



First Program Year Action Plan

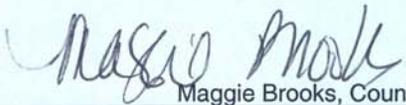
The SF 424 is part of the CPMP Annual Action Plan. SF 424 form fields are included in this document. Grantee information is linked from the 1CPMP.xls document of the CPMP tool.

SF 424

Complete the fillable fields (blue cells) in the table below. The other items are pre-filled with values from the Grantee Information Worksheet.

Date Submitted 06/15/10	16-6002563	Type of Submission	
Date Received by state	State Identifier	Application	Pre-application
Date Received by HUD	Federal Identifier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction
Applicant Information			
Monroe County		NY369055 MONROE COUNTY	
50 West Main Street		Organizational DUNS 079678249	
Suite 8100		Organizational Unit	
Rochester	New York	Department of Planning and Development	
ZIP	Country U.S.A.	Community Development Division	
Employer Identification Number (EIN):		Monroe County	
16-6002563		8/1	
Applicant Type:		Specify Other Type if necessary:	
Local Government: County		Specify Other Type	
Program Funding		U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	
Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers; Descriptive Title of Applicant Project(s); Areas Affected by Project(s) (cities, Counties, localities etc.); Estimated Funding			
Community Development Block Grant		14.218 Entitlement Grant	
CDBG Project Titles Various Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by CDBG Project(s) Monroe County	
\$CDBG Grant Amount \$ 2,080,086	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income \$ 300,000 (Section 108 \$ 261,892)		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for CDBG-based Project(s)			
Home Investment Partnerships Program		14.239 HOME	
HOME Project Titles Various Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by HOME Project(s) Monroe County	
\$HOME Grant Amount \$ 1,397,543	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	

\$Anticipated Program Income \$ 70,000		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOME-based Project(s)			
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS		14.241 HOPWA	
HOPWA Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by HOPWA Project(s)	
\$HOPWA Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for HOPWA-based Project(s)			
Emergency Shelter Grants Program		14.231 ESG	
ESG Project Titles Various Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by ESG Project(s) Monroe County	
\$ESG Grant Amount \$ 84,497	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe	
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged	
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged	
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)	
Total Funds Leveraged for ESG-based Project(s)			
Congressional Districts of: 25, 26, 28 and 29		Is application subject to review by state Executive Order 12372 Process?	
Applicant Districts	Project Districts		
Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt? If "Yes" please include an additional document explaining the situation.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	This application was made available to the state EO 12372 process for review on DATE
		<input type="checkbox"/> No	Program is not covered by EO 12372
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	Program has not been selected by the state for review

Person to be contacted regarding this application		
Kathi		Gingello
Community Dev. Manager	585-753-2005	585-753-2028
kgingello@monroecounty.gov	www.monroecounty.gov	Other Contact
Signature of Authorized Representative		Date Signed
 Maggie Brooks, County Executive		6/14/10



First Program Year Action Plan

The CPMP Annual Action Plan includes the [SF 424](#) and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

Narrative Responses

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is required. Include the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan and an evaluation of past performance.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Executive Summary:

1) Mission Statement:

To improve the quality of life for low to moderate-income families, seniors and persons with special needs in suburban Monroe County by providing affordable rental and homeownership opportunities, repairing and conserving existing housing, financing public facilities and infrastructure improvements, creating and retaining jobs, and funding public services that stabilize and enhance living conditions.

2) Purpose

The CDBG, HOME and ESG programs will help Monroe County direct \$3.5 million into the suburban towns and villages that comprise the Monroe County Community Development Consortium in support of public works, housing, economic development, community services and homeless assistance programs that primarily benefit low to moderate-income households, seniors and persons with special needs.

Funding for these programs is provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In order to remain compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations, which cover these federal allocations, Monroe County is required to complete an Annual Action Plan for the 2010 program year, which addresses projects funded on an annual basis and new program initiatives for the program year.

This is the sixth action plan that the Community Development (CD) office has developed using the Consolidated Plan Management Planning (CPMP) Tool. Accomplishments are entered into CPMP, which aids in the compilation of information for the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), published annually in September.

The purpose of Monroe County's 2010 Action Plan is to make a clear presentation of projects, programs, and new initiatives that CD intends to fund during the program year, the availability of federal dollars to complete those projects and to encourage public commentary in this endeavor. The Action Plan also serves as a reporting mechanism to HUD on the planning and evaluation of programs.

3) Consortium Membership

In 2009 the CDBG program will operate in 17 towns and 10 villages in suburban Monroe County. All municipalities in Monroe County are members of the consortium with the exception of the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit and the City of Rochester. By virtue of their populations, the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit are entitlement communities in their own right, and as such receive their own CDBG allocations. The HOME program includes the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit, bringing the HOME consortium membership to 19 towns and 10 villages. The City of Rochester receives its own CDBG, HOME and ESG allocations.

The Urban County re-qualification was completed during the 2008 program year for the 2009-2011 program years.

The upper quartile of eligible block groups, commonly known as Low Mod Areas (LMAs), consists of 60 block groups, which are eligible for funding for a broad range of projects. Public works projects in municipalities without eligible LMAs are more restricted in their project selection and tend to be limited to ADA and other accessibility enhancements in public facilities.

Municipalities with more than four eligible block groups are the Towns of Brighton, Chili, Gates, Henrietta, and the Villages of Brockport and East Rochester.

Municipalities with one to four eligible block groups are the Towns of Clarkson, Hamlin, Ogden, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford, Riga, Sweden, Webster and the Villages of Fairport, Scottsville and Webster.

Municipalities with less than one eligible block group are the Town of Parma and Village of Hilton.

The seven municipalities without any eligible block groups are the Towns of Mendon, Rush, and Wheatland and the Villages of Churchville, Honeoye Falls, Pittsford and Spencerport.

Should membership of the consortium change for any reason, HUD would re-calculate the eligible low-mod block groups to take effect for the following program year.

4) Allocation

Monroe County expects to receive an allocation of \$3,562,126 from HUD for the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. The County's anticipated CDBG allocation is \$2,080,086; the HOME allocation is \$1,397,543; and, the ESG allocation is \$84,497, an overall increase of \$146,176. Estimated program income (interest on outstanding loans and other repayments) is expected to total \$300,000 for the CDBG program and \$70,000 for the HOME program. The level of program income is anticipated to be slightly more than 2009. Total resources anticipated to be available, including program income, are \$3,932,126. Monroe County also expects to receive Section 108 loan repayments totaling \$261,892 during the 2010 program year. Monroe County does not intend to reprogram any funds remaining from previous program years for the 2010 program year. Monroe County and HUD are not bound by these estimates as they are subject to approval of the Action Plan submission to HUD.

Slightly more than \$2.3 million is available through all CDBG sources to fulfill \$2.9 million worth of requests. These are the primary programs and new initiatives that are addressed in the 2010 Action Plan.

5) Program Goals

CDBG, HOME and ESG funds will be directed toward accomplishing the following primary program goals and objectives during 2009:

- a. Develop affordable rental and homeownership opportunities for all low to moderate-income income residents, with a priority focus on the development of housing in towns and villages that do not currently provide affordable rental units that have been financed, in part, through the County's CDBG and/or HOME Program
- b. Repair and conserve existing housing stock
- c. Improve access to and quality of public facilities
- d. Provide essential utility infrastructure in lower income areas
- e. Provide job training and economic development opportunities for low to moderate-income persons and persons with special needs
- f. Provide essential public services, particularly those that promote homeownership, fair housing and housing stability
- g. Revitalize deteriorated neighborhoods

6) Citizen Participation

The first public notice in regard to the availability of funds and the first public hearing appeared in The Daily Record and the Messenger Post Newspapers on December 16, 2009. The first public hearing on the 2010 Annual Action Plan was held on January 13, 2010 in the Large Conference Room of the Ebenezer Watts Conference Center located at 49 South Fitzhugh Street in downtown Rochester. There were 38 people in attendance, including 6 CD staff members, which resulted in no public comments. The Steering Committee meeting to start the program year was held on January 13, 2010 at the Watts Conference Center, immediately following the public hearing.

CDBG project applications were due February 12, 2010. Preliminary award letters from the County Executive were sent out the week of April 16, 2010. The public notice listing the projects intended for funding and the second public hearing appeared in The Daily Record and The Messenger Post Newspapers on April 21, 2010. The Annual Action Plan was made available to the public and filed with the Monroe County Legislature on May 12. The 30-day comment period is May 12 to June 11.

The second public hearing was held on May 12, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Ebenezer Watts Conference Center located at 49 South Fitzhugh Street in downtown Rochester. Eight people, including staff, attended the public hearing, which resulted in one written comment. The legislative referral received unanimous approval by the full Legislature on June 8, 2010. The Plan is due to HUD on June 15, 2010.

7) CDBG and HOME Funded Programs

a. Housing Rehabilitation

The Home Improvement Program (HIP) will receive a combined allocation of \$804,588 (\$443,799 from CDBG and \$360,789 from HOME), which will fund over 85 housing rehabilitation projects when combined with prior years funds. Continuation of this popular and essential program did not impact the funding available for other CDBG program categories. Currently, applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis; however, emergency situations are given high priority. CD continues to monitor the volume of applications to determine the necessity of a wait-list at any given time. The numbers of eligible applicants for the program have increased substantially with the changes to the HIP that were implemented in 2009. The program changes included increasing the grant income eligibility to all households at or below 80% of area median income. Previously, the HIP program guidelines provided those with incomes between 61-80% with a grant for half of the project cost and the opportunity to apply for a low-interest loan for the other half or fund half of the project cost themselves. Now, all low and moderate income households are eligible for a full grant and grant limits have been increased from \$7,500 to \$10,000. Over the last few years, it had become increasingly necessary for grant amounts to be increased on a case-by-case basis in order to accomplish needed health and safety repairs. The

program allowable liquid asset limit was also increased from \$20,000 to \$50,000. All proposed HIP program changes became effective at the start of the 2009 program year on August 1, 2009 and will continue through the 2010 program year.

During the first nine months of the 2010 program year (through April 30, 2010), 80 HIP projects were completed and 88 active projects are in various stages of progress. Communities with the greatest number of program participants are Gates, East Rochester, Hamlin and Penfield.

Lead-based paint risk assessments and clearance tests are conducted under contract with Proway Management.

b. Home Ownership & First-Time Home Buyer Assistance

Home ownership assistance is provided free of charge to prospective home buyers through the Monroe County Home Ownership Program, which is administered under contract by Providence Housing Development Corporation. The contract with Providence, considered a public service, is funded through CDBG. Providence expects 40 clients to receive financial assistance to purchase their first homes during the program year. The direct home buyer subsidy is funded through the 2010 HOME allocation of \$260,000.

Due, in part, to the 2010 ARRA economic stimulus initiatives, particularly the \$8,000 tax rebate incentive for first time homebuyers, during the first nine months of the 2010 program year (through April 30, 2010), a record sixty-six (66) first-time home buyers received down payment and closing cost assistance to purchase their first homes. This increased demand on the First Time Homebuyer Program has prompted CD to increase the allocation of HOME direct subsidy funds by \$60,000 over the 2009 allocation to assist the program participants that are now in various stages of becoming purchase-ready.

8) CDBG Funded Activities

a. Public Facilities Improvements

The need for public facilities improvements remains high in the suburban towns and villages, particularly in communities with greater concentration of low to moderate-income areas and/or aging infrastructure. Combined with the growing older adult population and persons with impaired mobility, the need for accessible public facilities remains a high priority. Twenty-two proposals totaling \$1,057,081 were received for public facilities improvements.

The largest portion of the CDBG program (35%) is public works projects in the towns and villages.

Proposals were not received from the Towns of Hamlin, Parma, Pittsford, Riga, Wheatland and the Villages of Fairport and Pittsford. Due to limited funding, some municipalities may not receive the full amount requested in 2010. Proposed grant amounts for towns and villages range from a maximum of \$30,000 for municipalities with less than one LMA, a maximum of \$40,000 for one to four LMAs and a maximum of \$50,000 for more than four LMAs. Grants are targeted to those communities with the greatest concentration of low to moderate-income areas, which is consistent with prior program years.

Nine public works/facilities projects are proposed for LMAs; four are located in towns and five are located in villages.

During the first nine months of the 2009 program year (through April 30, 2010), 17 municipal public works projects were completed, 21 are underway, and the remaining 3 will start later this spring.

b. Economic Development

The Economic Development Grant and Loan Fund is funded at \$200,000. This amount of funding should allow for grants and/or loans to at least four companies, and create 15 and retain 50 jobs, at least 51% of which will be for low to moderate-income persons.

During the first nine months of the 2009 program year (through April 30, 2010), 5 businesses received loans totaling \$460,000 through the ED Grant and Loan fund. These loans will create 31 jobs.

c. Public Services

Requests for public services totaled \$407,490, which exceeds the allowable limit. Grant amounts in community services have been scaled back over the last few years in order to maintain priority housing related services and meet the regulatory spending cap for public services. Monroe County's public services are provided free of charge to program participants.

As part of this Action Plan, Providence Housing is retained to administer the County's Home Ownership Program and The Housing Council is retained to provide comprehensive counseling in the following housing-related areas: Fair Housing and Landlord/Tenant Counseling and Foreclosure Prevention. The services of LifeSpan are retained to administer the Safety and Security for Seniors Program, which provides minor home and safety repairs that cannot be made through the Home Improvement Program for the suburban senior population.

The Salvation Army will replace flooring that is badly deteriorated at their Emergency and Family Services Program facility.

Togetherness in Love Community (TiLC) will provide much needed educational and supportive services to at-risk youth through their "Restructuring the Village" program.

Two public services are not recommended for funding this year. Both entities received funds for similar projects last year through CDBG public services.

