

CITY OF LAPORTE, INDIANA Thomas P. Dermody, Mayor

SECOND PROGRAM YEAR 2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

August 2020

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Annual Action Plan proposes activities for use of the City of LaPorte's allocation of Community Block Grant funds for Program Year 2020. The Annual Action Plan is submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as the application for funding for one program year. This Annual Action Plan represents the second year of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The purpose of the Annual Action Plan is to identify the city's housing and community development needs, goals, strategies, and priorities for the upcoming program year; and, to propose how funds will be allocated to housing and community development throughout the next year.

Using the data formulated in the 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the City of LaPorte has identified four projects to accomplish over the next twelve months.

These four projects are:

- Help low and moderate-income families within the City of LaPorte through an owner-occupied rehabilitation program focusing on improving living situations and creating more sustainable living resources.
- 2. Minimize the elements of blight in low and moderate-income neighborhoods within the City via demolition of substandard buildings.
- 3. Support social service programs that enrich the lives of low and moderate-income children and adults within the city with a priority on eliminating homelessness and preventing homelessness.

The Consolidated Plan is a five-year collaborative process, established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), whereby participating jurisdictions provide a vision for community development and housing improvements. LaPorte participates in the CDBG program.

Each year the City of LaPorte is required to submit an Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In LaPorte, the Annual Action Plan begins October 1 and ends September 30 of each year. The Annual Action Plan reports on planned expenditures of entitlement funds and progress made each year toward the goals listed in the Consolidated Plan.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The Consolidated Plan allows the public to measure the impact of funded activities. The following goals and objectives address areas that will improve living conditions for LaPorte's low-and moderate-income residents:

- Reduce Elements of Blight in Existing Neighborhoods
- Support Programs that Enrich the Lives of Youth and Adults
- Support Programs that Address Special Needs Populations
- Support Existing Housing Rehabilitation of Low-/Moderate Income Residents
- Promote Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Practices in Housing Development and Rehabilitation

Once these priorities and goals are addressed, the following outcomes are anticipated:

- Improved housing conditions for owner-occupied housing
- Reduction in code enforcement violations
- Increased services to homeless and persons living in poverty

3. Evaluation of past performance

During the previous Annual Action Plan, the City utilized \$600,977 in CDBG funds for a variety of housing and community development activities including housing, housing counseling, homelessness, public infrastructure improvements, and public services.

The City was successful in meeting the timeliness test for Program Year 2019 in July 2020. Program accomplishments are being met in accordance with established timelines. Grant expenditures with the Public Services activities and the Home Owner Repair Program can be improved. The sub grantees with the Public Services activities are not providing the services as quickly as contracted, therefore, grants are not being expended according the original time frame. Difficulty in securing qualified contractors to provide acceptable repairs on the homes of the Home Owner Repair participants continues to delay the expending of CDBG funds. The coronavirus pandemic has delayed rehab work on two new houses enrolled in the Home Owner Repair Program. Also, public service delivery has been interrupted to due the stay-at-home actions by the Governor of Indiana.

The City continues to improve the grant management and reporting efforts. Improvements in the areas including activity documentation, citizen participation, needs analysis, and activity implementation are examples of such improvements.

Specific policies have been developed to further support the activities of the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program. The number of households participating in the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program since its inception in 2005 increased to 119.

The CDBG Public Service programs assist eligible low and moderate-income persons with the provision of parenting classes, administration of a home rehab assistance program, a weekend food program for children, a youth mentoring program, homeless prevention case management, and housing counseling.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

In conformance with the Consolidated Plan regulations, two public hearings were held: July 23, 2020 and August 6, 2020.

The following steps were taken for the public hearings to broaden public participation: • The public notice was published in the LaPorte Herald Argus at one week prior to the first public meeting. • The City's website includes a copy of the public notice as well as a downloadable copy of the Draft 2020 Action Plan. • Announcements about the public meetings were made at the July HOME Team meetings. • A media release announcing the public meetings was distributed to WCOE-FM/WLOI-AM radio and to What's New LaPorte.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, a written copy was not available at the local public library. The Center for Disease Control recommends that leaflets, documents, flyers be restricted for human-handling to minimize the transmission of the Coronovirus.

The Office of Community Development and Planning will add comments received at the end of the comment period on August 14, 2020.

5. Summary of public comments

The Office of Community Development and Planning will summarize comments received at the end of the comment period on August 14, 2020.

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

Pending.

7. Summary

Combining the City's entitlement amount of \$468,863 with \$24,000 of unspent funds, the City of LaPorte is proposing to use CDBG funds in this manner:

City of La Porte, Indiana CDBG Annual Action Plan Program Year 2020 Program Administration: \$ 93,770.00

Housing Programs: \$199,239.00

Demolition: \$152,000.00

Public Services: \$ 47,854.00

The City's allocation is estimated to be \$468,863.00. Activities included in Demolition are using \$24,000 in re-programmed funding from the previous years of CDBG grant cycles.

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

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

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role		ame Department/Agency	/
CDBG Administrator	LA PORTE	Office of Planning and Community Development	

Table 1 - Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

None.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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CDBG Program Manager, 801 Michigan Avenue, LaPorte, IN 46350 219/362-8260

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

1. Introduction

The City of LaPorte's Office of Community Development and Planning (CDP) adheres to its Citizen Participation Plan which was approved during the development of the 2019-2023 Consolidated Planning process.

