



Sarasota County

HERO

Housing Enhancement and Redevelopment Office

Second Substantial Amendment to 2023 Annual Action Plan

BCC Date: November 18, 2025



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01-28-2025 - Amendment to reprogram the \$325,000 OF CDBG funding originally intended for the Ponce de Leon Pathway project to the Biscayne Erosion Control project in North Port.

10-02-2025 – Second Amendment to reprogram \$650,000 in CDBG funding that was allocated to the Venice Gardens project and an Acquisition/Rehab project for Special Needs (\$30,260) will be reprogrammed to an Acquisition of Affordable Housing with Habitat for Humanity project (\$569,800) and \$110,460 towards a public service project. Both of these projects fall within one of the County's identified priority needs as outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

In 2021, Sarasota County, Florida, completed the planning process for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan) spanning Federal program years 2021-2025, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to identify goals and strategies for addressing housing and community development needs, including those of homeless and other populations with special needs, using Federal funding sources during the five-year period. The County's Consolidated Plan includes Sarasota County only as a recipient of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.

There are four major areas of focus in the Consolidated Plan: Housing, Homelessness, Non-Housing Community Development, and Non-Homeless Special Needs. The Consolidated Plan process requires the County to identify priority needs and prepare an Annual Action Plan each subsequent year to address those priority needs. The citizen participation process was critical in identifying priority needs. For each priority need, there are goals and strategies established to measure progress.

Both the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan address the statutory goals established by Federal law, which include decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

This Annual Action Plan describes the specific projects that will be implemented during the Federal Fiscal Year (FY) starting October 1, 2023, and ending September 30, 2024 (i.e., Federal FY 2023), and represents the third year of the five-year planning period.

01-07-2025 - After executing a subrecipient agreement with the City of North Port for the Ponce de Leon Pathway project, it was determined that the project did not meet the minimum standards for eligibility.

The City of North Port has since agreed to terminate that agreement and move forward with another project, Biscayne Drive Erosion Control, in its place. This substantial amendment will reprogram \$325,000 of CDBG funding from the original Ponce de Leon Pathway Project to the Biscayne Drive Erosion Control project.

10-02-2025 - In October 2023, the administration of CDBG programs transitioned from the City of Sarasota to Sarasota County following the expiration of an Interlocal Agreement. At transition, there were a few projects listed in the Annual Action Plan that had been altered following its approval and not updated by the previous entity. The original 2023 AAP listed Sarasota County Public Improvements for both Locklear Park (\$325K) and Venice Gardens Park (\$325K) of B-23 award plus \$408,701.70 in "prior awards", however, at transition it was advised that \$325k had already been reprogrammed from Locklear Park to Venice Gardens Park project. There was no amendment to reflect this nor does the 2023 AAP identify which years and amounts encompassed the amount referenced in "prior awards."

This substantial amendment seeks to acknowledge that the changes to the AAP that should have been reflected prior to transition and should be clearer in identifying what "prior awards" and amounts are included.

Additionally, to ensure timely expenditure of the funding, the Venice Gardens Park project is no longer being pursued. This substantial amendment will reprogram \$650,000 in CDBG funding that was allocated to the Venice Gardens project and an Acquisition/Rehab project for Special Needs (\$30,260) will be reprogrammed to an Acquisition of Affordable Housing with Habitat for Humanity project (\$569,800) and \$110,460 towards a public service project. Both of these projects fall within one of the County's identified priority needs as outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

Sarasota County's 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan is structured around five goals for administering the County's housing and community development programs. Each goal is accompanied by corresponding priority needs and specific outcome indicators toward meeting that goal. These goals are described as follows:

1. Affordable Housing Availability/Access – Increase the availability of and access to affordable housing units.
2. Affordable Housing Maintenance – Maintain the existing affordable housing stock.
3. Homeless Needs – Provide housing, facilities, and services for the homeless.
4. Special Needs – Provide housing, facilities, and services for [individuals and households with] special needs.

5. Community Development – Support the provision of public improvements, services, and facilities.

Additionally, the County will use federal funding to administer the CDBG and ESG programs (i.e., non-goal program administration).

Projects selected for the third year (i.e., Federal FY 2023) Annual Action Plan must continue to support these goals through eligible activities.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City of Sarasota and the unincorporated portion of Sarasota County are both entitlement jurisdictions that receive a direct allocation of CDBG funds each year from HUD. The cities of North Port and Venice have an Interlocal Agreement with Sarasota County and are a part of the Sarasota Urban County program. Because the City of Sarasota receives a direct allocation of CDBG funds, the Sarasota Urban County program funds must be used to primarily benefit residents of the unincorporated portion of Sarasota County and the cities of North Port and Venice. Uniquely, Sarasota County also receives a direct allocation of ESG funds.

Neither the City of Sarasota nor the Sarasota Urban County meet the funding threshold to receive a direct allocation of HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds from HUD. However, HUD allows local governments to join with contiguous local governments to meet the funding threshold by forming what HUD calls a "Consortium". One of the consortium members is designated as the "lead entity" and receives the HOME funding on behalf of all consortium members. The City of Sarasota is the lead entity for the Sarasota Consortium; therefore, HOME funds are not discussed in the Annual Action Plan for Sarasota County.

At the time this Annual Action Plan is being submitted, Sarasota County is completing the second year of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan. The progress in administering the second year Federal FY 2022 Action Plan will be documented in the Federal FY 2022 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). In terms of past performance, Sarasota County recently completed its Federal FY 2021 CAPER, which documented the following progress:

1. Affordable Housing – Sarasota County allocated \$279,732 in CDBG funds to acquire land and existing housing stock for renovation and sale to low-income households, with the goal of increasing the number of low-income housing units available in the County.
2. North Port Social Service Attendants – Sarasota County allocated \$54,000 in CDBG funds to hire social service case workers at the North Port Social Service Office to determine income eligibility and help pair households with appropriate social services.

3. Venice Public Improvements – Sarasota County allocated \$300,000 in CDBG funding for sidewalk construction benefitting low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.
4. CDBG Program Administration – Sarasota County allocated \$356,876 in CDBG funds to administer the CDBG program in conformation with federal law.
5. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – Sarasota County allocated \$151,480 in ESG funding and expended \$147,477, which was sourced from the two-year allocation from FY 2020 (\$147,477), to administer the HMIS system and for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing rental assistance in coordination with Continuum of Care subrecipients.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Sarasota conducted an extensive citizen participation and consultation process during the development of the Consolidated Plan that included consultation with the Continuum of Care, the two public housing authorities serving Sarasota County, housing and social service advocates and providers, the business community, neighborhood organizations and associations, minority and special needs groups, and the general public. The comments received during that process informed the priorities and goals of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, which must be supported by each subsequent Annual Action Plan.

During the development of this year's Action Plan, two public meetings were held on February 21, 2023, and February 22 2023. Public meeting notices were published in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune (a newspaper of general circulation) soliciting public comment on needs for federal grant-funded projects. Initial public comments were accepted by email and in writing from February 1, 2023, through March 24 2023. Multiple public comments were received, which are documented hereafter. Additionally, Sarasota conducted consultation outreach via emails to the Continuum of Care membership; cities of North Port, Venice, and Sarasota; Sarasota County; and housing and public service providers.