9) HOME Funded Activities

a. Affordable Housing

To ensure fair housing choice through expanding the provision of affordable rental housing opportunities, Monroe County issued a HOME Program request for proposals for the development of permanent affordable rental housing in December 2009. The deadline for submission to the County was January 8, 2010. CD received seven (7) proposals seeking \$1.7 million in HOME funds. Overall projected development costs totaled \$53,688,000. Requested HOME funding amounts were somewhat higher than in past years as construction costs continue to escalate.

The County approved and committed HOME Program financing to four of the seven affordable housing proposals received. Three of the four project developers submitted applications to the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal through NYS's Low Income Housing/HOME/HTF/Low Income Credit Programs, including two additional application submissions to HUD's Section 202 Program. The deadline for submission of applications under the NYS DHCR 2009 Unified Funding Round was February 10, 2010. NYS funding announcements are expected to be made in July or August 2010. If all four of the projects move forward, the proposed County financed projects will produce 274 units (138, 1-bedroom; 12, 2-bedroom and 124 3-bedroom) for older adults - including frail (ages 55, 62 and older), families and individuals with developmental disabilities.

The 2010 (YR-19) HOME Rental Housing Production (RHP) funds in the amount of \$490,369 and 2010 RHP-CHDO funds in the amount of \$209,631 will be combined with 2009 RHP funds in the amount of \$111,100 designated for the development of affordable rental housing, but not obligated to specific projects, and other 2007 HOME funds in the amount of \$77,424, to provide HOME Program financing for the four proposed rental projects in the amount of \$888,524.

Listed below, in descending order of financial commitment, are the four proposed affordable rental housing projects that will receive Monroe County 2010 HOME funding commitments:

i) \$300,000 (CHDO) for Stonewood Village by Rural Housing Opportunities Corporation (RHOC), an affiliate of PathStone, to redevelop 62 one-bedroom apartments for older adults (age 62+) and 123 three-bedroom townhouses for families in the Town of Henrietta;

ii) \$300,000 for Rockwood Center at Brentland Woods by Episcopal Senior Life Communities and Rochester's Cornerstone Group, Ltd. to construct 36 one-bedroom and 4 two-bedroom independent living apartments for frail older adults (age 62+) with attached garages for single persons and well-elderly/older adults (age 55+) as an expansion of Brentland Woods (enriched living housing) in the Town of Henrietta;

iii) \$188,524 for Holly Street Individual Residential Alternative (IRA) Supportive Apartments by Lifetime Assistance, Inc. to renovate an existing residence (two one-bedroom and one two-bedroom) for four developmentally disabled individuals in the Village of Brockport.

iv) \$100,000 for Monarch Senior Living by Continuing Developmental Services, Inc. and Rochester's Cornerstone Group, Ltd. to construct 38 one-bedroom and 7 two-bedroom independent living apartments for frail and non-frail older adults (ages 55 & 62+) in the Town of Webster.

10) Fair Housing Activities

In 2009 Monroe County, in cooperation with the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit, engaged a consultant with fair housing expertise to design a Fair Housing Action Plan to address impediments identified in the AI. The consultant reviewed current literature, conducted focus groups and interviews with governments, market rate and assisted housing providers to identify:

- Current barriers to fair housing choice
- Current activities that address fair housing choice
- Additional strategies to address impediments to fair housing choice.

Fair Housing Action Plan: Strategies for Addressing Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in Monroe County, New York, Phase I:

- Identifies impediments to fair housing choice
- Identifies four priorities for Phase I
- Identifies community partners to implement strategies
- Designates performance measures to ensure strategies are appropriately utilized and carried out to produce positive results

The jurisdictions are meeting these requirements by contracting with a consultant with fair housing expertise to provide program design and reporting, outcome measurement and record keeping services, ensuring a direct line of communication with the entitlement communities. The consultant will work closely with designated representatives of each entitlement community and their sub-grantees. Working with the jurisdictions, the consultant will design reporting mechanisms and timetables for specific actions outlined in the Fair Housing Action Plan.

The consultant will engage local sub-recipients; collect data on each initiative and produce periodic progress reports, including identifying any problems that may arise, so that the jurisdictions may resolve issues in a timely manner. Implementation began in the spring 2010.

The Fair Housing Action Plan, Phase I, can be viewed in its entirety in the 2010-2015 Five Year Strategic Plan Appendix.

11) Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC)

Several Monroe County departments, including CD, remain very active in the CoC Team. As in prior years, one of the primary activities during the 2010 program year will be the completion of a coordinated and equitable HUD Super NOFA that will administer the process for local applicants; review and rank eligible Super NOFA applications per CoC priorities and update the CoC Super NOFA Exhibit I for submission to HUD.

The CoC has played an active role in assisting and collaborating with the County and City to facilitate joint County/City efforts to allocate funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). Through the Recovery Act, HUD Stimulus funds have been allocated to the County (\$789,300) and City (\$3,954,235) through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The HPRP funding allocations are described in both the City and County HPRP Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan and other required documents submitted to HUD in May 2009.

All approved HPRP activities are being administered jointly by the County and City, in cooperation with the CoC and CCSI pursuant to the Recovery Act and as described in the Substantial Amendments to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for the HPRP.

As required by HUD, the implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as a tool of gathering accurate information about the homeless population is actively in place in Monroe County. CoC sponsors have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Catholic Family Center for the implementation and maintenance of the HMIS system. Implementation of the HMIS has progressed over the past year and is almost at full implementation.

After careful review and recommendation of the Public Policy Committee of the United Way of Greater Rochester (UW), the Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness was selected to be one of three Public Policy priorities for 2007-08. UW has provided staff to further CoC Ten Year Planning efforts and has assumed a key role in the implementation of the community's Ten-Year Plan.

The 2009 goals included in the Ten Year Plan are described in the Priority Homeless Needs section of the Strategic Plan.

To further this planning effort, the CoC commissioned InSite Housing Solutions, LLC to prepare a special study entitled "Supportive Housing Production Implementation Plan" to review our current emergency housing stock, assess housing gaps for specific subpopulations, provide projections for the types and quantities of housing units required to fill the overall need, provide cost projections, and review appropriate case management services. This Plan was funded by the UW and Enterprise Community Partners. Special meetings were held with key community stakeholders, including the County and City, to review and discuss the Plan and the potential of implementing various recommendations. This Plan is available at www.homelesservicesrochesterny.org or the Monroe County CD Office.

General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.

2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.
4. Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan General Questions response:

1. Geographic Areas in which Assistance Will Be Directed

Several community-wide public services will reach a broad array of residents in all consortium communities. These include The Housing Council's programs to provide fair housing, landlord/tenant, foreclosure prevention and predatory lending counseling, and fair housing education; the home ownership counseling provided by Providence Housing and the safety and security training provided by LifeSpan. Monroe County's public services are offered free of charge to suburban Monroe County residents.

ADA improvements to restrooms in a Monroe County Park will also positively impact a broad spectrum of County residents.

The Home Improvement Program will help 85 or more families from all geographic areas of the consortium. Some municipalities have more applicants than others, such as Gates, Henrietta, Chili and East Rochester, but residents from all parts of the County have participated in this long-standing program. Likewise, the Home Ownership Program will provide counseling to prospective home buyers and purchase subsidy to over 40 first-time homebuyers from the entire consortium area. First-time homebuyers may purchase in any town or village, but most frequently buy homes in the Towns of Greece, Irondequoit, Gates and Henrietta.

Ten of 22 public works projects are planned for LMAs: 5 located in towns; 5 located in villages. Projects specifically targeted for LMAs include: sidewalks in Brighton, Gates, Penfield and East Rochester; sewer system improvements in the Town of Henrietta and Villages of Brockport and Hilton; ADA park improvements in the Town of Chili and Village of Scottsville and water main improvements in the Village of Webster.

Projects to enhance access to public facilities and recreation areas are planned for the remaining towns and villages, because over half of the consortium municipalities have one or fewer LMAs. Funding commitments for affordable rental housing developments were made to projects in Brockport, Henrietta and Webster.

2. Basis for Allocating Funding and Assigning Priority

The rationale for assigning funding priorities is consistent with the evaluation criteria set forth in the Strategic Plan. Monroe County administers a competitive application process for all CDBG, ESG and HOME-funded programs. The 2010 CDBG application requires additional information on funding sources to more closely evaluate the leveraging of public and private funds. CD does not administer multi-year contracts; therefore all municipalities and sub-recipients are required to

apply for funds on an annual basis. While this may create budgetary challenges for sub-recipients, it affords CD flexibility while facing uncertain CDBG resources. Monroe County's objective is to fund CD's core programs and services to the greatest extent possible, particularly programs and services that could not be administered by another department or funding source.

Public facilities improvements will also take place in one County Park. The ED Grant and Loan Fund will receive a substantial allocation, and the popular Home Improvement Program will receive CDBG and HOME allocations. Public services, which are subject to a 15% cap, will round out the County's housing program through counseling services provided by The Housing Council, Providence Housing, and LifeSpan.

3. Actions to Address Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

The greatest obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the lack of stable funding levels and the threat of future funding reductions. With a best case scenario of status quo funding for CDBG, it becomes increasingly difficult to fund new community services initiatives. As a result fewer programs can be funded and limited service expansions are under consideration.

Projects covering all program areas that could not be funded due to lack of funds available for public services are the Volunteers of America Working Wardrobe and Partners in Community Development Neighborhood Enrichment projects. All applicants are encouraged to seek CDBG funds in the future and participate in other grant opportunities that may be available through the division and elsewhere.

Managing the Process

1. Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.
2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Managing the Process response:

1. Lead Agency

Monroe County is the lead agency that oversees the Action Plan through the six-person Community Development (CD) Division of the Department of Planning and Development. Programs are administered by the CD staff with assistance from the three other divisions of the Planning and Development Department, as well as municipal consortium members and private sector subrecipients. CD staff administer the Home Improvement Program and contracts with towns, villages, subrecipients and first-time homebuyers. The Economic Development (ED) Division of the Department administers the CDBG-funded ED Grant and Loan Fund, the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program and a wide variety of County business incentive programs. The Planning Division evaluates municipal planning and development activities including CDBG infrastructure projects and HOME-funded affordable rental developments. The Workforce Development Division serves as a resource for programs and other funds that address employment and training needs of the unemployed and underemployed.

Non-profit subrecipients responsible for administering programs covered by the Action Plan include The Housing Council, Providence Housing Development Corporation and LifeSpan.

2. Significant Aspects of Plan Development and Other Participants

County inter-departmental consultation and collaboration with municipal members of the Monroe County Community Development Consortium and related public and private-sector agencies, boards and committees is vital to the development of the action plans. The process began in January 2010 at the public hearing and Steering Committee meeting to begin gathering input from the public and committee members on long-term community development needs. The Action Plan is developed based on the priorities identified by the Steering Committee and any public input received. Projects are reviewed for eligibility within the Department and by the County Executive. The Action Plan is then presented to the public, the Steering Committee and the County Legislature for a thirty-day comment period. A second public hearing is held during this time to gather further input. The matter is reviewed by at least two standing committees of the Legislature and later by the full Legislature on June 8, 2010. Each of these entities plays a key role in the formulation of projects, integration of community-wide goals and objectives and overall program development.

3. Consulting Agencies

Affordable Housing Needs and Strategies: United Way of Greater Rochester, Greater Rochester Housing Partnership, The Housing Council, Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation, Rochester Housing Authority (RHA), Urban League of Rochester, Habitat for Humanity, Fair Housing Coalition, County/City Community Choice Advisory Committee, Greater Rochester Association of Realtors, Rochester Home Builders Association, Conifer Realty, The DiMarco Group

CHDOs Providing Input on Housing Issues: Rural Housing Opportunities Corporation, Housing Opportunities, Inc., Heritage Christian Services, ISLA Housing and Development Corporation, Providence Housing Development Corporation

Homeless Issues: County/City Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) Team, Monroe County Department of Human Services (MCDHS), MC Office for the Aging, MC Office of Mental Health, Rochester/Monroe County Youth Bureau, Salvation Army, The Housing Council, Rochester Housing Authority, Unity Health, Catholic Family Center, United Way

Elderly Needs and Strategies: MC Office for the Aging, MC Health Department, LifeSpan, MC Council of Elders and affordable housing developers (listed above)

Lead-Based Paint Hazards: MC Health Department, Environmental Protection Agency and environmental consulting firms

Disabled Needs and Strategies: Regional Center for Independent Living, Center for Disability Rights, Lifetime Assistance, Inc., Continuing Developmental Services, Inc., Rochester Rehabilitation Center, Monroe Community Hospital, The Housing Council, MCDHS

Persons with AIDS: AIDS Rochester and Monroe County Health Department

Economic Development and Employment Issues: Rochester Business Alliance, Small Business Administration, Rochester Works, Inc., County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency (COMIDA), The Entrepreneurs Network (TEN), Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), Empire State Development, the City of Rochester and Greater Rochester Enterprise (GRE)

Citizen Participation

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.
2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.

3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.
4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

*Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP Tool.
Program Year 1 Action Plan Citizen Participation response:

1. Summary of Citizen Participation Process

CD followed the Citizen Participation Process outlined in the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan to formulate the 2010 Action Plan. The first public notice regarding the availability of funds and the first public hearing appeared in The Daily Record and the Messenger Post Newspapers on December 16, 2009. The first public hearing on the 2010 Annual Action Plan was held January 13, 2010 in the Large Conference Room of the Ebenezer Watts Conference Center located at 49 South Fitzhugh Street in downtown Rochester. There were 38 people in attendance, including 6 CD staff members, which resulted in no public comments. The Steering Committee meeting to start the program year was held immediately following the public hearing.

No comments were received from the public at the first public hearing.

The public notice announcing the projects intended for funding and the second public hearing appeared in The Daily Record and The Messenger Post Newspapers on April 21, 2010. Preliminary award letters were sent on April 16, 2010 to all prospective grant recipients and declination letters were sent to all entities not intended for funding. The 30-day comment period was May 12 - June 11, 2010. Copies of the proposed plan were provided to the Steering Committee, elected and public officials, and interested community development and housing agencies throughout Monroe County. It was also posted on the County's website at www.monroecounty.gov.

