

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

Highlighted in the FFY 2020-FFY 2024 Consolidated Plan and FFY 2023 Annual Action Plan, the following items were noted as either low or high priority areas:

Housing Priority (High Priority):

There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the City of Williamsport and to increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers. The specific objectives that support this goal are as follows: increase homeownership; reduce housing blight and deterioration among owner-occupied households; improve rental housing opportunities; and provide safe and accessible housing. Specifically, in FFY 2023, CDBG and HOME funds will be utilized towards the following identified goal:

- **Affordable Housing:** The City seeks to provide affordable rental and home ownership opportunities for residents who earn equal to or less than 80% of the AMI. The existing housing stock of older homes needs significant investment in rehabilitation for both owner-occupied and rental units. The city will continue its homeowner rehabilitation programs to correct codes violations, offer emergency repairs, and complete accessibility modifications to owner-occupied households.

Homelessness Prevention Priority (Low Priority):

There is a need for housing services for homeless persons and persons at-risk of become homeless, as well as public education.

- Support emergency shelter and transitional housing services through local nonprofit organizations and social service agencies.
- Support services to assist homeless persons and families make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

Other Special Needs Priority (High Priority):

The accessibility-related housing rehabilitation and the installation and reconstruction of curb ramps in the city assist with improving the quality of life of persons considered special needs, specifically persons with disabilities and the elderly.

Community Development Priority (High Priority):

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, code enforcement, public safety, clearance, and the quality of life in the City of Williamsport.

- **Public Facilities (High Priority):** The City recognizes the need to improve its facilities and infrastructure throughout the city. This includes creating a safe and suitable living environment via street reconstruction and the improvement of parks and recreation facilities. The installation and/or reconstruction of ADA compliant curb ramps also meets the priority for special needs populations.
- **Blight Elimination (High Priority):** Blight elimination will be conducted on a spot and/or area basis; specifically, this will include the demolition of severely code-deficient structures that are a detriment to public health and safety.

Economic Development Priority (Low Priority):

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of the residents of the city. However, this is often undertaken with funds other than CDBG or HOME.

Administration, Planning and Management Priority (High Priority):

There is a continuing need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, state and locally funded projects.

- Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, state, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

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

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Accessible Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$75,618	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	8	80.00%	3	0	0.00%
Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$1,037,092/ HOME: \$132,645.40	Other	Other	26410	1	100.00%	1	1	100.00%
Blight Elimination	Blight Elimination	CDBG: \$106,629	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	10	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Construction of new housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$0	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	2	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Construction of new housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$151,170	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	1	20.00%	6	0	0.00%
Home Ownership	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$235,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	5	5	100.00%	3	2	66.00%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$235,965 / HOME: \$1,116,126	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	25	21	84.00%	5	4	80.00%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%

Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$3,695,987	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	29508	3960	13.42%	29339	3960	13.50%
Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		0	0	0.00%
Public Services	Public Services	CDBG: \$80,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	29508	52855	179.12%	0	0	0.00

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

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

During the final year of the five-year Consolidated Plan period 2020-2024, the city continued efforts to meet or exceed five-year goals and objectives for housing and community development activities. Actions for affordable housing opportunities include a home ownership program, home rehabilitation program, to reduce housing blight and deterioration, an affordable rental housing program, and accessible housing rehab.

Affordable Housing Priority

- **Owner-Occupied Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation:** Program provides grants and loans to eligible households to increase the availability of safe, affordable housing and eliminate blight. CDBG funds support Emergency Home Rehabilitation. 2 projects were completed with CDBG funds while another is underway. HOME funds support more extensive home repair projects. 2 projects were

completed.

- **The Homebuyer Assistance** GAP financing program offers deferred, 0% loans to eligible participants to purchase an affordable home. 2 buyers assisted in Program Year 2023.
- **Accessibility Rehabilitation program:** The City offers \$5,000 for accessibility improvements for residential properties occupied by income eligible persons with disabling conditions. This activity was not funded in Program Year 2023. 3 projects were completed.
- **Habitat for Humanity Housing Construction:** Habitat will construct six new houses for low-income families. This construction is underway

Other Special Needs Priority

Removal of Architectural Barriers: Curb ramps are included as part of Street Reconstruction projects and as an independent activity. No funds were expended on curb ramp work in Program Year 2023. The FFY 2023 Curb Ramp funds were reprogrammed to Little League Blvd.

Public Facilities

Street Reconstruction: The City continues to fund public facilities and infrastructure improvements to prepare a suitable living environment, and the majority of street reconstruction work using 2020 and 2022 funds has been completed. The following FFY 2020 Street Reconstruction funds were expended in Program Year 2023: Maynard Street, Little League Blvd, and East End Streets. FFY 2023 Street Reconstruction funds were reprogrammed to Little League Blvd.

