent improvements to its performance, both in terms of impact as well as meeting all Federal documentation, reporting, and compliance requirements. At the same time, the Housing & Community Development staff has been working to bring greater rigor to the evaluation of requests for funding. The Division of Housing & Community Development, with active support of the Mayor's Office and the City Council, has 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 that improve quality of life in underserved areas. The activities funded in this Year 2 Action Plan follow this investment strategy.

The City of Providence has a strong record of making a significant impact with CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA funds. A commitment of City resources is often the catalyst used by community-based organizations as the basis for their fundraising efforts and leverage private dollars for even greater impact. With the endorsement and financial commitment of the City, organizations are greatly strengthened in their ability to obtain donations from the community, foundations, the private sector, and to obtain gap financing.

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

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The citizen participation process for the Consolidated Plan consisted of a robust public outreach strategy to solicit input on community development and housing.

This process consisted of broad public meetings, neighborhood meetings, focus groups, resident surveys, listening sessions, and consultations with stakeholders from summer 2019 through fall 2020. Outreach regarding events and funding opportunity was conducted via social media, newspaper advertisement, list-serv emails to neighborhood groups and organizations, and more. The City conducted an additional public hearing via Zoom (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and solicited a final public comment period prior to ConPlan submission.

In preparation of this Year 2, PY21 Action Plan, a number of additional public hearings (City Council Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal, and Planning) were held in March, April, and May, during which staff presented on the community development programs, presentations were heard from various organizations, and the public was offered the opportunity to comment. The City of Providence will hold a final public meeting on July 19, 2021 via Zoom to afford the public, community organizations, and other interested parties ample time to review and comment on this Action Plan before submission to HUD.

Promotion for these community meetings was done through email, public postings, newspaper advertisements, Open Meetings portal, and online social media (Twitter, Facebook, YouTube). Generally speaking, the City's citizen participation process was, and is, robust and inclusive.

#### **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.

Some of the most important issues of concern and priority needs found during the ConPlan and Action Plan process included the cost of housing and the desire for more affordable housing; improvements to the City's education system; homelessness, good-paying jobs/economic development; better park maintenance; increased sports and recreation activities; rehabilitating low-quality, unsafe, and unhealthy housing; public safety; poverty; and social services for adults, seniors, and children. Residents also expressed concern over absentee landlords, insufficient housing code enforcement, need for down-payment assistance to foster homeownership, desire for improved collaboration between the City and local CDCs, better pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure, improving the condition of sidewalks and roads, urban farms, funding for senior activities, importance of youth development and afterschool and summer programs for youth, job training, facility improvements and improvements to condition of school facilities, adult education programs. These priority needs inform this Year 2 Action Plan. Additionally, during the 2021 program budget allocation process, verbal testimony heard during the URRP Committee meetings reinforced the information gleaned during the ConPlan process.

*Comments received at public hearing to be recorded here.*

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

*Public comments received to be recorded here.*

**7. Summary**

N/A

**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	PROVIDENCE		Planning and Development / Community Development
HOPWA Administrator	PROVIDENCE		Planning and Development / Community Development
HOME Administrator	PROVIDENCE		Planning and Development / Community Development
ESG Administrator	PROVIDENCE		Planning and Development / Community Development

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative (optional)**

The City of Providence, Department of Planning and Department (DPD) is the lead agency and through its Division of Housing & Community Development (DCD) administers the annual allocations of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grants. Further, the DCD also administers the City's Lead Safe Providence Program, which is funded by a three-year, competitive grant from the HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes. The Providence Business Loan Fund (PBLF) is responsible for small business lending and the Providence Housing Authority (PHA) oversees the portfolio of public housing in the City. The City is a member of the Rhode Island Continuum of Care as well as the State's Consolidated Homeless Fund.

## Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Emily Freedman, Director  
Housing & Community Development Division  
Department of Planning and Development  
444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A  
Providence, RI 02903  
Email: [efreedman@providenceri.gov](mailto:efreedman@providenceri.gov)  
401-680-8400

DRAFT



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

### **1. Introduction**

In development of its Consolidated and Annual Action Plan(s), the City conducts broad public meetings, neighborhood meetings, focus groups, resident surveys, listening sessions, and consultations with stakeholders to solicit input on community development and housing. Outreach regarding events and funding opportunity was and is conducted via social media, newspaper advertisement, list-serv emails to neighborhood groups and organizations, and more. The City will conduct an additional public hearing via Zoom (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and solicit a final public comment period prior to Plan submission.

In preparation of this Year 2, PY21 Action Plan, a number of additional public hearings (City Council Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal, and Planning) were held in March, April, and May, during which staff presented on the community development programs, presentations were heard from various organizations, and the public was offered the opportunity to comment. The City of Providence **will hold a final public meeting on July 19, 2021** via Zoom to afford the public, community organizations, and other interested parties ample time to review and comment on this Action Plan before submission to HUD.

Promotion for community meetings is done through email, public postings, newspaper advertisements, and online social media (Twitter, Facebook). Generally speaking, the City's citizen participation and consultation processes are robust and inclusive.

### **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(I))**

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, and were willing and able to offer expert guidance on gaps, challenges, and opportunities that may exist in the delivery of service to Providence's low- and moderate- income.

Additionally, the City maintains regular contact with community residents, business owners, nonprofit organizations such as CDCs, the Providence Housing Authority, community-based service providers, as well as the beneficiaries of the programs administered by the Division of Housing & Community Development. This direct contact with the public and providers and agencies also results in regular input regarding the needs of the community, allows for alignment with the City's goals, and assists in program development, implementation, and evaluation.

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

The City of Providence currently serves on the Board of the Continuum of Care (CoC), a collaborative body which guides the state's homelessness programs and policies, as well as oversees CoC grant funds. The City is also a full member of the Consolidated Homeless Fund (CHF), a coordinated funding partnership between the State of Rhode Island, RI DHHS, and the RI ESG entitlement cities. Both the RCoC and the CHF are designed to deliver a continuum of programs and assistance that works to reduce the number of homeless individuals and families throughout Rhode Island.

The RI CoC Board and Membership are comprised of broad range of service and housing providers, state agencies, community partners, and individuals all working together to build a statewide system to prevent and end homelessness.

The work of the Continuum is largely conducted through standing committees. Three standing committees focus on the targeted populations listed above: the Families and Youth Committee; Veterans Committee, and Chronically Homeless/High Need Individuals Committee. These committees conference regularly on cases, and utilize Coordinated Entry to align assessed clients with the appropriate housing program.

Additionally, these Committees provide informed recommendations to the larger CoC Board and membership on potential policy barriers to successful placement and recommend policy or process changes to ameliorate barriers or improve systems. Subcommittees and working groups are also periodically established (such as the CES Evaluation Work Group or the Racial Equity Work Group) to support the CoC's work.

The CoC adheres to and deploys the Housing First model to place clients into appropriate housing. Client placement is based on HMIS data. Ongoing, wraparound service provision is a requirement of funding.

**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**

Funding for homeless programs has been streamlined and coordinated to flow through two primary bodies: the RI CoC and the Consolidated Homeless Fund (CHF). As noted above, the City serves an active role with both bodies. The goals of this coordination are as follows:

- To reduce administrative burden on grantees, allowing more resources and time to be allocated to client services
- To develop consistent policies and procedures across state and municipal boundaries to allow for more effective, consistent, and efficient programs and services
- To increase efficiency and reduce the duplication of administrative efforts across municipal and state units of government
- To universalize the evaluation of applications and systematize the deployment of funds to decrease homelessness through strategic coordination and alignment.

The Consolidated Homeless Fund (CHF) combines all ESG funds (state and entitlement cities), state funding for homelessness, and Title XX Block Grant funds into a single pool, governed by universal Policies & Procedures. A committee representing the State Office of Housing and Community Development, State DHHS, ESG entitlement communities, a representative of the State's Housing Resources Commission, RI Housing and other relevant policy makers in homelessness set parameters for the CHF program's funding and make awards.

In an effort to further coordination, this CHF Committee was recently merged with the CoC Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee (REAC), to create a singular Committee to oversee the development of performance standards and outcome evaluation for both CoC- and ESG-funded projects. This committee relies on information provided by the RI CoC including: point-in-time statistics, HMIS performance reports, and subrecipient capacity reports. The CoC's System Performance Committee also informs the development of performance standards and outcome measurement for the CHF and CoC.

## **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**

In addition to the robust and extensive engagement in the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, the City also engaged in the following Action Plan process:

- The City Council Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal, & Planning conducted additional public hearings in March, April, and May of 2021 during which staff presented on the community development programs, presentations were heard from various organizations, and the public was offered opportunity to comment.
- Additionally, a public CDBG/HOME/HOPWA Workshop was held on February 9, 2021, which included an information session and tutorial on the City's entitlement grant programs, how to apply, and reporting requirements associated with becoming a subrecipient, for agencies or other members of the public interested in the grant application process.
- In preparation of this Year 2, P21 Action Plan, the City of Providence will also hold a virtual public hearing on July 19, 2021 afford the public, community organizations, and other interested parties sufficient time to review and comment on the Action Plan before submission to HUD. An associated 30-day public comment period also accompanies this public hearing.

