

City of Appleton 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan (AAP)

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The primary goal of the City of Appleton's CDBG program is to "create a thriving urban community through the provision of assistance to low- and moderate-income households in the forms of basic shelter, affordable housing opportunities, expanded economic opportunities, suitable living environments, and supportive services for residential, financial, and social stability." This Annual Action Plan summarizes the goals and strategies that the City of Appleton will follow to achieve the intended outcomes for the 2024 program year (April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025).

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The table located in Annual Goals and Objectives (AP-20) of this 2024 Annual Action Plan identifies the objectives and outcomes anticipated by the City of Appleton and its subrecipients for the 2024 program year.

A summary of the goals and expected outcomes table from the Strategic Plan section of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan is below for reference.

Table 1 - 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

During the CDBG allocation process, the City of Appleton gives preference to projects that 1) are seeking one-time use of CDBG funding; 2) benefit City of Appleton residents in low- to moderate-income census

tracts; 3) add housing units to the City’s tax base; 4) demonstrate complementary sources of funding; and 5) serve special needs populations. Housing availability and affordability have been major areas of concern for Appleton residents in recent years. This issue has lead City of Appleton to place a higher emphasis on acquisition and rehabilitation projects for low-to-moderate income homeowners, such as our zero interest Housing Rehab Loan Program, and homebuyer support and homeowner rehabilitation programs offered by various subrecipients, including the Appleton Housing Authority, Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Fox Cities, and Rebuilding Together Fox Valley. These programs have been very successful for retaining safe, affordable housing options in Appleton. Serving special needs populations is also a focus of the City, with emphasis on assistance for programs serving people experiencing homelessness.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Appleton’s Citizen Participation Plan requires that a public hearing [to identify housing and community development needs] be held annually in conjunction with a regularly scheduled Community & Economic Development Committee meeting. The first public hearing for this program year was held on October 25, 2023. No comments were received. Notification of this public hearing was published in the City’s local newspaper and posted on the City of Appleton’s website. A second public hearing was held on November 1, 2023. No comments were received.

The City implements a mandatory, pre-application CDBG training for all interested community partners, which helps to gauge interest by community organizations. To be considered eligible for 2024 funding, organizations were required to complete and submit an online questionnaire that demonstrated understanding and knowledge of the content covered during the training. A total of 11 organizations participated in this training.

The City made the action plan available for public comment for 30 days starting on June, __ 2024 and remaining available until July __, 2024.

5. Summary of public comments

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

While generating the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, the City advertised an internet-based survey (available in English, Hmong, and Spanish), hosted two public hearings to gather input from citizens about future uses of CDBG funds, and welcomed comments during two separate 30-day public comment periods. In addition, City staff conducted one-on-one interviews with representatives of various agencies in the community to identify highest priority needs of the Appleton population. Results of these efforts include:

- 358 responses to the internet-based surveys;
- 22 one-on-one interviews;
- 21 attendees engaged during the public hearings

During the scheduled public hearing, the community was presented with opportunities to express value and importance in funding affordable housing, public facility improvements, and public service projects for the 2024 program year. No comments were received.

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

The City of Appleton accepts all comments provided during the public engagement process. No comments were provided.

7. Summary

The City of Appleton's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan was prepared as a guide for the expenditure of CDBG funds based on input from citizens and community agencies regarding the needs of the community and use of funds; an assessment of needs in the community related to housing and community development; and an analysis of the area's market.

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan provides a framework and a path for furthering affordable housing and community development efforts including increasing homeownership opportunities, preserving existing housing, revitalizing neighborhoods, expanding affordable rental options, furthering efforts to reach a functional zero for homelessness, supporting job training, expanding small business technical assistance, improving infrastructure in low to moderate income neighborhoods and renovating or expanding community and neighborhood facilities. The awarded subgrantees of the 2024 CDBG funds intend to administer activities that include affordable housing opportunities, public service programming for the area's at-risk populations and youth population, and public facility improvements for a homeless shelter facility.

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	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	APPLETON	Community Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Appleton’s Community Development Specialist is responsible for preparing and administering the Consolidated Plan, as well as administering the CDBG program in its entirety.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan development was achieved utilizing online surveys, conducting various interviews, and holding multiple public hearings. The City of Appleton consulted with several agencies, as well as sources from the private market, to obtain a thorough understanding of the community's needs.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the least important and 5 being the most important, respondents ranked the importance of funding eligible activities as follows:

Housing

- 33 % ranked senior housing rehabilitation as most important (5)
- 36 % ranked homeowner accessibility improvements as most important (4)
- 75 % stated that the need for senior housing rehabilitation will need to increase over the next 5 years

Public Services

- 60 % indicated that funding homeless prevention programs was most important (5)
- 57 % indicated that funding domestic abuse programs was most important (5)
- 72 % stated that the need for homeless prevention services will need to increase over the next 5 years

Neighborhoods

- 47 % ranked neighborhood improvements as most important (5)
- 38 % ranked improvement of public spaces as most important (5)
- 68 % stated that the need for neighborhood improvements will need to increase over the next 5 years

Of the three general activity categories- Housing, Public Services and Community Development- most respondents ranked Housing as the highest priority need, followed by Public Services and Community Development. These rankings were affirmed by representatives during the 22 organization interviews.