Memorial Park Exercise Facility: No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract. Project will be completed in 2024.

City Offices Removal of Architectural Barriers: No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract. Project will be completed in 2024.

Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration: The project was let in Program Year 2023 but bids were held while the city pursued additional funding. Project will be completed in 2024.

Lose School Park Improvements: Project was completed in Spring 2023. FFY 2020 and 2022 funds were allocated to this park project which is located in and primarily serves a low-income block group. The work includes basketball court, pavilion, pedestrian walkways, new playground equipment, safety surface, lighting, ADA access, landscaping, and other ancillary improvements. 835 people in this low to moderate income block group will benefit from this project.

Basketball Court Resurfacing: CDBG-CV funds were expended on the Basketball Court Resurfacing project at Youngs Wood Park which is located in and primarily serves a low-income block group.

Willow Street Design: FFY 2021 funds were expended on the Willow Street Design project in Program Year 2023.

Blight Remediation

Codes Related Blight Elimination: Activity continues as the Codes Department, Board of Health and Blighted Property Review Board consider buildings that may need to be demolished due to serious health and safety issues. No funds were expended on Code Related Blight Elimination projects in Program Year 2023.

Public Service

The city did not fund any Public Service activities in Program Year 2023.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

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

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME
White	3	4
Black or African American	2	0
Asian	0	0
American Indian or American Native	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Total	5	4
Hispanic	0	1
Not Hispanic	5	3

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Accessibility Improvements - Summary – 3 completed / 30%, Female head household, disability member in the household, White / 50%, Female head of household, disability member in the household, Black / 50%, Female head household, disability member in the household, White

OOSF Emergency Home Rehabilitation - 2 cases completed --50%, Female head household, White / 30%, Female head household, disability member in the household, Black

HOME OOSF Summary – - 2 cases completed -- 50%, Female head household, White / 50%, Female head household, White

2023 HOME Construction- underway

2023 HOME Buyer GAP Program – 2 cases completed. Female head of household, white/ female head of household white.

None of the CDBG-CV activities that were assisted by the city in 2023 were direct beneficiary activities

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,023,714	324,703.54
HOME	public - federal	307,845	

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Street Reconstruction: FFY 2020 funds were expended on the following streets in Program Year 2023: Little League Blvd, East End Streets and Maynard Street. All street reconstructions are based on benefit to a low-to moderate income block group. Future years CDBG entitlement will continue to be allocated to this activity, to reconstruct street in low to moderate income block groups throughout the city. FFY 2023 funds have been reprogrammed to Little League Blvd.

Removal of Architectural Barrier- Curb Ramps: The FFY 2023 Curb Ramp funds were reprogrammed to Little League Blvd. Future years CDBG entitlement will continue to be allocated to this activity, to reconstruct street in low to moderate income block groups throughout the city.

Memorial Park Exercise Facility: No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract. Project will be completed in 2024. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

City Offices Removal of Architectural Barriers: No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract. Project will be completed in 2024. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration: The project was let in Program Year 2023 but bids were held while the city pursued additional funding. Project will be completed in 2024. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Lose School Park Improvements: \$162,614.85 of FFY 2020 and 2022 funds were expended on this project. They also utilized FFY 2019 funds for this activity. It was completed in Program Year 2023. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Willow Street Design: The FFY 2021 Willow Street Design project was underway in Program Year 2023. Additional CDBG funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Basketball Court Resurfacing: CDBG-CV funds were expended on the Basketball Court Resurfacing project at Youngs Wood Park which is located in and primarily serves a low-income block group. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

OOSF Rehab: FFY 2020 and 2021 funds were expended on two emergency projects. FFY 2016, HOME

funds were used to complete 2 additional rehabs. Additional CDBG and HOME funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Accessibility Rehabilitation: FFY 2020 and 2021 CDBG funds were expended on three projects. Additional CDBG funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Homebuyer Assistance: 2 buyers assisted in Program Year 2023. Additional HOME funds will be allocated to this activity in future years. Program income was expended on these projects.

Habitat for Humanity Housing Construction: Additional HOME funds will be allocated to this activity in future years.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City-wide	100	100	Allocation amounts are pre-determined by HUD.