Promotion for these hearings and of funding opportunities was conducted through email, web, Open Meetings and Clerk's Office postings, newspaper advertisements and posts, and online social media (Twitter, Facebook). Generally speaking, the City's citizen participation process was robust and inclusive.

Public comments from all forms of outreach were used to identify priorities and Five Year and Annual goals.

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

The City of Providence is an entitlement jurisdiction that receives federal funds from U.S. Housing Urban Development to invest in its neighborhoods. The funds are provided under CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA entitlement programs. All funds must primarily assist low- to moderate-income individuals, families, and households. The primary objectives of the projects listed below are to develop viable communities through the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities; reduce homelessness and support the housing and related supportive service needs for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS.

The City will receive the following entitlement allocations for the 2021 Program Year (Federal Fiscal Year 7/1/2021-6/30/2022):

CDBG: The City will receive \$5,412,315 in new 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement funds. The City also reprogrammed and reallocated \$339,285.00 in "prior year CDBG resources", a \$1M Revolving Loan fund balance, as well as \$650,000 in anticipated "program income" generated from repayment of Providence Business Loan fund (PBLF) CDBG-capitalized loans for a total of \$7,401,600 in anticipated CDBG funds for programming in PY21.

HOME: The City will receive a final allocation of \$1,636,289 in HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds to support the creation of affordable housing. This allocation is being reduced by a one-time Voluntary Grant Reduction of \$138,756.29 to resolve a past finding against the City's HOME program, making \$1,497,532.71 available for affordable housing investment.

HOPWA: The City will receive \$1,275,480 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS funds.

ESG: The City will receive \$450,803 in Emergency Solutions Grant funds for programs and services for the homeless in PY21. An additional \$82,889 in prior year resources is available for reprogramming for a total of \$533,692.

Lead Grant: The City has also been awarded a \$5.7 million, 42-month grant under the 2020 Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant funding opportunity. This grant will extend the Lead Safe Providence Program enabling hundreds of additional units to be made lead-safe over the grant period.

**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	5,412,315	650,000	1,339,285	7,401,600	16,811,051	The City will undertake activities and projects using CDBG funds including housing development and rehabilitation, facilities improvements, public infrastructure improvements, economic development, public services, planning and administration.

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: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,497,532	0	0	1,497,532	4,189,899	The City will undertake activities and projects using HOME funds including new housing development, rehabilitation of existing and vacant units, and homebuyer assistance programs.

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: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	1,275,480	0	0	1,275,480	3,363,293	The City will undertake activities and projects using HOPWA funds including acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction of housing units; costs for facility operations; rental assistance; short-term payments to prevent homelessness; and case management services for those living with HIV/AIDS.



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: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	450,803	0	82,889	533,692	1,165,521	The City will undertake activities and projects using ESG funds including rapid rehousing assistance and supportive services for the homeless.

Table 2 - 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**

The City’s HOME program requires 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 previous years, the State had additional affordable housing funds through the Building Homes Rhode Island program. In 2016, RI voters approved a \$50M bond for affordable housing and blight elimination and in 2021 Providence developers will continue to leverage these "Building Homes RI", or "BHRI", funds with City

HOME and CDBG dollars. An additional \$65M state bond for affordable housing and community revitalization was approved in 2020 and set to be released via RFP in 2021. Additionally, the Providence Redevelopment Agency has bonded for \$24M for the Providence Housing Trust, which will provide local capital for construction lending for affordable housing projects.

The City is a partner in the Consolidated Homeless Funds CHF Partnership which oversees 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
- 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 is 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).

All activities that are funded under the ESG match allocations will be in accordance with the Interim Rule's new requirements and regulations (and will be monitored by the CHF Partnership as such). Only activities eligible under and in compliance with the ESG Interim Rule will receive the match resources listed above.

**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 has developed a program called “EveryHome” which seeks to transition vacant and abandoned property back to productive reuse (including for community needs such as affordable housing or public space). A myriad of strategies have been 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 rehabilitation, demolition, or reconstruction subsidy when appropriate will continue to be one of the tools used for this program.

DRAFT

## 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	Increase Availability of Affordable Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$190,000 HOME: \$1,347,779	Rental units constructed: 33 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 5 Household Housing Unit
2	Improve Quality of Occupied Housing Units	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Improved Housing Quality & Habitability	CDBG: \$557,879	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 409 Households Assisted Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 25 Household Housing Unit
3	Return Abandoned Property to Productive Reuse	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Return Abandoned Property to Productive Use	CDBG: \$350,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 2 Household Housing Unit
4	Reduce Homelessness	2020	2024	Homeless	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Reduce Homelessness	ESG: \$533,692	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1453 Persons Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 52 Households Assisted
5	Increase Housing Stability among PLWHA	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA	Housing & Support Services for PLWHA	HOPWA: \$1,237,216	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Persons Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 25 Households Assisted HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 53 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Improve Condition of Public Facilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Public Facilities Improvements	CDBG: \$1,611,743	
7	Improve Streetscapes & Public Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$304,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30000 Persons Assisted
8	Improve Parks and Recreational Areas	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Improved Parks & Recreational Opportunities	CDBG: \$150,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10065 Households Assisted
9	Provide for Basic Needs of LMI Persons	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Public Services	CDBG: \$1,065,900	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 34024 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 20 Households Assisted
10	Facilitate Small Business Development and Growth	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Facilitate Small Business Development & Growth	CDBG: \$1,739,615	Jobs created/retained: 38 Jobs Businesses assisted: 116 Businesses Assisted
11	Effectively Administer Programs	2020	2024	Program Administration	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	Effective Planning & Administration	CDBG: \$1,082,463 HOPWA: \$38,264 HOME: \$149,753 ESG: \$33,810	Other: 1 Other

**Table 3 – Goals Summary**

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Increase Availability of Affordable Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Through new construction, conversion, and/or rehabilitation of existing units, the City will use HOME funds to increase the supply of affordable homeownership and rental housing units for City residents and households earning up to 80% of area median income, including units with supportive services for extremely low-income and/or special needs populations.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Quality of Occupied Housing Units
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The lack of maintenance of the City's housing stock means many housing units are in need of repair and rehabilitation. The City will use federal funds to offer grants and/or loans to qualifying homeowners to rehabilitate property. Taking a blended "whole house" approach, these funds will be aligned with the City's Lead & Healthy Homes grants and other programs available in the City to holistically address hazards, health and safety, code, energy efficiency, historic preservation, and quality of life issues in the property. Also includes associated delivery costs. Improvements to public housing authority properties will also be conducted with CDBG funds, as well as rehabilitation of non-profit owned units to preserve or create affordability.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Return Abandoned Property to Productive Reuse
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City of Providence still lives with the legacy of the foreclosure crisis and there are several hundred houses throughout the City that are vacant, abandoned, and uninhabitable. Using federal funds, the City will engage developers to conduct rehabilitation of vacant and abandoned homes for affordable homeownership or rental units, selective demolition if required to address imminent safety hazards posed by nuisance properties, or for public or green space.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Reduce Homelessness
	<b>Goal Description</b>	In collaboration with the Consolidated Homeless Fund and the RI Continuum of Care, the City will use federal funds to support the elimination of homelessness through street outreach, homelessness prevention, and rapid re-housing assistance.

5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Increase Housing Stability among PLWHA
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will use HOPWA funds to ensure that low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) obtain and maintain stable housing through support for acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction of housing units; costs for facility operations; rental assistance; short-term payments to prevent homelessness; and the delivery of support services including (but not limited to) assessment and case management, substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, nutritional services, job training and placement assistance, and assistance with daily living.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Condition of Public Facilities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The physical condition of many of the structures which community organizations, social service agencies, and the City itself uses are in significant disrepair, have code violations, or have repair needs so extreme that portions of the buildings cannot be used. The City will use CDBG funds to improve these facilities so that the City's low- and moderate-income populations continue to receive services.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Streetscapes & Public Infrastructure
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The infrastructure of the City in many neighborhoods is in significant disrepair, decayed, and unsafe for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Sidewalks are often trip hazards and road conditions damage vehicles. CDBG funds will be 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, whether walking, bicycling, skateboarding, or taking public transportation. Public infrastructure improvements will include accessibility enhancements to ensure that those with physical disabilities are able to navigate the City safely. Additionally, the City may conduct eligible public infrastructure projects including sewer and water upgrades as needed.
8	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Parks and Recreational Areas
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Neighborhood parks can promote healthy lifestyles, community engagement and revitalization, economic development, and environmental and social health. The City will support the creation and improvement of parks, play spaces, open space, and sports fields. CDBG funds will also be used to increase the number of urban trees throughout the City and increase the proportion of the City that has canopy shading in order to reduce air pollution, conserve water and reduce soil erosion, provide shaded areas for cooling, and reduce noise pollution.