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 City of Appleton enhances coordination between public and private service providers and agencies through a variety of activities. City staff are invested in several roles with numerous agencies in the community that address housing, health, mental health, and other services, including but not limited to at-large members, board members, consultants, and sponsors.

Housing

- Fox Cities Housing Coalition (member, at large)
- Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care (member, at large)
- Appleton Housing Authority
- Greater Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity
- Rebuilding Together Fox Valley

Health & Mental Health

- Outagamie County Health & Human Services
- Calumet County Health & Human Services
- Winnebago County Health & Human Services
- ThedaCare
- Appleton Public Health
- Valley Packaging Inc.
- NEW Mental Health
- Ascend

Other Service Providers

- Pillars Adult Shelter
- Pillars Adult & Family Shelter
- Boys & Girls Club
- YMCA
- Goodwill Industries of Northeast Wisconsin
- Fox Valley Technical College
- Safe Families
- UW-Madison Extension (Rent Smart Program)
- Harbor House
- ADVOCAP
- Salvation Army of the Fox Cities
- Apricity, Inc.
- Appleton Area School District
- LEAVEN, Inc.

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

The City of Appleton serves as the Lead Agency in the Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care membership, as well as in the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Homeless and Housing (EHH) grant application processes. City of Appleton staff administer grant funding for several agencies under three CoC Rapid Re-Housing programs and an EHH grant.

Agencies funded through the CoC and EHH grants directly serve the homeless population and provide supportive service programming. City of Appleton staff work collaboratively together with these agencies- and all agencies in the Fox Cities Housing Coalition - to address the needs of the homeless population in the City of Appleton and surrounding community.

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

As the Lead Agency for the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding, the City of Appleton collaborates and consults with partnering community organizations during the allocation of funds, the development of performance standards and evaluation of outcomes, and development of funding policies and procedures associated with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Consultation is conducted during one-on-one meetings with community organizations, during Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care meetings, and during Fox Cities Housing Coalition meetings.

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

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Appleton Downtown Inc (ADI)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	City of Appleton staff met with ADI members during a regularly scheduled monthly meeting, inquiring about economic development strategies and initiatives that are currently in place or may be undertaken in the next five years.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Appleton Health Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Health Agency Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	City of Appleton Public Health Officer was interviewed to determine action taken to evaluate and reduce the number of children affected by lead-based paint hazards, and the potential for additional efforts in the future.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Pillars, Inc
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Pillars' Executive Director, Crisis Director, Stable Housing Director, and Supportive Services Director were interviewed regarding affordable housing, preventative efforts, and homeless services and facilities in the community. Specifically, the interview focused on the increase of these programs in the next five years as the demand continues to increase.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	HARBOR HOUSE DOMESTIC ABUSE PROGRAMS, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Domestic Abuse Strategies & Support
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director of Harbor House was interviewed regarding the need for facilities, services and truly affordable transitional housing, specifically for trafficking survivors and youth.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Fox Cities Housing Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy 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?	The FCHC Executive Committee was interviewed to discuss strengths and gaps in the institutional delivery system overall and strategies for overcoming the gaps to be able to address priority needs.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Rebuilding Together Fox Valley
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director and Development & Outreach Manager were interviewed regarding the affordable housing needs and gaps in services, specifically for elderly and disabled populations in the Fox Cities.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Fair Housing
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Program Services Coordinator and Senior Administrator of the Inclusive Communities Program were informally interviewed via teleconference regarding fair housing barriers to housing in the Appleton community.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	LEAVEN, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	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?	The Executive Director and Director of Client Services were interviewed to discuss quality, affordable housing and the need for increased public services.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Project RUSH (Research to Understand & Solve Homelessness)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth 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?	The Project RUSH Executive Team was interviewed to discuss characteristics of instability and homelessness in the community, as well as the increased need for public services, public facilities, affordable housing, and case management for these populations.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director was interviewed regarding the affordability and availability of housing due to the changes to home values and rents in the Fox Cities area.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	Appleton Area School District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children School
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Homeless Education & Foster Care Program Coordinator was interviewed to discuss the characteristics of school-attending homeless youth and the strengths and gaps in local collaborations.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	SALVATION ARMY OF THE FOX CITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An interview was conducted with the Lead Case Manager, the Housing Retention Case Manager, the Life Skills Coordinator, and the Scattered Site Housing Case Manager regarding housing barriers to affordable housing, and the need for programming associated with mental health.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE FOX CITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Children Services