The draft Annual Action Plan was considered at a public meeting of the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners on May 24, 2023. The draft Annual Action Plan was placed on the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) website and emails were sent to the Continuum of Care, housing authorities, housing and social service providers, the business community, organizations and associations representing low-income neighborhoods, representatives of minority groups, and the general public with links to the draft plans for viewing and a dedicated email address for the submission of comments. Links to the plan were sent to all adjacent governments. Comments on the draft Annual Action Plan were accepted for a 30-day period starting May 24, 2023, and ending June 25, 2023. Social media announcements were published in June 2023 using Facebook and Twitter to further encourage the submission of comments on the draft plan and proposed use of funds.

Public notices, meeting minutes, and public comments regarding the citizen participation process are provided in the Grantee Unique Appendix (Appendix) of this Annual Action Plan.

01-07-2025 - The First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan conformed to the minimum standards set forth in the Citizen Participation Plan. Public notice for this draft amendment was published in the Sarasota Herald Tribune and a copy of the amended Annual Action Plan was placed on the County's website. In addition, a dedicated email address was provided for submission of public comments. Comments to this draft amendment were accepted for a 30-day period starting December 2, 2024 and ending January 1, 2025. There were no public comments received during the public comment period.

01-28-2025 - This First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan went before the Board of County Commissioners on January 28, 2025 and was approved for submission to HUD.

10-02-2025 - The Second Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan conformed to the minimum standards set forth in the Citizen Participation Plan. Public notice for this draft amendment was published in the Sarasota Herald Tribune and a copy of the amended Annual Action Plan was placed on the County's website (HEROSRQ.net). In addition, a dedicated email address was provided for submission of public comments (CDBG@scgov.net). Comments to this draft amendment are being accepted for a 30-day period starting October 6, 2025 and ending November 5, 2025.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

During the initial public comment period spanning February through March 2023, eight (8) comments were received. These comments identified specific needs for an adult job empowerment and assistance program at the Laurel Civic Agency; social services staffing in North Port; affordable housing construction and rehabilitation to increase the supply of units for low- and moderate-income persons and persons with special needs; HMIS/CSIS implementation and administration for the Continuum of Care; and various public facility and infrastructure projects in the cities of North Port and Venice. The public facility and infrastructure projects requested in the cities of North Port and Venice involve construction of a Shared-Use Path (Ponce de Leon in North Port), Venice Gardens Park improvements, and Locklear Park improvements.

During the public comment period spanning May through June 2023, three (3) additional comments on the draft Annual Action Plan were received. The additional public comments received pertain to affordable housing availability/access and maintenance (e.g., grant-funded rehabilitation).

Public comments are provided in more detail within the Appendix of this report.

01-07-2025 - The 30-day public comment period for the First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan was from December 2, 2024 to January 1, 2025. There were no public comments received during this timeframe.

10-02-2025 - This section will be updated following the public comment period which is open October 6, 2025 to November 5, 2025.

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

All comments received were accepted or generally considered to inform the Sarasota County Federal FY 2023 Action Plan. The County's Annual Action Plan for the 2023-2024 federal program year proposes funding for housing rehabilitation; administration of the HMIS system and rapid re-housing of homeless persons; social and public services; and public park and multi-use path improvements in income-eligible areas. The need for affordable housing construction will be addressed by the City of Sarasota Annual Action Plan.

Public comments are provided in more detail within the Appendix of this report.

01-07-2025 - The 30-day public comment period for the First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan was from December 2, 2024 to January 1, 2025. There were no public comments received.

10-02-2025 - This section will be updated following the public comment period which is open October 6, 2025 to November 5, 2025.

7. Summary

The 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan identifies goals and strategies to address Sarasota County's housing and community development needs. These needs were prioritized through an extensive citizen participation process that involved citizens, community stakeholders, housing and service providers, and staff of participating jurisdictions, which informed the decisions made relative to the Annual Action Plan.

The OHCD was able to provide reasonable opportunity for the public to provide comment on the Federal FY 2023 Annual Action Plan through two public meetings, a dedicated email address, and public comment periods. Comments received during the development of the Action Plan were considered prior to plan approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

During Federal FY 2023, the third program year, Sarasota County will deliver housing and community development programs and projects that support housing rehabilitation; administration of the HMIS system and rapid re-housing of homeless persons; social and public services; and public park and multi-use path improvements in income eligible areas.

10-02-2025 - This section reflective of the Second Substantial Amendment to the Annual Action Plan will be updated following the public comment period which is open October 6, 2025 to November 5, 2025.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	SARASOTA COUNTY	
CDBG Administrator	SARASOTA COUNTY	Office of Financial Management, HERO
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		
ESG Administrator	SARASOTA COUNTY	Office of Financial Management, HERO
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) is a joint City of Sarasota and Sarasota County agency and the OHCD General Manager reports to both the City Manager and the County Administrator or their designees. This Annual Action Plan was developed by staff from the City of Sarasota, Sarasota County, and the cities of North Port and Venice. A request for proposals was published to solicit input regarding potential projects for the Federal FY 2023 Annual Action Plan. Requests for funding were accepted through March 24, 2023. Requests were scored based on the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan priorities and goals of the five-year planning period. Sarasota County staff met on March 30, 2023, to evaluate the projects and draft a budget for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. See **Table 1**.

01-07-2025 - Administration of CDBG and ESG programs was transitioned from OHCD to Sarasota County on October 1, 2023.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Steve Hyatt, Division Manager

Sarasota County Government

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Email: shyatt@scgov.net

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

1. Introduction

During the planning process, OHCD published a newspaper advertisement and email address for submission of comments, conducted two public meetings, hosted a public comment period for a period of 30 days, held a meeting of Sarasota County staff to consider funding requests, and held meetings with the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners to consider funding allocations, projects, and activities. Opportunities to participate were advertised by newspaper, website, social media, and email outreach. Comments and concerns raised during the citizen participation process were taken into consideration when selecting the Annual Action Plan projects.

01-07-2025 - For the First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan, Sarasota County published a newspaper advertisement and email address for submission of public comments, hosted a public comment period for a period of 30 days (December 2, 2024 to January 1, 2025), and published the draft amendment on the County's website.

01-28-2025 - The amendment to this Annual Action Plan went before the Board of County Commissioners on January 28, 2025. During this public meeting, citizens had an additional opportunity to comment on the amendment before the Board. The Amendment to the Annual Action Plan was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on this date for submission to HUD.

10-02-2025 - For the Second Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan, Sarasota County published a newspaper advertisement and email address for submission of public comments, hosted a public comment period for a period of 30 days (October 6, 2025 to November 5, 2025), and published the draft amendment on the County's website.

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

OHCD notified community stakeholders about opportunities to participate and consulted directly with the Continuum of Care (CoC), public housing authorities (PHAs), and other housing and service providers regarding respective needs. Opportunities to participate were advertised by newspaper notice, website, social media, and email outreach.

During development of the recent 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, several non-profit service providers that offer health and mental services were notified of opportunities to participate in the planning process. These included Centerstone, Community Assisted and Supported Living (CASL), Harvest House, First Step, and Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

Direct responses were received from the Sarasota Housing Authority and Venice Housing Authority regarding specific housing needs in the community. Consultation with the PHAs informed the Needs Assessment, Market Analysis, and Strategic Plan sections of the Consolidated Plan. Specific public and assisted housing needs include down-payment assistance to help transition from publicly assisted housing to homeownership, and funding for construction of additional publicly assisted units.