9	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide for Basic Needs of LMI Persons
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Through ongoing support of the City's network of community-based organizations, federal funds will be used to provide for the basic, unmet needs of low-income residents including food assistance, job training, case management services, and more.
10	<b>Goal Name</b>	Facilitate Small Business Development and Growth
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To promote economic growth and local resources for low to moderate income individuals, especially minorities and women. The funding will also support the establishment of new businesses, retention and growth of existing businesses, and increase the number of low-income adults who obtain the skills necessary to meet industry's needs for qualified workers; and advance policies, practices, and partnerships that lead to sustainable economic growth with shared businesses.
11	<b>Goal Name</b>	Effectively Administer Programs
	<b>Goal Description</b>	An allowable portion of CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG funds will be used to finance the costs of administration and delivery of these respective programs; i.e. to rapidly award projects and commit funds for programs; to monitor all projects, activities, and organizations annually, to conduct planning activities or studies to inform investments, conduct proper evaluations of all programs; and to meet all timeliness standards.



# Projects

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

The City of Providence is an entitlement jurisdiction that receives federal funds from U.S. Housing Urban Development to invest in local communities. The funds are provided under CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA entitlement programs. All funds must primarily assist low- to moderate-income individuals, families, and households. The primary objectives of the projects listed below are to develop viable communities through the provision of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities; reduce homelessness and support the housing and related supportive service needs for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS.

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

Allocation priorities were based on level of funding, information gleaned from community engagement and the citizen participation process, level of need for public services, research and analysis of public data sources, strength of organizations and institutional delivery system, and opportunities to leverage additional non-Federal funds for programmatic goals.

The primary obstacle to addressing needs is funding availability. The City releases a RFP for its federal funds annually, and the level of request from community-based organizations providing critical services is staggering (exceeding the amount available to distribute by millions of dollars). The regulatory cap on public service funding makes competition for public service funding particularly challenging, resulting in unmet or underserved needs.

Additionally, as a Hardest Hit community, the City is still recovering from the effects of the Great Recession, which resulted in property abandonment, eventual blight, and costly rehabilitation. While the City has addressed the majority of vacant and abandoned properties in the City, over 100 properties remain to be addressed during this ConPlan period. Federal funds are a critical source of subsidy to enable redevelopment.

Further, the level of need in the City for private housing rehabilitation is much larger than the resources available. The City will work rapidly through its allocation of a home rehabilitation account.

The limited number of parcels for new construction will present a challenge for new affordable rental or homeownership housing construction. Further, the limited availability of parcels suitable for infill development are generally located in low-income neighborhoods throughout the City, exacerbating the challenge of promoting fair housing choice.

Finally, the ongoing pandemic has exacerbated poverty, unemployment, and caused a precipitous

(300%+) increase in homelessness in the City, creating an unprecedented demand for services to address families' basic needs.

DRAFT

**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

DRAFT

**Project Summary Information**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Goals Supported</b>	<b>Geographic Areas</b>	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	<b>Funding</b>
1	CDBG Administration	Effectively Administer Programs	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Effective Planning & Administration	CDBG : \$1,082,463
	Description	Funds will be used for operating costs associated with the implementation and management of the City of Providence CDBG Program. Costs include rent, salaries, planning costs, fringe benefits, training costs, and other office costs.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Not applicable.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A, Providence, RI 02903			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Funds will be used for operating costs associated with the effective and compliant implementation and management of the City of Providence CDBG Program. Costs include rent, salaries, fringe benefits, training costs, and other office costs.			
2	ESG21 Providence	Reduce Homelessness	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Reduce Homelessness	ESG : \$533,692
	Description	The City of Providence will use HESG funds to provide direct grants to homeless service providers and for allowable administrative costs.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 1,473 homeless or imminently homeless persons will receive case management and supportive services, rapid rehousing rental assistance, and street outreach.			

	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Rapid rehousing, street outreach, and essential services will be delivered throughout the jurisdiction of Providence.			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Funds will be used to support rapid rehousing rental assistance, mobile street outreach, as well as other essential services for persons experiencing homelessness in Providence.			
3	HOME Administration	Effectively Administer Programs	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Effective Planning & Administration	HOME : \$149,753
	Description	10% of HOME funds shall be used for operating costs associated with implementing and managing the City's HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). Operating costs include rent, salaries, fringe, and office costs.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Not applicable.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A, Providence, RI 02903			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	10% of HOME funds shall be used for operating costs associated with implementing and managing the City's HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). Operating costs include rent, salaries, fringe, and office costs.			
4	Public Services	Provide for Basic Needs of LMI Persons	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Public Services	CDBG : \$1,065,900
	Description	CDBG funds will support the operations of, and service delivery by, Providence's community based organizations who provide for the basic needs of low/moderate income individuals and families.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this	An estimated 34,044 families and individuals will benefit from social service programs delivered with CDBG support.			

discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	
Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	<p>Capital City Community Center, 25 Danforth Street, 02908</p> <p>Community Action Partnership of Providence, 518 Hartford Ave, 02909</p> <p>DaVinci Center for Community Progress, 470 Charles Street, 02907</p> <p>Federal Hill House, 9 Courtland Street, 02907</p> <p>Providence Housing Authority Thomas J. Anton, 50 Laurel Hill Ave, 02909</p> <p>Silver Lake Community Center, 529 Plainfield Street, 02909</p> <p>Washington Park Citizens Association, 42 Jillson Street, 02905</p> <p>West End Community Center, 109 Bucklin Street, 02907</p> <p>YWCA Rhode Island, 133 Delaine Street, 02909</p> <p>Amos House, 415 Friendship Street, 02907</p> <p>Better Lives RI (PICA), 15 Hayes Street, 02908</p> <p>Boys &amp; Girls Club Swim Saturdays, 50 Branch Avenue, 02904</p> <p>Building Futures, 1 Acorn Street, 02903</p> <p>Center for Dynamic Learning, 1 Louisa Street, 02905</p> <p>Clinica Esperanza/ Hope Clinic, 60 Valley St 02909 Suite 104</p> <p>Communities for People, 623 Atwells Ave, Suite 201 02909</p> <p>Community MusicWorks, 1392 Westminster Street 02903</p>

		<p>College Visions, 131 Washington Street 02903</p> <p>DownCity Design, 425 West Fountain Street 02903</p> <p>Educational Center for the Arts &amp; Science, 57 Parkis Street, 02907</p> <p>Family Service of RI- Police Go Team - City Wide</p> <p>Family Service of RI-On Call Case Management - City Wide</p> <p>FirstWorks, 275 Westminster Street, 02903</p> <p>Genesis Center – CHOP, 620 Potters Avenue, 02907</p> <p>Higher Ground International 250 Prairie Ave 02905</p> <p>Institute for the Study Practice of Nonviolence, 265 Oxford Street, 02905</p> <p>Mt. Hope Learning Center, 140 Cypress Street 02906/ 35 Camp Street 02906</p> <p>New Urban Arts, 705 Westminster Street, 02903</p> <p>Project Weber/RENEW, 640 Broad Street, 02907</p> <p>Providence Community Library, 441 Prairie Ave 02905/1 Olneyville Sq 02909/315 Academy 02908</p> <p>Providence Promise, 2 Regency Plaza, Suite 4 02903/ city wide</p> <p>Providence Public Library,150 Empire Street, 02903</p> <p>Rhode Island Free Clinic, 655 Broad Street, 02907</p> <p>Sojourner House-Drop In Center, 386 Smith Street, 02908</p> <p>Sojourner House-Emergency Housing, 386 Smith Street, 02908</p> <p>Southside Community Land Trust, 109 Somerset Street, 02907</p>
--	--	--

	<p>The Manton Avenue Project, 40 Sonoma Ct, 02905</p> <p>RI Center for Justice/DARE, 1 Empire Street, 02903</p> <p>Young Voices, 184 Broad Street, 02903</p>
<p>Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>Capital City Community Center, senior services &amp; early childcare - \$65,000.00</p> <p>Community Action Partnership of Providence – food pantry - \$45,000.00</p> <p>DaVinci Center for Community Progress, senior and employment services - \$60,000.00</p> <p>Federal Hill House, childcare - \$62,000.00</p> <p>Providence Housing Authority Thomas J. Anton Community Center social services - \$43,000.00</p> <p>Silver Lake Community Center \$63,000.00</p> <p>Washington Park Citizens Association \$65,000.00</p> <p>West End Community Center \$46,000.00</p> <p>YWCA Rhode Island \$25,000.00</p> <p>Amos House – job training &amp; case management for homeless clients - \$36,000.00</p> <p>Better Lives RI (PICA) – food pantry - \$20,000.00</p> <p>Boys &amp; Girls Club Swim Saturdays – youth swim program - \$20,000.00</p> <p>Building Futures – youth education in construction trades - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Center for Dynamic Learning – youth STEM education- \$15,000.00</p> <p>Clinica Esperanza/ Hope Clinic – bilingual healthcare services for uninsured - \$40,000.00</p> <p>Communities for People- case management for youth in foster care - \$15,000.00</p>



