

# City of Trenton

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Community Development Block Grant

2016 Substantial Amendment (Cycle 41) July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

**Approved December 2018**



Honorable W. Reed Gusciora

Department of Housing & Economic Development

Arch Liston, Acting Director

Annual Action Plan  
2016

Public services previously funded in FY 2017 were moved to FY 2016 when FY 2017 funds were rescinded by HUD for timeliness. Funds from canceled and reduced public services provided enough to cover the creation of these additional public services.

## Executive Summary

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

#### 1. Introduction

The City of Trenton receives funding annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs. The Five Year Consolidated Plan provides a detailed analysis of the housing and homeless needs in the City and a housing market analysis. Specific attention is paid to the needs of moderate-, low- and very low-income households experiencing housing problems, the needs of special needs populations, and the needs of the homeless in the City. HUD requires the City to prepare a Consolidated Plan (CP) to guide the investment of CDBG, HOME and ESG grant funds to address the City's housing, community development and economic development needs over the next five years.

The primary federal funding resources in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan were as follows:

1. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): The primary objective of this program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income levels. Funds can be used for a wide array of activities, including housing rehabilitation, homeownership assistance, lead-based paint detection and removal, construction or rehabilitation of public facilities and infrastructure, removal of architectural barriers, public services, rehabilitation of commercial or industrial buildings, and loans or grants to businesses.
2. HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME): The HOME program provides federal funds for the development and rehabilitation of affordable rental and ownership housing for low- and moderate-income households. HOME funds can be used for activities that promote affordable rental housing and homeownership by low- and moderate-income households, including reconstruction, moderate or substantial rehabilitation, homebuyer assistance, and tenant-based rental assistance.
3. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG): The Emergency Solutions Grant program was established under the Hearth Act of 2009. Recognizing the need to end homelessness, the Hearth Act places more emphasis on rapid re-housing and less on transitional housing. ESG funding can be used to support traditional shelters, transitional housing that is grandfathered from 2010 funding, supportive services, rent and utility payments and expenses to prevent homelessness or to

rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, street outreach, and management of a homeless management information system (HMIS).

The Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. Grantees report on accomplishments and progress toward Consolidated Plan goals in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). This document is the 2nd Annual Action Plan of the Consolidated Plan for 2015-2019.

For the Program Year 2016 (July 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2017), the City anticipates the the following resources:

- CDBG: \$2,260,396
- HOME: \$551,008
- ESG: \$213,526

Due to the Voluntary Grant Reduction (VGR), the CDBG amount is now \$1,152,958. The projects in AP-35 reflect the new funding amount.

## **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 overarching objectives of the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plans are to:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.
- To provide a suitable living environment through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of low- and moderate- income residents throughout the City, increased housing opportunities, and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low- and moderate- income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

Outcomes show how programs and activities benefit a community or the people served. The three outcomes that will illustrate the benefits of each activity funded by the CDBG program are:

- Improve Availability/Accessibility
- Improve Affordability
- Improve Sustainability

All activities funded in this Action Plan will support at least one objective and one outcome. The overall goals of the housing, and community development and planning programs covered by this Five Year CP are to strengthen partnerships with other jurisdictions and to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector. This includes for-profit and nonprofit organizations to enable them to provide decent housing, establish and maintain a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities for every American.

For FY 2016, Trenton has identified the following goals and outcomes:

- Create and preserve affordable homeownership housing;
- Reduce hazards created by lead-based paint in the City's housing stock;
- Support activities that prevent homelessness;
- Support the ongoing operation and preservation of shelter facilities for homeless;
- Support activities that move persons experiencing homelessness to permanent housing;
- Improve and expand public facilities to serve low income populations;
- Improve and expand infrastructure to serve low income populations; and
- Support public services for children, homeless and special needs populations.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

The City's past performance in the administration and implementation of the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs has fulfilled the spirit and intent of the federal legislation creating these programs.

Trenton's FY 2010-FY 2014 Consolidated Plan identified a number of priority housing and non-housing needs. The housing priorities included housing rehabilitation for owner-occupants, homeownership assistance, improvements to public housing facilities, and financial support for homeless prevention and transitional housing facilities. The non-housing priorities included public facilities improvements, business district revitalization, infrastructure improvements, and demolition.