The second public hearing on the 2010 Annual Action Plan was held May 12, 2009 in the Large Conference Room of the Ebenezer Watts Conference Center located at 49 South Fitzhugh Street in downtown Rochester. There were 8 people in attendance, including staff, which resulted in no public comments. The Steering Committee meeting to was held immediately following the public hearing.

No comments were received from the public at the second public hearing.

Monroe County used the CPMP Tool again in 2010 to provide a cohesive, efficient plan for public review and information dissemination. The Steering Committee, the County Legislature and the general public now review and comment on projects at the same time.

2. Summary of Citizen Comments

The first public hearing on the development of the 2010 Action Plan was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. to obtain public comments and input on the planning process. The meeting was held at the Watts Conference Center, which is ADA accessible. Kathi Gingello, Community Development Manager, conducted the hearing and informed the public of the following:

"Monroe County expects to receive an allocation of about \$3.4 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2010. This amount represents allocations for the Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$1.9 million, the HOME Investment Partnership Program

in the amount of \$1.4 million, and the Emergency Shelter Grants Program in the amount of \$84,000. These estimates are comparable to the actual levels of funding approved by HUD for these programs in Monroe County for the 2009 program year. Program income for the CDBG and HOME Programs in 2010 is expected to make available an additional \$300,000, for a combined total of \$3.7 million.

Funds will be used to continue existing programs and to identify new housing and community development activities that principally benefit low to moderate-income individuals.

Low to moderate-income persons are invited to participate in the Consolidated Plan process by proposing projects that serve community needs and by commenting on projects proposed by local Towns, Villages and community service agencies.

In accordance with federal regulations, a notice of funding availability was published in the December 16, 2009 issues of The Messenger Post Newspapers and The Daily Record to solicit participation from the public in the planning process for 2010 and to encourage comments from private individuals, consortium members and community service agencies.

Community Development is accepting project proposals for grants that will be made available on or after August 1, 2010. CDBG project applications are due Friday, February 12, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Affordable rental housing applications were due on January 8, 2010 and are currently being evaluated for funding recommendations. Applications for funding are available on the table near the exit, if you would like one or are also available on Monroe County's website or via email upon request. If you require assistance completing your application, please contact the appropriate staff member listed in the instructions and we will be happy to assist you.

Priority activities are those which develop affordable rental and homeownership opportunities for all low to moderate-income residents, without discrimination; repair and conserve existing housing stock; improve access to and quality of public facilities; replace deteriorated infrastructure with safe utilities; provide job training and economic development opportunities for low-mod income persons and persons with special needs; provide essential public services, particularly those that promote homeownership, fair housing and housing stability; and revitalize deteriorated neighborhoods.

The program area for the CDBG Program includes all municipalities in Monroe County with the exception of the City of Rochester and the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit. The HOME Program area consists of all suburban towns and villages in Monroe County, excluding the City of Rochester. To be eligible for funding, projects must principally benefit low to moderate-income persons and comply with other regulations of the CDBG, HOME or ESG Programs. "

Thirty-eight people, including six CD staff members, attended the first hearing. There were no public speakers who expressed comments.

The second public hearing on the development of the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan and 2010 Action Plan was held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Watts Conference Center. Kathi Gingello, Community Development Manager, conducted the hearing and informed the public of the following:

"The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments on the Draft 2010-2015 Strategic Plan and the 2010 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development in Suburban Monroe County, which was made available for public comment today.

Monroe County expects to receive an allocation of \$3,562,126 from HUD for the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. The County's CDBG allocation is \$2,080,086, an increase of \$156,704; the HOME

allocation is \$1,397,543, a decrease of \$10,409; and the ESG allocation is \$84,497, a decrease of \$119. The 2010 combined allocations are \$146,176 more than last year.

Estimated program income (interest on outstanding loans and other repayments) is expected to total \$300,000 for the CDBG program and \$70,000 for the HOME program. The level of program income is slightly more than 2009. The combined total of anticipated funding available for all programs, including program income, is \$3,932,126.

Monroe County also expects to receive Section 108 loan repayments totaling \$261,892 during the 2010 program year. Monroe County and HUD are not bound by these estimates as they are subject to approval of the Action Plan submission to HUD.

Eligible projects include housing programs, public works, public facility improvements, economic development, and essential community services.

In accordance with federal regulations, Monroe County published a complete list of proposed projects in The Messenger Post Newspapers and The Daily Record on April 21, 2010, to solicit participation from the public in the planning process for the program period and to encourage comments from private citizens, consortium members and agencies.

The 30-day public comment period begins today, May 12th, and concludes on June 11th. You may contact the Community Development Division or submit written comments until June 11th. You may also submit comments by email to mcplanning@monroecounty.gov.

Monroe County will consider all comments for incorporation into the final Strategic Plan and Action Plan, which will be sent to HUD on June 14. Monroe County will respond to all comments received in writing."

Eight people, including staff, attended the second public hearing. There were no speakers at the second public hearing and one written comment was received during the thirty-day public comment period. The written comment follows:

Commenter #1: Nancy Steedman, Mayor of the Village of Churchville wrote: "The Village of Churchville agrees with Monroe County's Consolidated Plan and the projects that will receive the funding. These projects will be beneficial to our community. We are particularly pleased that the County has included funding for the Community Center ADA Improvements project in the Village of Churchville. This project provides ADA access for all citizens of the community and surrounding areas to make use of the Community Center. It is an essential component in renovating the former fire hall into a Community Center. Once again, we support the Consolidated Plan as proposed by Monroe County."

3. Efforts to Broaden Public Participation

The proposed Action Plan is sent to all consortium members, program sub-recipients and interested community development agencies. The Plan is available free of charge in paper copy, electronically or on CD from the CD Division of the Department of Planning and Development. The document is also posted on the County's website at www.monroecounty.gov. The notice of funding availability and notice of projects proposed for funding are published in The Daily Record and The Messenger Post Newspapers when the Plan is released in May for public comment.

The FONSI/IRROF is another public notice that will be published in August for public commentary. It describes the County's intent to request the release of funds from HUD and lists projects that have received negative environmental declarations.

CD will continue to provide promotional materials to educate residents on CD-funded programs. MonroeCounty.gov provides interested persons with immediate access to program materials. Information is also disseminated at municipal offices and local housing agencies to reach special populations of low-mod income, elderly and disabled residents. Notices are issued to allow reasonable and timely notification of local meetings and encourage citizen participation throughout all stages of the program.

Staff participation in the housing development module of the County's training sessions for planning and zoning board members is critical to expanding community-wide understanding of the development of affordable housing. This 3-hour evening session includes CD staff, a property manager and a housing agency executive director, and also includes fair housing as it pertains to housing development.

Technical assistance is provided upon request to housing, economic and community development agencies and community task forces and committees for elderly, disabled and homeless persons. Outreach and assistance is also available to low-mod residents of public housing facilities. CD sponsors workshops for low-mod income suburban residents on the Home Improvement Program, lead-based paint issues and available housing services.

4. Comments Not Accepted

N/A

Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Institutional Structure response:

1. Actions to Develop Institutional Structure

CD will continue to work closely with all applicable public, private and government entities within Monroe County's organizational structure to further enhance collaboration and communication and improve program delivery. Toward this goal, County staff communicates with RHA periodically in regard to the Section 8 Program, Shelter Plus Care and other services provided by RHA.

Staff participation on the Homeless CoC Team will continue. Staff continues to coordinate activities and outreach with the Manager of Monroe County's Office of Faith Based & Community Initiatives to effectively implement HUD guidelines for the equitable treatment of faith-based organizations and expand outreach to entities that may be eligible for the Emergency Shelter Grants program and the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

ED Staff will coordinate the CDBG funded Economic Development (ED) Grant and Loan Fund with new programs developed in the community and the agencies that administer them, including The Entrepreneurs Network (TEN) that offers intensive training and mentoring for high-tech entrepreneurs and PTAC that connects vendors to procurement opportunities with the federal government.

Monitoring

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Monitoring response:

a) CDBG Project Monitoring & Compliance

The CDBG Program is monitored using standard Monroe County financial practices and federal program regulations to measure fiscal, regulatory and programmatic performance and compliance of all activities with local, state and federal regulations. Policies establish project eligibility compliance with primary and national objectives. Detailed contracts between Monroe County and the sub-grantee specify project goals and objectives, as well as agreed upon costs and services.

Uniform financial procedures scrutinize the legitimacy and appropriateness of project costs. Sub-grantees submit claim vouchers with progress reports and statistical data to obtain reimbursement. Voucher materials are project specific to include invoices for materials purchased, personnel records for labor involved, a detailed scope of services performed, and other data to evidence project costs. Narrative documentation includes program status reports, a description of services performed, and a breakdown of project beneficiaries by income, age, residence, ethnic background and disability.

Six public service projects will be funded in 2010. Three involve housing services, one project provides minor home modifications for seniors, one project is for installation of non-slip flooring at an emergency and family services program facility, and one will provide educational and supportive services to at-risk youth.

In-house reviews will be conducted with all sub-recipients to evaluate contracts, progress reports, vouchers and financial materials. Monitoring visits are conducted to insure that services are provided in compliance with federal regulations. Sub-recipients are given specific monitoring forms to record activities in progress and to identify project beneficiaries by income, age, residence, ethnic background and disability. Staff monitors performance and effectiveness in reaching target recipients, program objectives and compliance with regulations, formulate monitoring strategies and recommend appropriate follow-up actions. In-depth project reviews will be conducted annually to insure compliance.

Twenty-two public works and facility improvement projects will be funded in 2010. During the eligibility analysis on these projects, beneficiaries are projected by number, income, age, residence, ethnic background and disability. All construction projects are evaluated to insure that the proper HUD Procurement method is used.

For public bid projects, CD staff will meet with project engineers and municipal project managers to ensure that contract agreements, bid documents and public bid notices comply with federal regulations, specifically labor standards provisions, as they relate to Davis Bacon Wage Rates, EEO, M/WBE plan, funding clauses, Section 3 provisions and applicable federal, state and local certifications. All contractors and subcontractors will be reviewed against the federal lists of suspended and debarred contractors and must also sign a County Debarment Certification to verify that they are not listed on any other suspended or debarred list.

Staff will attend pre-bid and bid openings, pre-construction conferences and other progress meetings. Projects are monitored with an initial inspection to verify that federal notices are posted and to verify the site prior to construction. Progress inspections will be conducted to verify that work billed to the County has been completed. One employee of each contractor and sub-contractor is interviewed in accordance with HUD guidelines. Final inspections are performed with the project engineer to verify the satisfactory completion of the project, evidenced by photos.

For construction projects performed by municipal work forces, CD staff will meet with municipal staff to execute contracts between municipalities and the County and describe the force account

process. Reimbursable items are materials purchased, the cost of labor and fringe benefits for municipal workers and the cost of any equipment rented to accomplish the project.

The ED Grant & Loan Fund, uses HUD guidelines as a framework for financially underwriting and selecting eligible businesses to receive assistance. HUD's public benefit standards are used to insure compliance. Eligible businesses must demonstrate that the assistance is appropriate and commit to making 51% of full-time new or retained jobs available to low-mod income persons and provide training as needed. Businesses must list permanent jobs created or retained, jobs available to low-mod income persons, jobs requiring special skills or education, part-time jobs, and actions taken to insure first consideration of low-mod income persons. For job retention, evidence that jobs would be lost without funding is needed. Businesses must also provide documents to evidence compliance with the income benefit requirements for all beneficiaries.

The CAPER and IDIS are effective monitoring systems that contain the financial status and performance measures for funded activities. Other records are Monroe County internal audit and sub-recipient audit reports, Public Service Monitoring Visit reports, construction inspection documents and project contracts.

b) HOME Program Monitoring

To ensure HOME Program compliance, monitoring visits will be conducted for each type of rental housing project (disabled, elderly and family). Family, elderly and disabled rental projects are scheduled to be conducted during the spring and summer of 2010.

All rental housing projects will continue to be monitored to determine compliance with Housing Quality Standards (HQS) and federal regulations (24 CFR 92) to verify that the project owner maintains the appropriate mix of low-income tenants throughout the compliance period; collects the required information and annually determines the income eligibility of tenants in the assisted units; collects rents that do not exceed the HOME maximum rents, and maintains the units in accordance with HQS.

Prior to construction, staff will assist developers with construction bid documents to ensure inclusion of federal regulations and attend bid openings and pre-construction meetings to assure compliance with HUD requirements. During construction, staff attends frequent on-site meetings and performs periodic inspections and employee interviews. After completion of construction, staff conducts inspections of a sufficient sample of units to ensure that the owner maintains units in compliance with Section 8 HQS. The CAPER and other records will continue to be kept this year to verify income certification, rent levels, ethnic groups served, family size, type of unit, and sales price of unit to insure compliance with program regulations and the housing strategic plan.

The Home Improvement Program (HIP) will continue to be monitored using the existing system. Program applications are taken on a first-come, first-served basis with priority given to health and safety related emergencies. The selection criteria is: household income at or below 80% AMI, cash or liquid assets below \$50,000, property ownership for at least 1 year with all taxes paid. The 2009 program changes and increased demand for program funds have prompted County CD to discontinue the practice of offering repeat grants every ten years, effective with the 2010 program year on August 1, 2010. General contractors, selected by the homeowner, provide direct supervision of all rehabilitation work. Rehab staff conducts eligibility inspections prior to funding, environmental reviews, prepares work specifications, assists homeowners in obtaining estimates, and verifies that completed improvements meet or exceed federal HQS. Lead-based paint federal regulations apply most to this program and were implemented in 2000. Housing staff prepares program grant and loan agreements and monitors projects during the required recapture period by recording mortgages against each property and subsequently releasing them at the end of the recapture period.

c) Compliance with Match Requirements

Match contributions will be made from non-federal resources and will be in the form of one or more of the sources permissible under Section 92.220. The match contributions will total no less than 25 percent of the funds drawn from the County's HOME Investment Trust Fund Treasury account in the fiscal year. Monroe County maintains records demonstrating compliance with HOME match requirements, including a running log and project records documenting the type and amount of match contributions by project. Match funds earned in 2008 exceeded match requirements and allowed the County to carry forward \$1,152,583 in match for the 2009 program year. Monroe County is currently carrying forward \$1,099,692 in available match.