		<p>Community MusicWorks – youth music education - \$15,000.00</p> <p>College Visions – college prep, mentorship and coaching for youth - \$30,000.00</p> <p>DownCity Design – afterschool youth design program - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Educational Center for the Arts &amp; Science – bilingual youth theater program - \$10,000.00</p> <p>Family Service of RI- Police Go Team – ride-along support for victims of crime - \$25,000.00</p> <p>Family Service of RI-On Call Case Management – on-call case management for families displaced by condemnation - \$15,000.00</p> <p>FirstWorks, youth arts programming - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Genesis Center – Culinary Hub of Providence – job training &amp; culinary education - \$10,000.00</p> <p>Higher Ground International- Care Program for African refugee elders - \$20,000.00</p> <p>Institute for the Study Practice of Nonviolence – counseling services - \$29,000.00</p> <p>Mt. Hope Learning Center – before and afterschool care - \$20,000.00</p> <p>New Urban Arts – afterschool arts education - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Project Weber/RENEW – street outreach and harm reduction services - \$27,000.00</p> <p>Providence Community Library- Spanish language GED program - \$21,000.00</p> <p>Providence Promise – college prep &amp; financial literacy - \$12,000.00</p> <p>Providence Public Library – computer training - \$15,000.00</p> <p>Rhode Island Free Clinic - healthcare for uninsured - \$40,000.00</p> <p>Sojourner House-Drop In Center                      for domestic violence victims - \$18,000.00</p>
--	--	---

		Sojourner House- short term emergency housing assistance for victims- \$20,000.00 Southside Community Land Trust – urban agriculture job training - \$10,000.00 The Manton Avenue Project- youth theater program - \$15,000.00 RI Center for Justice/DARE- eviction defense & foreclosure prevention - \$20,000.00 Young Voices- youth empowerment program - \$13,900.00			
5	Providence Business Loan Fund	Facilitate Small Business Development and Growth	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Facilitate Small Business Development & Growth	CDBG : \$1,300,000
	Description	Funds will support low-interest lending to Providence businesses to create or retain jobs for low/moderate income hires.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 38 jobs will be created or retained for low/moderate income workers as a result of PBLF lending.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Businesses must be located within the jurisdiction of the City of Providence.			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Low-interest loans will be provided to Providence-based businesses to create or retain jobs for low/moderate income workers.			
6	Economic Development Programs	Facilitate Small Business Development and Growth	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Facilitate Small Business Development & Growth	CDBG : \$439,615
	Description	Economic development programs geared towards supporting and fostering small businesses and entrepreneurship.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 116 low/moderate income entrepreneurs and business owners will be assisted.			

	(additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)				
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Center for Women & Enterprise, PVD Self-Employment Program: Providence netWORKri Center, One Reservoir Ave, 02907 Center for Women & Enterprise, Spanish Language Classrooms Initiative: CAPP, 518 Hartford Ave., Providence, RI 02909 Design x RI: 19 Bassett St. Unit 235, Providence, RI 02903  Genesis Center, Culinary Hub of Providence, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02903 Rhode Island Black Business Association, 3 Regency Plaza, Suite 3E, Providence, RI 02903			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Center for Women & Enterprise, PVD Self-Employment Program: technical assistance and business planning courses for LMI microenterprises and entrepreneurs - \$79,615 Center for Women & Enterprise, Spanish Language Classrooms Initiative: Spanish-language technical assistance and business planning courses for LMI microenterprises and entrepreneurs - \$50,000 Design x RI, Design Catalyst Program: direct grant program and accelerator for fledgling design businesses - \$195,000 Rhode Island Black Business Association, Microbusiness Technical Assistance Program: one-on-one business counseling and technical assistance services for minority microenterprises - \$60,000  Genesis Center, Culinary Hub of Providence: technical assistance to culinary enterprises (training and retail-based education) - \$55,000			
	CDBG Occupied Housing	Improve Quality of Occupied Housing Units	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Improved Housing Quality & Habitability	CDBG : \$557,879
	Description	Funds will be used to assist with property rehabilitation in both privately-owned and public housing for low-income families and individuals.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
7	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 25 families are expected to benefit from loans issued through the City's Home Repair Program. An estimated 409 very low-income elders will also benefit from improvements at Providence Housing Authority elderly high-rise complexes.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Home Repair: 444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A, Providence, RI 02903			

		<p>PHA Doors to Safety:</p> <p>Carroll Tower, 243 Smith Street, Providence, RI 02908</p> <p>Dominica Manor, 100 Atwells Avenue, Providence, RI 02903</p>		
	<p>Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>Deferred payment, 0% interest loans will be provided to low/moderate income owner occupants for home repairs via the City's Home Repair Program. \$462,879.</p> <p>PHA "Doors to Safety": egress improvements will be made at Carroll Tower and Dominica Manor (two elderly high-rise PHA complexes) to ensure ADA accessibility and resident safety. \$85,000.</p>		
	Public Facility Improvements	Improve Condition of Public Facilities	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Public Facilities Improvements CDBG : \$1,611,743
	Description	Funds will be used for improvements to public facilities (such as improvements to community centers, neighborhood recreation centers, and other service agencies).		
	Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022		
	<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>It is anticipated that 44,891 Providence families will potentially benefit from the proposed improvements to the facilities listed below. These facilities serve and are open to the general public in predominately low-income neighborhoods, or provide direct specialized services for persons with disabilities, persons experiencing homelessness, youths and families.</p>		
8	<p>Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>557 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907</p> <p>550 Hartford Avenue, Providence, RI 02909</p> <p>9 Courtland Street, Providence RI 02909</p> <p>622 Elmwood Avenue, Providence RI 02907</p> <p>705 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903</p> <p>600 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02903</p> <p>1 Olneyville Square, Providence, RI 02909</p>		

	<p>1316 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02905</p> <p>45 Greeley Street, Providence RI 02904</p> <p>64 Applegate Lane, Providence RI 02905</p> <p>393 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907</p> <p>109 Bucklin Street, Providence RI 02907</p> <p>455 Wickenden Street, Providence RI 02903</p> <p>324 Hope St, Providence, RI 02906</p> <p>199 Camp St, Providence, RI 02906</p> <p>675 Plainfield St, Providence, RI 02909</p> <p>18 Gesler St, Providence, RI 02909</p> <p>195 Nelson St, Providence, RI 02908</p>
<p>Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>AIDS Care Ocean State – ADA Improvements, 557 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907- \$48,350.00</p> <p>Children’s Friend – Hartford Facility Improvements, 550 Hartford Avenue, Providence, RI 02909 - \$130,000.00</p> <p>Federal Hill House – Courtland Gas &amp; HVAC Improvements, 9 Courtland Street, Providence RI 02909 - \$116,393.00</p> <p>Higher Ground International Facility Acquisition, location TBD, \$75,000.00</p> <p>McAuley Corporation – McAuley House Roof Replacement, 622 Elmwood Avenue, Providence RI 02907- \$25,000.00</p> <p>New Urban Arts Studio Expansion &amp; ADA Improvements 705 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903 - \$125,000.00</p> <p>Oasis International Facility Improvements, 600 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02903 -\$75,000.00</p>

	<p>Preservation of Affordable Housing WiFi , 200 Gordon Avenue, Providence, RI - \$175,000.00</p> <p>Providence Community Library – Olneyville Library Boiler, 1 Olneyville Square, Providence, RI 02909-\$40,000.00</p> <p>Providence Community Library – Washington Park Library-1316 Broad Street. Providence, RI 02905 - \$26,000.00</p> <p>Refocus – Bathroom Conversion, 45 Greeley Street, Providence RI 02904- \$35,000.00</p> <p>Roger Williams Daycare – Facility Improvements. 64 Applegate Lane, Providence RI 02905 - \$285,000.00</p> <p>Trinity Restoration/Southside Cultural Center Historic Windows, 393 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907 - \$150,000.00</p> <p>West End Community Center – Facility Improvements, 109 Bucklin Street, Providence RI 02907- \$50,000.00</p> <p>Ward 1 Vartan Gregorian Improvements, 455 Wickenden Street, Providence RI 02903- \$50,000.00</p> <p>Ward 2 Hope High School Improvements, 324 Hope St, Providence, RI 02906- \$50,000.00</p> <p>Ward 3 Mt. Hope Community Center Improvements, 199 Camp St, Providence, RI 02906-\$6,000.00</p> <p>Ward 7 Neutaconkanut Rec Center Improvements, 675 Plainfield St, Providence, RI 02909 - \$50,000.00</p> <p>Ward 13 Zuccolo Rec Center Improvements, 18 Gesler St, Providence, RI 02909 - \$50,000.00</p> <p>Ward 14 RFK School Improvements, 195 Nelson St, Providence, RI 02908 - \$50,000.00</p>			
	Parks, Open Space, Sports and Recreation Improvements	Improve Parks and Recreational Areas	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Improved Parks & Recreational Opportunities CDBG : \$150,000
	Description	Funds will be used for improvements to parks, open space and recreation fields utilized by neighborhood residents.		
	Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022		
9	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 10,065 neighborhood residents will benefit from improvements to public neighborhood parks.		