10-02-2025 - Prior to the development of the Second Substantial Amendment for the 2023 Annual Action Plan, HERO staff consulted with HUD Rep Larry Lopez, Orange County CDBG, Manatee County CDBG regarding strategies for the timely expenditure of funds. Additionally, a series of local non-profit housing organizations (Harvest House, Habitat for Humanity, Family Promise) were contacted as to any identified outstanding needs for affordable housing in the area. During the public comment period for the Second Substantial Amendment, local municipalities, non-profit housing organizations, and other service providers were notified and their opportunities to participate were advertised by newspaper notice, website, and email outreach.

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

The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness (Suncoast Partnership) is the lead agency for the Continuum of Care (CoC). The mission of the Suncoast Partnership is to prevent and end homelessness throughout Manatee and Sarasota counties. The Suncoast Partnership provides leadership to the communities on issues relating to homelessness through engagement and collaboration with business and civic leaders, service providers, faith-based organizations, advocates, concerned citizens, and people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

OHCD coordinated directly with the Suncoast Partnership regarding the needs of homeless persons and persons at risk of homelessness. Consultation with the Suncoast Partnership informed the selection of Action Plan projects. Specific homeless needs include rental assistance and rapid rehousing, street outreach, mental and behavioral health services/substance abuse programs, and permanent supportive housing.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

Sarasota County directly receives and administers Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. Consultation with the Suncoast Partnership CoC informed the selection of Action Plan projects. As the lead agency for the CoC, the Suncoast Partnership administers the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and reports the annual Point-in-Time (PIT), Housing Inventory Count (CIC), and other HUD system

performance measures to comply with HUD requirements and document progress related to the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

Table 2 provides a list of the agencies, groups, organizations, and other entities who were consulted during the Annual Action Plan process.

2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Sarasota County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Grantee Department Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Direct Consultation/Coordination; Sarasota County Staff Meeting to Select Projects and Draft Budgets; Identification of Community Development Needs. Sarasota County OHCD staff assisted with the preparation of the Annual Action Plan and met to review the proposed use of federal funds. The General Manager of the Office of Housing and Community Development jointly reports to the City Manager and the County Administrator. Additionally, Sarasota County Parks, Recreation, and Natural Resources also submitted comments regarding the need for park improvements at Locklear Park and Venice Gardens Park in unincorporated Sarasota County.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Sarasota
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Grantee Department Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Direct Consultation/Coordination; Identification of Community Development Needs. City of Sarasota OHCD staff assisted with the preparation of the Annual Action Plan and met to review the proposed use of federal funds. The General Manager of the Office of Housing and Community Development jointly reports to the City Manager and the County Administrator.

3	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF NORTH PORT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Direct Consultation/Coordination; Identification of Community Development Needs. City of North Port staff submitted comments regarding the need for social services staffing in North Port; affordable housing construction and rehabilitation to increase the supply of units for low- and moderate-income persons; and a Shared-Use Path (Ponce de Leon in North Port) to benefit a low- and moderate-income neighborhood. A copy of the draft Action Plan was sent to City of North Port staff for their review and comment.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	CITY OF VENICE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Direct Consultation/Coordination; Identification of Community Development Needs. No comments from City of Venice were received during the initial comment period. A copy of the draft Action Plan was sent to City of Venice staff for their review and comment.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	LAUREL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Services-Employment Emergency Food and Financial Assistance Neighborhood Organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate; Website/Publications Research. The agency submitted comments regarding the need for an Adult Assistance and Empowerment Program for life skills training sessions and other assistive services (including food security assistance).
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Direct Consultation/Coordination; Identification of Homeless Needs. Sarasota County OHCD staff directly consults with the Suncoast Partnership during development of the Annual Action Plan. Suncoast Partnership, as the lead entity for the Continuum of Care, is a direct subrecipient of ESG funding. The Suncoast Partnership submitted comments requesting continued funding for implementation and administration of the HMIS/CSIS. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Assisted Supported Living, Inc. (CASL)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate; Identification of Special Needs. Sarasota County OHCD staff consulted with Community Assisted Supported Living, Inc. (CASL) during development of the Annual Action Plan. CASL submitted comments regarding the needs of special needs populations in Sarasota County, including the need for affordable housing construction and rehabilitation to increase the supply of units available to special needs households. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Solutions 360, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Service-Fair Housing Services-Housing Counseling/Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff consulted with Community Solutions 360, Inc. during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	North Port Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the North Port Chamber of Commerce during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.

10	Agency/Group/Organization	Venice Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Venice Chamber of Commerce during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Englewood Florida Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Englewood Chamber of Commerce during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.

13	Agency/Group/Organization	Sarasota Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate; Identification of Public Housing Needs. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Sarasota Housing Authority during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Venice Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate; Identification of Public Housing Needs. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Venice Housing Authority during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	NAACP Sarasota County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business and Civic Leaders Minority Groups
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the NAACP during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Latin American Chamber
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Latin American Chamber during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Manatee-Sarasota Building Industry Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Email Outreach; Request for Input; Notification of Opportunities to Participate. Sarasota County OHCD staff annually consults with the Manatee-Sarasota Building Industry Association during development of the Annual Action Plan. An email notice and link to the draft Action Plan was sent to the agency for their review and comment.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency submitted comments during the initial comment period, which was held February through March 2023. Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota, Inc. inquired about the availability of federal funding for affordable housing, in conjunction with State SHIP funding, to acquire four (4) existing homes for repurchase, rehabilitation, and rehousing for income-eligible applicants.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity Sarasota
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency submitted comments submitted during the initial comment period, which was held February through March 2023. Habitat for Humanity Sarasota, Inc. inquired about the availability of federal funding for affordable housing, in conjunction with State SHIP funding, to construct seven (7) new homes and acquire one (1) existing home for rehabilitation for applicants earning up to 80% AMI.

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

All applicable agencies were contacted. See also **Table 3**.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	The funding priorities established by the Continuum of Care are included in the Consolidated Plan.

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

In addition to other agencies and organizations, the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan and third year (i.e., Federal FY 2023) Action Plan were developed with the input of citizens, partner agencies, and local organizations. Sarasota County staff completed final scoring, reviews, and project selection for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. Moreover, adjacent local governments were sent a link to the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan during its development and were notified about the opportunity to submit comments on the third year (i.e., Federal FY 2023) Action Plan.

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

During the development of this year's Action Plan, two public meetings were held on February 21, 2023, and February 22 2023. Public meeting notices were published in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune (a newspaper of general circulation) soliciting public comment on needs for federal grant-funded projects. Initial public comments were accepted by email and in writing from February 1, 2023, through March 24 2023. Multiple public comments were received, which are documented hereafter. Additionally, Sarasota conducted consultation outreach via emails to the Continuum of Care membership; cities of North Port, Venice, and Sarasota; Sarasota County; and housing and public service providers.