The HOME Program attracts substantial private and other public dollars into its funded projects. The potential sources of these leveraged funds (other than match funds) are many: investor equity, including tax credit syndications; homebuyer down payments; private rental and home ownership loans; other state, federal and local housing and community development programs and foundations.

Lead-based Paint

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families, and how the plan for the reduction of lead-based hazards is related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Lead-based Paint response:

1. Actions to Evaluate and Reduce Housing Units Containing Lead-Based Paint Hazards

In 2010, the CD Division will continue to enforce actions specific to its housing programs in lead-based paint hazard identification, disclosure and reduction. Lead-based paint hazard reduction activities are expected to make up half of the repairs undertaken this year in the Home Improvement Program. Federal requirements for lead-safe work practices and contractor certifications have substantially increased the costs of home repairs, making it more difficult to accomplish all that is necessary to ensure that health and safety related deficiencies are corrected. For this reason, CD has again allocated substantial CDBG and HOME funds to the Home Improvement Program for 2010.

Proway Management, a Rochester-based lead paint testing firm, is currently under contract to provide risk assessment and clearance inspection services for the Home Improvement Program.

All properties purchased through the County's First-Time Homebuyer Program must have inspections for lead-based paint hazards prior to final approval of applications for assistance. Purchase subsidies are only issued after receipt of inspection reports indicating that there are no lead-based paint hazards present at the time of purchase.

The Monroe County Department of Public Health is the lead agency in regard to lead poisoning prevention.

The Monroe County Department of Public Health was awarded a 3 year \$3,070,000 "Lead Hazard Control Grant" from The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard Control. The grant will be administered from January 1, 2010 – December 30, 2012. The grant will increase the City of Rochester's lead safe affordable housing and reduce housing related health hazards in conjunction with lead hazard control activities. More than \$1.9

million will be devoted over three years to fund direct lead hazard control and healthy home interventions in 350 dwellings located in the high risk areas for childhood lead poisoning in the City of Rochester. Reimbursement Homeowner Grants of up to \$5500/unit will be made available for units housing low and very low income residents. In an effort to increase the energy efficiency, all windows and doors requiring replacement will meet 2009 Energy Star requirements. Each unit will be evaluated for moisture/mold, need for integrated pest management, fire, carbon monoxide safety, general sanitation (as related to allergies/asthma), and housing safety issues such as adequate lighting. Up to \$200 of the \$5500 grant can be used for these "Healthy Home Interventions". Conditions that need to be addressed will be required in the Grant Work Plan.

The Monroe County Department of Public Health Lead Program also received another \$150,000 Healthy Neighborhoods grant for outreach from the NYSDOH. The grant runs through September 2010. The focus of the grant is primary prevention for Tobacco Control, Fire Safety, Lead Prevention, Indoor Air Quality, General Housing Conditions and Asthma. Outreach workers will perform six hundred (600) initial visits in the 14609, 14611 and 14621 zip codes, which have well documented public health and housing issues. A total of 150 follow up visits are required. A room-by-room inspection and a survey form will be completed for each home. Topics covered will include; lead poisoning prevention (deteriorated paint, dust, cleaning and nutrition), fire safety issues, carbon monoxide, general sanitation issues, code violations, electrical problems and mold. Referrals will be made to MCDOPH programs and other agencies when problems are identified.

Lead Safe Work Practices Training - All persons conducting lead hazard control work that is ordered in the "Notice and Demand," and participating in the HUD grant must successfully complete an approved 8-hour Housing and Urban Development "Lead Safe Work Practices" (LSWP) class. Prior to the commencement of lead hazard control work the recipient of the "Notice and Demand" and/or property owner must submit proof of LSWP training to the MCPHD for all such persons. The acceptable proof of training shall be the class certificate issued by the LSWP training provider. The purpose of this class is to provide workers with information they need to understand that lead-based paint can create health hazards and that using proper work practices can control hazards. In addition, starting on April 22, 2010, the EPA's new Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting rule (LRRP) takes effect and affects anyone who is paid to perform work that disturbs paint in housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. This includes: residential rental property owners/managers, general contractors, maintenance personnel and trade contractors, including: HVAC, painters, plumbers, carpenters and electricians. A total of 26 classes, including 5 Saturday classes, will be conducted. The Cornell School of Industrial Relations is the EPA certified training provider again for 2010. This year the training is being paid for with funds from the HUD grant and the Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention grant. All LSWP training classes (29) and LRRP refresher training classes (38) are being conducted by the Cornell School of Industrial Relations.

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program received another Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention grant from the NYSDOH for \$649,095. This grant runs from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. Approximately 400 properties that house young children and pregnant women will be made lead safe and residents and owners in these properties will be educated in lead poisoning prevention and other environmental health hazards in their homes including asthma triggers, mold, pest infestation, fire safety and carbon monoxide poisoning prevention. It will expand the City of Rochester's existing Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) activities and enhance efforts by performing additional lead visual inspections (2196) and lead dust wipe test sampling (1275).

In addition, a MCDOPH Lead Program Outreach Worker will visit the homes of the 100 families who have children with venous levels between 5 and 9ug/dl. He/she will conduct an EPA Lead Visual assessment and will provide a healthy home inspection and education. Properties found to have deteriorated paint will be referred directly to the City of Rochester Lead Program for inspection and enforcement through the Lead Ordinance. Those properties that do not have deteriorated paint will also be referred to the City of Rochester Lead Program for performance of lead dust wipe testing.

A MCDOPH Lead Program Public Health Sanitarian will also visit the homes of the 50 pregnant women who are either participating in the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program of the MCDOPH or are referred by their Prenatal provider and 250 properties housing children with lead levels between 10 and 14ug/dl. He/she will conduct a lead inspection and will provide a healthy home inspection and education. Properties found to have conditions conducive to lead poisoning will be designated an "Area of High Risk" under Public Health Law and have a Notice and Demand issued to the property owner.

HOUSING

Specific Housing Objectives

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve during the next year.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. Priorities and Objectives

The specific objectives developed to expand the provision of affordable housing opportunities and ensure fair housing choice are as follows:

- i) Develop additional rental units for low to moderate income elderly and handicapped/disabled households (with supportive services) and families.
- ii) Continue and enhance programs to assist low to moderate-income elderly, family and disabled homeowners to repair and maintain their homes, including accessibility improvements for those with disabilities.
- iii) Provide home ownership opportunities through the County's First-Time Homebuyer Program, including assistance to access the single family housing market for low to moderate-income families, particularly single headed households.
- iv) Educate and counsel residents to facilitate homeownership and housing stability.
- v) Assist homeless and at-risk persons, in accordance with the Homeless CoC Plan and the HPRP to secure supportive housing (emergency, transitional and permanent) and services necessary to achieve independent living.
- vi) Support the preservation of existing affordable rental housing developments.

In addition, private and non-profit developers are encouraged to set aside rental units in proposed projects that are affordable to households in the 0-30% AMI income level. To achieve this objective, it may be necessary to increase the number of proposed units in a project to allow fixed costs for management and maintenance to be more widely spread in project operating budgets. Also, it may be possible to reduce debt service and increase equity in such projects through creative financing (i.e. increasing loan terms and combining various financial sources to provide increased funding amounts). In addition to serving households at and below 30% AMI, proposed

affordable rental housing project applications that provide additional handicap accessible and/or adaptable units would enhance the potential to obtain County support and/or financial assistance. To contribute to the long-term sustainability of affordable housing, developers are also encouraged by HUD and the County to submit mixed-income rental housing projects. Mixed-income projects are comprised of housing units with differing levels of affordability, typically consisting of some market-rate housing and some below market-rate housing that is available to low-income occupants.

To the extent feasible, the County will allocate available program resources to meet housing needs in an equitable geographic distribution across the County, with a priority focus on the development of units in towns and villages that do not currently provide affordable rental units that have been financed, in part, through the County's CDBG and/or HOME Programs.

2. Resources to Address Housing Needs

a) Housing rehabilitation will be addressed with \$360,789 from HOME and \$443,799 from CDBG to provide grants to homeowners for rehabilitation of substandard, single-family, owner-occupied homes through the Home Improvement Program (HIP). The grants will provide health and safety related repairs, accessibility improvements, structural and major systems repairs as well as energy conservation improvements to at least 85 low to moderate-income homeowners.

In 2009, CD made significant changes in the HIP, enabling more residents to access grants for needed home improvements, and to provide larger grant amounts to allow for the ever-increasing costs of rehabilitation. The program changes implemented on August 1, 2009 included increasing the grant income eligibility to all households at or below 80% of area median income. Previously, the HIP program guidelines provided those with incomes between 61-80% with a grant for half of the project and the opportunity to apply for a low-interest loan for the other half or fund half of the project cost themselves. Currently, all low and moderate income households are eligible for a full grant and grant limits have been increased from \$7,500 to \$10,000. The program allowable liquid asset limit was also increased from \$20,000 to \$50,000. Program requirements for disability grants have not changed. Households with a disabled member with incomes at or below 80% AMI are eligible for an additional grant of up to \$2,500 for accessibility improvements. To date, these changes have significantly increased program demand and applications for assistance. As a result, the only program changes that CD is implementing in the 2010 program year are the discontinuance of repeat grants for homeowners who have received program assistance in the past and the slight increase of income limits, as issued by HUD, which will be effective June 26, 2010.

b) Home ownership will be addressed through CDBG and HOME allocations. The CDBG program will fund the Home Ownership Program provided by sub-recipient Providence Housing Development Corporation (\$90,000). This program will provide pre- and post-purchase counseling to prospective first-time home buyer families. Downpayment, closing cost and principal reduction assistance will be provided through a 2010 HOME allocation of \$260,000, which is an increase of \$60,000 over the 2009 allocation. It is anticipated that over 40 families will purchase new homes through this program in 2010.

c) Affordable Rental Housing Development will use \$209,631 in HOME RHP-CHDO set-aside (15%) funds, \$601,469 in HOME RHP & \$77,424 other HOME funds totaling \$888,524 for the development of rental housing for low to moderate-income elderly, families and persons with special needs, as described below.

To ensure fair housing choice through the provision of affordable housing opportunities, the HOME Consortium, including Monroe County and the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit, works with both non-profit development corporations and for-profit private corporations to expand the development of affordable housing projects.

For the 2010 program year, the County approved HOME Program financing to four (4) affordable housing proposals. Two of the four project developers submitted applications to HUD through the Section 202 (Supportive Housing for the Elderly) Program. Three of the project developers submitted an application to the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal through New York State's Low Income Housing/HOME/HTF/Low Income Credit Programs. NYS funding announcements are expected to be announced in July or August 2010.

If all four of the projects move forward, the proposed County financed projects will produce 274 rental units consisting of (138, 1-bedroom; 12, 2-bedroom and 124, 3-bedroom) for older adults (age 55, 62 and older), families and individuals with developmental disabilities.

Other 2007 and 2009 HOME RHP funds designated for the development of affordable rental housing, but not obligated to specific projects, will be combined with 2010 RHP and CHDO HOME allocations to fund the proposed rental projects detailed below.

Project Name: Stonewood Village

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$300,000 Loan
- Developer: Rural Housing Opportunities Corp. (CHDO), Pathstone Housing Action Corp.
- Description: 1 and 3 bedroom apartments (redevelopment and renovation)
- Location: Town of Henrietta
- Target Population: Elderly (Age 62+, and/or handicapped persons and families with incomes below 50% AMI
- Total Units: 185 (62, 1-bedroom, 123, 3-bedroom)
- Accessible Units: 6
- Adaptable Units: 0
- Total Project Cost: \$31,639,116

Project Name: Rockwood Center at Brentland Woods

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$300,000 Loan
- Developer: Episcopal Senior Life Communities and Rochester's Cornerstone Group, Ltd. (Co-Developers)
- Description: 1 and 2-bedroom apartments (new construction)
- Location: Town of Henrietta
- Target Population: Elderly (Age 62+, including frail, with incomes below 50 and 60% AMI
- Total Units: 40 (36, 1-bedroom, and 4, 2-bedroom)
- Accessible Units: 6
- Adaptable Units: 40
- Total Project Cost: \$7,591,104

Project Name: LAI Individual Residential Alternative (IRA) Supportive Apartments

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$188,524 Deferred (Forgivable) Loan
- Developer: Lifetime Assistance Inc. (LAI)
- Description: 1 and 2-bedroom apartments (renovation)
- Location: Village of Brockport
- Target Population: Developmentally Disabled
- Total Units: 3 (2, 1-bedroom, and 1, 2-bedroom)
- Accessible Units: 1
- Adaptable Units: 1
- Total Project Cost: \$191,524

Project Name: Monarch Senior Living (HUD Section 202)

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$100,000 Deferred Loan
- Developer: Rochester's Cornerstone Group, Ltd./Continuing Developmental Services, Inc.
- Description: 1 and 2 bedroom apartments (new construction)
Location: Town of Webster
- Target Population: Elderly (Age 55+ in units without HUD funding, Age 62+ in units with HUD funding), with incomes below 50% AMI
- Total Units: 45 (38, 1-bedroom, 7, 2-bedroom)
- Accessible Units: 5 (visually/hearing impaired)
- Adaptable Units: 45
- Total Project Cost: \$8,763,000

A map of the 2010 proposed HOME-funded affordable housing projects appears in the Appendix.

