



Sarasota County

HERO

Housing Enhancement and Redevelopment Office

**Second Substantial
Amendment to 2021 Annual
Action Plan**

BCC Date: November 18, 2025



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Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The Strategic Plan must identify the federal, state, local and private resources expected to be available to Sarasota County to address the priority needs and goals identified in the Consolidated Plan. These resources are summarized in **SP-35**.

Sarasota County anticipates a total allocation of \$1,784,382 in CDBG funding for the 2021-2022 program year. Program income for CDBG is expected to be approximately \$10,000 and \$70,962 in prior-year resources are anticipated. CDBG funds will be used for housing and community development activities including, but not limited to, acquisition of land and existing housing stock, home rehabilitation loans, public services, public improvements, and administration of the County's CDBG program.

Sarasota County also anticipates a total allocation of \$151,480 in ESG funding for the 2021-2022 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 (2022-2025) is based on an estimated annual allocation of \$1,642,000 in CDBG funds with no program income and \$5,000 in prior year resources annually, and \$142,000 in ESG funds with no program income and no prior-year resources annually. This results in an estimated funding amount of \$6,440,618 in CDBG and \$558,520 in ESG over the remaining four-year period, or a total of \$8,305,962 and \$710,000 respectively for all five-years.

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 first 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 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan. See **AP-20**.

Table 18 and **Table 22** show the anticipated resources available in Year 1 (2021) and Years 2-5 (2022-2025) (i.e., remainder) of the five-year planning period.

*HUD FY 2021 Formula Allocation; 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 2021 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	1,784,382.00	10,000.00	70,962.00	1,865,344.00	6,440,618.00	CDBG funds will be used for housing and community development activities.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	151,480.00	0.00	0.00	151,480.00	558,520.00	ESG funds will be used for homeless housing and services.

Table 1 - 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 publically 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 was last updated in 2018, and there were 22 properties listed at that time. All of the listed properties may be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Discussion

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 Availability/Access	2021	2025	Affordable Housing Public Housing		Production of Affordable Housing Housing Assistance and Support Services	CDBG: \$279,732.00	Homeowner Housing Added: 10 Household Housing Unit
2	Affordable Housing Maintenance	2021	2025	Affordable Housing		Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$420,731.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit
3	Homeless Needs	2021	2025	Homeless		Homeless Housing and Services Homeless Outreach and Case Management	ESG: \$140,876.00	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 10 Households Assisted
4	Special Needs	2021	2025	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Senior Facilities and Services	CDBG: \$.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Community Development	2021	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)	Mental and Behavioral Health Services Neighborhood Improvements Public Services	CDBG: \$808,005.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4215 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 240 Persons Assisted
6	Non-Goal Administration	2021	2025	Administration			CDBG: \$356,876.00 ESG: \$10,604.00	Other: 0 Other

Table 2 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing Availability/Access
	Goal Description	Increase the availability of and access to affordable housing units. *Geographic Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
2	Goal Name	Affordable Housing Maintenance
	Goal Description	Maintain the existing affordable housing stock. *Geographic Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).

3	Goal Name	Homeless Needs
	Goal Description	Provide housing, facilities, and services for the homeless. *Geographic Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
4	Goal Name	Special Needs
	Goal Description	Provide housing, facilities, and services for special needs. *Geographic Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
5	Goal Name	Community Development
	Goal Description	Support the provision of public improvements, services, and facilities.
6	Goal Name	Non-Goal Administration
	Goal Description	Administer federally funded housing and community development programs. *Geographic Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A). Priority Needs Addressed: N/A. Goal Outcome Indicator: N/A.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

This section of the Consolidated Plan describes the specific projects that will be implemented with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. No other federal funding sources are anticipated at this time. **Table 24** shows the projects and activities that will be funded during Year 1 (i.e., 2021) of the Consolidated Plan. Additional project information is provided in the subsequent table.

#	Project Name
1	Housing Rehabilitation
2	Mental and Behavioral Health Services
3	Senior Care Services
4	North Port Social Service Attendants
5	Venice Public Improvements
6	North Port Public Improvements
7	CDBG Program Administration
8	ESG21 Sarasota County
9	Affordable Housing

Table 3 – Project Information

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

Allocation priorities were confirmed through the citizen participation process, which citizen participation opportunities, a staff steering coordination team with members of participating jurisdictions, and public hearings with the Board of County Commissioners to consider funding allocations, projects, and activities. Comments and concerns raised during the citizen participation process were taken into consideration when prioritizing projects. The greatest obstacle to addressing underserved needs is reduction in funding from federal and state governments.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Maintenance
	Needs Addressed	Rehabilitation of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$420,731.00
	Description	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.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Households/Housing Units
	Location Description	Sarasota County (countywide)
2	Planned Activities	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. 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. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
	Project Name	Mental and Behavioral Health Services
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Mental and Behavioral Health Services
	Funding	:
	Description	Services to address the mental health needs of low-income residents of the community.
	Target Date	9/30/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: <u>0</u> Persons Assisted
	Location Description	Sarasota County (countywide)
	Planned Activities	Mental and behavioral health services. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
3	Project Name	Senior Care Services
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Special Needs
	Needs Addressed	Senior Facilities and Services
	Funding	:
	Description	Services for low-income elderly persons within the community (e.g., meals-on-wheels, dial-a-ride), or services for persons with Alzheimer's disease or similar conditions.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: <u>0</u> Persons Assisted
	Location Description	Sarasota County (countywide)
	Planned Activities	Senior care services (e.g., meals-on-wheels, dial-a-ride). *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
4	Project Name	North Port Social Service Attendants
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,000.00
	Description	Continued funding to hire social service case workers at the North Port Social Service facility.
	Target Date	9/30/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 240 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. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
5	Project Name	Venice Public Improvements
	Target Area	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$300,000.00
	Description	Sidewalk construction for low- to moderate-income neighborhoods providing for safe pedestrian travel of residents; or street improvements in predominantly low- to moderate-income neighborhoods.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2,005 Persons Assisted
	Location Description	City of Venice
	Planned Activities	Sidewalk and/or street improvements.
6	Project Name	North Port Public Improvements
	Target Area	Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)
	Goals Supported	Community Development
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$453,005.00