The draft Annual Action Plan was considered at a public meeting of the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners on May 24, 2023. The draft Annual Action Plan was placed on the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) website and emails were sent to the Continuum of Care, housing authorities, housing and social service providers, business community, organizations and associations representing low-income neighborhoods, representatives of minority groups, and the general public with links to the draft plans for viewing and a dedicated email address for the submission of comments. Links to the plan were sent to all adjacent governments. Comments on the draft Annual Action Plan were accepted for a 30-day period starting May 24, 2023, and ending June 25, 2023. Social media announcements were published in June 2023 using Facebook and Twitter to further encourage the submission of comments on the draft plan and proposed use of funds.

Public notices, meeting minutes, and public comments regarding the citizen participation process are provided in the Grantee Unique Appendix (Appendix) of this Annual Action Plan. See also **Table 4**.

01-07-2025 - Substantial amendment to reprogram \$325,000 from Ponce de Leon Pathway project (cancel) to Biscayne Drive Erosion Control project. This amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan conformed to the minimum standards set forth in the Citizen Participation Plan. Public notice for this draft amendment was published in the Sarasota Herald Tribune and a copy of the amended Annual Action Plan was placed on the County's website. In addition, a dedicated email address was provided for submission of public comments. Comments to this draft amendment were accepted for a 30-day period starting December 2, 2024 and ending January 1, 2025. There were no public comments received during the public comment period. This First Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan is set before the Board of County Commissioners on January 28, 2025.

10-02-2025 - This is the Second Substantial Amendment that seeks to reprogram \$650,000 from Venice Gardens Park project (cancel) and \$30,260 from Acquisition and Rehabilitation for Special Needs project to Affordable Housing Acquisition with Habitat for Humanity (\$569,800) and a Public Service Project (\$110,460).

This Second Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan conformed to the minimum standards set forth in the Citizen Participation Plan. Public notice for this draft amendment was published in the Sarasota Herald Tribune and a copy of the amended Annual Action Plan was placed on the County's website. In addition, a dedicated email address was provided for submission of public comments. Comments to this draft amendment were accepted for a 30-day period starting October 6, 2025 to November 5, 2025.

This Second Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan is set before the Board of County Commissioners on November 18, 2025.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
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1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	A newspaper advertisement was placed in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune on February 17, 2023, to notify residents about the two public meetings held in February and the opportunity to comment by email or in writing on the use of federal funds for the program year starting October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2024. Links to the OHCD websites and a dedicated email address for submission of public comments	Eight (8) comments were received. Needs identified: adult job empowerment and assistance program at the Laurel Civic Agency; social services staffing in North Port; affordable housing construction and rehabilitation to increase the supply of units for low- and moderate-income persons and persons with special needs; HMIS/CSIS implementation	All comments noted; see Attachments (Appendix). Needs identified informed projects selected.	2023-24ActionPlanComments@sarasotafl.gov
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			was published with the newspaper ad. A deadline of March 24, 2023 at 5:00 pm was given for submission of initial comments prior to draft Action Plan publication.	n and administration for the Continuum of Care; and various public facility and infrastructure projects in the cities of North Port and Venice. The public facility and infrastructure projects requested in the cities of North Port and Venice involve construction of a Shared-Use Path (Ponce de Leon in North Port), Venice Gardens Park improvements, and Locklear		
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
				Park improvements.		
2	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Public meeting held on February 21, 2023, at 3:00 pm at City of Sarasota SRQ Media Studio, 1565 First Street (Annex), Sarasota, FL 34236.	Solicited public comment on housing and community development needs.	No comments received.	N/A
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Public meeting held on February 22, 2023, at 1:00 pm at North Port Library, 13800 S. Tamiami Trail, North Port, FL 34287.	Solicited public comment on housing and community development needs.	No comments received.	N/A

4	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Notice of request for funding proposals published on OHCD website with deadline of March 24, 2023 to submit input to dedicated email address.	Eight (8) comments were received. Needs identified: adult job empowerment and assistance program at the Laurel Civic Agency; social services staffing in North Port; affordable housing construction and rehabilitation to increase the supply of units for low- and moderate-income persons and persons with special needs; HMIS/CSIS implementation	All comments noted; see Attachments (Appendix). Needs identified informed projects selected.	https://www.scgov.net/government/planning-and-development-services/office-of-housing-and-community-development; 2023-24ActionPlanComments@sarasotafl.g
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				n and administration for the Continuum of Care; and various public facility and infrastructure projects in the cities of North Port and Venice. The public facility and infrastructure projects requested in the cities of North Port and Venice involve construction of a Shared-Use Path (Ponce de Leon in North Port), Venice Gardens Park improvements, and Locklear		
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
				Park improvements.		
5	County Staff Meeting	County Staff Meeting	March 30, 2023; County staff met to consider public input and requests for funding, projects, and budget allocations.	Discussed: housing rehab.; admin. of the HMIS system and rapid re-housing of homeless persons; social and public services; and public park and multi-use path improvements in income eligible areas	All comments noted; see Attachments (Appendix).	N/A

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	May 24, 2023, Board of County Commissioners agenda item and staff request to approve the draft Annual Action Plan for publication for 30-day comment.	Board of County Commissioners approved budget allocations and to advertise for public comment.	Meeting agenda/minutes; see Attachments (Appendix).	https://sarasotacounty.granicus.com/

7	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	A newspaper advertisement was placed in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune to notify residents that the draft 2023-2024 Annual Action would be available for public comment for a 30-day period starting May 24, 2023, and ending June 25, 2023. The advertisement included information about the opportunity to comment by email or in writing. Links to the OHCD websites and a dedicated email address for	Three (3) comments were received. Needs identified: affordable housing availability/access and maintenance (e.g., grant-funded rehabilitation).	All comments noted; see Attachments (Appendix). Needs identified informed projects selected.	2023-24ActionPlanComments@sarasotafl.gov
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			submission of public comments were published with the newspaper ad. A deadline of June 25, 2023, at 5:00 pm was given for submission of final comments prior to Action Plan approval.			
8	30-Day Comment Period	Non-targeted/broad community	Draft Action Plan made available for public review and comment from May 24, 2023, thru June 25, 2023. Document available on OHCD website and hard copies available upon request.	Three (3) comments were received. Needs identified: affordable housing availability/access and maintenance (e.g., grant-funded rehabilitation).	All comments noted; see Attachments (Appendix). Needs identified informed projects selected.	https://www.scgov.net/government/planning-and-development-services/office-of-housing-and-community-development

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
9	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Social media announcements published in June 2023 using Facebook and Twitter to further encourage the submission of comments on the draft Action Plan and proposed use of funds.	See "Other (30-Day Comment Period)" above.	See "Other (30-Day Comment Period)" above.	https://www.scgov.net/home

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
10	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	July 11, 2023, Board of County Commissioners agenda item and staff request to approve the final Annual Action Plan for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).	Board of County Commissioners approved the final Annual Action Plan for submission to HUD.	Meeting agenda/minutes; see Attachments (Appendix).	https://sarasotacounty.granicus.com/

11	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	A newspaper advertisement was placed in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune to notify residents that the draft amendment to the 2023 Annual Action would be available for public comment for a 30-day period starting December 2, 2024 and ending January 1, 2025. The advertisement included information about the opportunity to comment by email or in writing. Links to the Sarasota County website	There were no public comments received via email or in writing.	There were no public comments received via email or in writing.	CDBG@scgov.net - email address for public comment period
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			and a dedicated email address for submission of public comments were published with the newspaper ad. A deadline of January 1, 2025, at 5:00 pm was given for submission of final comments.			