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Runaway & Homeless Youth Services Assistant was interviewed to discuss the characteristics and needs of families with children who are precariously housed or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, as well as the hidden unaccompanied youth.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Realtors Association of Northeast Wisconsin
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ten members of the RANW/HBA during a regularly scheduled joint meeting to discuss housing, affordable housing needs, development, market strategies, and how the City of Appleton can coordinate more intricately with private developers.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Appleton Community and Economic Development Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Director, Deputy Director, and Economic Development Specialist were interviewed regarding major changes or initiatives [in the next five years] that may have an economic impact on job and business growth opportunities.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Appleton Public Works Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Director of Public Works and the Inspections Supervisor were interviewed jointly to discuss the need for public facilities, public improvements, and the characteristics of the housing stock in the City of Appleton.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Apricity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services: Substance Abuse Recovery
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Substance Abuse Recovery
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director, Residential Treatment President, and the President of Contract Packaging & Recovery Support were interviewed regarding the dynamic of their unique agency and programming, as well as the characteristics and barriers associated with individuals recovering from substance abuse.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	APPLETON HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director was interviewed to discuss public housing needs, current collaborations with partners, and how services offered play an integral role in the Fox Cities continuum of care.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	OUTAGAMIE COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Emergency Management

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Deputy Emergency Management Director was interviewed regarding local vulnerabilities, barriers, plans, partnerships, and connections associated with emergencies and natural disasters.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	NAMI Fox Valley
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Mental Health
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Executive Director was interviewed to discuss the characteristics of individuals suffering with mental health and addiction in the community, and the need for psychiatric/therapeutic accessibility and services.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Appleton Emergency Management
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Emergency Management
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Fire Department Battalion Chief, Emergency Management Coordinator, Police Captain, and Public Health Officer were interviewed as the Emergency Management Executive Committee to discuss the City of Appleton's plans and partnerships in the event of an emergency or natural disaster.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	TDS Telecom
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Broadband Access

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The Manager of Business Development was interviewed regarding accessibility and availability of competitive, affordable, and equal broadband internet access, and the strategies being considered or pursued to close the digital divide.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

City of Appleton staff made several attempts to conduct an interview with the local internet provider, AT&T, but due to scheduling conflicts, the AT&T representative declined comment.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Wisconsin BoSCoC	The Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care, of which the Fox Cities Continuum of Care is a member and the City of Appleton is an active participant, issued a 10-year Plan draft in January 2014. The WIBOSCOC's goal to end all types of homelessness is supported by the City of Appleton through continued [financial] support to partnering agencies that provide housing and services to individuals and families that are at-risk of becoming homeless or experiencing homelessness.
A Hand and a Home: Foundations for Success	Wisconsin Interagency Council on Homelessness	The Wisconsin Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) was created by 2017 Act 74, and contains the secretaries or directors of eight state agencies and representatives from the four Continuum of Care organizations. The 2019-2022 Statewide Action Plan provides a roadmap for future funding initiatives, legislation, and collaboration efforts.
Comprehensive Plan	City of Appleton, Community & Economic Development Department	The Consolidated Plan will address several goals, objectives and action items of the City's Comprehensive Plan including the following: Support creation and rehabilitation of single family homes and affordable rental units; Support rehabilitation and accessibility modifications to allow the aging population to age in place

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
PHA Plan	Appleton Housing Authority	Providing funding to support the Appleton Housing Authority's First-Time Homebuyer Program, including down payment assistance and homeowner rehabilitation.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

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

Citizens are encouraged to participate in formal public hearings and 30-day public comment periods, all of which occur prior to the adoption of every five-year Consolidated Plan. Further efforts to gain citizen participation are illustrated specifically in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

Annually citizens are encouraged to participate in formal public hearings, specific to CDBG funding, to assist in determining and prioritizing community needs. These public hearings are held during the initial stages of the application process. Additionally, action plans are made available for a 30-day public comment period prior to plan submittal, to allow for citizen input.

In recent years, the City has implemented a mandatory, pre-application CDBG training for all interested community partners, which provides opportunities for them to ask questions and give comments on potential programming.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	On September 14, 2023, the City of Appleton announced details of a mandatory subrecipient training program, which served as a pre-requisite for application and funding in the 2024 program year. This information was communicated via email to various agencies and organizations throughout the community and was posted on the City's website.	RSVP's were encouraged but not required.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	On October 13, 2023, the City of Appleton posted an announcement and application detailing the initiation of the 2024 program year competitive CDBG application process. This information was made available via email directly to agencies and organizations that participated in the pre-application training.	8 agencies/ organizations submitted an application.	N/A	
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	On October 25, 2023, Community & Economic Development Committee met to discuss and vote on recommended CDBG funding goals for 2024.	No comments were received.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
4	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On November 1, 2023, City Council met to discuss and vote on recommended CDBG funding goals for 2024.	No comments were received.	N/A	
5	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On December 13, 2023, City of Appleton Common Council met to discuss and vote on CBDG public service allocations for the 2024 program year.	No comments were received.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
6	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On January 15, 2024, Appleton's CDBG Advisory Board met to discuss the CDBG applications received from non-profit community organizations and create funding recommendations for each application. This included a public hearing for discussion on CDBG priorities.	No comments were received.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
7	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On January 24, 2024, Community and Economic Development Committee met to discuss and vote on proposed CDBG funding for subgrantees for the 2024 program year. This meeting included a public hearing for discussion of CDBG priorities.	No comments were received.	N/A	
8	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On February 2, 2024, City Council met to discuss and vote on proposed CDBG funding subgrantees for the 2024 program year. This meeting included a public hearing for discussion of CDBG priorities.	No comments were received.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
9	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On June 12, 2024, Community & Economic Development Committee held a public meeting to discuss and vote on final CDBG allocations for the 2024 program year. This meeting included a public hearing for discussion of CDBG priorities.	No comments were received.	N/A	
10	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	On June 19, 2024, City Council met to discuss and vote on final CDBG allocations for the 2024 program year.	No comments were received.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
11	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	On June 6, 2024, Appleton posted the CDBG 2024PY Annual Action Plan for public comment, with a 30-day comment period ranging from June 6, 2024 to July 8, 2024. Notice of publication was run in the Post Crescent, Appleton's local newspaper, on June 6, 2024.			