During development of the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan, the City of LaPorte undertook an extensive outreach effort consulting with social service agencies, affordable housing providers and governmental agencies. A Need Survey was completed by agencies and the community-at-large. Results from the needs surveys were used to develop the goals, needs and priorities for the Program Year 2020 Annual Action Plan.

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

The coordination activities include:

- Encouraging and accepting grant applications from housing providers, health care systems, and general service providers through the Annual Action Plan process.
- Participating in local and regional committees such as the Rental Assistance Team, COVID-19
 Community Partners, HOME Team and the Area 2 Agency on Aging Advisory Council to ensure coordination in housing and supportive services.
- Providing technical assistance and support to social service agencies seeking funding from other resources than the City's CDBG funds for services that complement the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan goals.
- Encouraging social service agencies to work together to leverage resources and prevent duplication of services.
- Coordinating planning efforts and project implementation among housing providers and social service agencies.

In conformance with the Annual Action Plan regulations, two public hearings were held, July 23, 2020 and August 6, 2020. Comments will be added to this document at the end of the 30-day comment period. The Program Year 2020 Annual Action Plan was made available for a 30-day comment period beginning July 15, 2020 and ending August 14, 2020.

The following steps were taken for the public hearings to broaden public participation: • The public notice was published in the LaPorte Herald Argus at least one week prior to the public hearings. • The City's website includes a copy of the public notice as well as a downloadable copy of the Draft 2020

Action Plan. • Announcements about the public meetings were made at the July HOME Team meetings. • A media release announcing the public meetings was distributed to WCOE-FM/WLOI-AM radio and to What's New LaPorte.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, a written copy was not available at the local public library. The Center for Disease Control recommends that leaflets, documents, flyers be restricted for human-handling to minimize the transmission of the Coronavirus.

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.

Coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons include the following activities:

Staff from the Office of Community Development and Planning actively attend and participate in HOME Team meetings and projects. The HOME Team serves as a local Continuum of Care (CoC) entity for LaPorte County. Its mission addresses the needs of homeless persons and persons at risk of homelessness. The HOME Team meets monthly. Other members of the HOME Team are social service agencies, governmental agencies, elected officials, health care providers, educational corporations, colleges and universities, businesses, and community members at large.

- The HOME Team coordinates efforts with the Indiana Balance of State Regional Planning Council
 to ensure the Point-in-time Count is completed and results publicized. LaPorte County is a
 member of Region 1 of the Balance of State Continuum of Care. Housing Opportunities,
 Valparaiso, Indiana, is the lead agency for the regional Continuum of Care. Staff from Housing
 Opportunities regularly attends HOME Team meetings.
- Staff from the Office of Community Development and Planning also attend and participate in the PATH Program Steering Committee. This committee is a subcommittee of the HOME Team. It was formed when Swanson Center was awarded a grant from the Indiana Office of Family and Social Services Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services in 2014. The goal of the grant is to provide case management services to homeless county residents who have a mental illness and/or have a substance abuse. The City of LaPorte provides a grant to Swanson Center who uses it as match for the state grant. The PATH Program is a partnership between Swanson Center and the HOME Team. Objectives of the PATH Program are: increased outreach efforts among all HOME Team agencies committed to servicing LaPorte County's homeless residents; increased coordination of services through the PATH Program; increased intensive case management services through a structured and deliberate approach in identifying those homeless with serious mental illnesses and those dealing with both mental illness and substance abuse; and, finally, enhanced training and implementation of protocols on behalf of case

- management and HOME Team intake staff to increase the effectiveness of outreach efforts, and an increased access to primary and behavioral health services.
- The PATH Program Steering Committee also takes on an advisory role to the PATH Program Coordinator with HOME Team meetings and projects benefitting the homeless in LaPorte County.
- The Office of Community Development and Planning also maintains contact with the Center Township Trustee Office, Catholic Charities, and the Salvation Army of LaPorte. These agencies provide direct financial assistance to residents of LaPorte who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness as well as financial literacy education.

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

The City of LaPorte does not receive ESG funding. Two agencies in Michigan City receive ESG funding through the Indiana Balance of State competitive funding process. These agencies are Stepping Stone Shelter for Women, and Sand Castle. Stepping Stone is a domestic violence shelter and accepts residents of LaPorte. Sand Castle is an emergency homeless shelter for families. They provide residential and case management services primarily to residents of Michigan City, Indiana.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 - Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

	ie 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations wno participated	,
1	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Charities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted in a face-to-face interview. Anticipated outcomes include expansion of services for the homeless.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Swanson Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted through a face-to- face interview. The anticipated outcomes of the consultation are continuation of the homeless case management program and expansion of mental health services for the homeless.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted through a telephone conversation. The anticipated outcomes are to expand the availability of home ownership and affordable housing in the City of LaPorte.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Youth Service Bureau-Big Brothers/Big Sisters
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	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?	This agency was consulted through a telephone interview. The anticipated outcome is expanded services for low and moderate-income youth within the City of LaPorte.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	City of LaPorte-Parks & Recreation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	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?	This group was contacted through a telephone call. The projected outcome is development of a plan to enhance youth services for the development of a better quality of life.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	City of LaPorte-Code Enforcement
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	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?	This group was contacted in a face-to-face interview. The projected outcome is better use of funds for neighborhood preservation; outreach for Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation; and coordinated efforts for public facilities.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	City of LaPorte-City Attorney
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local

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?	This group was consulted in a face-to-face interview. The projected outcome is the expansion of housing for homeless individuals.