Needs of Public Housing

1. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake during the next year to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership.
2. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation during the next year.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Public Housing Strategy response:

1. Addressing Needs of Public Housing

Please refer to the following sections provided by the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) and the Fairport Urban Renewal Agency (FURA):

- a) RHA Public Housing Located in Suburban Monroe County

Number of Units (Occupied and Unoccupied) - To date, only one (1) suburban Monroe County public housing rental project is maintained by RHA outside of the city of Rochester. This project, Antoinette Blackwell Estates, is located in the Town of Henrietta. Antoinette Blackwell Estates was developed prior to a legal opinion stating that RHA is prohibited from owning property outside of the city of Rochester. Antoinette Blackwell Estates consists of 100-units (99, 1-Bdrm and 1, 2-Bdrm) for elderly households. In March 2010 occupancy reports indicated that 94 units are occupied (current vacancies are due to full unit modernization and once project is completed we anticipate 100 % occupancy). RHA-owned public housing units, including those located in the city of Rochester total 2,432, of which 2,399 public housing units are occupied as of March 1, 2010.

Physical Condition – All RHA public housing units are classified as above standard.

Restoration and Revitalization Needs - RHA is planning a moderate rehabilitation to all apartment units in Spring/Summer 2009. In 2008 properties had been re-roofed.

- b) RHA Public Housing Located in the City of Rochester

Number of Units (Occupied and Unoccupied) - The need for public housing continues to be significant. A steady demand for family public housing units continues, while there is a good supply of affordable public housing located in the City of Rochester for the elderly. As of March

2009 the total units available in the City totaled 2,418. The new higher unit total includes 15 units at Anthony Square and 70 units between the recently constructed Carlson Commons and Olean Kennedy. The occupancy rate in City public housing units is 98%, with 34 units vacant.

As mentioned above, all 100 units in Antoinette Blackwell Estates, located in suburban Monroe County, are also occupied, which brings the overall RHA public housing units to 2,518, of which 2,484 units are occupied as of March 1, 2010.

Public Housing Waiting List

Significant demand exists for public housing as evidenced by the waiting lists. There is a 3:1 demand for family housing compared to demand for elderly housing. Annually, the demand for elderly housing continues to grow. For families, the greatest demand continues to be for two bedroom units now at 49%. The number of families/households on the public housing waiting list as of March 2010 was 4,408.

RHA PUBLIC HOUSING WAITING LIST as of March 2010

Bedroom	Demand	%
1	1,042	23.6%
2	2,174	49.3%
3	904	20.5%
4	282	6.4%
5+	<u>6</u>	0.1%
TOTAL	4,408	

RHA is currently accepting applications for public housing. RHA eliminated the Section 8 lottery system, and the Section 8 waiting list is currently closed. Applicants are able to apply online for Public Housing, Section 8, and Project-Based Section 8. After meeting income criteria, prospective applicants are selected according to the date of application and the availability of a unit appropriate for the applicant's household.

Designated elderly housing is public housing exclusively available to persons age 50 and older. Non-designated elderly housing is available to either the elderly or individuals below age 50 who are disabled or handicapped. Currently, RHA has designated 899 units exclusively for elderly occupancy, and 477 non-designated elderly housing units for either the elderly or persons with disabilities, totaling 1,376, 0 and 1-bedroom units.

c) Physical Condition (Restoration and Revitalization Needs)

None of the occupied or unoccupied units located in the City are classified as substandard. The physical condition of RHA's public housing units located in the City of Rochester and Suburban Monroe County is very good, as evidenced by HUD's overall assessment score for RHA of 85%.

The restoration and revitalization needs of RHA housing are detailed in their five-year Capital Comprehensive Fund Programs (CFP) plan, which is produced annually on an overlapping basis.

The CFP five-year spending plan is established for physical and management improvements, and supportive services for public housing residents. Each year RHA will receive an annual formula allocation to address identified needs. Under the most recent CFP Plan totals, RHA will receive approximately \$4.5 million. The CFP plan is based on a complete evaluation of the public housing units in RHA's inventory. Presented in the plan is a physical needs assessment for each of RHA's 26 project locations and scattered sites. The plan also identifies activities to improve management and provide support services to residents.

Management and Operations

RHA is proposing \$40,000 in management/operational improvements for FY 2010. Management improvements assist in enhancing property management operations and services, while expanding tenant involvement in property management. Management improvements for FY 2010 include:

- Installation of hand held inventory and work order systems;
- Provide additional maintenance staff training
- Continue existing water management program
- Update computer software, including preventive maintenance scheduling, and provide related staff training

SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Suburban Monroe County

RHA and the Fairport Urban Renewal Agency (FURA) manage the two existing publicly administered Section 8 Programs in the County. RHA currently administers the City/County Program and FURA administers the Fairport Program.

The RHA voucher inventory as of February 2010 is at 7,600 vouchers. In addition, the RHA program includes 590 Shelter Plus Care households. Over 1,600 of the vouchers are being utilized in suburban Monroe County. Current utilization rates for RHA remain consistent between 96 and 99% of the total voucher inventory.

RHA is responsible for administering the following programs in addition to the Tenant Based Voucher Program:

- Project Based Vouchers
- Enhanced Vouchers
- Shelter Plus Care
- Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
- Family Self-Sufficiency
- Home Ownership
- Nursing Home Transition and Diversion Program
- Designated Housing Vouchers
- Moderate Rehab
- Mainstream Vouchers
- Medicaid Waivers
- Family Unification
- Disaster Relief HAP Program

RHA HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER WAITING LIST

A centralized waiting list currently exists in the Rochester/Monroe County area, with the exception of the Fairport program. As of March 2010, there were 15,973 families/households on the RHA Section 8 waiting list. Similar to public housing, the demand for Section 8 one and two-bedroom units is greatest, at 75% of total demand. The significant increase in the number of applicants on the Section 8 waiting list is due to the list being open for the majority of 2009. The Section 8 tenant based voucher waiting list is now closed, but the project based list and certain special programs lists remain open. Households will wait an average of seven years before receiving a tenant-based voucher based on the current Section 8 waiting list.

RHA SECTION 8 WAITING LIST as of March 2010

Bedroom	Demand	%
1	6,520	40.8%
2	5,452	34.1%
3	3,005	18.8%
4	796	5%
5+	<u>200</u>	1.3%
TOTAL	15,973	

Currently, 70% of all RHA program participants and applicants have incomes below 30% of AMI. RHA is required to target 75% of Section 8 assistance to households below 30% AMI.

Public Housing Agency Strategies

RHA utilizes a multi-faceted approach to serve the needs of family households. These efforts currently include:

- Self-sufficiency programs, including home ownership, through the RHA Resident Services Department
- Development of new affordable housing units to meet increased need
- Redevelopment of existing RHA housing stock
- Project-Based Section 8 Voucher Program
- Investigating the use of RHA's bonding capacity to fund private housing developments with the assistance of not-for-profit organizations

RHA has created an affiliate, Homestead Management Enterprises, LLC., for the purpose of actively seeking joint venture partnerships with 501(c)3 housing and development companies and other private property owners, in order to further the development of affordable housing throughout Rochester and Monroe County.

Public Housing Agency Plans

In accordance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibilities Act (QHWR) of 1998, beginning with funding received in Federal Fiscal Year 2000, the RHA and FURA were both required to prepare a five-year plan and annual plans. As described in detail in the Public Housing Strategy of the five-year Strategic Plan, the Public Housing Agency Plans cover tenant-based assistance (Section 8) operations for both RHA and FURA public housing authorities and RHA's public housing operations.

PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENT INITIATIVES

Tenant Associations/Self Sufficiency Activities

The Resident Advisory Board is comprised of 14 public housing residents. This Board reviews and provides input into tenant related policies and RHA's Agency Plan. Resident councils continue to develop and organize recreational and community activities for RHA residents. RHA provides staff support, facilities and financial assistance to encourage and support resident initiatives.

Living Environment

RHA continues its activities to improve the living environment of RHA residents through its Resident Services Department. Enrichment activities are available to youth and adults. The following is a listing of activities provided:

Youth Programs

- a) Educational: After school and evening tutorial programs in conjunction with the City School District (Schools Nos. 2, 4, 6, 9 and 50), and the Boys & Girls Club
- b) Recreational: Summer Camp; City Recreational Programs

Senior Citizen Programs

Consortium on Elderly Substance Abuse; RSVP Program; Visiting Nurse Service/Monroe County Health Department; Grocery Shopping Bus Service, I'm Okay Program through the American Red Cross and site specific wellness programs

Crime Prevention: Security Consultant Services; Crime prevention lectures, displays, security surveys, and patrols; Resident Crime Prevention Organizing/Tenant Security Programs; High-rise Guard Stations

Other Counseling/Support Services: Enriched Housing Program at 3 locations; Catholic Family Center; Eviction Prevention Counseling; Social Services Counselor; Resident Council and Resident Advisory Board; onsite Eldersource caseworkers for all senior/disabled residents

Additional activities of the Resident Services Department include case management, education, training and employment services for residents to reach self-sufficiency and economic stability. Examples of some of the programs are: Employment (skills assessment, job search assistance and job placement); Training (computer skills, construction trades, child care provider, financial assistance for other training opportunities, and job readiness training); Education (computer-assisted GED classes, scholarship assistance, post-GED math and reading review); Business Start-UP (small business development workshop and financial assistance for business start-up/micro-loan); Skilled Trades Training (homebuyer seminars, budgeting and household finances, time management, family support, financial counseling services, credit restoration and money management); and Support Groups (barriers to success, mental wellness, nutrition and values clarification).

Section 8 Programs - Home Ownership Opportunities

HUD issued final regulations on September 12, 2000, authorizing use of Section 8 housing subsidies to encourage home ownership opportunities. RHA operates two Section 8 home ownership programs; one a tenant-based (Section 8 voucher holder) program and the other a public housing tenant based program. Clients enroll in RHA's Resident Services Center program to prepare for home ownership opportunities.

Under RHA's Section 8 Home Ownership Program, the Section 8 participant's portion of the monthly housing payment is applied to a mortgage along with the Section 8 housing payment. As of March 2010, the Home Ownership Program has produced 97 closings. Of the 97 homeowners, approximately 15% percent are located in suburban Monroe County (Chili, East Rochester, Gates, Greece, Henrietta, Riga, Irondequoit, and Brockport.)

Community Choice Initiatives

Strategies

Following are initiatives undertaken by RHA under the Community Choice Action Plan:

In 2009, RHA eliminated the lottery system and opened the waiting list. RHA reworked computer systems, telecommunications, website support (applications and waiting list status), to facilitate

management of the waiting list. At the present time, the Authority's Section 8 Program intends to use electronic means of communication to manage suburban agencies and households. The waiting list application is now available through the internet at www.rochesterhousing.org and paper applications are available in libraries and local agency locations.

Through an annual, open-competitive Request for Proposal process, RHA has entered into contracts for 200 project-based vouchers currently renting or are under construction to 13 projects outside of the City of Rochester. Another 68 vouchers have been awarded for 6 developments presently in the planning and funding phase outside of the City of Rochester.

In 2009, RHA has created an affiliate Homestead Management Enterprises, LLC for the purpose of actively seeking joint venture partnerships with non-profit housing and development companies and other private property owners to further the development and creation of affordable housing throughout the City of Rochester and Monroe County.

RHA, through combined efforts of the Resident Services Department, has been placing a higher than ever focus on promoting Section 3 opportunities. Several initiatives will be implemented in 2010 to specifically promote qualified minority and women owned business through the Section 3 program. RHA has received HUD Resident Opportunities and Supportive Services (ROSS) funding and through collaboration with local organizations, has developed training programs designed to promote skilled trades. Families may enhance earning power by participating in employment and training programs designed to increase their capacity to find new and better employment opportunities. RHA is stepping up its promotion to add Section 3 contractors to its list of eligible contractors for bidding on public works contracts. RHA is also developing more training alternatives for residents to develop skills in construction related trades with the goal of adding them to our contractor list.

The New York State Department of Labor Joint Training Partnership Act (JTPA) is replaced by the DOL Workforce Investment Act of 1999. RHA is a partnering agency on the Rochester Workforce Investment Board, which represents public and private community agencies, educational institutions and employers all working collaboratively to address the employment and training needs of community residents.

RHA successfully operated a Construction Trades Training Program under JTPA funding and Welfare to Work Program under the City of Rochester Welfare to Work grant. Currently all funding received by the city to conduct employment and training programs is administered through an independent organization known as the Rochester Resource Alliance (RRA).

Construction Trades Training

Recognizing the increasingly strained resources available to urban neighborhoods, a group of community associations created the "Reclaiming Rochester Collaborative" in coordination with the RHA and Monroe Community College. The participants created a model focused on real and positive change for city residents who are among the most at risk, while improving the quality of life found throughout the City of Rochester. The primary goal of the Reclaiming Rochester Collaborative initiative was to demonstrate a replicable model for moving members of the urban culture of the highest social and economic risk from underemployment and violent alternative economies to sustainable employment and economic self-sufficiency. Specifically, members of the targeted group of current residents of RHA public housing were recruited (31 recruits), trained (13 trainees) and placed into employment (0 employed) with local companies that serve the building and construction trades in the City of Rochester.

Lessons learned:

- The majority of the trainees required additional basic and intermediate math, reading, writing

and comprehension developmental training to compete in the construction labor market. Poor verbal communication skills were also an issue.

- Means of transportation was a key issue. Location of many jobs was outside of the city limits and not on our regional bus route. Only 1 participant had their own vehicle, while the others have issues to resolve in order to qualify for a driver's license (child support, suspended licenses, etc.).
- Allow more time for basic remedial training (educational requirements or passing a practice basic construction pre-test and post test) prior to participants moving into the construction trades training.

RHA & Sherwin-Williams Homework Painter Training

RHA was selected by Sherwin-Williams to participate in their Homework Painter Training Program. RHA recruited 10 public housing/Section 8 participants and 2 Pathways to Peace clients to participate as trainees in a 2-week painter training program. Three days were spent in the classroom learning paint basics, application and applicator, paint trouble shooting, safety, HUD lead safe practice and how to find a job. After the classroom training, the resident trainees received hands on training by actually applying what they learned, by painting one of RHA's community centers in just six days. From this experience 2 residents became gainfully employed and 1 trainee continued on to additional training via the City's PRIME masonry training program. RHA is confident that the results will be as successful as the last training.