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
12	30-Day Comment Period	Non-targeted/broad community	Draft Action Plan made available for public review and comment from December 2, 2024 to January 1, 2025. Draft amendment document was available on Sarasota County's website and hard copies available upon request.	There were no public comments received via email or in writing.	There were no public comments received via email or in writing.	https://www.scgov.net/government/financial-management/housing-enhancement-and-redevelopment-office

13	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	A newspaper advertisement was placed in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune to notify residents that the draft amendment to the 2023 Annual Action would be available for public comment for a 30-day period starting October 6, 2025 and ending November 5, 2025. The advertisement included information about the opportunity to comment by email or in writing. Links to the Sarasota County website	This section will be updated following the completion of the Public Comment Period.	This section will be updated following the completion of the Public Comment Period.	
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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
			and a dedicated email address for submission of public comments were published with the newspaper ad. A deadline of November 5, 2025, at 5:00 pm was given for submission of final comments.			

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
14	30 Day Public Comment Period	Non-targeted/broad community	Draft Action Plan made available for public review and comment from December 2, 2024 to January 1, 2025. Draft amendment document was available on Sarasota County's website and hard copies available upon request.	This section will be updated following the completion of the Public Comment Period.	This section will be updated following the completion of the Public Comment Period.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

Sarasota County expects a total allocation of \$1,769,075 in CDBG funding for the 2023-2024 program year. No program income for CDBG is expected. Prior-year (i.e., carryover) resources in the amount of \$408,701.70 are also anticipated. CDBG funds will be used for housing and community development activities including, but not limited to, property acquisition for special needs housing, housing rehabilitation, public services, public improvements, and administration of the County's CDBG program.

Sarasota County also expects a total allocation of \$149,803 in ESG funding for the 2023-2024 program year. No ESG program income or prior-year resources are anticipated. ESG funds will be used for rapid re-housing and related case management, maintaining the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and administration of the County's ESG program.

The expected amount available during the remainder of the Consolidated Plan (2023-2025) is based on the amount of funding remaining after the first-, second-, and third-year allocations and related program income are subtracted from the five-year total. Prior-year resources are already accounted, and therefore are not subtracted. This results in remainder funding amount of \$2,957,096 in CDBG and \$258,721 in ESG over the remaining two-year period.

Other resources, such as private and non-Federal public sources may become available to Sarasota County during the program year. For CDBG leveraging, these include local government General Fund dollars, private or nonprofit organizations, or other sources. The County will look to leverage funds, if available, from other agencies and programs to support housing and community development efforts.

The Annual Action Plan must summarize Sarasota County's priority needs and goals to address during the third year of the Strategic Plan. These goals must be described in quantitative terms. Sarasota County has selected goal outcome indicators and quantities based on the anticipated performance measures of the 2023-2024 (i.e., Federal FY 2023) Annual Action Plan. See **Table 5**.

* Notes: Program incomes are estimated amounts and actual amounts may differ if larger sums are received from loan payoffs. These amounts

will be updated during the 2023 program year close-out.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,769,075.00	0.00	408,701.70	2,177,776.70	2,957,096.00	CDBG funds will be used for housing and community development activities.
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	149,803.00	0.00	0.00	149,803.00	258,721.00	ESG funds will be used for homeless housing and services.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how

matching requirements will be satisfied

CDBG funds do not require a local match; however, where applicable, Sarasota County will leverage CDBG funds with other public and private funding sources. The Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) requires a 1:1 match. The match is met through the County's contribution to the HMIS system. In addition, each agency receiving funding is required to provide a portion of the required match.

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

Sarasota County maintains a list of publicly owned land that is available on the County's website: <https://www.scgov.net/government/planning-and-development-services/property-management>. Parcels considered surplus lands are denoted on the list. Each department within the Sarasota County regularly reviews their respective list of properties, in conjunction with the Property Management Division, to identify opportunities to dispose of surplus lands.

Although Sarasota County does not receive SHIP funds directly, the County partners with the City of Sarasota to identify property suitable for affordable housing. The City of Sarasota maintains a list of publicly owned land suitable for affordable housing that is updated annually by its Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, as required by the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program. The City's affordable housing inventory list is triennially updated and will be updated next in 2024. As of October 2021, there were 30 properties listed. All of the listed properties may be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Discussion

10-02-2025 - To ensure timely expenditure of the funding, the Venice Gardens Park project is no longer being pursued. This substantial amendment will reprogram \$650,000 in CDBG funding that was allocated to the Venice Gardens project and an Acquisition/Rehab project for Special Needs (\$30,260) will be reprogrammed to an Acquisition of Affordable Housing with Habitat for Humanity project (\$569,800) and \$110,460 towards a public service project. Both of these projects fall within one of the County's identified priority needs as outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Affordable Housing Maintenance	2021	2025	Affordable Housing		Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$300,000.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 2 Household Housing Unit
2	Homeless Needs	2021	2025	Homeless		Homeless Housing and Services Homeless Outreach and Case Management	ESG: \$138,568.00	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 6 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 350 Persons Assisted
3	Community Development	2021	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)	Neighborhood Improvements Parks/Recreation or Community Facilities Public Services	CDBG: \$545,460	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 945 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 260 Persons Assisted
4	Non-Goal Administration	2021	2025	Administration			CDBG: \$353,815.00 ESG: \$11,235.00	Other: 0 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Affordable Housing Availability/Access	2021	2025	Affordable Housing Public Housing		Production of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$569,800.00	Homeowner Housing Added: 7 Household Housing Unit

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing Maintenance
	Goal Description	Maintain the existing affordable housing stock. Sarasota County will allocate \$300,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing units. Additional units will be rehabilitated in Sarasota County using HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funds that are received by the City of Sarasota but used throughout Sarasota County. A total of two (2) households/housing units will be assisted with CDBG funds.
2	Goal Name	Homeless Needs
	Goal Description	Provide housing, facilities, and services for the homeless. Sarasota County will allocate \$138,568 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for rapid re-housing of chronically homeless individuals and data collection via the HMIS. A total of six (6) homeless persons will be rapidly re-housed and 350 homeless persons will be assisted by the HMIS database.