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

Attempts to consult private and public agencies were made. Criteria mostly consisted of those agencies that provide services to low and moderate-income individuals, all age groups from youth through elderly, and for service recipients residing in the City of LaPorte. If an agency is not listed, it is because they chose not to respond to a survey, participate in a meeting or return a phone call.

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?
		The City of LaPorte consulted this plan to research needs of
Continuum of	Unity Foundation of	the homeless and special populations. This plan
Care	LaPorte County, Inc.	compliments the goals, strategies and needs in the Five-
		Year Consolidated Plan

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City of LaPorte continues to support the goals and objectives outlined in the LaPorte County Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

Seventeen goals of the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness are:

Prevention

- 1. Increase access to and funding for financial assistance.
- 2. Prepare clients to meet with township trustees to apply for township assistance.

- 3. Enhance importance of personal financial literacy.
- 4. Prevent those being discharged from health care settings from becoming homeless; and
- 5. Prevent those being discharged from jails/prisons from becoming homeless.

Housing

- 1. Shelter people during unforeseen emergencies and rapidly re-house them.
- 2. Immediately house people who are being discharged from facilities and stabilize them in the community.
- 3. Have an adequate supply of permanent supportive housing for disabled populations.
- 4. Increase the amount of adequate, affordable, and safe housing available; and
- 5. Organize and increase funding streams to better support plan housing goals.

Income/Services

- 1. Make services more accessible.
- 2. Increase employment opportunities.
- 3. Increase access to income supports.
- 4. Increase quality of client date through HMIS.
- 5. Increase access to transportation.
- 6. Continue to monitor and update services based on population needs; and
- 7. Increase access to health services.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City of LaPorte held two public meetings to obtain citizen's views about the proposed use of CDBG funds during Program Year 2020. The dates were July 23, 2020, and August 6, 2020. A legal ad was published on June 15, 2020 in the LaPorte Herald-Argus notifying citizens of the opportunity to attend the public meeting on two dates. The notice was also posted on the City's website on July 13, 2020. The meetings were held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 801 Michigan Avenue, LaPorte, Indiana, at 1:15 PM. Due to the pandemic, citizens could participate via Facebook Live or YouTube.

News releases were sent on July 15, 2020 electronically to the Herald-Argus, WLOI/WCOE radio stations, and What's New LaPorte website.

The draft PY 2020 Annual Action Plan was made available for public comment on July 15, 2020 by posting it on the City's website. A hard copy was also made available for public comment in the Office of Community Development and Planning. The draft plan remained available for review and public comment until August 14, 2020.

The Office of Community Development and Planning will insert comments received at the end of the comment period on August 14, 2020.

Copies of the public meeting notice, public meeting sign-in sheet, agenda, and minutes are included in the attachments. Comments received are also include in the attachments.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Or der	Mode of Ou treach	Target of Ou treach	Summary of response/atte ndance	Summary of comments re ceived	Summary of co mments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applica ble)
1	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non- targeted/bro ad community	Pending.	Pending.	Pending.	
2	Newspaper Ad	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non- targeted/bro ad community	None.	None.	None.	

Sort Or der	Mode of Ou treach	Target of Ou treach	Summary of response/atte ndance	Summary of comments re ceived	Summary of co mments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applica ble)
3	Internet Outreach	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non- targeted/bro ad community	None.	None.	None.	

Table 4 - Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The Action Plan is the annual plan that the City prepares using the goals outlined in the 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The Action Plan details the activities the City will undertake to address the housing and community development needs and local objectives using CDBG funds received during Program Year 2020.

PY 2020 is the second year in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. LaPorte estimates receiving an allocation of \$468,863 for housing, homeless services, public services, and community development costs.

The City will also re-allocate prior year funds in the amount of \$24,000.00. Of the annual entitlement allocation, the City will use a portion of the funds for administration of the CDBG grant.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expec	ted Amoun	t Available Ye	ar 1	Expected	Narrative
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Description
CDBG	public	Acquisition						Estimated
	-	Admin and						amount
	federal	Planning						available
		Economic						to the City
		Development						of LaPorte
		Housing						based
		Public						upon the
		Improvements						PY 2020
		Public						allocation.
		Services	468,863	0	24,000	492,863	0	

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

The CDBG program does not require a match from other sources. The City of LaPorte often makes attempts to bundle federal funds with local, private, and other sources. In PY 2020, the City will partner with four outside organizations to provide public services to residents of LaPorte. The total investment in these organizations is \$47,854 or approximately 10% of its annual entitlement allocation. These organizations will be supporting the funded program/activities with at least equal amounts of local funds.

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Activities in the PY 2020 Annual Action Plan will not use publicly owned land or property to address needs identified in the plan.