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Street Reconstruction (FFY 2020)	
Maynard Street	Census Tracts 4, 6, 8 and 10 (LMA)
Little League Blvd	Census Tracts 4, 6, 8 and 10 (LMA)
East End Streets	Census Tracts 4, 6, 8 and 10 (LMA)
Memorial Park Exercise Facility	City-Wide (LMA)
City Offices Removal of Architectural Barriers	City-wide (LMC)
Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration	City-Wide (LMA)
Lose School Park Improvements	Census Tract 3, Block Group 6 (LMA)
Basketball Court Resurfacing	Block Group 420810006001
Willow Street Design	City-Wide (LMA)
Owner-Occupied Single-Family Rehabilitation	City-wide (LMH)
Accessibility Rehabilitation	City-wide (LMH)
Homebuyer Assistance	City-wide (LMH)
Administration	City-wide

The City of Williamsport has an overall low-and moderate-income percentage of 55.4%. LMC activities are presumed to benefit low to moderate income person.

The City does not have any federally designated program target areas for CDBG or HOME. Projects funded through non-CDBG and non-HOME sources, specifically PHARE Rental, Historic, and Owner-Occupied housing repair do have designated target areas in the Oliver/Scott Street Area (BNIP), the Park Avenue High Street Area (PAN), the Historic District or Adopted List of Historic Property outside of the

Historic District.

Leveraging

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

The City uses federal funds to leverage resources for private, state, and local funds. With CDBG and HOME funds as a match, the City receives funding for a variety of projects from sources such as the County of Lycoming (local), PA Department of Community and Economic Development (state), PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (state), Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (state), and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (state). Private funds from developers, participants and/or non-profit organizations contribute funding to City projects addressing both housing and infrastructure improvements.

Street Reconstruction: \$4,807.63 of FFY 2020 funds were expended on the following streets in Program Year 2023: Little League Blvd, East End Streets and Maynard Street. This project is located on public property. FFY 2023 funds have been reprogrammed to Little League Blvd.

Removal of Architectural Barrier- Curb Ramps: The FFY 2023 Curb Ramp funds were reprogrammed to Little League Blvd. No previous years' funds were expended on this activity. Curb Ramps are located on public property.

Memorial Park Exercise Facility: No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract. The National Fitness Campaign has provided a \$30,000 grant for this project. It is located on public property.

City Offices Removal of Architectural Barriers: No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract. The River Valley Transit Authority may contribute if bids come in higher than allocation. This project is located in a public building.

Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration: The Brandon Park Bandshell rehabilitation is underway, funded with \$120,000 of FFY 2019 funds and \$156,300 of FFY 2023 funds as well. The city has been awarded a grant of \$150,000 from the First Community Foundation for renovations to the Brandon Park Bandshell. This project is also receiving \$20,000 from Lycoming County. This project is located on public property.

Lose School Park Improvements: \$88,580 FFY 2022 CDBG funds were expended on this project. They also utilized \$260,523 of FFY 2020 funds for this activity in Program Years 2020 through 2023. This project is located on public property.

Willow Street Design: The FFY 2021 Willow Street Design project was underway in Program Year 2023. \$183,914 has been allocated to this project. This project is located on public property.

Basketball Court Resurfacing: \$95,267.06 of CDBG-CV funds were expended on the Basketball Court Resurfacing project at Youngs Wood Park. This project is located on public property.

OOSF Rehab: No CDBG funds were allocated to this in 2023. \$172,061 of HOME funds were allocated to these rehabs. 3 emergency projects were completed in Program Year 2023 utilizing a total of \$10,587.31 of FFY 2020 and 2021 CDBG funds. A total of \$48,298 FFY 2016 HOME funds were used to complete 2 projects. No public property is being used.

Accessibility Rehabilitation: \$15,231.12 of FFY 2019, 2020 and 2021 CDBG funds were expended on four projects. No public property is being used.

Homebuyer Assistance: \$75,000 of FFY 2023 HOME funds were allocated to this activity. 2 buyers were assisted in Program Year 2023. \$46,300 in program income was expended. No public property is being used.

Habitat for Humanity Housing Construction: \$30,000 of FFY 2023 HOME funds are allocated to this activity. No public property is being used.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	0
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	0
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	0

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
\$848,619	\$13,435	\$75,768	0	\$786,486

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						
Sub-Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						
Sub-Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number						
Dollar Amount						

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired						
Businesses Displaced						
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced						
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced						
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number						
Cost						

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

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

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	14	0
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	14	0

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	6	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	5	2
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	3	2
Total	14	4

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

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

Applications were taken throughout 2023 and with assistance made to 2 buyers with Homebuyer GAP funds. It continues to be a challenge to find income eligible, prepared buyers. Households below 80% level have difficulty accumulating financial resources to meet minimal purchase, credit, asset requirements and post-purchase standards. Although Covid restrictions continued to lessen in 2023, still some negative effects on the process of buying a home linger. The GAP program offers financing based on need, (maximum 20% assistance) as a deferred repayment, 0% loan. The buyer must provide a

minimum 4% investment of personal funds and attend credit/homeownership training from a HUD approved counseling agency.