	<p>Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p> <p>Prete-Metcalf, 504 Charles Street, Providence, RI</p> <p>Bucklin Park, 404 Dexter Street, Providence, RI</p> <p>Hassett Park, 11 Candace Street, Providence, RI</p>																				
	<p>Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p> <p>Prete-Metcalf Park Improvements - \$50,000</p> <p>Bucklin Park Improvements - \$50,000</p> <p>Hassett Park Improvements - \$50,000</p>																				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Streets, Sidewalks, and Infrastructure Improvements</td> <td>Improve Streetscapes &amp; Public Infrastructure</td> <td>Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area</td> <td>Infrastructure Improvements</td> <td>CDBG : \$304,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Description</td> <td colspan="4">Funds will be used to make improvements to street, sidewalks, and streetscape infrastructure to improve walkability and accessibility for low/moderate income neighborhoods.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Target Date for Completion</td> <td colspan="4">09/30/2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</td> <td colspan="4">An estimated 30,000 families will benefit from improved streetscapes and neighborhood sidewalks.</td> </tr> </table>	Streets, Sidewalks, and Infrastructure Improvements	Improve Streetscapes & Public Infrastructure	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG : \$304,000	Description	Funds will be used to make improvements to street, sidewalks, and streetscape infrastructure to improve walkability and accessibility for low/moderate income neighborhoods.				Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022				Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 30,000 families will benefit from improved streetscapes and neighborhood sidewalks.			
Streets, Sidewalks, and Infrastructure Improvements	Improve Streetscapes & Public Infrastructure	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG : \$304,000																	
Description	Funds will be used to make improvements to street, sidewalks, and streetscape infrastructure to improve walkability and accessibility for low/moderate income neighborhoods.																				
Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022																				
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 30,000 families will benefit from improved streetscapes and neighborhood sidewalks.																				
10	<p>Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p> <p>Sidewalk selection underway, specific locations TBD. Eligible locations must be located within &gt;51% low/mod neighborhoods.</p> <p>Ward 3 Benches</p> <p>Ward 5 Sidewalks</p> <p>Ward 5 Tree Planting</p> <p>Ward 6 Manton/Atwells Safety Improvements</p> <p>Ward 9 Sidewalks</p> <p>Ward 10 Sidewalks &amp; Speed Lumps</p>																				

		Ward 11 Sidewalks			
		Ward 15 Sidewalk Improvements			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Ward 3 Benches			
		Ward 5 Sidewalks			
		Ward 5 Tree Planting			
		Ward 6 Manton/Atwells Safety Improvements			
		Ward 9 Sidewalks			
		Ward 10 Sidewalks & Speed Lumps			
		Ward 11 Sidewalks			
		Ward 15 Sidewalk Improvements			
	HOME Affordable Housing	Increase Availability of Affordable Housing	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Affordable Housing	HOME : \$1,347,779
	Description	HOME funds will be used to rehabilitate or construct long-term affordable housing units for low/moderate income occupancy.			
	Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022			
1 1	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An anticipated 35 families will benefit from new affordable housing units.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Barbara Jordan 2, 16 Somerset Street, Providence, RI 434 Atwells Avenue, Providence, RI Summer Street I (Crossroads), 94 Summer Street, Providence, RI			



		322 Thurbers Avenue, Providence, RI		
		280 Indiana Avenue, Providence, RI		
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Barbara Jordan 2 (OMNI/Wingate) - 11 HOME rental units		
		434 Atwells (ONE Neighborhood Builders) - 11 HOME rental units		
		Summer Street I (Crossroads) - 11 HOME rental units		
		322 Thurbers Avenue Homeownership (SWAP) - 1 HOME homeownership unit		
		280 Indiana Avenue Homeownership (SWAP) - 1 HOME homeownership unit		
	City of Providence (Administration) - RIH21001	Effectively Administer Programs	Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA - Local Target area	Effective Planning & Administration HOPWA : \$38,264
	Description	Administration of the City of Providence HOPWA program for PY 2021.		
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022		
1 2	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Not applicable.		
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A, Providence, RI 02903		
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Administration and delivery of the City of Providence HOPWA Program.		
1 3	AIDS Care Ocean State - RIH21001	Increase Housing Stability among PLWHA	Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA - Local Target area	Housing & Support Services for PLWHA HOPWA : \$934,396
	Description	AIDS Care Ocean State will provide housing and supportive services to clients living with HIV/AIDS.		
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022		

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 53 people living with HIV/AIDS and their families will benefit from services and housing provided by AIDS Care Ocean State.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	18 Parkis Avenue, Providence, RI			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	AIDS Care Ocean State will provide facility-based and tenant-based housing assistance and supportive services to an anticipated 53 clients living with HIV/AIDS.			
	Family Service of Rhode Island - RIH21001	Increase Housing Stability among PLWHA	Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA - Local Target area	Housing & Support Services for PLWHA	HOPWA : \$55,000
	Description	Family Service of Rhode Island's AIDS Project RI will provide supportive services for clients living with HIV/AIDS.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			
14	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An estimated 50 clients living with HIV/AIDS will receive supportive services through FSRI.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	134 Thurbers Avenue, Providence, RI			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	FSRI will provide supportive services (medical navigation, housing navigation, and assistance with basic needs) to clients living with HIV/AIDS.			
	Justice Resource Institute - RIH21001	Increase Housing Stability among PLWHA	Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA - Local Target area	Housing & Support Services for PLWHA	HOPWA : \$247,820
15	Description	Justice Resource Institute will provide housing and supportive services to clients living with HIV/AIDS in Providence and Bristol County.			
	Target Date for Completion	06/30/2022			

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An anticipated 25 clients will receive housing assistance through JRI.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	75 Armory Street, Boston, MA			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	An anticipated 25 clients will receive tenant-based rental and utility assistance through JRI.			
	CDBG Housing - EveryHome	Return Abandoned Property to Productive Reuse	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Return Abandoned Property to Productive Use	CDBG : \$350,000
	Description	CDBG funds will support the redevelopment of vacant and abandoned properties in Providence to enable reuse as affordable housing or green space.			
	Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022			
16	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Two vacant and abandoned properties are anticipated to be fully rehabbed through the EveryHome Initiative.			
	Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A, Providence, RI			
	Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)	Two vacant and abandoned properties are anticipated to be rehabbed through the 2021 EveryHome Program.			
	CDBG Housing - Acquisition	Increase Availability of Affordable Housing	Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area - Local Target area	Affordable Housing	CDBG : \$190,000
17	Description	CDBG funds will support acquisition of properties to facilitate development of affordable housing.			
	Target Date for Completion	09/30/2022			

<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>An estimated 3 families will benefit from new affordable homeownership housing.</p>
<p>Location Description (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>Locations TBD.</p>
<p>Planned Activities (additional information for this discussion may be available on the AP-36 Project Detail screen)</p>	<p>Smith Hill CDC will acquire two or more parcels to enable development of affordable homeownership housing. \$150,000  Mt. Hope Land Trust will acquire a target parcel to enable development of affordable housing. \$40,000</p>

DRAFT

## **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 City of Providence does not target specific geographic areas to meet priority needs. Virtually every neighborhood in the City has areas designated as low- and moderate-income Census Blocks, with the exception of the Blackstone, Wayland, and Hope neighborhoods. Rather, the City’s focus through these entitlement grants is on the improvement of the quality of life for the City’s low- and moderate- income residents.

The City of Providence is the HOPWA formula grant recipient for the Providence-Fall River-New Bedford Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA). As such, Providence is charged with ensuring HOPWA investments are appropriately targeted to HOPWA populations (persons living with AIDS) throughout the EMSA geography. As such, HOPWA providers servicing Bristol County, MA are eligible to apply for City HOPWA, and awards are made based on need and program efficacy.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
Community Wide - Entire City Geographic Area	85
Providence - Fall River - New Bedford EMSA	15

**Table 4 - Geographic Distribution**

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

With limited exception, most neighborhoods throughout the City of Providence have areas with high concentration of low- to moderate-income residents. The City of Providence does not currently have a designated or HUD-approved geographic target area. Over 62% of the population of Providence is low- to moderate-income. These individuals and households are spread throughout the City's neighborhoods.

### **Discussion**

As discussed above, the geographic allocation of resources will be fairly dispersed throughout the City, albeit targeting the most economically distressed areas of the City’s neighborhoods and the most economically marginalized persons living in those neighborhoods. Fundamentally, the City has focused its strategies to assist low- to moderate-income residents regardless of where they live.

# Affordable Housing

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

### Introduction

Documented in this Action Plan, the City is expecting to allocate funds to support affordable housing projects for the homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households in the 2021 Program Year.

CDBG funds in the amount of \$997,879 will support the following:

- Eliminate neighborhood blight by rehabilitating 2 blighted, abandoned, and uninhabitable properties for resale to low/mod income buyers (\$350,000 for redevelopment subsidy of two vacant homes).
- Improve the quality of occupied housing and support independent living for the elderly and disabled by supporting the rehabilitation of 25 private homes (\$412,879 in deferred payment Home Repair loans & \$60,000 in delivery costs);
- Acquisition by a CDC of two parcels for redevelopment as affordable housing (\$150,000 for 2 new construction projects).
- Acquisition and redevelopment of a parcel by the Mt. Hope Land Trust for affordable housing (\$40,000 for 1 new construction project).
- Improve the quality of occupied public housing through capital improvements at Carroll Tower & Domenica Manor - (\$85,000 benefitting 409 units).

HOME funds in the amount of \$1,347,779 will tentatively support the development of the following 35 new affordable housing units:

- Barbara Jordan II, 11 units of affordable rental housing serving < 60% AMI
- 434 Atwells Avenue, 11 units of affordable rental housing serving <60% AMI
- Summer Street I, 11 units of affordable rental housing serving <60% AMI
- 322 Thurbers Avenue, 1 unit of homeownership housing for < 80% AMI
- 280 Indiana Avenue, 1 unit of homeownership housing for <80% AMI.