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

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	590,504	168,442	414,742	1,173,688	1,173,688	Program income is generated specifically from the City of Appleton's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program.
Other	public - federal	Other	44,491	0	0	44,491	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 City of Appleton will leverage all dollars received through the CDBG program by funding activities that, overall, are only a portion of the valuable services that the awarded agencies provide to low- and moderate-income households throughout the City of Appleton.

There are no matching requirements associated with CDBG funding; however, higher consideration was given to applications that could demonstrate additional sources of funding to leverage projects.

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

The City of Appleton does not anticipate any qualified, participating agency to use any publicly owned land or property while addressing the needs identified throughout this plan.

Discussion

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding was awarded to programs that will perform the following activities during the 2024 program year: homebuyer assistance programs, homeowner rehabilitation programs, public service programs, public facility improvement programs, neighborhood improvement projects, fair housing initiatives, and CDBG administration costs.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Improve & maintain housing stock	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs		Affordable Housing- Rehab of Existing Units	CDBG: \$801,478	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 38 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 6 Households Assisted
2	Administration	2020	2024	Administration			CDBG: \$100,000	
3	Economic Development	2020	2021	Non-Housing Community Development		Economic Development	CDBG: \$19,259	Other: 70 Other
4	Public services	2020	2024	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs		Public Services	CDBG: \$86,550	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Households Assisted
5	Public facilities improvement	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facilities	CDBG: \$56,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 550 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Neighborhood Revitalization	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Neighborhood Revitalization	CDBG: \$40,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Improve & maintain housing stock
	Goal Description	<p>This strategic goal will be accomplished through the City of Appleton Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program, the Greater Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity, and Rebuilding Together Fox Valley, where current housing stock (homeowner) will be rehabilitated and improved for LMI households.</p> <p>Additionally, Appleton's Housing Authority supports LMI homebuyers through its Homeowner Loan Program. They also support rehabilitation to units as needed prior to purchase.</p>
2	Goal Name	Administration
	Goal Description	This goal is accomplished through efforts of the City of Appleton and Fair Housing services.
3	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	Provide business education, counseling, and grants to micro & small businesses.

4	Goal Name	Public services
	Goal Description	City of Appleton's Community Resource Navigator position, funded with CBDG Public Services dollars, will be responsible for responding to residents experiencing homelessness, mental health issues, and other basic-needs related crises. This role will have regular weekly interaction with vulnerable/at-risk populations in an effort to better connect them with the resources and services needed.
5	Goal Name	Public facilities improvement
	Goal Description	City of Appleton will be funding a public facilities improvement project for Pillars, to upgrade the existing fire suppression system in their Adult and Family Shelter, which serves over 550 individuals from almost 400 households each year. The fire suppression system remaining operable and in good condition is essential to the shelter's operations and Pillars' ability to serve the community.
6	Goal Name	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Goal Description	City of Appleton's Registered Neighborhood program supports neighborhood organizations in Appleton and offers CBDG-funding for certain, eligible neighborhood improvement projects. Recent projects have included neighborhood park revitalization efforts to improve recreation facilities in LMI areas. This year's allocation does not have a definitive project at this time, but will serve to improve neighborhood conditions in an LMI area in Appleton.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

During the CDBG competitive application process, the City of Appleton prioritized needs and strategically allocated funding to achieve the most community impact. The proposed use of CDBG-allocated funds in the 2024-2025PY will focus on activities that:

- improve and maintain current housing stock
- create accessibility to homeownership for first-time homebuyers
- public facility improvements
- fund costs associated with administering various programs and activities
- provide increased services and support to residents experiencing crisis/lacking access to basic needs

Projects

#	Project Name
1	PAFS Fire Suppression System Replacement
2	SAFC Parking Rehab
3	Habitat for Humanity Homebuyer Assistance Program
4	RTFV Homeowner Rehab
5	WWBIC Microentrepreneur Assistance
6	CoA Community Resource Navigator
7	MMFHC - Fair Housing Services
8	AHA Homebuyer Assistance
9	CDBG Administration
10	TNGP Projects
11	HRLP