The City completed three Handicapped Accessibility Rehabilitation project in 2023. This program offers grants up to \$5,000 for accessibility improvements to residential properties occupied by persons with disabling conditions. Owner occupied and rental households may participate.

The OOSF program offers grants and loans for repairs to owner occupied, income eligible households. CDBG funded Emergency Repair Program offers help for serious situations. Two homeowners were assisted with emergency funds in 2023 with one underway. Two rehabilitations were completed by HOME OOSF Program.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The city will continue to provide its affordable housing programs as funding is available. We will encourage LNDC to step back into a CHDO role. Habitat for Humanity is being assisted by the city and will soon receive six building lots for new housing. No other entities have expressed interest in becoming a CHDO.

The city raised its maximum participation in the HOME OOSF rehab program due to increased costs. We plan to review interest rates on our CDBG and HOME rehabilitation programs. We will continue to review the GAP Homebuyer Program and seek actions to increase participation.

In addition to its HUD funded housing programs, the City received a total \$800,000 in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2019 PHARE funds for Rental Rehabilitation in the Brodart Neighborhood (BNIP), Park Avenue Neighborhood (PAN), and for Historic Property listings. Basic rehabilitation of homes containing 32 units received BNIP assistance.4 rental rehabilitations were completed in 2023 by use of these funds. The City will apply for these funds to target other city neighborhoods if available in the future and will seek to eliminate the targeted area criteria making more households eligible.

The City will take increasing costs for home rehabilitation projects under consideration when preparing its one-year goals for future action plans.

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

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	3	2
Low-income	2	0
Moderate-income	0	2
Total	5	4

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

2023 HOME OOSF Summary – 2 cases completed

50%, Female head household, person with disability in household, White

50%, Female head of household, Hispanic

2023 CDBG OOSF Summary - 2-cases completed

30%, Female head household, White

50%, Female head household, disability member in the household, Black

2023 Accessibility Rehabilitation Summary - 3-case completed

White / 30%, Female head household, disability member in the household

White / 30%, Female head of household, disability member in the household

Black / 50%, Female head household, disability member in the household

2023 HOME Buyer GAP Program– 2 homebuyer case were closed out in 2023.

White/ 80%, female head of household, 2 depts

White/ 80% female head of household

Applications are being taken for all programs and additional cases to be considered for 2024.

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

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

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

The larger population of homeless people in the City of Williamsport does not meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless. The city combated chronic homelessness by supporting emergency shelters, transitional housing facilities, and permanent housing facilities. Wrap-around social services provided by these, and other organizations help to break the cycle of chronic homelessness. Upon discussions with several members of the Coordinated Services Task Force, they have expressed the need to do a more in-depth homelessness/transitional housing study and the involvement of mental health services. This is still being discussed and said to happen in the near future.

The most recent Point-in-Time survey for which data is available at the County level, which was conducted in January 2023, found 0 unsheltered persons in Lycoming County.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In 2023, the city continued to support emergency shelter and transitional housing services through local nonprofit organizations and social service agencies by working closely with the Coordinated Task Force. Recently, the city updated its Community and Economic webpage to make services more available to agencies and people looking for assistance:

<https://www.cityofwilliamsport.org/departments/community-economic-development/community-assistance/>.

The Point-In-Time survey conducted for Lycoming County over a period of one night in January 2023 found that there were 75 persons in emergency shelter (decrease from 88 in 2022) and 50 persons in transitional shelter (increase from 38 in 2022).

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

Homeless prevention services are administered by a combination of public and private agencies.

In 2023, the city continued to participate in the Coordinated Task Force and the Lycoming County

Housing Coalition to support the efforts of Lycoming County and social service providers in helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless.

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

In 2023, the city continued to support services to assist homeless persons and families in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living. With the advent of COVID-19, a high demand for emergency shelter and Rapid Re-Housing was identified. Emergency shelters continued to be at capacity and are struggling to comply with CDC guidelines. ESG, United Way, and Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) funds have repurposed some shelter funding to provide shelter through hotels and motels. Additionally, the Clinton County Housing Coalition received \$302,950 in ESG-CV funds and provided emergency shelter, Rapid Re-Housing, and homelessness prevention services to be distributed across Lycoming, Clinton, and Tioga counties. The city is looking at ways to create non-congregate housing shelters with non-profits for homeless people.