*Note: all tentative, project-specific HOME commitments proposed above are subject to further underwriting and HUD approval under Part 92 of the federal regulations prior to final City approval and*

contracting.

HOPWA funds in the amount of \$1,182,216 will support the following:

- Tenant Based Rental Assistance = 25 households
- Facility Based Rental Assistance= 53 households
- Total: 78 Special Needs Households Provided Housing Assistance.

2021 ESG funds in the amount of \$450,803 will support the following:

- Essential services, rapid rehousing, rental assistance, administration and street outreach services for those experiencing homelessness within the jurisdiction of Providence.

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	52
Non-Homeless	65
Special-Needs	78
Total	195

**Table 5 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	130
The Production of New Units	38
Rehab of Existing Units	27
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	195

**Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

## Discussion

It should be noted that not all goals identified above are likely to be met entirely within the 2021 program year, as certain affordable housing development projects have a longer timeline.

"Number of Households to be Supported" figures include HOPWA households receiving tenant- or facility-based housing assistance and ESG rapid rehousing assistance.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

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

There are many restoration and revitalization needs in the portfolio of public housing throughout the City. While the PHA will expend \$6.8M through its FFY21 Capital Fund, needs far outweigh available resources, and capital funds are largely dedicated to repairs or replacements. As such, the PHA often seeks out CDBG resources for projects that will boost safety and amenities for its residents.

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

The City will address some of the extensive needs discussed above by extending its commitment to fund service operations at the Thomas J. Anton Community Center at Hartford Park, as well as providing \$85,000 in CDBG to address needed facility and safety upgrades at PHA elderly high-rise complexes (Dominica Manor and Carroll Tower). Improvements include egress and doorway reconstruction and replacement.

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

The Providence Housing Authority continues 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.

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

Not applicable, Providence Housing Authority is not designated as a troubled PHA.

**Discussion**

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 in relation to other competing needs throughout the City.

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

### **Introduction**

The City's partnership and funding alignment with both the Consolidated Homeless Fund and the Rhode Island Continuum of Care offers a unique opportunity for better coordination among several different programs and funding streams to address homelessness in a strategic, targeted, and systematic way. The network of providers of services and housing for the homeless in the City and State is strong and robust; however, it has not been as coordinated and integrated as it could be. Collaboratively, major strides have been taken to improve collaboration, including development and adoption of a universal coordinated entry policy, as well as system standards for funding evaluation, performance, VI-SPDAT and HMIS, and standards for case management.

The State's strategic plan to end chronic homelessness, Opening Doors, is a road map the State's providers can use to move much more diligently into a Housing First model of quickly engaging the homeless, providing them with stable housing, and delivering the appropriate and relevant wraparound services. Crossroads Rhode Island, the State's largest provider of shelter services, as well as many other providers, have fully embraced Housing First and are refocusing efforts to better provide permanent housing while still maintaining the necessary shelter capacity for those that lack housing. Providers are also moving away from transitional or first-step housing towards a permanent, supportive-housing model of operation.

It is important to note that the City blends funding strategically with other sources of funds and consolidates its funds into a small number of projects rather than fund a large number of projects with smaller ESG grants. The City's ESG funds are aggregated with ESG funds from Pawtucket, Woonsocket, and the State, as well as Title XX Shelter/Homeless Service Funds and the Housing Resource Commission Shelter/Homeless Service Funds. As such, the City looks at the Consolidated Homeless Fund's entire allocation and assigns funding to minimize the level of resources required to monitor compliance and reduce administrative burden to funders and agencies alike.

### **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:**

There are several agencies that conduct outreach efforts in the City of Providence. In collaboration with the Rhode Island Continuum of Care and the Consolidated Homeless Fund, the City uses its Federal Emergency Solutions Grants 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. To better coordinate outreach efforts, the City has insisted that any agency that engages in outreach efforts coordinate those efforts with other agencies to avoid

duplication and inefficiency.

As part of the broader efforts to eliminate chronic homelessness, the City supports agencies that engage hard-to-reach homeless persons living on the street, 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.

For the 2021 Program Year, the City will be funding essential services, including street outreach, through which providers will seek out and engage homeless persons living on the streets or in encampments. This street outreach and case management will include assessments of the needs of homeless individuals. Street outreach and essential services will also include staff costs associated with case management, intake, HMIS reporting, as well as services pertaining to employment, mental health care, education, and substance abuse counseling. Services will be accessible on a drop-in basis, as well as for those individuals seeking more intensive services through a mobile outreach unit.

### **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.

Recognizing an intense demand for services for the chronically homeless in the downtown area in recent years, the City and House of Hope CDC deployed a mobile outreach trailer, which meets homeless individuals "where they are" and offers case management, medical services, showers, laundry, and sundries. The sanitation and healthcare services deployed by this mobile unit will be ever more critical as COVID-19 remains a public health crisis.

### **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**

Rapid rehousing rental assistance will be provided to homeless households throughout the City, as well as essential services to homeless individuals and families, particularly those who are newly and chronically homeless, persons in recovery and/or suffering from addictions, the formerly incarcerated, and/or persons with physical and mental illnesses. Locating and maintaining stable housing will continue to be an emphasis.

**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.**

All HUD-funded programs include financial eligibility criteria and are targeted to low-income households. Local providers such as Crossroads Rhode Island and Better Lives RI 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.

**AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (I)(3)**

<b>One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:</b>	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	0
Tenant-based rental assistance	25
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	53
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>

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

### **Introduction:**

The City of Providence was a partner in the recent development of a Statewide Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (Regional AI) in consultation with the RI HUD entitlement communities: Providence, Cranston, East Providence, Pawtucket, Warwick, and Woonsocket. Rhode Island conducted a comprehensive Regional AI at the statewide level for a number of reasons, including:

- The most intractable fair housing issues can only be resolved on a regional basis. Given Rhode Island’s compact size, the region and State are synonymous. The State has a single labor market that comprises all of its 39 cities and towns.
- Rhode Island already has a long history of fair housing policy. It has a comprehensive statewide planning program and a legislated “fair share” low and moderate income housing goal. Municipalities are required to identify in their local comprehensive plans how they will meet the housing needs of a diverse population across age, income and household type. Rhode Island has long provided for the siting of group homes for residents with disabilities in any residential district. In allocating housing subsidies and low income housing tax credits, the State has followed a “both and” policy of creating more affordable housing in low-poverty areas (typically suburban) where few opportunities currently exist, while also continuing to redevelop those neighborhoods (typically urban) most heavily affected by poverty, the foreclosure crisis, and other ills.
- The State Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), the entity managing the fair housing planning, is also the entity that administers the federally funded housing and community development programs for the state and staffs the State’s Housing Resources Commission. As such, it already has an obligation to affirmatively further fair housing. OHCD coordinates closely with Rhode Island Housing, the state’s housing finance agency, on housing policies, programs and funding decisions, and Rhode Island Housing implements many of the state’s housing and planning initiatives on behalf of OHCD.

The City of Providence has consulted with the OHCD to update its previously identified impediments. Providence supported this regional approach as many impediments are beyond the authority or financial capability of the City of Providence to address alone, such as economic conditions, limited transportation options, insufficient state or federal resources for the development of affordable housing, fair housing enforcement, cost and availability of property insurance, and more. Addressing these impediments requires the collaboration of the municipalities, state and federal funding agencies, fair housing service providers, lenders, real estate professionals, and other state agencies.

The updated regional AI, which includes robust analysis and deeper discussion on barriers to housing, can be viewed: <http://www.providenceri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/RI-AI-Final-2020.pdf>.

### **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**

1) The City will continue its partnership with the Housing Network of Rhode Island to provide a bilingual down-payment and closing cost assistance program to alleviate the significant upfront cost burden creating a barrier for low-income homebuyers when purchasing a new home.

2) The City recently developed a Language Access Plan and Toolkit, and is implementing that plan by conducting translation of documents, creating language banks for City communications, and expanding its on-call translation services to ensure access to City services.

3) Further, the City has engaged with RI Center for Justice and RI Legal Services to assist with support for low-income renters that have been unfairly treated in the access or retention of housing in the City. The City has pending local legislation to expand protected classes in the City (to prevent discrimination on the basis of source of income), and has funded expanded legal representation for low-income tenants in the City's Housing Court system. This legal aid will work in parallel to the City's enhanced code enforcement efforts aimed at ensuring the safety and welfare of City residents with limited housing choice.

4) The City will continue its Home Repair Program in 2020 and beyond. This CDBG program will provide deferred payment, 0% interest loans to owner-occupants who are unable to finance critical repairs to their homes. Rising construction costs continue to exacerbate deferral of maintenance and substandard housing for households with fixed or stagnant incomes. This program will enable another est. 20 households to afford critical repairs who would otherwise be unable to do so (due to inability to obtain conventional home equity lending due to their limited or fixed incomes).