3	Goal Name	Community Development
	Goal Description	Support the provision of public improvements, services, and facilities. In 2023-2024, Sarasota County will allocate a total of \$110,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for social service attendants to benefit communities in North Port and Laurel, both in South County (i.e., \$55,000 to each location). A total of 250 persons will be assisted. Sarasota County will allocate \$325,000 and \$325,000 to Locklear Park and Venice Gardens Park respectively to fund public park improvements in unincorporated Sarasota County. Prior-year resources in the amount of \$408,701.70 will also be used to fund Venice Gardens Park. The cumulative new and prior year funding allocated to Venice Gardens Park will be \$733,701.70. Additionally, Sarasota County will allocate \$325,000 to construction of the North Port Ponce de Leon Path, a new segment of a 10-foot shared use path connecting existing sections. Combined, an estimated total of 2,940 persons will benefit from these public facility and infrastructure projects. 01-07-2025 - Substantial Amendment to reprogram \$325,000 CDBG funding from Ponce de Leon Pathway to Biscayne Drive Erosion Control project due to the Pathway project as being determined to be ineligible. 945 persons are estimated to benefit from this project. 10-05-2025 - To ensure timely expenditure of the funding, the Venice Gardens Park project is no longer being pursued. This substantial amendment will reprogram \$650,000 in CDBG funding that was allocated to the Venice Gardens project and an Acquisition/Rehab project for Special Needs (\$30,260) will be reprogrammed to an Acquisition of Affordable Housing with Habitat for Humanity project (\$569,800) and \$110,460 towards a public service project. Both of these projects fall within one of the County's identified priority needs as outlined in the Consolidated Plan.
4	Goal Name	Non-Goal Administration
	Goal Description	Administer federally funded housing and community development programs. Sarasota County will continue to administer the CDBG and ESG programs in conformance with federal law. In 2023-2024, the County will allocate \$353,815 in CDBG funding and \$11,235 in ESG funding toward program administration.

5	Goal Name	Affordable Housing Availability/Access
	Goal Description	10-02-2025 - This substantial amendment will reprogram \$569,800 in CDBG funding that was allocated to the Venice Gardens project (\$539,540) and Acquisition/Rehab project for Special Needs (\$30,260) will be reprogrammed to an Acquisition of Affordable Housing with Habitat for Humanity project that seeks to acquire 7 affordable housing unit townhomes to be sold to low- to moderate- income individuals and families. Thereby, increasing the affordable housing stock in Sarasota County.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

This section of the Annual Action Plan describes the specific projects that will be implemented with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. **Table 7** shows the projects and activities that will be funded during Year 3 (i.e., FY 2023) of the Consolidated Plan. Additional project information is provided in the subsequent table.

Projects funded with HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funds that will be used in Sarasota County are received by the City of Sarasota and included in the City's Action Plan.

01-07-2025 - Substantial Amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan completed, canceling the Ponce de Leon project with City of North Port and reprogramming \$325,000 in CDBG funds to the Biscayne Drive Erosion Control project with City of North Port.

10-02-2025 - This substantial amendment will reprogram \$650,000 in CDBG funding that was allocated to the Venice Gardens project will be reprogrammed to an Acquisition of Affordable Housing with Habitat for Humanity project (\$539,540) and \$110,460 towards a public service project. Both of these projects fall within one of the County's identified priority needs as outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

#	Project Name
1	Affordable Housing Acquisition
2	Housing Rehabilitation
3	North Port Social Service Attendants
4	Laurel Civic Social Service Attendants
5	Public Service
6	North Port Public Improvements - Biscayne Erosion Control
7	CDBG Program Administration
8	ESG23 Sarasota County

Table 7 – Project Information

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

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Acquisition of Affordable Housing Units
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Production of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$569,800.00
	Description	Acquisition of up to 7 affordable housing units with Habitat for Humanity.
	Target Date	9/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	7 low- to moderate- income individuals and families will be served with this acquisition.
	Location Description	The property identified for acquisition is in the Skye Ranch subdivision in Sarasota County.
2	Planned Activities	Acquisition of up to 7 affordable housing units. Each single-family town home will serve a family at or below 80% AMI. Townhome unit is 2 bedroom/2 bath new construction *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Maintenance
	Needs Addressed	Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$300,000.00
	Description	Low interest loans to low- and moderate-income households to repair the homes they own and program delivery/administration including determining income eligibility, site inspections and scope of work write-ups.
	Target Date	9/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 2 Households/Housing Units
	Location Description	Sarasota County (countywide)
	Planned Activities	Continued funding for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. This small amount of funding is included to help families that may not qualify for HOME or State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program funds because of more stringent restrictions on the uses of those funds. Funds may also be used for project delivery by the Office of Housing and Community Development staff including but not limited to applicant intake, income eligibility, and home inspections. Housing rehabilitation loans are provided to eligible homeowners in the form of a 0% loan with no payment due until the property is sold, transferred, refinanced, applicant no longer lives the house, or 30 years, whichever comes first. Rehabilitation includes electrical, plumbing, roof repairs, air conditioning, connection to water/sewer or repairs necessary to comply with property codes of the jurisdiction provided for owner-occupied home if the owners use the site as their primary residence and their income is at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. Matrix code 14A. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
3	Project Name	North Port Social Service Attendants
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,000.00
	Description	Salary/benefits for two case workers assisting low- to moderate-income population who need to access social services by providing a portion of salary for attendants at the North Port Social Service Center (Tract 27.10, all blocks).
	Target Date	9/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 125 Persons Assisted
	Location Description	City of North Port
	Planned Activities	The case workers screen applicants and identify needed social services for lower income families. Funded services include matching applicants with local rental assistance, utility assistance, and other wrap-around services. Matrix code 05Z. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
4	Project Name	Laurel Civic Social Service Attendants
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,000.00
	Description	Salary/benefits for a case worker assisting low- to moderate-income households seeking social services at the Laurel Community Center (Tract 22.03, all blocks).
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 125 Persons Assisted
	Location Description	Laurel/Nokomis
	Planned Activities	The case workers screen applicants and identify needed social services for lower income families. Funded services include matching applicants with local rental assistance, utility assistance, and other wrap-around services. Matrix code 05Z. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
5	Project Name	Public Service
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Community Development

	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$110,460.00
	Description	Funding of a non-profit organization to provide direct services designed to improve the quality of life for residents.
	Target Date	9/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that at least 10 low- to moderate- income individuals and families will be able to be assisted with this funding.
	Location Description	Sarasota County
	Planned Activities	Funding of a non-profit organization to provide direct services designed to improve the quality of life for residents.
6	Project Name	North Port Public Improvements - Biscayne Erosion Control
	Target Area	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Improvements Water/Sewer Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$325,000.00
	Description	An erosion control project to prevent flooding near Biscayne Drive and Trionfo Avenue in North Port.
	Target Date	9/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Biscayne Drive Erosion Control – Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 945 Persons Assisted
	Location Description	City of North Port: Biscayne Drive along the canal between Alam Avenue to the North and Trionfo Avenue to the south. (Census Tract 27.21, Block 2).
	Planned Activities	Biscayne Drive Erosion Control (CDBG: \$325,000), to perform slope stabilization and erosion control along the banks of the canal on Biscayne Drive between Alam Ave and Trionfo Ave

7	Project Name	CDBG Program Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Non-Goal Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$353,815.00
	Description	Funds to administer the CDBG Program in conformance with federal law (no impact to the General Fund).
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A: Not applicable
	Location Description	Sarasota County (countywide)
8	Planned Activities	Program administration and reporting for funded projects. Matrix code 21A. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A). Priority Needs Addressed: N/A. Goal Outcome Indicator: N/A.
	Project Name	ESG23 Sarasota County
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeless Needs Non-Goal Administration
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Housing and Services Homeless Outreach and Case Management
	Funding	ESG: \$149,803.00
	Description	Rapid Re-Housing/Case Management: \$88,568; HMIS Database Support: \$50,0000; Non-Goal Administration: \$11,235
	Target Date	9/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance/Rapid Re-Housing: 6 Households Assisted; Homeless Prevention: 350 Persons Assisted
	Location Description	Sarasota County (countywide)

	Planned Activities Rapid Re-Housing/Case Management, HMIS Database Support, ESG Program Administration *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Sarasota County is an exception grantee with a Low- and Moderate-Income Summary Data (LMISD) threshold of 48.33% (i.e., top quartile). The County will continue to focus the expenditure of CDBG funds in eligible low- and moderate-income areas (LMA) and for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income individuals (LMI) outside of these areas. For the 2023-2024 program year, Sarasota County has programmed approximately 55% of its CDBG allocation toward public improvements in eligible LMA neighborhoods (see **Table 8**). The County has programmed approximately 25% of its CDBG allocation toward other activities that benefit low- and moderate-income individuals (LMI) outside of these areas. Combined, 80% of the County's CDBG allocation will benefit persons of low- and moderate-income, whether determined by area or individual eligibility. The remaining 20% of the County's CDBG allocation has been programmed for administrative costs.