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The City of Appleton CDBG Advisory Board determined that allocation priority would focus on activities that improve on or increase the current affordable housing stock. All activities funded support the City

of Appleton's CDBG program goal of *"creating a thriving urban community through the provision of assistance to low- and moderate-income households in the forms of basic shelter, affordable housing opportunities, expanded economic opportunities, suitable living environments and supportive services related to residential, financial, and social stability."*

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	PAFS Fire Suppression System Replacement
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Public facilities improvement
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	:
	Description	Project to award \$56,000 to Pillars for the purchase of equipment for their new fire suppression system.
	Target Date	3/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 400 households (550 individuals) each year will benefit from this improvement. These families will all be low- and moderate-income residents who have lost their housing and become homeless, which is presumed to be an LMI group.
	Location Description	This is taking place at Pillars Adult and Family Shelter, at 400 N Division St in Appleton. This project is in a mostly residential area and is a residential homeless shelter upgrade to ensure the fire suppression system stays up to code and the shelter can remain open.
Planned Activities		
2	Project Name	SAFC Parking Rehab
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve & maintain housing stock
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing- Rehab of Existing Units
	Funding	:
	Description	This is a rehab project for the SAFC office/permanent supportive service building, where SAFC's clients receive services and 11 supportive housing units are located. The current parking lot is very uneven and presents accessibility issues for both SAFC's clients and staff
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	47 households
	Location Description	105 S Badger - 11 unit efficiency apartment complex serving homeless residents and includes office space for SAFC staff.

	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	Habitat for Humanity Homebuyer Assistance Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve & maintain housing stock
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing- Rehab of Existing Units
	Funding	:
	Description	Support acquisition and renovation of three properties in the City of Appleton for Habitat to purchase and renovate, and then make available to low- and moderate-income households at their zero-interest rate home loan program.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3 households will benefit
	Location Description	All housing units purchased and renovated will be within the City of Appleton municipal boundaries
Planned Activities	Acquisition and renovation of existing housing units to offer affordable homeownership opportunities to low-and moderate-income residents in Appleton.	
4	Project Name	RTFV Homeowner Rehab
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve & maintain housing stock
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing- Rehab of Existing Units
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,630
	Description	Rebuilding Together Fox Valley provides no-cost home rehabilitations to low- and moderate- income homeowners who cannot otherwise afford the rehabilitation on their own and do not qualify for loans or other rehabilitation assistance programs. This program ensures that these homes remain in safe and habitable condition and that homeowners are able to stay in their homes and retain the most affordable housing option to them.
	Target Date	3/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	RTFV expects to assist 10 families through rehabilitation during the 2024PY. All assisted households will be low-and moderate-income homeowners that are residents of the City of Appleton.
	Location Description	This will be scattered across different sites in Appleton.
	Planned Activities	Rehabilitation efforts may include accessibility improvements, windows, doors, structural challenges, and other necessary rehabilitation activities that ensure the house remains safe for the homeowners.
5	Project Name	WWBIC Microentrepreneur Assistance
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,524
	Description	Provide business training and one-on-one technical assistance to 25 current or potential microentrepreneurs, with at least 13 recipients being low-and moderate-income. This project will help to create FTE jobs and retain FTE jobs.
	Target Date	3/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	WWBIC expects to assist 20 microentrepreneurs through this project, with at least half of them being low- and moderate-income. Additionally, of the jobs that are created and retained through this project, at least 51% will be for low-and moderate-income business owners and residents.
	Location Description	This will take place at scattered sites across the City of Appleton.
	Planned Activities	WWBIC will provide trainings on personal financial wellness and credit recovery, one-on-one technical assistance on a vareity of topics, including financial projections and cashflows, marketing, social media, access to additional capital, and referrals to additional resources. WWBIC is also able to provide access to capital for needed business expansion efforts.
6	Project Name	CoA Community Resource Navigator
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Public services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services

	Funding	CDBG: \$88,575
	Description	This position within the City of Appleton will be tasked with responding to issues related to a lack of basic needs, for persons experiencing homelessness, mental health crises, and other issues where connections to community resources are needed to stabilize their situation. The CRN will regularly interact with residents experiencing homelessness and will be the primary respondent to any public disturbances that do not require police intervention. This project aims to combat the rapid increase in calls to police about homelessness and other issues that are mainly related to a lack of connection to basic needs and community resources.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	CoA estimates that 500 people a year will benefit from resources and connections provided by the Community Resource Navigator.
	Location Description	This project will occur across Appleton to the sites that the CRN is called to assist at. This may also include regular assistance at Pillars' Resource Center, located at 129 S Mason St, Appleton, WI 54914.
	Planned Activities	This position will directly work with people experiencing homelessness along with domestic violence. The Community Resource Navigator will serve as a link between the police department (who receive first calls of someone in trouble) and community resources (who are able to address the needs). This role will provide immediate support and assistance to individuals and families in crisis situations, or low-mod limited clientele, with a focus on securing basic needs and safety. Moreover, this position will guide clients through the intricacies of accessing essential resources, skillfully navigating bureaucratic and administrative processes to facilitate a smoother and more effective support system.
7	Project Name	MMFHC - Fair Housing Services
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$25,000