Discussion

None.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort	Goal Name	Start	End	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
н	Conserve and Improve	2019	2020	Affordable	Citywide	Affordable	CDBG:	Homeowner Housing
	Existing Affordable Housing			Housing		Housing	\$154,488	Rehabilitated: 3 Household
								Housing Unit
7	Expand availability of services	2019	2020	Homeless	Citywide	Homelessness	CDBG:	Public service activities
	for the homeless.						\$18,354	other than Low/Moderate
								Income Housing Benefit: 22
- WAR-11-7								Persons Assisted
m	Foster neighborhood	2019	2020	Neighborhood	Citywide	Non-housing	CDBG:	Demolition of Five Blighted
	preservation/sustainability.					Community	\$152,000	Structures with the goal of
				Revitalization		Development		fostering new residential
								development for low-mod
								households.
4	Support services for people	2019	2020	Non-Homeless		Non-homeless	CDBG:	Public service activities
	w/special needs			Special Needs		Special Needs	\$19,500	other than Low/Moderate
				Non-Housing				Income Housing Benefit: 68
,,				Community				Persons Assisted
				Development				

Table 6 – Goals Summary

City of La Porte, Indiana CDBG PY 2020 Annual Action Plan

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Projects

AP-35 Projects - 91.220(d)

Introduction

In the 2019-2023 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the City of LaPorte identified seven priority areas. These seven areas are: Housing, Affordable Housing, Revitalization, Economic Development, Public Services, Homeless, and Administration and Planning. Objectives of these priority areas are to expand homeownership opportunities and education; maintain availability of decent and affordable housing units; foster neighborhood stability and enrichment; expand economic opportunities particularly for those residents with low and moderate income; support opportunities to improve quality of life and self-sufficiency; ensure availability of housing choice for all residents; reduce the risk of homelessness; improve the availability of a local homeless shelter program or facility;, and continue the administration and coordination of the CDBG program. Due to funding constraints, the City is proposing projects for four of the goals.

The following projects will assist the City in accomplishing the goals over the next program year:

- Program Administration
- Housing Programs
- Demolition
- Funding of Public Services

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Demolition
2	Owner Occupied Rehab
3	Rehab Administration
4	Homeless Prevention-Catholic Charities
5	Healthy Families
6	Swanson Center-PATH
8	Big Brothers/Big Sisters
9	Program Administration

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The 2019-2023 Consolidation Plan was used to identify allocation priorities. Obstacles to addressing
City of La Porte, Indiana
CDBG PY 2020 Annual Action Plan

underserved needs include a reduction in CDBG funding, no general tax dollars allocated to CDBG projects, and a reduction in grants to agencies/organizations providing public services in LaPorte.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Demolition
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Foster neighborhood preservation/sustainability.
	Needs Addressed	Non-housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$152,000
	Description	Demolish blighted structures within the city to foster redevelopment of affordable housing. The matrix code is 04, LMA
Target Date 9/30/2021		9/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The estimated number of families to benefit from this program is 475. This activity will benefit a low-mod area in neighborhoods throughout the City of La Porte.
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Planned activities demolishing blighted, abandoned structures condemned by the Office of Code Enforcement with an order of demolition.
2	Project Name	Owner Occupied Rehab
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Conserve and Improve Existing Affordable Housing Foster neighborhood preservation/sustainability.
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$154,488
	Description	Provide rehabilitation activities for three low and moderate-income households residing with the City of LaPorte. This activity is city-wide. The national objective is LMH with a matrix code of 14A. The goals of this project are to rehabilitate three houses enhancing sustainability and eliminating building code violations. The matrix code is 14A (LMH).
	Target Date	9/30/2021

City of La Porte, Indiana CDBG PY 2020 Annual Action Plan

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	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City estimates that three families will benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	This project takes place city-wide with a focus on income-qualified census tracts.
	Planned Activities	The planned activities include marketing and outreach of the rehab program; making applications available in August for the upcoming program year rehab program; screen the applications for suitability; complete initial site visits to determine appropriateness of the house; participants successfully completing a post-purchase home owner counseling course; completion of lead-based paint risk assessments; development of work scopes, soliciting quotes, awarding contracts and monitoring rehab activities. A lead clearance test is performed if lead hazards were originally found. Once the work is complete, the home owner will execute a promissory note and deferred mortgage agreement that is recorded. The mortgage is released after a seven-year recapture period.
3	Project Name	Rehab Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Conserve and Improve Existing Affordable Housing Foster neighborhood preservation/sustainability.
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$44,751
	Description	This project is connected to the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program. Specifically, this program includes the administration of the owner- occupied rehab program with monitoring, management, accounting, and final inspection of the work completed; and provision of deferred loans for qualified homeowners in LaPorte to make repairs to their homes. The national objective is a benefit to low and moderate-income residents. The matrix code is 14H LMH. The City of LaPorte proposes to provide rehab services to six households. The matrix code is 14H (LMH).
	Target Date	9/30/2021

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	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The project is linked to Owner-Occupied Rehab. The City projects to serve three families.			
	Location Description	The City of LaPorte proposes to provide this project city-wide with a focus on income-qualified areas.			
program; making applications available in Aug program year rehab program; screen the applications approached initial site visits to determine approached participants successfully completing a post-procounseling course; completion of lead-based development of work scopes, soliciting quote monitoring rehab activities. A lead clearance hazards were originally found. Once the work homeowner will execute a promissory note a agreement that is recorded. The mortgage is		The planned activities include marketing and outreach of the rehab program; making applications available in August for the upcoming program year rehab program; screen the applications for suitability; complete initial site visits to determine appropriateness of the house; participants successfully completing a post-purchase home owner counseling course; completion of lead-based paint risk assessments; development of work scopes, soliciting quotes, awarding contracts and monitoring rehab activities. A lead clearance test is performed if lead hazards were originally found. Once the work is complete, the homeowner will execute a promissory note and deferred mortgage agreement that is recorded. The mortgage is released after a seven-year recapture period.			
4	Project Name	Homeless Prevention-Catholic Charities			
	Target Area	Citywide			
	Goals Supported	Expand availability of services for the homeless.			
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness			
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000			
	Description	The grant for this service is to Catholic Charities in the amount of \$10,000. The national objective is benefit to low and moderate-income persons. Financial assistance for mortgage and rental payments will be made to eligible residents in LaPorte. Catholic Charities proposes to service 16 households. The matrix code is 05Q (LMC).			
	Target Date	9/30/2021			
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City of LaPorte estimates that 16 families will benefit from this service.			
	Location Description	This activity will be provided city-wide.			