5) The City has provided incentives to developers to create affordable housing at the City level through policy and zoning changes. These incentives include:

- Enabling legislation to permit the Providence Redevelopment Agency to acquire properties certified to be vacant, abandoned, and tax delinquent. This initiative allows the City to convey clear title to potential developers at lower cost (than if developers purchased at auction), and bring hundreds of abandoned properties back into productive reuse as market and affordable housing. The RFP process by which the PRA disposes of these properties includes criteria that favor affordable housing proposals, as well as proposals that will utilize MBE & WBEs.
- The Providence Redevelopment Agency permits land-banking by developers, and does not charge a holding fee.
- The City Zoning Ordinance was updated to establish "T.O.D. Districts", or transit-oriented development districts that allow for housing construction in proximity to public transit, and to

allow for increases in residential density.

- Commercial historic districts were expanded to 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 affordable housing.
- Codified a long-term funding stream in 2020 (earmarked a percentage of Tax Stabilization Agreement revenue to the Providence Affordable Housing Trust) to be administered by the Providence Redevelopment Agency. This estimated \$1M+ per year will provide low-interest development loans and subsidy for the creation and preservation of affordable housing and will enable bonding.

### **Discussion:**

The City of Providence's relationship with the State Office of Housing and Community Development, RI Attorney General, US Attorney, and RI Commission for Human Rights allows for periodic communication regarding fair housing strategies. Further, the City will continue to be a strong partner in the HomesRI Initiative, a cross-sector coalition seeking to transform the state's under-resourced affordable housing system and create a common agenda to increase the supply of safe, healthy and affordable housing throughout Rhode Island, equitably reducing the housing cost burden for low and moderate income residents over the next decade. Partners are concentrating work efforts in four key areas: increasing community engagement in affordable housing issues, reducing high development costs, increasing investment and building capacity in the affordable housing "system", and making existing homes safer, healthier, and more affordable to maintain.



## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

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. In addition to the specific activities detailed below, the Division of Housing & Community Development will be more pro-active in responding to any and all programmatic challenges experienced by subrecipients as they may arise throughout the program year in order to ensure that any problems that may diminish the intended benefit of grants is corrected or reduced as soon as possible. Further, the Division of Housing & Community Development recently updated its Policies and Procedures manual(s), in consultation with HUD and program stakeholders, to clarify program requirements for all funding sources.

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

The City conducted a public services audit in collaboration with Roger Williams University to evaluate the City's ecosystem of public service providers, with the intention of identifying programming overlaps, inefficiencies, and gaps in service to better coordinate and target funding to address unmet need and minimize duplication. Further, the Division of Community Development continues to partner with the Roger Williams University School of Continuing Education 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. The City also partnered with the Brown University Public Policy Program, which held fall 2017 and 2018 courses for Brown students, as well as adult learners from the public sector and community service organizations (CSOs) entitled "The Science and Craft of Applied Policy Research: Governing Community Service Providers in Providence", which explored the following questions surrounding social service needs in Providence:

- Which operational and financial skills are the most difficult for CSOs to acquire and maintain?
- What kind of resources would be needed to facilitate increased sustainability, and where might these resources be located?
- Can CSOs improve their managerial capacities and the quality of the services they provide by learning from each other and/or by accessing capacity-building resources that might be found elsewhere in Providence's broader philanthropic and non-profit community?
- What would have to be done to reduce the costs of continual learning within service providers and across the broader ecosystem?
- Can the objectives of individual CSOs and the division of labor between them be reconfigured in ways that produce greater public value at similar levels of cost?
- Are changes to the City's RFP process for CDBG social services warranted, and/or can changes be made to better prioritize proposals addressing underserved social service needs?

The findings of this Brown course will inform the City's provision of technical assistance to agencies in

2021 and beyond.

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

The City will continue its effort 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. The primary funds for these initiatives will be CDBG and HOME funding. The City will use CDBG and HOME funds to leverage other financing (state, federal, and local) to enable the construction and preservation of affordable units. Further, the City will continue to prioritize the construction of mixed-income and affordable units when reviewing development proposals for the hundreds of vacant and abandoned properties that are being redeveloped through the EveryHome Initiative. Units constructed or assisted by the City will have their affordability preserved via long-term deed restriction.

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

The City of Providence, through its Division of Community Development (DCD), has developed 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 DCD has experience in successfully operating its current HUD Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration grant, as well as 7 total prior HUD Lead Hazard Control Grants (Since 1999: RILHB0490-14, RILHB0490-10, RILHD0190-08, RILHB0402-08, RILHD0033-04, RILHB0227-02, RILHR0123-98, RILHH0071-99). Under its current grant, the City is making 200 units lead safe, healthy, and energy efficient. The \$3.4 million grant-funded LSPP is providing matching funds of \$804,579 and \$320,000 in leveraged funds from its public, private, and community-based partners by grant close-out in 2021. The City is also applying for 2021 renewal under HUD's Notice of Funding Availability, closing late August 2020.

Using the experience gained from successfully managing its previous and existing HUD Lead Grant Programs, the Lead Safe Providence Program utilizes a dynamic program to:

- Perform lead hazard reduction (interim controls) interventions;
- Provide free lead inspections/risk assessments for owners to identify lead hazards;
- Complete Healthy Homes interventions in Program units;
- Complete leverage funded Weatherization interventions in Program units;
- Conduct over outreach and education events that support the goal of reaching thousands of residents, health care providers, community organizations, FBOs, property owners, realtors and contractors;
- Provide job training and increased contractor capacity by providing Free Lead Worker trainings

and certifications as well as Green & Healthy Homes jobs training;

- Operate a LSPP HEPA-Vacuum Loan Program;
- Support an existing Lead Safe Housing Registry of available healthy/lead certified rental properties to distribute regularly to community residents who are seeking safer housing;
- Utilize the HUD Healthy Homes Rating System (HHRS) and tablet computer for efficient field assessments and Scope of Work development for Healthy Homes interventions;
- Expand the integrated Green & Healthy Housing Initiative Providence model to produce comprehensive interventions and create more sustainable units.

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

The following are the activities that the City will take during the 2021-22 program year to lift people out of poverty:

- **Adult Basic Education, Literacy, and GED Training:** Working with the Providence Community Library, the City will engage 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 in coordination with the public workforce system, the City will bolster workforce development efforts to build job skills among low-income Providence residents.
- **Youth Training and Summer Youth Employment:** Every summer, the City of Providence, in collaboration with the Governor's Workforce Board and the RI 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 will help promote 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 help low-wage families meet their basic needs and move toward financial security.
- **Support for New and Existing Businesses:** Working with the Center for Women & Enterprise and RI Black Business Association, the City will provide funds for technical assistance to get low-income, Spanish-speaking, and minority businesses and entrepreneurs "credit ready" and primed for growth. The City also continues to support Providence businesses through low-interest Providence Business Loan Fund (PBLF) loans, which provide flexible lending with the goals of fostering local business growth and increased job creation/retention for low/mod

employees. The City will also support new businesses and entrepreneurs through the provision of small grants or loans for new or existing business owners who are income eligible through the DesignxRI program.

- **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. Additionally, the City will also fund the Center for Women and Enterprise, which will offer programs providing technical assistance and incubator programs to minority and women-owned businesses and entrepreneurs.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

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, the Division of Community Development will be building a centralized, searchable database of service providers in the City, the services offered, and the clients served.

Additionally, with a greater emphasis on requiring full compliance with all local, state, and federal rules, and an increased demand for grant recipients to demonstrate outcomes, as opposed to strictly outputs, the City believes that funds invested in program will not only have an impact, but that these efforts will also raise the capacity and effectiveness of organizations that adapt to these new demands.

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

funding continues to decrease, the City will become ever more focused on measuring outcomes and analyzing the return on its investment of Federal dollars.

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

The City hosts and participates in regular focus groups and 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. By working in partnership with locally-based providers and community development organizations, the City can actively promote the coordination of services. With the ongoing reduction in resources from the Federal government, the City needs to highlight efficiency and maximum value creation to deliver long-term impact in a strategic way.

#### **Discussion:**

The Division of Housing & Community Development, with active support of the Mayor's Office and the City Council, has 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 and strategic programs. As the resources allocated to the City continue to decrease, maintaining a commitment to progress in this area continues to grow in importance.

## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction:

The total level of expected resources available to the City for community development activities located in this Action Plan can be found in AP-15. With the exception of Section 108 loan repayment, delivery, and administrative costs, all CDBG funds will directly benefit low- and moderate-income Providence residents in the 2021-2022 Program Year.

A description of program specific requirements for the HOME, HOPWA, and ESG programs, and the City's applicable policies to meet these requirements, also follows.

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

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(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
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### 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.	80.00%

**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:

Not applicable. The City's HOME Program and associated activities are not utilizing any forms of investment not covered by Section 92.205. All investments are identified under the 92.205 section of the regulation.

The City's HOME program requires 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.

RI voters approved a \$50M bond for affordable housing and blight elimination, and another bond has been proposed for 2020 vote; Providence developers will continue to leverage these funds with City HOME dollars. In addition, it is anticipated that Providence developers will pair Low Income Housing Tax Credits, RI Housing HOME, and possibly NSP with City HOME on some proposed projects. Local construction financing from banks and RI Housing will also be utilized.