	Description	MMFHC will provide fair housing services to the City of Appleton through their satellite office, Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin (FHCNW), including complaint intake services, referrals for non-fair housing inquiries, technical assistance, fair housing presentations, fair housing training, interagency meetings, and distribution of fair housing informational materials
	Target Date	3/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Activities undertaken by MMFHC will include complaint intake services, referrals for non-fair housing inquiries, technical assistance, fair housing presentations, fair housing training, interagency meetings, and distribution of fair housing informational materials
8	Project Name	AHA Homebuyer Assistance
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve & maintain housing stock
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing- Rehab of Existing Units Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	These funds will be used to assist first time homebuyers under 80% City Median Income to purchase homes in the City of Appleton. Funds will be provided for downpayment assistance and if necessary, perform needed rehab to bring the property up to code and Housing Quality Standards.
	Target Date	3/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 households
	Location Description	Scattered site
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used for downpayment assistance and housing rehabilitation to meet HQS, as necessary

9	Project Name	CDBG Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000
	Description	Administrative activities for CDBG activities and staff salaries for CDBG/admin staff
	Target Date	3/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Administrative and planning activities for CDBG staff
10	Project Name	TNGP Projects
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Needs Addressed	Neighborhood Revitalization
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
	Description	Funding to support projects eligible for CDBG funding through Appleton's Neighborhood Grant Program, which offers funds to neighborhood organizations in the City of Appleton for eligible neighborhood improvement projects.
	Target Date	3/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Around 1,500 families are expected to benefit from improvements occurring as a result of TNGP projects. These families will be a mix of incomes but funding is only provided in service areas that are at least 51% LMI.
	Location Description	Scattered site
	Planned Activities	
11	Project Name	HRLP
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve & maintain housing stock

Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing- Rehab of Existing Units
Funding	:
Description	Appleton's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program will be utilizing program income to continue to assist low-and moderate income-homeowners in Appleton during the 2024 program year, through zero-interest loans. No new CDBG funds are being allocated but this project will continue over the course of the program year.
Target Date	3/31/2025
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated that 15-20 families will benefit during the 2024 program year.
Location Description	Scattered site
Planned Activities	Rehabilitation activities include necessary structural rehabilitation, lead remediation, renovations to bring housing up to HQS, and other necessary improvements to ensure the house remains livable and safe for the homeowners.

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 City of Appleton will not have a designated geographic area within the jurisdiction where funds are allocated. However, activities benefitting persons, facilities, or housing within the census block groups that HUD has designated as meeting the 51 percent LMI threshold will be given priority.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Appleton will not have a designated geographic area within the jurisdiction where funds are allocated. However, activities benefitting persons, facilities, or housing within the census block groups that HUD has designated as meeting the 51 percent LMI threshold will be given priority.

Discussion

The City of Appleton will not have a designated geographic area within the jurisdiction where funds are allocated. However, activities benefitting persons, facilities, or housing within the census block groups that HUD has designated as meeting the 51 percent LMI threshold will be given priority.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Appleton invests federal funds into the development of rental and homeownership units and the rehabilitation and repair of existing homeowner units. This section shows specific goals for the number of homeless, non-homeless and special needs households that will be provided affordable housing during the 2024 program year. Also shown are the number of affordable housing units that will receive CDBG funding. Programs that will provide these units through the CDBG program are: the City of Appleton's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program, the Appleton Housing Authority's homebuyer support program, Greater Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity, and Rebuilding Together Fox Valley.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	44
Special-Needs	0
Total	44

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	38
Acquisition of Existing Units	6
Total	44

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

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Appleton Housing Authority's mission is "to provide decent, safe, and quality housing for individuals and families that need rent affordability along with opportunities and programming for participants desiring to become self-sufficient." The City of Appleton will provide funding to support the Appleton Housing Authority's Homebuyer Program, which aids with downpayments and needed repairs or upgrades for the homes that are purchased, as well as counseling services for first-time homebuyers.

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

The City of Appleton received a request for CDBG funding from the Appleton Housing Authority for FY2024, to continue their Homebuyer Program, which includes downpayment assistance, rehabilitation financial assistance, and counseling services.

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

By supporting the Appleton Housing Authority's Homebuyer Program, public housing residents can learn about homeownership through homebuyer education classes. Completing these classes initiates the process of becoming a first-time homebuyer and receiving financial assistance for downpayments or needed repairs on their newly purchased home.

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

The Appleton Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.

Discussion

Overall, the Housing Authority has previously been awarded CDBG funding to support its Homebuyer Program only. The Homebuyer Program is an acquisition/rehabilitation program that promotes affordable housing and financial assistance to low- and moderate-income households, while revitalizing neighborhoods.