The City was awarded \$888,134 of HOME ARP funds to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability. The city plans to assist several local non-profits to further their initiatives in reducing the risks of homelessness.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

Lycoming County Housing Authority (LCHA) is currently still in the process of disposing of one public housing unit over the next five years with the intention of selling these units to LCHA participants under the Section 32 Homeownership program.. This program continued to finance whereby the housing authority holds the mortgage for the homeowner. LCHA continued to assist families with overcoming major barriers to securing a mortgage such as repairing credit, saving for a down payment, and providing homeownership counseling. Many capital projects for several public housing locations occurred this year.

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

LCHA continued to post employment and housing opportunities on its website and in its quarterly newsletter that is distributed to all public housing residents and at each job site. Housing opportunities include information on the Section 32 program and FSS program. LCHA continued to assist prospective homeowners by holding the note on the property and providing financial assistance and council to program participants. LCHA continued to have a Resident Advisory Board that offered insight and feedback on its Annual and Five-Year Plan. The Board reviewed the capital fund plan as well as any programmatic changes, development/disposition plans. A Section 8 participant also held/holds a position on LCHA's Board of Directors. LCHA has an active resident council.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs.

There were no troubled PHA's. Additionally, the City does not manage any public housing authorities.

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

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

The City and the Lycoming Housing Authority updated its Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in 2020. The city is continuing to support several non-profits as they pursue a further in-depth analysis of housing needs and mental health study.

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

The city continued to seek additional funding sources to address underserved needs. The city continued to support activities that create an environment for businesses to remain, expand or relocate to Williamsport. The city continued to pursue economic development opportunities through revitalization efforts. The City of Williamsport utilized Act 13 funds that support public facilities and housing rehabilitation projects that benefit LMI individuals. The city continued to revise and modify programs as they relate to affordable housing.

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

The guidelines for the City's Housing Rehabilitation program complied with the lead-based paint hazards at 24 CFR 35. The city continued to pursue lead hazard reduction procedures and will continue until the total number of lead contaminated homes has been significantly reduced.

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

The resources and opportunities that the city has for minimizing the number of families with incomes below the poverty line are limited. Since poverty is a function of income, its effect on housing opportunity and choice is apparent. Conversely, without adequate, stable housing, alleviating poverty is more difficult. Still, the means of addressing both issues are fragmented.

Several structural barriers to poverty are addressed through different local policies. For example, the City of Williamsport has adopted a Section 3 Action Plan which requires the employment of Section 3 households in construction contracts when possible. Admittedly, contractors often already have the workforce necessary to complete a construction project though. However, the City encourages contractors awarded CDBG funded contracts to hire Section 3 persons, makes all opportunities for contracts known to Section 3 businesses, and requires contractors to report on Section 3 labor hours for each project.

More direct efforts to alleviate poverty by combining case management, social services, job training, and housing assistance are more common through collaboration with the Coordinated Services Task Force. In addition to CDBG and HOME activities included in the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan, the city is also

continuing to promote and participate in local coordination with service providers and regional organizations to encourage public/private partnerships, develop new opportunities, and ensure that the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan are addressed in a holistic manner. This strategy provides the best avenue to addressing poverty in the city.

The goals of the FFY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan concerning economic development include:

Community Development Priority (High Priority):

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, code enforcement, public safety, clearance, and the quality of life in the City of Williamsport.

- **Public Facilities (High Priority):** The City recognizes the need to improve its facilities and infrastructure throughout the city. This includes creating a safe and suitable living environment via street reconstruction and the improvement of parks and recreation facilities. The installation and/or reconstruction of ADA compliant curb ramps also meets the priority for special needs populations.
- **Blight Elimination (High Priority):** Blight elimination will be conducted on a spot and/or area basis; specifically, this will include the demolition of severely code-deficient structures that are a detriment to public health and safety.

Economic Development Priority (Low Priority):

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of the residents of the city. However, this is often undertaken with funds other than CDBG or HOME.

Although the city attempted the Business Assistance Loan Program, unfortunately it was not of great success through the administration of the program. The city altered paths and has put more money toward the rehabilitation side to assist with current trends. The city is exploring alternatives through economic revitalization but are only in discussion phases currently.

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

The City and SEDA-COG will coordinate activities amongst public and private agencies, and other organizations that serve the municipality. Many public and private agencies provide services on either a county or multi-county level. As a result of this administrative structure, the efforts to implement the strategies produced from this Five-Year Consolidated Plan will require greater cooperation across Lycoming County.

The city joined with non-profit CHDO's, for-profit developers and various local groups to increase housing opportunities for targeted income groups. The city communicated with housing service providers, banks, and realtors making them aware of City programs. The city continued to work with community-based organizations that effectively deliver programs and services through monthly

meetings with the Coordinated Services Task Force. This organization brings together representatives from various sectors of the community to improve the quality of life through a volunteer collaborative process.