	Planned Activities	Planned activities include rental/mortgage payment assistance, and financial literacy educational classes To assist in preventing homelessness. Financial literacy classes are provided by Catholic Charities at the office of the Center Township Trustee.
5	Project Name	Healthy Families
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Support services for people w/special needs
	Needs Addressed	Non-housing Community Development
Funding CDBG: \$15,000		CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	A public service grant to Dunebrook in the amount of \$15,000 proposing to serve 50 individuals. This program, Healthy Families, will complete assessments of income-eligible children and parent enrolled in the program and residing in LaPorte; complete developmental screenings of the enrolled children; and provide intense parenting support fostering healthy emotional, physical, and mental development for the children. The national objective is a benefit to low and moderate-income persons; the matrix code is 5 (LMC).
Target Date 9/3		9/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Dunebrook proposes to provide services to 50 individuals during a twelve-month period.
	Location Description	City-wide

	Planned Activities	Dunebrook will assess new low and moderate-income parents to identify their strengths and needs; refer families to appropriate community resources; provide case management to the families; enhance family positive functioning by building trust, establishing support, and teaching positive problem-solving skills. Dunebrook identifies families at risk of neglecting or abusing new parents and intervene through home visits, education programs, and therapeutic activities that benefit the parents as well as the children. Supportive services are providing until the child reaches three years of age. Home visits are made as often as once a week with a lessening frequency as the child ages and goals are met. A Family Depot incentive program is used as well rewarding parents for positive steps in child development areas.	
6	Project Name	Swanson Center-PATH	
	Target Area	Citywide	
Goals Supported Expand availability of services for the homeless. Support services for people w/special needs			
	Needs Addressed	Homelessness	
	Funding	CDBG: \$18,354	
	Description	PATH is a public service that provides case management services for homeless persons in LaPorte County. The CDBG funding provided by the City of LaPorte includes only homeless persons in the City of LaPorte, Indiana. Swanson Center provides the case management services. Once housing and supportive services are secured, the participant transfers to therapeutic case management services provided by Swanson Center, the local mental health center. Participants in the PATH case management program must be homeless and diagnosed with a mental illness or have a substance abuse problem. The national objective is to benefit low and moderate-income persons; the matrix code is 5 (LMC). Swanson Center proposes to provide services to 6 households in LaPorte. The CDBG funding is used as a match by Swanson Center for a grant from the State of Indiana Division of Mental Health Services.	
	Target Date	9/30/2021	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated that 6 households will benefit from the proposed activities.	

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	Location Description	This activity will be provided city-wide.	
	Planned Activities	The subrecipient proposes to provide case management services to 6 homeless or at risk of homelessness households and who have a mental illness or addiction to drugs and/or alcohol. Case managers visit areas frequented by homeless individuals such as grocery stores, restaurants, homeless shelters, food pantries, township trustee offices, and other poor relief agencies to talk to homeless individuals about enrolling in the program. Once a trusting relationship is established, housing is located as well as a source of stable income. Recipients of services are then transferred to Swanson Center's therapeutic case management programs for treatment, counseling, and case management.	
7	Project Name	Big Brothers/Big Sisters	
	Target Area	Citywide	
	Goals Supported	Support services for people w/special needs	
	Needs Addressed	Non-homeless Special Needs	
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,500	
	Description	The Youth Service Bureau will provide mentoring services to 18 low and moderate-income children residing within the City of LaPorte. The national objective is to benefit low and moderate-income individuals; the matrix code is 05D (LMC).	
	Target Date	9/30/2021	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Youth Service Bureau proposes to serve 18 individuals who attend elementary and middle school within the City of LaPorte.	
	Location Description	Locations include Lincoln Elementary School, Riley Elementary School, Handley Elementary School, and Hailmann Elementary School, and Kesling Middle School, all within the LaPorte Community School Corporation. The students will be residents of the city.	
	Planned Activities	The Youth Service Bureau will recruit mentors and students; pair up both parties; and monitor weekly visits between mentors and students. Two of the areas that are monitored are improved grades and attendance of each student assigned a mentor. Staff of the Youth Service Bureau also provide information about community resources to parents and students including therapeutic counseling.	

City of La Porte, Indiana CDBG PY 2020 Annual Action Plan

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9	Project Name	Program Administration	
	Target Area	Citywide	
	Goals Supported	Conserve and Improve Existing Affordable Housing	
		Expand availability of services for the homeless.	
		Foster neighborhood preservation/sustainability.	
		Support services for people w/special needs	
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing	
		Homelessness	
		Non-housing Community Development	
		Non-homeless Special Needs	
	Funding	CDBG: \$93,770	
	Description	Overall coordination, monitoring and management of the Community Development Block Grant; preparation of the Program Year 2019 CAPER and Program Year 2021 Annual Action Plan; and assistance in completing an annual Point-in-Time count for LaPorte County. The national objective to be met is the benefit to low and moderate-income persons. The matrix code is 21A.	
	Target Date	9/30/2021	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable.	
	Location Description	City-wide	
	Planned Activities	Administration of the CDBG grant.	