The City continually plans both housing and non-housing activities to address priority needs. The City sets goals for these activities and uses a performance measurement system to evaluate its progress in meeting these goals. The City has used its performance measurement system and estimates of available resources to help identify the priority needs and appropriate activity goals included in this Consolidated Plan.

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Through a collaborative planning process, involving a broad range of public and private agencies, the City has developed a single, consolidated planning and application document for the use of federal entitlement funds available through the CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs. In agreement with 24 CFR 91.115(e) Trenton has adopted a Citizen Participation Plan describing the citizen participation requirements of its CDBG program. The Citizen Participation Plan is on file at the City Department of Housing & Economic Development and on the Department's web site.

The City supplements the process described in the Citizen Participation Plan with the use of an email list. Subscriptions to the list are available to anyone via the City's website (<http://www.trentonnj.org/Cit-e-Access/MailingList/index.cfm?ID=79&TID=55&TPID=9810>). There are currently more than 250 organizations and individuals signed up to the mailing list. The email list is used to announce upcoming hearings, distribute slides and handouts from those hearings, and advertise the availability of critical documents, such as this Action Plan.

The City conducted two public hearings during the FY15 program year in preparation of this Annual Action Plan. The first hearing was held on January 20, 2016. Sixty-five residents and other stakeholders attended the first hearing (see sign-in sheet in Unique Appendices). The second hearing was held on April 18, 2016. Thirty-five residents and other stakeholders attending the hearing. Both meetings were held in Council Chambers at 319 East State Street, Trenton, NJ. The public review period for this Action Plan began on April 18, 2016 and concluded on May 17, 2016. A copy of the Consolidated Plan and this Annual Action Plan can also be found on the City of Trenton's website at <http://www.trentonnj.org/cdbg>.

Several Unique Appendices have been uploaded in support of this section: sample emails to the CDBG Mailing List; advertisements, sign-in sheets and slides from the two public hearings.

#### **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.

One comment was received during the public review period. Specifically, it was a formal appeal of the scoring of a public service application. The appeal did not meet minimum criteria described in the City's written appeal policy and therefore was denied. A copy of the appeal and the response from the City is attached to this document.

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

One comment was received after the public comment period. While it will be reviewed and a response provided, it is not considered part of the Annual Action Plan.

**7. Summary**

In summary, the Annual Action Plan has been developed with strong community input and is a reflection of the needs of the City.

**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	TRENTON	Department of Housing and Economic Development	
HOME Administrator	TRENTON	Department of Housing and Economic Development	
ESG Administrator	TRENTON	Department of Housing and Economic Development	

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

**Narrative (optional)**

The Department of Housing and Economic Development (HED) is the lead agency responsible for administering the City’s CDBG and HOME programs. HED works with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Works, and the Department of Inspections to coordinate activities undertaken in the Annual Action Plan. The Department of Health and Human Services administers majority of the City’s ESG program. Specifically, the Rapid Rehousing and Street Outreach activities (which tend to utilize the bulk of our ESG allocation) are administered by the Department of Health and Human Services.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

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 Website: www.trentonnj.org

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

### **1. Introduction**

The City of Trenton developed an outreach effort to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. This outreach effort included public meetings, published meeting notices, stakeholder meetings, in-person interviews, and telephone 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 is continually improving its coordination between housing providers and service agencies. In 2016, the City initiated a monthly meeting called the Housing HUB. City representation at these meetings include key staff from the Departments of Housing & Economic Development and Health & Human Services. The meetings have been very well attended by nonprofit and forprofit housing providers (e.g., Pennrose, Emet Realty) and a wide variety of social service agencies (e.g., Catholic Charities, the Rescue Mission). In only its second month, the Housing Hub meetings have been very productive in identifying barriers to both finding and filling vacant housing.

#### **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 CoC Executive Board is directly involved with the planning of CDBG and ESG resources to help serve the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. Members of the CoC Executive Board review and score applications to the ESG program for such things as shelter support, rapid re-housing and street outreach. Likewise, those same individuals review and score public service applications submitted to serve the homeless or those at risk of homelessness.