	Description	Sidewalk construction for low- to moderate-income neighborhoods providing for safe pedestrian travel of residents; or street improvements in predominantly low- to moderate-income neighborhoods.
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2,210 Persons Assisted
	Location Description	City of North Port
	Planned Activities	Sidewalk and/or street improvements.
7	Project Name	CDBG Program Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Non-Goal Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$356,876.00
	Description	Funds to administer the CDBG Program in conformance with federal law (no impact to the General Fund).
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A: Not applicable
	Location Description	Sarasota County
	Planned Activities	Program administration and reporting for funded projects. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A). Priority Needs Addressed: N/A. Goal Outcome Indicator: N/A.
8	Project Name	ESG21 Sarasota County
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeless Needs Non-Goal Administration
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Housing and Services Homeless Outreach and Case Management

	Funding	ESG: \$151,480.00
	Description	Rapid Re-Housing/Case Management: \$90,876.40; HMIS Database Support: \$50,0000; Non-Goal Administration: \$10,603.60
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance/Rapid Re-Housing: 10 Households
	Location Description	Sarasota County
	Planned Activities	Rapid Re-Housing/Case Management, HMIS Database Support, ESG Program Administration. *Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).
9	Project Name	Affordable Housing
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Availability/Access
	Needs Addressed	Production of Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$280,921.15
	Description	Acquisition of land and existing housing stock for sale to low-income households
	Target Date	9/30/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<u>Homeowner Housing Added: 3 Household/Housing Units</u> <u>*Estimated number of families to benefit is between 3 and 5 households/housing units</u> 10-02-2025 Amendment - 7 low- to moderate- income individuals and families will be served with this acquisition.
	Location Description	<u>Sarasota County</u> 10-02-2025 Amendment - The property identified for acquisition is in the Skye Ranch subdivision in Sarasota County.

	Planned Activities	<u>Acquisition of land and existing housing stock for sale to low-income households</u> <u>*Target Areas Included: Not applicable (N/A).</u> <u>10-02-2025 Amendment -</u> 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
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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 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 2021/2022 program year, Sarasota County has programed approximately 42% of its CDBG allocation toward public improvements in eligible LMA neighborhoods (see **Table 25**).

*42% of CDBG Allocation

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

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA)	42

Table 4 - 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 projects to implement the goals of the Strategic Plan during the first year of the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan. These projects benefit low- and moderate-income persons countywide or within eligible low- and moderate- income areas. Only neighborhood improvements (i.e., public 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 that date, 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. Through 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 2021 with \$90,876.40 in ESG funding from Sarasota County and is projected to rapidly re-house at least 10 homeless persons through the Suncoast Partnership as subrecipient.

The CoC is 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 Planning Group 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.

All Faith's Food Bank plays a major role in preventing homelessness by providing food to families in need. All Faith's Food Bank distributes more than 8.8 million pounds of food annually to over 60,000 individuals in need in Sarasota County through 184 local agency partners and by their mobile pantries, mobile farm market, backpack program, and school-based pantries.

Discussion

In program year 2021-2022, 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 2021-2022, Sarasota County's ESG funding will be used to rapidly re-house at least 10 homeless persons.

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. 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. Fortunately, the County's CDBG formula allocation increased \$8,449, from \$1,775,933 (after a corrected notice) in 2020 to \$1,784,382 in 2021. The County's ESG funding increased \$4,003, from \$147,477 in 2020 to \$151,480 in 2021, which will help support rapid re-housing and case management to prevent homelessness in the community.

10-02-2025 - The Second Substantial Amendment to the 2021 AAP seeks to reprogram remaining CDBG funding from the B-21 award totaling \$1,189.15 towards the acquisition of 7 affordable housing units with the Habitat for Humanity.

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 must have a Fair Housing Poster on premises.
- The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) uses the Equal Opportunity Housing logo on all advertisements and brochures.
- A Fair Housing Seminar is conducted once per year; attendees include but are not limited to

landlords, property management companies, architects, public housing authorities and local building officials. OHCD hosted the last in-person seminar on February 1, 2019 at which Attorney Sarah Stewart with the Florida Commission on Human Relations spoke. Due to COVID-19 there have been no in-person seminars held in 2020; however, virtual seminars will be scheduled through Zoom or similar media.

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 2021-2022, 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) will fund other supportive services, including mental and behavioral health services, senior services, and social service attendants to facilitate such support.

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 also 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	10,000
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:	10,000

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.	100.00%

**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 next year, the CoC will continue implementing the new assessment tool and continue training on its use.

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

\$10,000 in CDBG program income 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.