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The CDBG funds awarded to the City of LaPorte are available for use on a city-wide basis. No priority is assigned to any geographic section of the city. However, several low-mod census tract block groups have been identified. These areas are Census Tract 421, Blocks 1, 3 and 4; Census Tract 423, all Blocks; Census Tract 424, Block 4; and Census Tract 425, Blocks 1 and 3. Demolition will be directed to these identified low-mod areas.

Participants in the Owner-Occupied Rehab Program will be low-mod clientele.

The City will continue to prioritize the use of its CDBG funding for development of affordable housing, including preservation and conservation, that serve low-income households and to addressing the needs of the homeless.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100%

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The area to be services is city-wide.

Discussion

The City of LaPorte receives \$486,863 and the City does not have a large population. The population from the 2010 Census is 22,053 residents. Because of the size of the City, investments using CDBG funds are made City-wide.

The City of La Porte, Indiana strives geographic diversity in funding while keeping in mind the most leverage the City can gain with the limited amount of CDBG funds received.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of LaPorte's need for affordable housing was determined during the planning process for the 2014-2018 Consolidated Plan. The City will fund several projects all of which directly or indirectly impact provision of affordable housing. In PY 2020, the City proposes to fund the following affordable housing activity:

•	Owner-Occupied Rehab Program	\$154,488
•	Housing Fair	\$ 6,500

The City plans to sponsor a Housing Fair in 2021 depending on the pandemic. The Housing Fair provides seminars on home ownership throughout the day. Also, lending institutions and realtors are available to meet with potential homebuyers to talk about opportunities to purchase homes in the city.

The City of LaPorte will not contract with a certified housing counseling organization in Program Year 2020 due to a lack of certified services in LaPorte County. The agency previously holding a contract with the city is no longer providing first-time homebuyer counseling and post-purchase counseling in the county due to a shortage of funds. This agency has chosen to concentrate only on foreclosure prevention.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	6
Non-Homeless	69
Special-Needs	475
Total	550

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Househol	ds Supported Through
Rental Assistance	16
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	3
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	19

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The services provided by Catholic Charities will assist 16 households with rental assistance.

The Owner-Occupied Rehab Program will provide help to three households by correcting housing code violations and creating a sustainable living situation for these households.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.220(h)

Introduction

There is no public housing authority or agency within the city of La Porte.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

Not applicable.

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

The City of LaPorte is a member of the HOME Team and the LaPorte County Continuum of Care (CoC). The HOME Team is an informal group of social service agencies, religious congregations, and governmental entities that meet once a month to develop and coordinate county-wide affordable housing development and homeless prevention activities. The HOME Team acts as the Continuum of Care for the county. A Continuum of Care Plan reflects the demographics, needs and available shelter, housing, and supportive services in the two entitlement jurisdictions of LaPorte and Michigan City, Indiana. The Continuum of Care Plan outlines goals and strategies that support homeless prevention strategies covering the entire county and not just the two entitlement communities.

Additionally, the City of La Porte participates in a residential housing assistance committee that meets once a month to discuss efforts and activities to keep families housed because of the effects of the Coronavirus in the community.

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

The City of LaPorte will fund three activities that support the homeless or reduce the risk of homelessness in the City:

- Participation in the LaPorte County HOME Team and PATH Subcommittee of the HOME Team.
- Swanson Center (PATH-case management for homeless persons who are mentally ill, disabled, or are substance abusers in LaPorte)
- Catholic Charities (financial assistance for those individuals at risk of homelessness).

The HOME Team indirectly affects the homeless population in LaPorte. In 2009, The HOME Team collaborated on development of a Plan to End Homelessness. The City of LaPorte uses the plan along with the Con Plan to address homelessness issues.

Since development of the Plan to End Homelessness in 2009, case management services for persons with a mental illness/substance abuse have been funded and implement by Swanson Center. The PATH grant increases coordination of services through identifying a contracted PATH program coordinator, increases outreach efforts to the homeless population, increases intensive case management through a structured approach in identifying homeless individuals with a serious mental illness and/or substance abuse, and enhances training for Swanson Center staff and the HOME Team participants on outreach

City of La Porte, Indiana CDBG PY 2020 Annual Action Plan efforts for homeless individuals in LaPorte County. PATH's goals are to increase access to behavioral health services as well as access to primary health care for the homeless.

Catholic Charities provides financial assistance to low and moderate-income LaPorte residents by providing a safety net to prevent eviction or foreclosure resulting from a loss of income. Catholic Charities is proposing to service 16 households in LaPorte. The average amount of assistance is \$500 with a maximum limit of \$600. The financial assistance is paid directly to the property owner or mortgage lending institution.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In 2020, the Center Township Trustees collaborated with Liberty Church to develop an emergency homeless shelter in La Porte. This facility provided shelter for men and women. The shelter was operated by volunteers seven nights per week from January through April 2020. Local service groups, churches, and the hospital donated materials and supplies to accommodate the guests of the shelter. Plans to continue the emergency shelter beginning in October hinge on spread of Coronavirus and the positivity rate.