Soft Skills Job Readiness Training

RHA contracted with a local community based agency to provide Job Readiness Training (JRT) and job search assistance to public housing residents. Twenty public housing residents were referred to Rochester Works, BOCES, Childcare Council, PRIME, Rochester Landscape, Sutherland Group, VESID, WNY Childcare, Professional Drivers Institute for training. Of these 20, seven completed their respective programs and four were hired. Additionally, 18 public housing seniors were referred to Experience Works (Eldersource) program and 7 are participating in the Experience Works program.

As the Fair Housing Action Plan is implemented during 2010, Monroe County will work with the Rochester Housing Authority to incorporate these initiatives into Phase I priorities moving forward.

FURA Tenant-Based (Section 8) Waiting List Program

In addition to the 393 vouchers for tenants receiving tenant-based assistance in privately owned units included in the FURA Housing Authority's Section 8 inventory, as of April 1, 2010, there were 305 households on the FURA Section 8 waiting list. Even after continually purging older non-responsive applications, the wait for families to be assisted remains between two and three years. Nevertheless, the waiting list is now open, despite the long wait.

The demand for Section 8 for families with extremely low-income (below 30% AMI) is the greatest at 55% of the waiting list. The rest of the demand is for households between 30% and 50% AMI. The current applicant makeup of the waiting list is 21% elderly and 30% disabled with the rest being families with children.

FURA also administers the Family Self-Sufficiency Program to promote families becoming economically self-sufficient. In addition, the FURA Housing Authority has prioritized mobility and de-concentration, and developed programs to lessen the impediments for low-income families to move to higher income areas of its jurisdiction. These include the Project-Based Voucher and Security Deposit Programs.

RHA Program Participants Residing in Suburban Monroe County

The total number of Section 8 household program participants has increased by 227 since March of 2003. The Fairport (FURA) program is not administered by RHA, therefore, the FURA program is not included in the December 1, 2004 breakdown total of 1,385 current RHA Section 8 and Shelter Plus Care household participants by Town and number of households: Brighton-15, Chili-36, Clarkson-2, East Rochester-29, Gates-58, Greece-666, Hamlin-3, Henrietta-67, Irondequoit-158, Mendon-5, Ogden-8, Parma-1, Penfield-82, Perinton-43, Pittsford-29, Riga-6, Rush-2, Sweden-54, Webster-99 and Wheatland-22.

RHA Tenant-Based (Section 8) Waiting List

There are a total of 6,667 vouchers for tenants receiving tenant-based assistance in privately owned units included in RHA's Section 8 inventory. As of December 2004, there were 3,210 families/households on the RHA Section 8 waiting list. As in the case of public housing, the demand for Section 8 one or two bedroom units is the greatest at 74%. The demand for one bedroom units however, now exceeds the demand for two bedroom units by 43%.

Currently, 90% of all RHA program participants and applicants have incomes below 30% AMI. RHA is required to target 75% of Section 8 assistance to households below 30% of the AMI. Of all of RHA's program participants, 85% reside within the City limits. The Section 8 waiting list was last opened in November 2003 and is now closed. RHA will reopen the waiting list as needed to utilize all vouchers available for Section 8 housing.

In April 2004, RHA was awarded 365 Enhanced Vouchers in conjunction with a Housing Conversion action at the English Village Apartments in the Town of Greece. As a result of this conversion, 185 additional vouchers were awarded to RHA in December of 2004. This conversion became effective on March 1, 2005. It is unlikely that HUD will be issuing any new NOFAs for Fair Share Vouchers in the foreseeable future.

Subsequent to implementing exception rents in most of the suburban towns in 1998 for one and two-bedroom units, RHA has used its discretionary authority to set the one, two, three and four-bedroom Section 8 Payment Standards at 110% of the Fair Market Rent (FMR) in all suburban towns. Additionally, based upon previous HUD approval, ten towns (Brighton, East Rochester, Henrietta, Irondequoit, Ogden, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford, Webster and Wheatland) have payment standards ranging between 110% and 120% of the FMR.

RHA recently initiated a Section 8 Home Ownership Program using Section 8 funds, which HUD approved. This program is designed to promote and support homeownership for "First-Time" homeowners. Through this program, eligible families are allowed to purchase a home with Section 8 payments being used to facilitate the transition from rental to homeownership. Of the twenty-five (25) current homeowners, nine (9) are located in suburban Monroe County (Chili, East Rochester, Gates, Greece, Henrietta and Riga.) Those that purchased in the suburbs also received subsidies through Monroe County's First-Time Homebuyer Program.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to remove barriers to affordable housing.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

1. Actions to Remove Barriers to Affordable Housing

In 2009 Monroe County, in cooperation with the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit, engaged a consultant with fair housing expertise to design a Fair Housing Action Plan to address impediments identified in the AI. The consultant reviewed current literature, conducted focus groups and interviews with governments, market rate and assisted housing providers to identify:

- Current barriers to fair housing choice
- Current activities that address fair housing choice
- Additional strategies to address impediments to fair housing choice.

Fair Housing Action Plan: Strategies for Addressing Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in Monroe County, New York: Phase I

- Identifies impediments to fair housing choice
- Identifies four priorities for Phase I
- Identifies community partners to implement strategies
- Designates performance measures to ensure strategies are appropriately utilized and carried out to produce positive results

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- Identifies four priorities for Phase I
- Identifies community partners to implement strategies
- Designates performance measures to ensure strategies are appropriately utilized and carried out to produce positive results

The entire Fair Housing Action Plan is included in the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan under the section Barriers to Affordable Housing.

HOME

1. Describe other forms of investment not described in § 92.205(b).
2. If the participating jurisdiction (PJ) will use HOME funds for homebuyers, it must state the guidelines for resale or recapture, as required in § 92.254 of the HOME rule.
3. If the PJ will use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines required under § 92.206(b). The guidelines shall describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt. At a minimum these guidelines must:
 - a. Demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing.
 - b. Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestments in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.

- c. State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.
- d. Specify required period of affordability, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.
- e. Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be jurisdiction-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2) or a Federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.
- f. State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.

Program Year 1 Action Plan HOME response:

1. Other Forms of Investment

N/A

2. Resale/Recapture Guidelines for Home Buyers

Monroe County provides conditional grants to eligible applicants in the First-Time Home Buyer Program to reduce the cost of purchasing eligible single-family properties. At the time that an applicant enters into a Purchase Agreement on an eligible property, the applicant accepts the amount, terms and conditions of the grant by execution of a Buyer's Agreement.

At the time of closing, a Note and Mortgage is executed by each home buyer and recorded, securing the total grant funds awarded for the purchase, and obligating the applicant to recapture provisions if they fail to reside in the purchased property for the requisite affordability period. The recapture provisions in the Note and Mortgage specify that if the net proceeds (defined as the sales price minus the cost of repaying outstanding mortgages and closing costs) are insufficient to repay the full amount of the subsidy, the buyer will repay only a pro-rated portion of the subsidy, but never more than the net proceeds available from the sale. This HUD-approved practice will continue in effect for all future home ownership activities.

3. Refinancing Guidelines

N/A

HOMELESS

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

- 1. Sources of Funds—Identify the private and public resources that the jurisdiction expects to receive during the next year to address homeless needs and to prevent homelessness. These include the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs, other special federal, state and local and private funds targeted to homeless individuals and families with children, especially the chronically homeless, the HUD formula programs, and any publicly-owned land or property. Please describe, briefly, the jurisdiction's plan for the investment and use of funds directed toward homelessness.
- 2. Homelessness—In a narrative, describe how the action plan will address the specific objectives of the Strategic Plan and, ultimately, the priority needs identified. Please also identify potential obstacles to completing these action steps.
- 3. Chronic homelessness—The jurisdiction must describe the specific planned action steps it will take over the next year aimed at eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.

4. Homelessness Prevention—The jurisdiction must describe its planned action steps over the next year to address the individual and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Explain planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how, in the coming year, the community will move toward such a policy.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Special Needs response:

1. Sources of Funds

The CoC requested funding under the 2009-10 CoC Super NOFA to finance twenty-nine (29) local projects. In December 2009, HUD announced that all of the twenty-one (21) "renewal" projects were funded in the amount of \$6,841,731, however, HUD indicated that funding announcements for "new" projects will not be conducted until Spring 2010. Therefore, the status of the eight (8) new project submissions should be announced shortly. If all twenty-nine (29) CoC projects/programs are funded in accordance with the Rochester-Monroe County CoC Team's 2009-10 project recommendations, our community will receive \$8.9 million; the same level of funding provided to our community in 2008-09 in the amount of \$8,859,080. This funding announcement includes one-year and three-year project renewals.

Excluding the eight (8) 2009-10 CoC Super NOFA "new" projects referenced above, below are the twenty-one (21) proposed priority "renewal" projects that were selected by the CoC Team to fill a gap in the Rochester-Monroe County CoC system that were funded by HUD:

Reunite Families - \$51,030 Award (Supportive Housing Program-1 Year Renewal)

Supportive Housing Carriage House - \$64,439 Award (Supportive Housing Program-3 Years Renew)

Supportive Housing Cornerstone - \$82,219 Award (Supportive Housing Program-1 Year Renew)

Homeless Youth Project - \$327,051 Award - (Supportive Housing Program-3 Years Renew)

Providence Housing Development Corporation - \$420,324 Award - (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renew)

OMH/DePaul S+C - \$163,116 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

S+C3 - \$879,204 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

SPC 10 Sojourner 2009 - \$208,500 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

SPC 11 VIA HEALTH - \$330,756 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

SPC 5 2009 - \$1,972,488 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

SPC 7 Unity 2009 - \$393,876 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

SPC 9 MCDHS 2009 - \$292,248 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

SPC VOC 2009 - \$90,228 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

Strong Ties- \$186,576 Award (Shelter Plus Care-1 Year Renewal)

Nielsen House- \$94,556 Award (Supportive Housing Program-1 Year Renewal)

Suburban Supportive Housing Initiative - \$126,622 Award (SHP -1 Year Renewal)

Transitional Housing Supportive Program - \$298,386 Award (SHP - 3 Year Renewal)

Genesis House - \$157,500 Award (Supportive Housing Program-3 Year Renewal)

Permanent Housing Supportive Services- \$113,400 Award (SHP - 3 Year Renewal)

Project ReDirect - \$450,187 Award (Supportive Housing Program-1 Year Renewal)

WCP Supportive Housing Initiative - \$139,025 Award (SHP - 1 Year Renewal)

2. Homelessness

The Rochester/Monroe County Homeless Continuum of Care 2009 "Super NOFA Funding" Priorities are in ranked order as follows:

1) Increase the supply of permanent, affordable housing with support services for the chronically homeless (this includes Shelter Plus Care and Housing First projects.)

2) Increase the supply of permanent, affordable housing with support services for the homeless in general and targeted toward special needs populations:

- Older homeless youth; pregnant/parenting older homeless youth
- Homeless with criminal and poor credit histories
- Homeless with mental health and/or substance abuse issues
- Homeless families with children
- Veterans and their families
- Transgender

3) Maintain current inventory of HUD funded homeless housing and services at current levels (renewal projects)

4) Transitional housing for homeless special needs populations (see above).

5) Support Services:

- Increase capacity and access to comprehensive case management services from entry into the homeless system through follow up services in un-supported permanent housing
- Employment/Job Placement services for persons with little or no employment history (including child care and transportation)
- Improve access to and capacity of permanent, supportive housing programs
- Outreach/Engagement services for the chronically homeless and frequent users of the homeless system

Only projects that meet the above-referenced priorities and are eligible activities under the CoC Super NOFA will be rated.

Renewal Applications - Must meet or exceed HUD's national performance measurements. These projects must clearly demonstrate that the services provided continue to be a need of the homeless in this community and are an essential component of the community's continuum of care.