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

The City of Providence will use a homebuyer subsidy with the Recapture method to recover HOME funds from projects that fail to meet the minimum affordability requirements. This allows an income-restricted unit to be sold and the homeowner bearing the responsibility of repayment of the HOME funds that supported the homebuyer's original purchase. The proceeds from the repayment of the HOME subsidy will go to support an additional project.

To ensure that the City recovers a reasonable amount of the HOME Program funds from the sale, transfer, foreclosure, or conveyance of a subsidized property within the minimum federally-required affordability period, the following recapture provisions will be made an express covenant of the borrower applicable to the loan:

If the mortgaged property is sold, refinanced, conveyed, assigned, leased, or otherwise transferred or if a senior lender forecloses on any senior mortgage prior to the end of the minimum federally-required affordability period as defined by 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4), the HOME Program loan assistance shall be repaid to the City of Providence, Department of Planning and Development, Division of Community Development on a shared net proceeds basis according to the following formula:

- Net Proceeds = Sales price minus superior loan repayment (not including HOME assistance) and

closing costs.

- Homeowner Investment = Homeowner downpayment and any verifiable capital improvement investment made from the date of purchase;
- City's Investment = HOME Program assistance;
- Total Investment = Homeowner investment plus City's investment
- Amount of Net Proceeds (shared appreciation) to be returned to City upon sale prior to the end of the minimum federally-required affordability period =  $(\text{City's Investment} / \text{Total Investment}) * \text{Net Proceeds}$

In the event of resale of a property where there is not a direct subsidy to the homebuyer, the City will employ a Resale Provision to preserve the remaining affordability period to ensure the housing is retained for occupancy for low-income households. The Resale Provision requires that if the owner of an income-restricted property sells, conveys, or transfers his/her ownership interest in the property prior to the end of the minimum federally-required affordability period, the sale, conveyance, or transfer shall only be to an eligible, income-qualified purchaser. Other restrictions concerning notice of sale, maximum resale price, and marketing of affordable unit(s) shall apply and are fully detailed in the City's Resale Provision (see following section).

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

All property acquired with HOME funds is subject to a period of affordability and principal residency requirements, safeguarded by the appropriate legal instrument (whether it be a deed restriction, land covenant, or lien) and resale or recapture provision.

As outlined above, the City employs Recapture Provisions when direct subsidy is provided to a homebuyer. Resale is employed in the event an assisted property is acquired without direct subsidy to the buyer.

In the event of resale of a property where there is not a direct subsidy to the homebuyer, the City uses a Resale Provision to preserve the remaining affordability period to ensure the housing is retained for occupancy for low-income households. The Resale Provision requires that if the owner of an income-restricted property sells, conveys, or transfers his/her ownership interest in the property prior to the end of the minimum federally-required affordability period, the sale, conveyance, or transfer shall only be to an eligible, income-qualified purchaser intending to occupy the property as a principal residence. Other restrictions concerning notice of sale, maximum resale price, and marketing of affordable unit(s) shall apply and are fully detailed in the City's Resale Provision:

*During the period of affordability prescribed by covenant, for any subsequent sale the property may only be sold to a household properly certified by the City as eligible under the income limits as*



*established by HUD and in effect at the time of sale. In addition, the property must be affordable to a reasonable range of households qualifying as eligible under the HUD income limits. Housing remains affordable if the subsequent purchaser's monthly payments of principal, interest, taxes and insurance do not exceed 30 percent of the gross income of a household with an income falling within the range of 70 to 80 percent of median income for the area, as determined by HUD. For multi-unit properties the sale price may be adjusted to reflect the additional value of the rental unit(s). Further, in the event that a subsequent sale generates net proceeds, as defined below, those proceeds will be shared as described in the definition of "Fair Return to the Mortgagor" and the amount owing to the City will be immediately paid from closing funds.*

*"Net Sales Proceeds" means the subsequent sales price of the property minus ordinary closing costs and any repayment of a senior loan(s).*

*"Fair Return to the Mortgagor" is defined as a share of available net sales proceeds from sale of the property. If there are sufficient proceeds from the sale, the owner shall receive equity invested, adjusted for the U. S. consumer price index, plus the value of any permanent improvements to the home as approved and determined by the City. Upon sale, after these amounts are reserved for the owner, any additional equity gain shall be apportioned between the City and the homeowners in proportion to their contributions. Proceeds allocated to the City may be used, upon approval by DCD, to lower the cost of the property to the subsequent low-income purchaser, if necessary to meet the affordability requirements.*

*If no proceeds are available to the City, additional HOME funds may be provided in the form of downpayment assistance or another appropriate mechanism in order to enhance affordability (subject to DCD approval and availability of funds).*

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

The City of Providence does not allow for the use of HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds.

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

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

All providers funded under ESG will utilize a standardized assessment form when determining

eligibility for all individuals and families presenting for CHF services and/or shelter.

The City of Providence follows the written standard policies and procedures for evaluating individuals and families eligibility for assistance under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) contained within the recently updated and HUD-vetted Consolidated Homeless Fund Partnership Policies & Procedures Manual.

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

Under the requirements of the HEARTH Act, the Rhode Island Continuum of Care (RI CoC) and CHF implemented a centralized and coordinated assessment system. State-wide coordinated assessment is a powerful tool designed to ensure that homeless persons are matched, as quickly as possible, with the intervention that will most efficiently and effectively end their homelessness. A vendor selected to serve as the Coordinating Entity is responsible for day-to-day administration, including: ensuring that information about how to access services is easily accessible to the public; training all key stakeholders; ensuring the HMIS collects needed data; reviewing assessments and issuing eligibility and referral decisions; managing case conferences, eligibility determination appeals, a centralized waitlist, and manual processes to enable participation in the by providers not participating in HMIS; and designing and executing ongoing quality control strategies.

Additional information can be found: Consolidated Homeless Fund Partnership Policies & Procedures Manual.

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

Funds will be made available to the City of Providence by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program of which up to 7.5% may be set aside for program administration.

Private non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for funding. There is no restriction on the maximum amount an applicant may request.

Applications are rated by City of Providence and CHF on the following criteria:

1. Number of clients served
2. Population served (e.g. domestic violence victims, veterans, disabled persons, etc.)
3. Services provided and/or mainstream resources accessed
4. Location of shelter (taking into account other public resources allocated/available to the program)

5. Consideration will be given to program effectiveness in meeting adopted performance measures, as outlined in the application packet
6. Extra consideration will be given to those agencies which have been effective in their discharge of clients (discharged to positive outcomes).
7. Housing needs

Private non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for funding. There is no restriction on the maximum amount an applicant may request, though declining resources and competing needs will limit amount of assistance that can be provided.

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

The Consolidated Homeless Fund and Continuum of Care are actively working to merge functions and policies wherever appropriate to ensure a consistent policies and performance standards for all ESG recipients. Consistent policies have been developed by both bodies to ensure participation by those with lived experience in the governance and decision-making processes at both the allocation and subrecipient levels.

The Rhode Island Continuum of Care actively recruits membership and Board members with lived experience and encourages their participation on the various standing committees. Recently, the CoC Recipient Approval and Reallocation Committee was merged with the CHF Review Committee. This committee that develops funding recommendations for CoC and CHF funds includes one active representative with lived experience.

Additionally, the Consolidated Homeless Fund and RI Continuum of Care's Policies & Procedures require that all subrecipients ensure that their Board of Directors or other equivalent policy-making body include not less than one homeless or formerly homeless individual to ensure active participation and representation in ESG-funded programs.

All recipient and sub-recipient organizations receiving HUD funding through the CoC or ESG programs must provide for the participation of not less than one homeless individual or formerly homeless individual on the board of directors or other equivalent policy making entity of the recipient or subrecipient. This is a condition for receiving grant funds from the CoC or ESG programs; failure to meet the homeless participation requirement would be grounds for non-renewal or denial of funding.

Additionally, all recipient and subrecipient organizations are expected to involve homeless people through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise in program operations or services.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The City of Providence in coordination with the Consolidated Homeless Fund Partnership issues a request for proposals (RFP) that will include a set of evaluation criteria. Criteria include the following factors: project description, organizational experience; coordination and collaboration; outcomes; data collection; and a program budget that will demonstrate how they will meet the matching requirements. The RFP is made available to private nonprofit organizations through the Continuum of Care, direct emailing, and is publicized on the State's website.

The City's ESG funds, as part of the Consolidated Homeless Fund, are designed to help prevent and reduce homelessness through supportive services, emergency assistance, and housing. In order to assess progress towards these goals, agencies who are awarded funds under this grant will be held to strict performance standards band outcomes, including specific program targets grantees will be expected to meet. The Consolidated Homeless Fund reviews applicants based upon a number of performance/evaluation criteria including:

1. Persons Served and Average Length of Stay
2. Discharge Exits to Permanent Housing – effective
3. Exits to Emergency Shelter – possibly ineffective-churning (though exits to more appropriate shelter might be acceptable)
4. Income “Average Income at Entry” compared to “Average Income at Exit”
5. Capacity
6. HMIS Participation/Data Quality
7. Financial Capacity - Audited Financial Records
8. Facility Conditions - Capital Needs Assessment