The City of La Porte has begun a dialogue with Homeward Bound on the development of affordable housing options for the homeless in the La Porte. The City currently owns property in a residential neighborhood in the near southeast side of town. Currently, the former Tibma Bakery sits on the site. This building is blighted and is scheduled to be demolished in August 2020. Homeward Bound has expressed an interest in purchasing the site to construct four "pods" consisting of four one-bedroom units (some with a loft) to rent to low-income residents who were formerly homeless.

The Center Township Trustee, First Steps, Salvation Army of LaPorte and Catholic Charities provide vouchers for the temporary housing of homeless individuals in motels. Also, referrals are made to Sand Castle Homeless Shelter and the Interfaith PADS Shelter both located in Michigan City.

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

Currently, the Center Township Trustee and Salvation Army of La Porte provide homeless individuals financial assistance and vouchers for temporary housing in motels in La Porte. During the winter of 2020, a temporary emergency shelter operated as a collaborative effort between the Center Township Trustee and Liberty Church. It is unknown if this shelter will open in October 2020 due to the

City of La Porte, Indiana CDBG PY 2020 Annual Action Plan Coronavirus. When the emergency shelter is closed, homeless individuals in LaPorte find shelter with a friend/family member or travel to Michigan City to use the Interfaith PADS Shelter or Sand Castle Shelter for Families.

Permanent supportive housing is provided to disabled individuals who are clients of Paladin (formerly Parents and Friends, Inc. -PAF) in one of their apartments in Butterfly Gardens in LaPorte, Indiana or in one of their group homes. Housing Opportunities, out of Valparaiso, Indiana, also owns and operates four apartments in La Porte in their permanent supportive housing program. The Center Township Trustee and Swanson Center have placed clients in these apartments. Case managers work with these residents on maintaining housing stability and accessing community services.

The assistance Swanson Center provides to homeless individuals through their case management services shortens the time that a person experiences homelessness. Case management services assist the homeless individual with a disability diagnosis, a source of income through disability payments, and eventually a place to live. Once a source of income is secured and a place to live is found, the individual transitions to a regular case management and treatment program provided through Swanson Center.

Catholic Charities provides financial assistance to individuals at risk of homelessness using FEMA dollars and private funding. Rental/mortgage assistance is provided for one month. In additional to the financial assistance, participants must complete a self-sufficiency program taught by Catholic Charities staff. Catholic Charities provides self-sufficiency classes at the Center Township Trustee's Office on a weekly basis.

Catholic Charities, Swanson Center and The Pax Center are all active members of the HOME Team. The City of LaPorte will continue to advocate on behalf of these agencies in providing services to homeless individuals and families. The City of LaPorte budgeted \$28,354 for activities provided by Catholic Charities and Swanson Center.

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.

Once again, Catholic Charities is assisting low-income individuals and families in avoiding homelessness. The City is funding homeless prevention services provided by Catholic Charities in the amount of \$10,000.

Also, the City of LaPorte is providing \$154,488 in funding for the single-family rehab program. Using PY

2020 CDBG funds, the City will assist three households with repairs to their homes to eliminate code violations and enhance sustainability living in the house.

Due to the coronavirus, Rebuilding Together cancelled their workday in May. Plans will resume in 2021 depending on the pandemic.

The City of LaPorte does not have an independent discharge policy. However, there are many not-for-profit agencies throughout LaPorte County that have discharge plans for the LaPorte area. Swanson Center, the comprehensive mental health center for LaPorte County, has 13 beds allocated in state hospitals for LaPorte County residents. Case managers from Swanson Center collaborate with the discharge planner of the state hospital to ensure that services and housing are in place at the time of discharge. The City of LaPorte maintains an extensive referral list of various services to assist those locating in the area following the discharge from a publicly funded institution or system of care.

Staff will provide supportive services/information to any group attempting to open an emergency shelter. Furthermore, the City will continue to support efforts of the HOME Team during PY 2020.

The City of LaPorte does not receive HOPWA funding. There is no activity proposed for HOPWA funds during PY 2020.

Discussion

None.

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

Introduction:

The City's vision for its growth is based on a strong interest in maintaining a more diverse community with a fair distribution of affordable housing throughout its different neighborhoods. The City also views home ownership as a catalyst to further expand its economic base and create a viable and thriving community. Conditions that have the potential to becoming a barrier to affordable housing are the high cost of housing including a mortgage payment and taxes, and the lack of affordable credit. Within the City of LaPorte, 69% of the housing was constructed prior to 1950 resulting in high costs of maintenance and a presence of lead-based paint hazards; 80% of the residential structures were built before 1980.

Additionally, the Coronavirus has affected residents' ability to afford rental and mortgage payments. Residents have come to depend on financial assistance from governmental, not-for-profit, and familial resources to stay housed. The loss of a job and a reduction in work hours has resulted in an increase in families moving out of apartments and houses and joining families and friends in their apartment/houses.

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

The 2020 Annual Action Plan contains initiatives that seek to enhance home ownership, preserve the character of the City's neighborhoods, and provide quality affordable owner-occupied housing. The City will continue to assist current home owners who cannot afford the high cost of maintaining their homes.

Using CDBG funding for PY 2020, the City will support several barriers that are reported previously in the AAP. Specifically, they are: Improve housing quality within the City; and

Improve neighborhood conditions.