In addition to the above Homeless CoC 2009 "Super NOFA Funding" priorities, the Rochester/Monroe County Homeless Continuum of Care 2009 "Community" Priorities include the Implementation of this community's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness - "Housing Options for All", and the following priorities which are not in any ranked order:

- Consistent, quality case management services available across the continuum
- Employment/Job Placement Services for special needs populations
- Improvements to, and coordination of, discharge planning processes and protocols
- Increase Homelessness Prevention services
- Community education and advocacy around issues of homelessness and housing
 - Accessing mainstream services/systems advocacy
 - Cross systems approach to meeting the needs of the homeless
 - "Putting a face on Homelessness", decreasing NIMBYism

CoC Homeless Population and Subpopulations

The following sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations and homeless subpopulations will be reported in the 2010 CoC Super NOFA-Exhibit I Homeless Population and Subpopulations Chart which is included in the Worksheet section of the Strategic Plan:

Homeless Population

Sheltered in Emergency Housing

- Number of Individuals - 259
- Number of Households with Dependent Children – 70
- Total Number of Persons in these Households (adults & children) - 223

- Total Persons = 482

Sheltered in Transitional Housing

- Number of Individuals - 81
- Number of Households with Dependent Children – 50
- Total Number of Persons in these Households (adults & children) - 142

- Total Persons = 223

Unsheltered

- Number of Individuals - 4
- Number of Households with Dependent Children – 0
- Total Number of Persons in these Households (adults & children) - 0

- Total Persons = 4

- TOTAL Sheltered in Emergency Housing, Transitional Housing, and Unsheltered = 709

Homeless Subpopulations

Sheltered and Unsheltered

- Chronically Homeless – Sheltered (in Emergency Shelter Only) - 85
- Chronically Homeless - Unsheltered - 4
- Total Chronically Homeless Sheltered & Unsheltered - 89

- Severely Mentally Ill – Sheltered - 154; Unsheltered – 0; Total - 154
- Chronic Substance Abuse – Sheltered - 182; Unsheltered - 0; Total - 182
- Veterans – Sheltered - 41; Unsheltered - 0; Total - 41
- Persons with HIV/AIDS – Sheltered - 2; Unsheltered - 0; Total - 2
- Victims of Domestic Violence – Sheltered - 126; Unsheltered - 0; - Total - 126
- Unaccompanied Youth (Under Age 18)–Sheltered-67; Unsheltered–0; Total 67

- TOTAL Subpopulations Sheltered and Unsheltered = 580

3. Chronic Homelessness

The CoC Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness Planning Committee has been meeting to develop the Rochester-Monroe County Ten-Year Plan. After careful review and recommendation of the Public Policy Committee of the United Way of Greater Rochester (UW), the community's CoC Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness was selected to become one of three UW Public Policy priorities for 2007-08, which will continue to be a priority in 2010. UW staff participates as an active CoC sponsor member. As such, potential roles have been established for UW to assume as a catalyst in the development and implementation of the community's Ten-Year planning process to end chronic homelessness, which include the following:

- Raising community awareness of homeless issues in the community
- UW's unique ability to bring new partners to the table for the planning process
- Provide UW staff support in the planning process
- Assist in the assessment of future organizational structure planning options

Since UW adopted the community's public policy initiative to develop and implement an effective Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, the Ten-Year Planning Committee, which includes UW staff representatives, has been meeting regularly. Current activities of the Ten-Year Plan Planning Committee include the following:

- Gathering data on the chronic homeless to accurately assess this population
- Establish a cost analysis of services/resources to serve the chronic homeless
- Utilizing data from the Homeless Services Network (HSN) Homeless Needs Survey and Point in Time Survey conducted on January 29, 2009
- Conducting focus groups with the chronically homeless and the agencies in the community that primarily serve this population
- Revision of the annual Super NOFA rating/ranking review process
- Released the Ten-Year Plan to end homelessness in Rochester/Monroe County entitled "Housing Options for All - A Strategy to End Homelessness in Rochester/Monroe County", which is available at www.homelessservicesrochesterny.org or the Monroe County CD office
- Began implementation of Phase I of the Ten-Year Plan, by contracting with an independent consultant to develop a 2008-2017 "Supportive Housing Production Implementation Plan" (SHPI) which was completed in February 2009 and is available at www.homelessservicesrochesterny.org or the Monroe County CD office.

The SHPI study included the following research components:

1. A comprehensive review of current emergency housing stock and inventory of existing and planned supportive housing available including location, population served, services provided and financing sources for services in Rochester and Monroe County
2. Detailed assessment of housing gaps for specific subpopulations (special needs, chronically homeless, families and youth)
3. Appropriate mix of housing types and models to fill the overall need with focus on homeless

populations with incomes below 30% AMI

4. Identification of potential developers and service providers to facilitate the provision of supportive housing development
5. Detailed projections for types and quantities of housing units required to fill the overall need
6. Short and long-term cost projections for the provision of supportive housing developments, i.e. Housing First model and permanent supportive housing
7. Map of all available federal, state, local and private supportive housing development resources with highlighted examples of projects having multiple financing sources
8. Review of appropriate case management services
9. Potential implementation timelines
10. Presentation of Implementation Plan to key community stakeholders

The SHPI Plan recommends the simultaneous pursuit of three (3) major components in ending homelessness:

1. Prevention
2. Comprehensive Support Services
3. Affordable Permanent Housing*

*(Affordable permanent housing is a means to address all three of the major components noted above to serve people who are most likely to be homeless repeatedly or for long periods of time.)

This SHPI Plan is designed to build on the existing foundation of the current 698 supportive housing units in Monroe County and to provide guidance and ideas for increasing the availability of supportive housing over the ten-year period.

In 2006, research of other community Plans and successful models of Housing First projects was completed. The Committee's initial research found that such a Plan will require the identification of additional resources, especially for ongoing operation of a Housing First model and/or for permanent supportive housing. Upon further analysis of planning efforts across the country, the Committee drafted a preliminary Plan outline and made the following recommendations in 2006:

- Include other homeless populations in this community's Plan, even though 10-Year Plans focus on the chronically homeless
- Developing additional units of affordable, permanent supportive housing is the solution to ending homelessness and should, therefore, be a key component of this community's Ten-Year Plan
- Build on the strong infrastructure of homeless housing and services that currently exists in this community
- Identify potential new funding sources for implementation of the 10-Year Plan

Potential partner organizations and community leaders have been identified and a list of potential community stakeholders has been developed. Both the City of Rochester Mayor and the Monroe County Executive submitted letters supporting the ten-year planning initiative.

Current Chronic Homelessness Strategy (2006-10)

Past strategies continue as a strong framework on which we can build and they remain an integral part of our current strategy. We continue to provide strong support of the movement to serve the chronic homeless through our community's Shelter Plus Care programs that occurs mostly through non-traditional case management programs. The support services, in addition to the affordable, permanent housing, has allowed the chronically homeless to remain in permanent housing. All existing permanent housing programs for individuals are serving the chronically homeless and providers are encouraged to designate a specific number of beds for the chronically homeless.

The CoC Team has conducted monthly point in time surveys since February 2002. In May 2003, the survey began asking shelter providers to provide numbers of individuals that fit the definitions of chronic homelessness to attempt to get an accurate picture of the number of chronic homeless. The Point in Time Survey conducted on January 27, 2010 identified 85 individuals as being chronically homeless; 10 more individuals than reported in the Point in Time Survey conducted on January 27, 2009.

The CoC Team continues to monitor the CoC system to ensure that the chronically homeless are accessing mainstream financial entitlements and mainstream service providers in a timely manner.

The County, City, Red Cross, CoC Team and Poor People United developed and implemented a plan to assist the unsheltered homeless in accessing existing shelter beds and providing additional overflow beds during severe weather conditions beginning in the winter of 2004. Nightly outreach efforts by a grassroots organizing group, Poor People United, were conducted during the winter months to subway beds, bridges and parking garages to arrange for placements in shelters or hotels when no shelter beds were available. This plan has been updated annually and continues to be used during severe weather conditions.

The Special Needs Populations Committee of the HSN developed a list of resources and service providers available to homeless persons who are sanctioned or otherwise unable to access financial entitlement programs, many of whom are chronically homeless.

The Special Needs Populations Committee of the HSN worked with Coordinated Care Service, Inc. (CCSI) to develop discharge guidelines from public in-patient mental health programs to outpatient treatment. An addendum to the plan was made with specific protocols for discharge of persons who were in homeless shelters to ensure shelter providers have information on medications, outpatient treatment providers, etc.

4. Homelessness Prevention

Described in detail in the Homelessness Prevention section of the Strategic Plan are the specific planned action steps that remain in effect, particularly those designed for individuals and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

On February 26, 2009 the CoC facilitated the first meeting of a community Rapid Re-Housing Committee (RRH) to develop a RRH model to reduce the amount of time homeless households are homeless and to prevent households from returning to homelessness. This model included a central intake system and common assessment tool process. Planning efforts of the RRH Committee were prioritized to facilitate the development of a Homeless Prevention/Rapid Re-Housing model to prevent homelessness and stabilize households. To ensure that program participants are linked to ongoing assistance, such as Section 8 housing vouchers, intensive case management, or assertive community treatment, the RRH model was incorporated into the Homeless Prevention and Rapid-ReHousing (HPRP)-Heading Home Program to coordinate closely with other community resources. The joint City/County Heading Home Program was established under Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) to provide financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and to help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly rehoused and stabilized. The HPRP-Heading Home Program is described in more detail in the Strategic Plan.

5. Discharge Coordination Policy

The community continues to work toward the Discharge Coordination Policy detailed in the Strategic Plan.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

Program Year 1 Action Plan ESG response:

ESG applications were solicited at the same time as the CDBG application cycle in January 2010. Seven applications were received, totaling over \$182,000. Monroe County will receive an allocation in 2010 of \$84,497. Of the seven proposals submitted, four projects are proposed for funding in the 2010 program year: Operating Expenses for Women's Place shelter by the Catholic Family Center, Samaritan House operated by the Open Door Mission and The Guest House of Volunteers of America. The Center for Youth Services is also being funded under Essential Services for their Emergency Housing Continuum program.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.
2. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

*Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Community Development response:

1. Priority Non-Housing Community Development Needs

Monroe County's non-housing Community Development needs for this program year generally align with the overall needs outlined in the Strategic Plan: improve access to and quality of public facilities; provide essential utility infrastructure in lower income areas; provide job training and economic development opportunities for low to moderate-income persons and persons with special needs; provide essential public services, particularly those that promote homeownership, fair housing and housing stability; and, revitalize neighborhoods.

By eligibility category, Monroe County's priority community development needs are as follows:

Public Facilities and Improvements - general (03); neighborhood facilities (03E); parks and recreation facilities (03F); water/sewer improvements (03J); street improvements (03K); sidewalks (03L)

Projects in these categories include:

(03) General: Clarkson, Rush, Spencerport Town/Village Facilities ADA and Cooperative Extension ADA

(03E) Neighborhood Facilities Improvements: Ogden and Churchville Community Center ADA and Sweden Town Facilities ADA Improvements

(03F) Parks & Recreation Facilities: Monroe County Parks ADA, Chili Union Station Park ADA, Mendon Semmel Road Park ADA, Perinton and Fellows Road Park ADA, Webster Arboretum ADA, Honeoye Falls Rotary Park ADA and Scottsville Johnson Park ADA

(03J) Water/Sewer Improvements: Henrietta Kenwick Drive/Golden Rod Sewer, Brockport Perry Street Sewer, Hilton Sewer and Webster Village Watermain

(03L) Sidewalks: Brighton, Gates, Penfield and East Rochester sidewalks

Housing - construction of housing (12); direct homeownership assistance (13); rehab single-unit residential (14A); rehab multi-unit residential (14B); rehabilitation administration (14H)

Projects in these categories include:

(12, 14B) Affordable Rental Housing Development (funded through HOME)

(13) First-Time Homebuyer Program (subsidy funded through HOME)

(14A, B, H) Home Improvement Program

Each of these program areas is detailed fully in the Housing section of the Action Plan.

Public Services - general (05); senior services (05A); handicapped services (05B); fair housing activities (05J); tenant/landlord counseling (05K); housing counseling (05U)

Projects in this category include:

(05) Salvation Army Emergency & Family Services Program Flooring

(05A) LifeSpan Safety and Security for Seniors Program

(05D) TiLC Restructuring the Village Youth Program

(05J) Expanding Housing Opportunities Program by The Housing Council

(05U) Home Ownership Program by Providence Housing, Foreclosure Prevention and HECM Counseling by The Housing Council

Economic Development - ED direct financial assistance (18A); ED technical assistance (18B)

Projects in this category create and retain local jobs and include:

(18A) ED Grant and Loan Fund

Monroe County defines, analyzes and assigns priority to community needs using many reliable data sources and input from the community as a whole. These factors help CD determine the priority of a project; absolute need, relative need, availability of other funds, local preference and spending cap by category.

Currently, there are 60 block groups that are eligible for funding in Monroe County's upper quartile. Neighborhoods targeted for public improvements are located in eligible census tracts and block groups where the highest percentages of low/mod income residents are located. These statistics geographically define a concentration of residents in need of programs and services.

CD staff works closely with several County Departments that provide health and social services. These partnerships provide valuable assistance in identifying the needs of County residents.

The Monroe County Department of Human Services (MCDHS) provides the annual Homeless Services Report, which is used to identify trends and needs of the homeless population and is included in the Appendix of this Plan.

Consultation with primary community agencies listed in the Strategic Plan helps to identify local trends, gaps in services and needs of special population groups, including senior citizens, persons with special needs and homeless persons.

The Steering Committee continues to help shape the community development needs analysis through the input of municipal members at semi-annual meetings. Members also participate in focus groups that result in the identification of current and future suburban needs and services. Local preference continues to be a strong determining factor in assigning priority.

Public commentary, provided by County residents through the Citizen Participation Process, provides valuable insight into community needs. Any public suggestions are incorporated into Monroe County's needs analysis and strategic plan, and are funded in the Action Plan.

Staff participation on local committees and boards involved in public service issues provides added input on community needs as well as an opportunity to merge resources for programs that meet identified needs. Involvement on the Homeless CoC Team, Greater Rochester Housing Partnership Board of Directors and the United Way Building Community Impact Team are a few examples of community participation that have been beneficial in this regard.

Many needs identified as medium and low priority are activities that may be more readily funded by other sources, more appropriate to a city than an urban county, or activities requested less frequently (medium priority) or infrequently (low priority) by project applicants. Monroe County does not reject applications for funding solely because the project may be of low priority. Low priority activities are considered for funding, provided the request is for an eligible activity.

2. Long-Term and Short-Term Community Development Objectives

The greatest challenge to meeting underserved needs is limited funding resources. More applicants are seeking community development funds than ever before, creating increased competition. As previously referenced, applicants seeking \$2.9 million were competing for \$2.3 million in available CDBG funds.

Strategies to address the CD objective of decent housing:

In the 2010 program year, the Home Improvement Program (HIP) will continue services to suburban residents. HIP helps low to moderate-income residents finance home repairs to correct serious housing deficiencies. In 2009, CD made significant changes in the HIP, enabling more residents to access grants for needed home improvements, and provided larger grant amounts to allow for the ever-increasing costs of rehabilitation. The program changes included increasing the grant income eligibility to all households at or below 80% of area median income. Previously, the HIP program guidelines provided those with incomes between 61-80% with a grant for half of the project and the opportunity to apply for a low-interest loan for the other half or fund half of the project cost themselves. In the 2009 program year, all low and moderate income households became eligible for a full grant and grant limits were increased from \$7,500 to \$10,000. The program allowable liquid asset limit was also increased from \$20,000 to \$50,000. Program requirements for disability grants have not changed. Households with a disabled member with

incomes at or below 80% AMI are eligible for an additional grant of up to \$2,500 for accessibility improvements. These program changes have significantly increased the pool of potential HIP program participants and the average per-project cost. This has prompted CD to disallow all repeat grants in the 2010 program year to allow homeowners who have not utilized program subsidy in the past to have access to funding. HUD issued revised income limits in May 2010, which represent a slight increase over 2009 limits. The new income limits will become effective June 26, 2010.