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

The City of Williamsport continued to interact with the various public and non-profit institutions that provide housing and supportive services to low-income residents. Although the agencies are independent of one another, they work together through the Coordinated Services Task Force to ensure coordination. Communication is very open in the group and typically all members will respond in less than 24 hours.

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

Starting in FFY 2023, SEDA-COG is under contract to assist the city with AFFH and overcoming impediments to fair housing choice. To that end the following actions were taken:

- 1) Knowledge about Fair Housing Laws and Rights, local communications
During calendar 2023, the city produced and distributed a FAIR HOUSING TOOLKIT for distribution to the town codes housing inspection staff, social services agencies, housing agencies, legal advocacy agencies, CIL's, schools and institutions of higher education as well as dissemination to the public. The 'Toolkit' provided background on HUD Fair Housing, as well as direct QR code links to potential barrier points.
- 2) Knowledge about Fair Housing Laws and rights; local CIL
The Fair Housing Toolkit was distributed to regional CIL's, social service agencies, and housing agencies during the 2nd quarter of 2023.
- 3) Bias & Discrimination; Fair Housing Month/Welcome Week.
The Fair Housing *Toolkit* was distributed to regional CIL's, social service agencies, and housing agencies during the 2nd quarter of 2023. QR codes included within *Toolkit* include HUD: LGBTQIA; PHRC Social Justice Resources; PHRC August definitions.

Ongoing actions to overcome the impediments to fair housing choice may include:

- Publicizing and promoting an annual fair housing hearing to provide residents with the opportunity to voice concerns related to fair housing.
- Ensuring municipal staff have access and understand fair housing educational materials to be shared among the public.

- Continue to educate homeowners, residents and housing professionals about laws, rights, and responsibilities.
- When opportunities arise, support public and private efforts to create new units of affordable housing.
- Consider accessible housing needs when allocating CDBG funding.
- Continue to submit an annual right-to-know request to PHRC, addressing any/all complaints received.
- Inform local and regional CIL about related projects.
- Support CIL efforts through information management.
- Participate in annual Fair Housing and Home Ownership month activities.
- A re-evaluation of the AI will occur as although the AI is a great informational document, there are not much of a list of actionable items. This evaluation with action ideas to remove any impediments is underway.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

The Office of Economic & Community Development oversees Williamsport's housing and community development programs and is responsible for all performance measurement activities. The standards and procedures of the Office of Economic & Community Development for monitoring are designed to ensure that:

1) Objectives of the National Affordable Housing Act are met; 2) Program activities are progressing in compliance with the specifications and schedule for each program; and 3) Recipients are in compliance with other applicable laws, implementing regulations, and the requirements to affirmatively further fair housing and minimize displacement of low-income households.

The Office of Economic & Community Development monitors all proposed activities to ensure long-term compliance with program requirements. The objectives of this monitoring are to insure those activities:

1) comply with all regulations governing their administrative, financial, and programmatic operations; 2) achieve performance objectives within schedule and budget; and 3) comply with the Consolidated Plan.

The Office of Economic & Community Development utilizes project checklists to insure and document program compliance. The Director of the Office of Economic & Community Development is also responsible for the timely implementation of activities. Quarterly, the Director reviews the expenditures against the ratio used by HUD (1.5 times the allocation on hand at the end of the program year) to ensure that the goal will be met. The city was not compliant with the timeliness standard in 2023. A Timeliness Workout Plan is in place.

All subrecipients of CDBG and HOME funds are subject to monitoring. The Office of Economic & Community Development maintains a written policy for the monitoring of its subrecipients. Fiscal monitoring includes review and approval of budgets, compliance with executed grant agreements, beneficiary reports, review of fiscal reports, and a review of audits on an annual basis. Outreach is conducted using the SBA HUBZone database, HUD Section 3 business registry, SEDA-COG MBE/WBE/S-3 list and locally known contacts.

When activities require outside contracting, Williamsport encourages participation by minority owned businesses. Williamsport shall maintain records concerning the participation of minority owned businesses to assess the results of its efforts.

Annually, in the preparation of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), the Office of Economic & Community Development will review whether the specific objectives outlined

in this strategic plan are being met. Further, this review will be an opportunity to assess if the strategic plan goals continue to address community priorities and if adequate resources are available to meet the objectives. Community input will be sought in this analysis.

Internal controls have been designed to ensure adequate segregation of duties. The Office of Economic and Community Development prepares agreements for non-housing activities supported by CDBG and establishes accounts. Invoices are monitored for compliance with the approved spending plan and federal regulations.