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

Introduction

The City of Appleton awarded 2024 program year CDBG funding to several agencies that impact and support the needs of the homeless and special needs populations in the community.

The definition of the special need's population in the City of Appleton was derived after consulting with several nonprofit, supportive service providing agencies in the Appleton area. The most prevalent, but certainly not exclusive, characteristics of the population were:

- Persons affected by mental health issues;
- Persons with alcohol and drug addictions; and
- Elderly in need of supportive services for health and housing issues

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 Appleton continues to be an active member of the local Fox Cities Housing Coalition (FCHC), serving as the lead agency and fiscal administrator for Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Homeless and Housing (EHH) grant funding into the community. While 2024 program year CDBG funding will be supporting Pillars, Inc. and Salvation Army of the Fox Cities, both CoC and EHH funds significantly support other agencies and their efforts to serve the homeless population in the community.

During the January 2024 Point in Time count, the Fox Cities, including the City of Appleton, identified 37 persons experiencing homelessness. The City of Appleton, in collaboration with the community, will continue to strive to serve these individuals, and others as necessary, by continuing to reach out to them and encourage them to utilize available resources in the community.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Appleton Housing Authority, Pillars, Inc. and Salvation Army of the Fox Cities collaborate to provide transitional housing options and supportive services through a Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program. This program serves approximately 40 households annually.

Pillars Inc. and Harbor House have continued to collaborate and provide six transitional housing beds and supportive services specifically for domestic violence victims transitioning out of shelter. On

average, eight households are served each year through this initiative.

Ascend, a Pillars initiative in collaboration with NAMI Fox Valley, serves young adults [aged 18-24] with a mental health challenge navigate their transition from adolescence to an adulthood of self-sufficiency and stability.

Emergency shelter needs will continue to be addressed through Emergency Homeless and Housing (EHH) grant and will continue to change and expand based on the needs in the community. Under the Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care's (WIBOSCOC) coordinated entry process, access to services and programming- initiated at the shelter level- has proven efficient and client-driven.

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

The City of Appleton will continue to use CDBG funds to support agencies in the community proposing to provide public service activities that assist homeless persons by providing temporary shelter and accessibility to services that lead to permanent housing solutions. Specifically, for the 2024 program year, the City awarded funding to:

Salvation Army of the Fox Cities and Pillars, Inc., which provide necessary services to residents directly experiencing homelessness and assist them in transitioning out of homelessness into permanent housing options.

The City of Appleton also awarded 2024 program year funding to agencies- including the City of Appleton's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program, Greater Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity, and Rebuilding Together Fox Valley - proposing rehabilitative housing activities to maintain affordable housing units and educational skill building as an effort to provide additional affordable housing options and prevent homelessness.

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.

Rebuilding Together Fox Valley's core mission is to improve the homes and lives of low-income

homeowners, allowing them to remain safe and healthy in their home. Not only are the homeowners able to age in place, but they are able to sustain affordable housing.

Rebuilding Together Fox Valley's core mission is to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners, allowing them to remain safe and healthy in their home. Not only are the homeowners able to age in place, but they are able to sustain affordable housing.

City of Appleton currently employs a Coordinated Entry Specialist who interfaces with individuals and families experiencing homelessness, housing insecurity, and other basic needs crises to connect them to resources within the community and manages the Coordinated Entry list that housing-support organizations pull their clients from. Additionally, the City is hiring a Community Resource Navigator, funded with 2024PY CDBG funding, to further make these service connections and work closely with both residents and service organizations to ensure clients are being connected with necessary resources and there is follow-up to ensure they are receiving the support needed.

The City of Appleton's role as the lead financial agent for CoC and EHH funds facilitates and encourages Fox Cities Housing Coalition member-agencies to provide services to extremely low-income persons and assist them with services needed as they navigate through the systems of care in the area. City of Appleton remains in close contact with member-agencies to address the needs for both transitional and permanent housing in the area.

Discussion

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

Introduction:

The City of Appleton, through a collaboration with the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council (MMFHC), updated the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice report. The 2020 Analysis identifies barriers to equal housing access based on quantitative data contained in various sections of the report, and based on qualitative information gleaned from community input. The impediments identified [below] are not listed in order of priority.

1. Private-market housing discrimination;
2. Affordable housing location;
3. Lack of affordable, accessible housing;
4. Private-market refusal to permit reasonable accommodations/modifications;
5. Lending discrimination and disparities; and
6. Critical shortage of affordable rental housing and limited housing assistance.

The 2020 Analysis of Impediments *Fair Housing Goals and Strategies* section identifies goals and strategies designed to redress impediments to fair housing. Each goal has a number of strategies to make progress toward the goal. Each strategy contains a timeframe for action, a measure of achievement, and the entity at each municipality that is responsible for implementing the strategies.