In addition, the Home Ownership Program and the subsidy provided to income eligible first-time home buyers in the form of down payment and closing cost assistance will continue to expand access to decent housing. Monroe County's home ownership counseling is free to program participants, which allows low to moderate income homebuyers to put more of their resources toward the home purchase. Demand for down payment and closing cost subsidy for first-time home buyers increased significantly in 2009 and 2010, partly due to the ARRA tax credits. CD has increased the 2010 HOME Program allocation for first time homebuyer direct subsidy to \$260,000 to ensure continuation of this extremely popular and successful program.

Strategies to address the objective of providing a suitable living environment:

Improve the safety and livability of neighborhoods by providing utility infrastructure and neighborhood improvements in low to moderate-income areas by utilizing CDBG funds to provide municipal public works projects, as proposed by municipalities according to their needs. The suburban towns and villages continue to list new construction or replacement of utility infrastructure as a priority because of the age and deterioration of sidewalks, sanitary sewers, waterlines and drainage utilities.

For the 2010 program year, these include the replacement of an undersized water main in a Village of Webster LMA to provide an adequate supply of water to residential areas, neighborhood businesses and industrial districts. To repair and/or replace deteriorated sanitary sewers, projects will be undertaken in LMAs in Henrietta, Brockport and Hilton. To improve pedestrian safety in Brighton, Gates, Penfield and East Rochester LMAs, new sidewalks will be constructed.

Municipal officials prioritize the need for ADA improvements because the elderly, mobility impaired and disabled populations have grown substantially in the past decade and continue to increase. Many facilities need initial ADA alterations and some facilities need further accommodations to comply with current ADA construction codes.

To increase access to quality public and private facilities and services, Monroe County will fund the following ADA facility improvements in 2010: Park improvements including improvement and/or construction of ADA accessible restrooms in Seneca Park and Mendon Semmel Road Park, construction of ADA trails in Union Station Park in Chili, ADA sidewalks and curb cuts at Perinton Park and Fellows Road Park, various ADA facility improvements in Scottsville Johnson Park and the Arboretum Building in Webster and the purchase and installation of ADA compliant playground equipment for Rotary Park in Honeoye Falls. ADA improvements will also be made to public facilities at the Ogden Community Center, Rush and Sweden town facilities, Churchville Community Center and the Spencerport Village Hall. ADA entrance improvements will be made to the Cornell Cooperative Extension to increase accessibility to the public.

Public services are necessary to provide a suitable living environment, particularly for low to moderate-income families, seniors and disabled persons. Maximizing public services with limited Community Development dollars and within the 15% funding threshold for public services is a long-term objective. Activities funded this year will improve the quality of life and foster self-sufficiency and independence for low to moderate-income, elderly and disabled populations.

Projects funded in 2010 promote fair housing, housing stability and home ownership. The County will contract with The Housing Council to provide invaluable fair housing education through its housing hotline and referral to other programs. They will also provide foreclosure prevention and landlord/tenant counseling services to promote housing stability among our most vulnerable residents. The CDBG-funded Home Ownership Program will continue in its provision of credit-repair counseling, education, referral and financial assistance to low and moderate-income persons wishing to purchase homes in suburban Monroe County. The long-term credit repair component of this program enables some of the County's lowest income residents to become eligible and prepared for homeownership.

Public services that address the safety and security aspect of housing stability for the growing number of senior citizens and disabled persons in suburban Monroe County will be addressed by continued CDBG commitment to a public service administered by Lifespan that provides minor home repairs and security improvements not addressed by the Home Improvement Program.

Strategies to address the community development objective of economic opportunity require adequate resources and incentives for business retention, expansion and relocation necessary to encourage new jobs and protect existing jobs; and the need for more programs with expanded services that offer employment training and development, especially for displaced workers, unemployed and underemployed residents and persons with special needs. To address the needs of unemployed low income and/or homeless individuals, the "Restructuring the Village" Youth Program of TiLC will be funded to provide services for at-risk youth that will include referral services, academic assistance, mentoring, employment training and job placement services. The Salvation Army will be funded for the replacement of deteriorated flooring at its Emergency and Family Services Program facilities.

The most effective business development strategy available through CDBG is the Economic Development Grant and Loan Fund. The fund provides low-interest loans or grants to local companies for equipment acquisition, infrastructure and leasehold improvements, real estate and working capital activities involved in business start-ups, expansions and relocations. Funds are combined with other public resources to leverage private capital investments, including the CDBG Section 108 Loan Guarantee authority, COMIDA, New York State's Urban Development Corporation and the SBA 504 Program. To stabilize and expand small businesses, the ED Division will continue to work with the Small Business Administration in regard to the SBA 504 Program.

Antipoverty Strategy

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:

1. Actions to Reduce the Number of Poverty Level Families

Following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to identify who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level."

The poverty status of a household is determined by whether or not their "total income" falls above or below the Poverty Income threshold for the number of people in their household. Total income is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses or tips; self-employment income for own non-farm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income or income from estates and

trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support or alimony.

The guidelines for poverty level are different than another commonly used income threshold referred to as 30% of the Area Median Family Income Limits. Below is a breakdown by household size of both the 2009 Poverty Guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the 2009 Monroe County 30% AMI limits issued by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for comparison purposes:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>2009 HHS Poverty Guidelines</u>	<u>2009 30% AMI Limits</u>
1	\$10,830	\$13,950
2	\$14,570	\$15,950
3	\$18,310	\$17,950
4	\$22,050	\$19,950
5	\$25,790	\$21,550
6	\$29,530	\$23,150
7	\$33,270	\$24,750
8	\$37,010	\$26,350

Congress has taken action to keep the 2009 poverty guidelines in effect until at least March 31, 2010. As of the writing of this Plan, the 2010 guidelines have not been issued.

Strategies in 2010 include continuation of existing programs that promote a stable living environment, reduce dependency and poverty primarily caused by unemployment, underemployment, housing condition and cost burden. Programs that address a stable living environment include the Home Improvement Program, Home Ownership Program, each of the programs administered by The Housing Council, the Restructuring the Village Youth Program and Salvation Army's facility improvements. Lifespan's program for seniors will continue to provide minor home repairs and safety training to help elderly persons remain in their homes. In addition, many of the public facilities projects promote a stable living environment by reducing the cost burden placed on municipalities to make these improvements thereby reducing the costs passed on to local taxpayers. ESG funds will be allocated to four agencies to provide critical services to homeless and at-risk individuals and families. Collectively, these programs help prevent homelessness, financial hardship, institutionalization and poverty.

MCDHS is the primary provider of public assistance benefits for poverty level persons and, therefore, has the greatest capacity to reduce the number of poverty level families. Housing efforts, particularly emergency housing, are coordinated with the Homeless Continuum of Care and other community-wide affordable housing agencies.

Programs that will provide job opportunities and reduce poverty include the ED Grant and Loan Fund, which targets job creation to low/mod residents, and non-CDBG funded County programs that provide incentives to businesses that employ local labor, tax credit incentives for companies that increase jobs through the Empire Zone Program, The Entrepreneurs Network, which offers training and mentoring for high-tech entrepreneurs, and programs provided at job centers operated by Rochester Works, Inc. The ED Grant & Loan Fund will receive an allocation of \$200,000 in 2010 to encourage business expansion and relocation with resulting job creation and retention. COMIDA will also continue to provide business development incentives and resources for companies that create and retain jobs.

To improve the cost of living, the County has kept property taxes stable, streamlined social services, enhanced economic development incentives for businesses, created more job centers,

and offers a prescription drug discount plan free to all County residents.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))

*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve for the period covered by the Action Plan.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. The list below outlines the non-homeless special needs populations' priority needs (H/M/L priorities) and funding source identified in the 5-Year Strategic Plan.

Special Needs Category

Elderly

Housing – H (HOME & CDBG)
Supportive Services – Y (CDBG)

Frail Elderly

Housing – M (HOME & CDBG)
Supportive Services – Y (CDBG)

Persons w/ Severe Mental Illness

Housing - M
Supportive Services - N

Disabled (Developmental or Physical)

Housing – M (HOME)
Supportive Services - N

Alcohol/Other Drug Addicted

Housing - H
Supportive Services - N

Persons w/ HIV-AIDS

Housing - L
Supportive Services - N

Public Housing Residents

Housing – L
Supportive Services – N

To help fund those needs identified as medium and high priorities, Monroe County is funding the following programs to serve the populations identified.

Elderly and Frail Elderly Housing: Home Improvement Program, Affordable Rental Housing

Development

Elderly and Frail Elderly Supportive Services: LifeSpan Safety and Security for Seniors, The Housing Council programs

Disabled Housing: Affordable Rental Housing Development, Home Improvement Program and Home Ownership Program

2. Monroe County has CDBG and HOME resources available for the housing and supportive services identified above. Other Federal resources, such as the HUD Super NOFA and other State resources, such as HHAP, OMRDD, VESID and OASAS are more readily available for the housing and supportive services which Monroe County is not able to fund in this Action Plan.

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Provide a Brief description of the organization, the area of service, the name of the program contacts, and a broad overview of the range/ type of housing activities to be done during the next year.
2. Report on the actions taken during the year that addressed the special needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, and assistance for persons who are homeless.
3. Evaluate the progress in meeting its specific objective of providing affordable housing, including a comparison of actual outputs and outcomes to proposed goals and progress made on the other planned actions indicated in the strategic and action plans. The evaluation can address any related program adjustments or future plans.
4. Report on annual HOPWA output goals for the number of households assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. Include any assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access to care.
5. Report on the use of committed leveraging from other public and private resources that helped to address needs identified in the plan.
6. Provide an analysis of the extent to which HOPWA funds were distributed among different categories of housing needs consistent with the geographic distribution plans identified in its approved Consolidated Plan.
7. Describe any barriers (including non-regulatory) encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement.
8. Please describe the expected trends facing the community in meeting the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and provide additional information regarding the administration of services to people with HIV/AIDS.
9. Please note any evaluations, studies or other assessments that will be conducted on the local HOPWA program during the next year.

Program Year 1 Action Plan HOPWA response:

N/A

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Specific HOPWA Objectives response:

N/A

Other Narrative

Include any Action Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.

The following table is a complete list of projects and programs proposed for funding through the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs in the 2010 program year (August 1, 2010 – July 31, 2011).

Proposed CDBG Projects for 2010 Program Year		
Public Works and Facility Improvements:		
Town of Brighton	Westfall Road Sidewalk Construction	\$45,000
Town of Chili	Union Station Park ADA Trails	\$50,000
Town of Clarkson	Town Hall ADA Improvements Phase II	\$33,098
Town of Gates	Sidewalk and Gutter Replacement	\$50,000
Town of Henrietta	Sanitary Sewer Repair – Kenwick, Golden Rod	\$50,000
Town of Mendon	Semmel Road Park ADA Restroom	\$26,656
Town of Ogden	Community Center ADA Improvements	\$19,000
Town of Penfield	Empire Boulevard Sidewalk Construction	\$50,000
Town of Perinton	ADA Park Imp, – Perinton & Fellows Road Parks	\$31,283
Town of Rush	Town Facilities ADA Improvements	\$18,000
Town of Sweden	Town Facilities ADA Improvements	\$25,000
Town of Webster	Arboretum Building ADA Improvements	\$37,000
Village of Brockport	Sanitary Sewer Replacement – Perry Street	\$50,000
Village of Churchville	Community Center ADA Improvements	\$60,000
Village of East Roch.	Sidewalk Construction	\$50,000
Village of Hilton	Sanitary Sewer Repairs	\$50,000
Village of Honeoye Falls	Rotary Park ADA Playground Equipment	\$23,500
Village of Scottsville	Johnson Park ADA Improvements	\$50,000
Village of Spencerport	Village Hall ADA Improvements	\$10,000
Village of Webster	Water Main Improvements – Commercial & Martin St.	\$50,000
Monroe County Parks	Seneca Park ADA Restroom Improvements	\$50,000
Cornell Coop. Extension	Cooperative Extension ADA Improvements	\$ 9,750
Shaded = Project is located within a low to moderate-income area (LMA)		
Community-Wide Public Services:		
Home Ownership Program (Providence Housing)		\$90,000
Expanding Housing Opportunities Program (The Housing Council)		\$84,000
Foreclosure Prevention & HECM Counseling (The Housing Council)		\$90,000
Safety and Security for Seniors Program (Lifespan)		\$50,000
Salvation Army Emergency & Family Services Program Flooring		\$44,000
TiLC, Inc. – “Restructuring the Village” Youth Services Program		\$20,000
Community-Wide Housing Programs:		
Home Improvement Grant Program		\$443,799
Community-Wide Economic Development:		
Economic Development Revolving Grant & Loan Fund		\$200,000
Planning and Capacity Building Activities:		
General Administration		\$470,000
Economic Development Technical Assistance		\$25,000
Housing Rehab Program Delivery		\$25,000

Proposed HOME Categories for 2010 Program Year	
Home Improvement Grant Program	\$360,789
First Time Home Buyer Program Direct Subsidy	\$260,000
Rental Housing Development (non-CHDO)	\$400,000
Rental Housing Development (CHDO)	\$300,000
General Administration	\$146,754
Proposed ESG Projects for 2010 Program Year	
Catholic Family Center – Women’s Place - Operations	\$19,200
Center for Youth Services – Emergency Housing Continuum – Essential Services	\$25,349
Open Door Mission – Samaritan House – Operations	\$20,675
Volunteers of America – Guest House Security Improvements – Operations	\$15,148
General Administration	\$4,225