In Program Year 2023, the city has entered into a formal legal agreement with SEDA-COG to provide full administration of the grant(s). SEDA-COG Community Development Staff will manage project development and application preparation responsibilities including citizen participation requirements, preparation of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans, and satisfaction of federal regulatory requirements related to plan submission, including the Consolidated Action Plan Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Specific grant administration responsibilities will include assistance in record keeping and financial management (including preparation and approval of invoice forms and IDIS draws), contract review and finalization of project scope, project coordination, procurement; regular review of required policies/plans, preparation, approval, and submission of progress reports, and close-out/monitoring. Specific project management responsibilities to be carried out on a project-by-project basis include Labor Standards Enforcement and completion of the required Environmental Review(s).

As the grantee, the city will retain control of grant funds and will retain overall control of the financial management system through invoice drawdown and preparation of bank drafts. After final execution of the contract between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the city, SEDA-COG shall assist the city in preparing the necessary contract documents. SEDA-COG shall set up, maintain, and requisition funds through the IDIS system. The City of Williamsport, however, shall have final authority on the actual issuance of payment.

The chief elected official shall serve as the contact person between the city and SEDA-COG in order to assist in the coordination of grant management activities. The City Council may also utilize other necessary expertise, at their discretion. Specific activities may require certain delivery services over and above the activities listed. HUD funds may be utilized to support archaeological, architectural, and/or engineering services, in addition to legal consultation.

SEDA-COG is an established Council of Governments created by eleven (11) counties with a mandate to provide planning and development assistance services to governments within its region. The agency provides a variety of services and has a successful track record in community development, project development, and contract administration. SEDA-COG's Community Development Program is also an approved Commonwealth vendor under ITQ Solicitation No. 4400007410 and Vendor Contract No.

4400014141 for Technical Assistance – Federal Grant or Loan Programs. SEDA-COG is also a COSTARS Participating Member (No. 3186).

SEDA-COG's Community Development team consists of fourteen experienced professionals and numerous support personnel, including secretarial, word and data processing, and graphics staff. Additional specialized technical expertise is available through other SEDA-COG program staff with credentials in business development, finance, accounting, design, construction management, inspection, and supervision.

SEDA-COG's Community Development team is comprised of the following individuals:

- Tyler Dombroski, Director
- Jamie Shrawder, Senior Program Analyst
- Tonia Troup, Program Analyst
- Melissa Matthews, Program Analyst
- Tanya Collins, Program Analyst
- Dina Patsiavos, Program Analyst
- Amber Martin, Program Analyst
- Geralee Zeigler, Program Analyst
- Angie Kemberling, Program Analyst
- Leslie Hosterman, Program Analyst
- Sarah Biddle, Program Assistant
- Andrea Genovese, Program Assistant
- Susan Shaffer, Program Assistant
- Debra Lyons, Program Assistant

The grant is managed by Jamie Shrawder, with supervision provided by Tyler Dombroski, Director of the Community Development Program at SEDA-COG. Collectively, team members have over 50 years of experience in the housing and community development field, successfully administering and completing over 1,000 federally funded projects.

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

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

The city published notices in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette and on the City's website regarding the availability of the 2023 CAPER for review. A newspaper advertisement was published in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette on May 9, 2024, and a notice was added to the Community Development page of the City's web site (cityofwilliamsport.org) to make citizens aware that the draft 2023 CAPER was available for public review and public comment. The public hearing date of May 16, 2024, was also provided in the notice.

SEDA-COG notified all the organizations that initially participated in the consultation process, during the development of the FFY 2020-FFY 2024 Consolidated Plan and FFY 2023 Action Plan, that comments for the FFY 2023 CAPER were being accepted.

The city conducted its 15-day public comment period for its FFY 2023 CAPER between May 9, 2024, and May 24, 2024. No comments were submitted to the City of Williamsport or SEDA-COG concerning the FFY 2023 CAPER. The city provided a draft copy of the CAPER for public comments at the following locations:

- SEDA-COG website (www.seda-cog.org).
- City Community Development office at Trade and Transit Centre 1.

Please refer to the minutes of the public hearing, which provides comment documentation for the public hearing.

According to the 2010 Decennial Census data, ACS, the city has a Limited Proficiency population of 0.78% and a Hispanic population of 1.34%; however, the CAPER notice, translated into Spanish, is available at the city.

Public meetings are conducted in person at Trade and Transit Centre II. Council Chambers is equipped with listening devices for hearing impaired individuals. Interpretation services and other assistance to disabled persons or those with limited English proficiency can be provided upon request.

The City of Williamsport does make every effort to make all programs and activities accessible to the learning, mobility, visually, hearing, language-impaired persons, and those with limited English proficiency. Therefore, persons with a disability or limited English proficiency that require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation to participate, are invited to contact SEDA-COG to discuss how to best accommodate needs. Translators are also made available at public meetings upon advance request.