Goal 1: Continue efforts to ensure adequate supply of housing affordable to all income levels in the community;

Goal 2: Increase fair housing choice and decrease housing discrimination;

Goal 3: Continue funding the City of Appleton’s Neighborhood Program to encourage the establishment and support of neighborhood organizations; and

Goal 4: Increase access to consumer education in a culturally appropriate context.

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

Under *Goal 1: Continue efforts to ensure adequate supply of housing affordable to all income levels in the community*, listed above, the City of Appleton has identified eight strategies to make progress toward removing or ameliorating the barriers to affordable housing. Strategies specific to the removal or amelioration of the negative effects of public policy that serve as barriers include [in no particular

order]:

Strategy 1- Support a variety of housing programs to defray the costs of rental housing or homeownership, marrying financial tools such as historic preservation, DNR grants, and opportunity zones;

Strategy 2- Promote and support private sector investment in affordable housing through TIF financing, LIHTC projects, and other state/federal financial resources; and

Strategy 3- Consider utilizing Central Business District (CBD) zoning in other areas of the City to promote denser in-fill and housing development.

Discussion:

The City of Appleton is currently under contract with the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council to update the Analysis of Impediments, in conjunction with the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. It is anticipated that updated amelioration efforts will be proposed upon implementation of the updated Consolidated Plan.

City of Appleton created a Taskforce on Housing Development Policy to further investigate areas of the City's land use controls and policies that could be updated to better reflect the current need for housing development in the market and reduce the time and informational burden that happens during the City approval processes for new developments. This will help to encourage development, speed up the pace of development, and ensure that housing supply in the Appleton area is meeting the demand.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Appleton’s 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan outlines various strategies addressing obstacles in meeting underserved needs, fostering and maintaining affordable housing, reducing lead-based paint hazards, reducing poverty, improving institutional structure, and enhancing coordination between housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The Fox Cities Housing Coalition (FCHC), of which the City of Appleton is a member agency, is designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide programming and housing for underserved and homeless individuals and families; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs; and optimize self-sufficiency among underserved and homeless individuals and families. This continuum begins with emergency shelter programs, continues through transitional housing programs, and on to permanent affordable housing options. Nearly all of the 2024 program year funds are subawarded to agencies that are FCHC members, and operate programs that address underserved needs. In addition, Appleton Health Department is adding a Community Resource Navigator position, funded through CBDG public service dollars, to support people during times of crisis and connect vulnerable and underserved residents with the necessary basic services they may lack access to.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Appleton has primarily used its CBDG funds to support affordable housing activities in various ways for homeowners and first-time homebuyers. The City will continue to fund similar efforts in the 2024 program year through subawards to Appleton Housing Authority, Rebuilding Together Fox Valley, Greater Fox Cities Habitat for Humanity, and the City's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Appleton continues to allocate CBDG funds each program year supporting its Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program, which provides low- and moderate-income homeowners with the financial ability to make repairs to their homes. A requirement for participation in this program is that items not meeting code and all lead paint hazards be rehabilitated as part of the loan funding.

The City also has supported the Appleton Housing Authority's Homebuyer Program, which will include rehabilitation. Lead hazards are identified and remediated during the rehabilitation process.

In addition, the City of Appleton Health Department and the City's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program work collaboratively to identify homes where young children may be adversely affected in the

dangers of lead-based paint and removal of those hazards.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

In an effort to reduce the number of poverty-level families, the City of Appleton awarded 2024 program year funds to programs promoting home-ownership opportunities for low-income residents and economic development programming. These programs and projects serve individuals and families that are facing financially challenging situations. The services offered and the constant collaboration among agencies provide the necessary direction and opportunities toward achieving financial independence and stable housing, while also decreasing the likelihood of homelessness.

The City of Appleton continues to provide funding to the City's Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program, Habitat for Humanity, and Rebuilding Together Fox Valley in an effort to rehabilitate and maintain affordable housing opportunities in the Appleton community.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The institutional structure through which the City of Appleton carries out its plans is strong due to framework already in place, and as such, does not have any specific actions planned to modify it.

The City is the financial agent for the Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Homeless and Housing (EHH) grants, and an active member, of the Fox Cities Housing Coalition. The Appleton Housing Authority has received CDBG allocation for its Homebuyer Program and coordinates with the Health Department to provide services to its senior population. These relationships allow for a high level of interaction resulting in coordination of services between the city and agencies that may be supported by CDBG funding.

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

While there does not appear to be a gap in the structure, the City of Appleton continuously works to further enhance coordination of services between nonprofit organizations and public institutions. The new Community Resource Navigator position, along with the Coordinated Entry Specialist, are critical positions that help ensure coordination between the City and social service agencies is frequent and effective. The City of Appleton is an actively participating member of the Fox Cities Housing Coalition, a local continuum of services. All member agencies of the Coalition actively seek to enhance coordination and collaboration between services and agencies, and reduce any level of duplication.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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	417,346
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:	417,346

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	1
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.	85.78%

This action plan and estimated percentage of CDBG funds included in this narrative covers the 2024 program year.