These activities will be funded using the Community Development Block Grant:

Owner-Occupied Rehab Program \$154,488
 Demolition of Blighted Properties \$152,000

Discussion:

The funded activities include \$24,000 in reprogrammed funds allocated to demolition.

The Owner-Occupied Rehab Program will assist existing low and moderate-income home owners to

maintain their homes and maintain the neighborhood character.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This section of the Annual Action Plan describes LaPorte's planned activities to implement the following strategies as outlined in the Consolidated Plan 2019-2023:

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

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The primary obstacle to addressing obstacles to meeting underserved needs is a shortage of funding. Agencies serving the underserved continue to experience reductions in funding from both governmental and private sources. Since 2004 when LaPorte received entitlement community status, the City of LaPorte's CDBG funding levels have declined by 21%. Mirroring this trend is the increasing difficulty in leveraging funds through state and private resources that have also been decreasing in recent times.

Despite these challenges, the City of LaPorte beginning October 1, 2020, will continue to support the HOME Team, non-profit agencies, homeless providers, and special needs groups to meet the needs of the underserved community. The City will also continue to seek additional private and public partners to create a larger pool of resources. In Program Year 2020, this pool consists of four not-for-profit agencies. These agencies will provide services to residents ranging from children to older adults and are listed in the project tables.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

In the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan, it was shown that affordable housing is a priority for the City of LaPorte. The City proposes to use a portion of its entitlement grant for the preservation and development of affordable housing that services low and moderate-income families and for services that address homelessness. Through its owner-occupied rehab program, the City proposes to provide

financial assistance to three households.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of LaPorte will address the problem of lead-based paint hazards by:

- Providing written materials to homeowners participating in the owner-occupied rehab program.
- Completing a lead-based paint risk assessment on all house enrolled in the owner-occupied rehab program.
- Incorporating lead-based paint remediation in all the work scopes for the houses enrolled in the owner-occupied rehab program.
- Assist other housing development organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Homeward Bound in the development and construction of new affordable housing free from lead-based paint hazards.
- During the annual housing fair, a seminar/workshop provides education to residents about the lead paint hazards to occupants of the house.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of LaPorte will focus on enhancing conditions that reduce the number of poverty-level individuals and families that can be realized. The City will target CDBG and other local resources to activities that support family services and affordable housing. The goals of these efforts are to:

- Foster self-sufficiency; and
- Assist with employment opportunities.

The City will fund four agencies that work with impoverished families/individuals or create opportunities for economic well-being. The owner-occupied rehab program also will assist in reducing the risk of poverty through making home ownership more sustainable. Replacement of windows, installation of energy-efficient furnaces and installation of attic insulation will reduce monthly energy bills. These reductions especially during the winter months will save monthly budget funds for the participating families. Additionally, many participants will realize a reduction in hazard insurance because of the new furnaces and repairs to electrical systems, and for roofing replacements.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Office of Community Development and Planning currently has three employees. One person is employed full-time in the CDBG program. Two other full-time employees allocate most of their time among community development tasks/projects.

Procedures are in place to meet a variety of requirements and conditions to operate the CDBG program.

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The Office of Community Development and Planning follows a Standard Operating Procedures Manual for the CDBG program. Additionally, the CDBG Program Manager uses a time sheet to track time allocated to specific CDBG activities.

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

The City relies on private not-for-profit organizations as well as for-profit entities to acquire, develop, build, and rehabilitate resident units. The City will continue to work with local builders and developers, financial institutions, and other entities to ensure the new affordable units are produced on a regular basis.

Through the efforts of the HOME Team, the City is an active participant in the coordination and development of homeless activities on a county-wide basis.

There is no public housing authority in the City of LaPorte. All coordination takes place among private housing and social service agencies.

Discussion:

The City administration and its staff persons continue to work together to address the many needs of the community. Through collaboration, the leveraging of resources, and improved tracking of needs, the City will be in a better position to meet the needs of the community.

During the past program year, the City of LaPorte, Indiana did not receive any unanticipated program income from the owner-occupied rehab program.

During PY 2019, the City received program income from vendors who planned to participate in the third annual Housing Fair. The funds were receipted as program income in IDIS and used to purchase signs to promote the Housing Fair. A total of \$550 of program income was received. Due to the Coronovirus pandemic, the Housing Fair was cancelled with refunds made of the program income.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The Community Development Block Grant funding will be used during PY 2020 for public services, demolition, administration and planning, and owner-occupied rehabilitation.

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	20%

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.

85.00%

The City of LaPorte refunded any program income generated during Program Year 2019. A total of \$550 was generated in program income from vendor fees during the third annual housing fair. The Coronovirus pandemic caused the 2020 Housing Fair to be cancelled. It was not rescheduled.

The City has no Section 108 loan guarantees, surplus funds from urban renewal settlements, or float-funded activities. Also, no CDBG funds were returned to the line of credit during Program Year 2019. Therefore, the annual action plan for Program Year 2020 is unaffected.

Also, at this writing, the effects of the Coronavirus continue to create urgent needs. The unemployment rate is at 11.6 percent of the work eligible population. Prior to the pandemic, the unemployment rate was 4%.

The City proposes to use 85% of its CDBG funds during Program Year 2020 for an overall benefit of low and moderate-income individuals/households.

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Pending.

Citizen Participation Comments		

Pending.

Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)

Pending.