*55% of CDBG Allocation

10-02-2025 - The overall percentage of LMI/LMA benefit remains the same as this substantial amendment reprograms funding from LMA and LMI projects to other LMI projects (80%).

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)	55

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Sarasota County attempts to balance its use of federal and state funds to assist low-income individuals and families living in impacted areas, but to also provide housing and public services outside of racial/ethnic and low-income concentrations. Within impacted areas, funds will be made available to improve neighborhoods (i.e., public improvements). Housing rehabilitation loans and public services will be disbursed based on income eligibility rather than geographic location to provide such opportunities throughout the community based on individual or household need.

Discussion

Currently, Sarasota County does not have specific designated "Target Areas". Sarasota County has identified eight (8) projects to implement the goals of the Strategic Plan during the third year (i.e., Federal FY 2023) of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan. These projects benefit low- and moderate-income persons countywide or within eligible low- and moderate- income areas. Only public improvements (i.e., shared path and park improvements) are location dependent. Projects with countywide benefit include

housing rehabilitation/project delivery, public services, and administration of the grant programs.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)

Introduction

The City of Sarasota, Sarasota County, the Continuum of Care (CoC) and local foundations have been working together to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to address homelessness. The City of Sarasota hired the Florida Housing Coalition to create "Sarasota: Creating an Effective Homeless Crisis Response System" that was adopted by both the City of Sarasota and Sarasota County governments. Since then, the City, County, Suncoast Partnership to End Homeless (lead entity for the Continuum of Care), and foundations have worked jointly to implement the Homeless Crisis Response System and monitor and measure its success based upon the criteria set forth in the Florida Housing Coalition report and in consideration of "best practices" as identified by the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

The Homeless Crisis Response System is countywide in nature and this section describes the goals and action steps that will impact the homeless in Sarasota County.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

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

In January 2018, the CoC began using their new coordinated entry system, Oneby1. This system meets all HUD requirements and builds in the capacity to provide a crisis response for those who are long term homeless with the greatest acuity of need. Throughout the last eighteen months, organizations and agencies providing services for the homeless have received training and support for implementation of this system. During the next year, the Suncoast Partnership will work to expand this model to include homeless prevention, in addition to the housing projects that are currently utilizing the Oneby1 coordinated entry system.

The City of Sarasota and Sarasota County have established two Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT) to reach out to homeless persons to assess their individual needs and to connect them to service agencies in the community. The HOT Teams have met with virtually all homeless individuals in the City and have been successful in matching them with service providers. The Salvation Army also maintains street outreach teams in the community.

One emergency portal for families with children has been created that is available to assist Sarasota County residents. To best facilitate effective assistance, an Assessment and Diversion Specialist for

Sarasota Families, assists in diverting families who can avoid shelter and remain permanently housed and refer families who need emergency shelter. Family Haven North provides emergency family shelter with 24 beds in six dorms. The Family Haven system provides screening, triage, assessment, individualized service planning and ongoing master case management towards the goal of a permanent housing outcome.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Sarasota County, through the Sarasota Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), has instituted a "Housing First" approach to dealing with homelessness. The Housing First approach works to quickly place individuals in permanent housing and reduces the need for emergency shelter beds. OHCD coordinates with the Salvation Army to provide emergency shelter beds for individuals who are homeless on a temporary basis.

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 2018, private donors created a new rapid re-housing program in Sarasota County. With an initial contribution of \$1.5 million, the new program aimed to assist 80 chronically homeless individuals find housing. This project is expected to continue in 2023 with \$88,568 in ESG funding from Sarasota County and is projected to rapidly re-house at least six (6) homeless persons through the Suncoast Partnership as subrecipient and implementation by The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The CoC is also coordinating services provided by programs like Jewish Family & Children's Services (JFCS) Supportive Services for Veteran Families. By compiling an accurate and prioritized list of veterans experiencing homelessness, the overall county effort to address veteran homelessness in the City of Sarasota and Sarasota County has seen improved success in placing veterans into permanent housing. The community is nearing their goal of reducing veteran homelessness and to receive certification from USICH (United States Interagency Council on Homelessness) as meeting community criteria and benchmarks for veterans.

The City of Sarasota and Sarasota County continue to support the provision of permanent supportive housing. In 2017, the Florida Housing Finance Corporation funded a 40-unit permanent supportive housing apartment complex in the City of Sarasota, which began construction in 2018. An 80-unit

permanent supportive housing complex was recently completed in the City of Sarasota near the intersection of Fruitville Road and Tuttle Avenue. It includes 72 one-bedroom units and eight two-bedroom units. All units are for those with special needs, including formerly chronic homeless individuals, those with substance abuse and disabilities, with 50% of all units for homeless and 50% for those with a disabling condition. There are no market rate units unless the tenant has a voucher, and Section 8, VASH, or NED vouchers are accepted.

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

There is a very strong system in place to prevent homelessness. The community funds "Season of Sharing" which provides more than \$2 million annually to prevent homelessness in Sarasota County.

In 2018, a Youth Action Board was established to focus various community efforts to address the problems facing unaccompanied homeless youth. This group acquired limited funding to establish pilot programs to house homeless youth. Several non-profit organizations in Sarasota County provide services for homeless youth, including but not limited to the Harvest House.

All Faith's Food Bank plays a major role in preventing homelessness by providing food to families in need. In 2022, all Faith's Food Bank distributed more than 20.9 million pounds of food annually to over 60,000 individuals in need in Sarasota and DeSoto counties through numerous local agency partners and by their mobile pantries, mobile farm market, backpack program, and school-based pantries.

Discussion

In program year 2023-2024 (i.e., Federal FY 2023), Sarasota County will continue to work with City of Sarasota and Suncoast Partnership, as the lead entity for the Continuum of Care, along with local foundations and other agencies to implement and expand upon the original recommendations in the Florida Housing Coalition report. During program year 2023-2024, Sarasota County's ESG funding will be used to rapidly re-house at least six (6) homeless persons.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)

Introduction

This section describes the actions that it will take during the next year to reduce barriers to affordable housing.

10-02-2025 - The second substantial amendment to the 2023 AAP seeks to reprogram funding from a stalled parks project and available funding from a special needs acquisition project to the acquisition of 7 affordable housing units with the Habitat for Humanity and a public service project that is TBD.