Any complaints, grievances, or comments written and submitted to SEDA-COG are addressed within fifteen working days when practicable.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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

The city completed one Substantial Amendment to Program Year 2023's Annual Action Plan to reprogram funds from the Street Reconstruction and Removal of Architectural Barrier – Curb Cuts into the Little League Blvd Reconstruction project. This change was made based on the city's priorities for street reconstruction.

The city does not plan to change any program objectives at this time. The City has closed out several activities and is reviewing any that are not drawing funds down in a timely manner.

No FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2023 due to the delay in receipt of funding allocations and contract.

Impact of COVID-19 on CDBG formula program:

The Public Facilities and Infrastructure and Public Service goals were achieved.

The Accessible Housing, Blight Elimination, and Home Ownership goals fell short of the expected outcomes due to the extreme increase in cost to materials, labor, and the housing available on the market caused by COVID-19.

Changes made to priorities or objectives in responding to coronavirus:

The city funded the following activities under the Community Development Priority: Basketball Court Resurfacing at Young Woods Park and Splash Pad Installation at Newberry Park.

Changes to CDBG Funded Programs due to Response to Coronavirus:

The Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration project funded with FFY 2019 and 2023 funds remained on hold until additional funds could be allocated due to the extreme rise in cost of construction. Construction is now underway and expected to be completed in 2024.

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

No

CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

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

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

The City has policies and procedures in place to affirmatively market housing. Management of City formerly assisted sites maintain Affirmative Marketing Plans that include advertisements stating requirement compliance with Equal Opportunity, Fair Housing and outreach actions. Management maintains web sites with detailed descriptions of living units, including units that are handicapped accessible and those that meet the needs of persons with visual/hearing impairment. All HOME assisted projects are required to display Fair Housing information in public areas. Advertisements include the Fair Housing Equal Opportunity logo. The following documents are displayed in site rental offices: Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan, Tenant Grievance and Appeal Procedure, and Tenant Selection Criteria. Newspaper and other media announcements, and any printed materials, include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo, slogan, or statement.

Management Rental staff and persons involved with tenant selection for HOME units are trained to conduct business in accordance with federal, state, and local fair housing laws and are advised that it is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin. Rental staff track applicant data and attend annual training from qualified professionals regarding fair housing law. All rental managements participate in the PHFA <http://www.pahousingsearch.com> listing service which includes assisted rentals, disaster, veterans, and homebuyer resources. Area support and social service agencies are aware of the availability and location of affordable housing. The city requires CHDO's to perform outreaches for all newly constructed units. The city provides Fair Housing Posters to Cooperative Task Force attendees, local agencies, and housing providers.

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

Homebuyer #1099, FHH, Household size – 3, White, Provided \$27,800 of PI funds.

Homebuyer #1100, FHH, Household size – 1, White, Provided \$18,500 of PI funds.

OOSF Rehab #1093, 50%, FHH, Hispanic \$29,268 of PI funds.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

All agreements for HOME funded rental units and Homebuyer units contain required appropriate affordability periods to ensure that the units remain affordable. City staff inspects and verifies occupancy as applicable, and the rents for HOME assisted units annually. The Fair Housing Amendments Act (FHAA) includes Accessibility Guidelines that dictate how all new multifamily housing of four or more units must be designed and constructed to be accessible. It also gives a renter the right to make accessibility modifications to a home or apartment as long as the unit is returned to its original condition when they leave. CDBG and HOME funds are used to support the City's comprehensive housing programs including rehabilitation of owner-occupied single-family housing, accessibility rehabilitation and construction of new housing by one of the City's two certified CHDO's.

No new multi-unit HOME funded activity was funded in 2023, but City rental projects must benefit lower income occupants, helping them retain housing as they age or if they become disabled. Factors such as the high cost of land for residential development and unprecedented increases in construction costs continue to constrain development.

Additional rental housing improvement funding from State PHARE funds was secured. The city has three targeted PHARE Grant Programs. Each requires that units occupied by lower income tenants benefit from the renovations. Property owners must agree to keep rents at affordable, fair market levels for a period of 10 years. If property owners do not, they will be required to repay funds. The newest PHARE program, targeting "Park Avenue Neighborhood" rental units is now underway, as is the Historic PHARE which addresses both owner occupied and tenant units. These programs support safer housing for a lower income target tenant and property owner population.

CR-58 – Section 3

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

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	0	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours					
Total Section 3 Worker Hours					
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours					

Table 14 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).					
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.					
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					

Other.					
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Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

As a requirement of the GAP homebuyer program, we require buyers to participate in homebuyers' education and financial literacy. In 2023, two buyers participated in this program. They both completed homebuyer education by a certified HUD specialist as a requirement of the program.