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

In 2022, the City of Sarasota's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) updated the City's Local Housing Incentive Strategies (LHIS) for SHIP that included recommendations on any Barriers to Affordable Housing that need to be addressed. The committee recommended that strategies to remove or ameliorate the barriers to affordable housing be developed in conjunction with the form-based code that is currently under development. That report is included by reference.

Often a barrier to affordable housing for lower income household is simply the lack of resources. Sarasota County plans to commit CDBG funding toward assisting with housing rehabilitation for low- and moderate-income households and rapid-rehousing of homeless persons during the 2023-2024 program year. These programs will provide valuable resources to lower income households to prevent homelessness and improve upon existing housing stock.

Discussion

Federal funding allocations for CDBG increased in program year 2023-2024, whereas allocations for ESG decreased slightly. It is estimated that the County's CDBG and ESG formula allocations will maintain or exceed those amounts in program year 2023-2024. In contrast, the Consortium's SHIP allocations for affordable housing, which are administered by the City, increased during the period from 2021 to 2022. Although there may be additional CDBG and ESG funds for this program year, the cost of housing in Sarasota County continues to rise drastically with housing costs at levels that are unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households. The most significant barrier continues to be the lack of financial

resources available to address affordable housing needs in the County given the challenge of rising housing costs.

10-02-2025 - The second substantial amendment to the 2023 AAP seeks to reprogram funding from a stalled parks project and available funding from a special needs acquisition project to the acquisition of 7 affordable housing units with the Habitat for Humanity and a public service project that is TBD.

AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)

Introduction

This section of the plan describes the actions that Sarasota will take to carry out the following strategies in the Consolidated Plan:

- Foster and maintain affordable housing.
- Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards.
- Reduce the number of poverty-level families.
- Develop institutional structure.
- Enhance coordination.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The greatest obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the lack of funding for affordable housing. The County's CDBG funding increased \$64,628, from \$1,704,447 in 2022 to \$1,769,075 in 2023. The County's ESG funding decreased \$193, from \$149,996 in 2022 to \$149,803 in 2023. Combined with the effects of inflation, the compounded effect of incremental funding reductions makes it difficult to initiate meaningful programs to meet the needs of the underserved. Sarasota County will continue to educate its federal and state legislators about the lack of funding to meet underserved needs. The Federal FY 2023 federal formula allocations, although decreased, will be applied toward housing rehabilitation, public services, public improvements, and rapid re-housing and case management to prevent homelessness in the community.

10-02-2025 - The second substantial amendment to the 2023 AAP seeks to reprogram funding from a stalled parks project and available funding from a special needs acquisition project to the acquisition of 7 affordable housing units with the Habitat for Humanity and a public service project that is TBD.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Sarasota County, through the Sarasota Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), has an active housing rehabilitation program to assist owner occupants maintain their home. All assistance is in the form of a 0% loan with no payments until the home is sold, transferred, no longer occupied by the

borrower or 30 years, whichever occurs first.

The County also takes the following actions to **Affirmatively Further Fair Housing**:

- Every subrecipient agreement requires that they have a Fair Housing Poster on premises.
- The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) uses the Equal Opportunity Housing logo on all communication, including advertisements, brochures, and letterhead.
- A Fair Housing Seminar is conducted once per year. OHCD hosted its most recent virtual Fair Housing Seminar on May 11, 2022 (11 attendees). Invitations were sent to realtors, property managers, landlords, and PHA employees among others.

10-02-2025 - The second substantial amendment to the 2023 AAP seeks to reprogram funding from a stalled parks project and available funding from a special needs acquisition project to the acquisition of 7 affordable housing units with the Habitat for Humanity and a public service project that is TBD.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Lead based paint hazard reduction is integrated into all housing programs in Sarasota County (and the City). The specific actions that will be undertaken during the next program year include the following:

- Each applicant receiving housing rehabilitation loans from OHCD receives an EPA-approved pamphlet with information on identifying and preventing lead-based paint hazards;
- Homes built prior to 1978 receiving housing rehabilitation loans with federal funding are tested to determine if lead-based paint is in the home; and
- If lead is found, the lead-based paint will be remediated as required by federal law.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Sarasota County, through OHCD, will continue to coordinate with Suncoast Technical College to assist low-income residents attain their GED and gain vocational and business training. The Technical College works to qualify individuals to qualify for employment in the construction industry and other sectors. Sarasota County, through OHCD, will also make referrals to CareerSource Suncoast, an organization that provides training to improve job readiness, including personalized job search assistance, referrals to employers, career planning and skills assessment, computer software tutorials and assistance with resume writing.

Sarasota County will continue to sponsor the CEO: Community Entrepreneur Opportunity program, which is a free 10-week course developed by CareerSource Suncoast to help new businesses and potential entrepreneurs evaluate their business ideas, network with other community members, and learn what is needed when starting a business. The course includes developing a business plan, competitive analysis, and the importance of marketing and communications. CEO Program graduates have continued access to counseling and office accommodations through CareerSource Suncoast where

they can use computers, phones, and fax machines. There is no cost to participate in the program.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

During program year 2017-2018, the Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness, as the lead entity for the Continuum of Care, developed a coordinated entry system that is being used by all homeless providers. In 2023-2024, the homeless delivery system will continue to focus on the priority needs of the homeless population in the region. Service providers will be expected to coordinate wrap-around services and serve the individuals and families with greatest need. A “Housing First” approach will be supported by funding for rapid re-housing and related case management through Sarasota County’s ESG program. Additionally, Sarasota County’s CDBG program (separate from the City’s) may fund other supportive services.

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

Sarasota County will continue to be an active participant in the Continuum of Care that coordinates homeless housing providers and social service agencies. The City of Sarasota participates in the Community Alliance, a legislative advocacy committee, that brings together social service agencies and housing providers to enhance coordination.

Discussion

Sarasota County is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with Federal, State, local governments, and other agencies, along with the public and private sectors, to serve the needs of income-eligible individuals and families in the community. In particular, the County will continue closely coordinate with city and county departments regarding housing and community development initiatives.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction

This subsection addresses the program-specific requirements for the Annual Action Plan, including CDBG and ESG.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	80.00%

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

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

The Continuum of Care (CoC) and Homeless Providers have prepared written standards that have been approved by the Sarasota County Commission. Those written standards are attached.

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

In January 2018, the Continuum of Care (CoC) began using their new assessment tool, Oneby1. The tool meets all HUD requirements. During the program year, the CoC will continue implementing and training on that assessment tool.

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

Sarasota County is allocating its ESG funding to the CoC lead entity, Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness. The CoC has created a single application process that will enable service providers to access ESG, Continuum of Care, and state housing funding.

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

Sarasota County awards all ESG funds and is unable to meet the requirement that a homeless or formerly homeless individual is a member of the elected commission. The CoC works with Sarasota County on the allocation of ESG funds and a formerly homeless individual serves on the CoC Leadership Council.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The performance standard is to ensure that homeless individuals are suitably housed six (6) months after receiving assistance.

Discussion

No CDBG program income and \$408,701.70 in CDBG prior-year resources is available for the program year. CDBG funds will be used for activities that benefit persons of low- and moderate-income. ESG standards are summarized above and specific written ESG standards are attached separately.