The administrative point of contact for the ESG and CDBG programs, Marc Leckington, also works directly with the CoC to review and rank their applications for new and renewing homeless housing projects. Mr. Leckington also sits on the CoC's HMIS Committee and System Oversight Committee.

#### **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 continues to have good relationships with many of its state and local partners, including entities such as the Mercer County Alliance to End Homelessness, the Trenton Housing Authority, NJHMFA,



State and County entities, supportive service providers, non-and for-profit developers, and various financial institutions. NJHMFA's Additionally, Mercer County Human Services Advisory Council sponsors Homeless Emergency Assistance and Affordable Housing Committee (HEAAH) meetings every month. The objective of the HEAAH committee meetings is to encourage dialogue and learning among the various agencies. In 2011, the Trenton/Mercer CoC drafted by-laws and created an Executive Committee. The purpose of the Executive Committee is annually to set priorities for homelessness services and housing based on analysis of community data and need, in accordance with HUD and the State of New Jersey; to make funding recommendations to the Collaborative Applicant for the annual allocation from the U.S. Department of HUD; to assure that programs receiving HUD funding are appropriately monitored and meet program performance standards; to identify additional funding sources that contribute to the community's ability to respond to homeless populations; and to monitor the effective functioning of the COC, including review of attendance. The Trenton/Mercer CoC Executive Committee is responsible for setting budgets within the ESG program for various types of activities as well as scoring and ranking projects from service providers for these funds. ESG and CoC-funded projects are reviewed monthly by the CoC's System Oversight Committee. These projects are also reviewed at bi-monthly HMIS Data Quality 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	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	TRENTON
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Health Other government - Local
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Various interviews and meetings with members of the Department of Housing & Economic Development, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Public Works.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	MERCER ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Various meetings and telephone discussions. See CoC in following section for additional details.

3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ISLES, INC
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services-Lead Education & Testing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	An in-person interview was conducted during the preparation of the Consolidated Plan. The input provided by Isles has help inform goals surrounding education, housing market conditions, lead-based paint policies and fair housing.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	An in-person interview as conducted in the preparation of the Consolidated Plan. Habitat's input helped shape the plan's housing objectives.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Trenton Housing Authority
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs

<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>A lengthy interview with the Executive Director of the Housing Authority was conducted in preparation of the Consolidated Plan. The input provided helped shape the housing needs assessment and public housing needs sections of the Plan. An outcome of the consultation is the City's intention to fund a TBRA program in FY16 with the THA to immediately address individuals on the THA's waiting list.</p>
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**Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting**

No agency types were excluded from consultation in the preparation of this Annual Action Plan or the current Consolidated Plan.

**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	City of Trenton	The goals of the CoC are directly aligned with those of the Consolidated Plan and subsequent Action Plans. The City is no longer funding transitional housing projects with CDBG funds and all entitlement programs have been brought into alignment with the Housing First model.
Trenton250	City of Trenton, Division of Planning	Major elements of the City's comprehensive master plan are currently in development. The Consolidated Plan was included in the background documents in preparation for those elements. Likewise, the outcomes of the master plan will be reviewed for their inclusion in an update to the Consolidated Plan.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative (optional)**

The City will continue to interact with private and public entities at all levels to ensure coordination and cooperation in the implementation of the Action Plan and thereby maximize the benefits of the City's housing and community development activities for the residents being served.

**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 Trenton has a rich citizen participation process. Both public hearings were very well attended and continue to provide staff with valuable feedback to help shape the programs. Specifically, the City received comments that helped refine the distribution of public service funding. A series of documents to support the Citizen Participation efforts have been uploaded to the AP-26 under Citizen Participation Comments.

**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	Public Hearing	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish  Persons with disabilities  Non-targeted/broad community	Sixty-five individuals attended the first hearing on January 20, 2016.	Verbal comments supported the City's shift in scoring approach away from a standardized approach to a category-based score with budgetary targets.	All comments received were accepted.	

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	Public Hearing	<p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p>	<p>Thirty-five individuals attended the second hearing on April 29, 2016.</p>	<p>Verbal comments were supportive of the difficult decisions the City is required to make with its public service funding. A written appeal was submitted from Meals on Wheels. Both the appeal and the written response were uploaded as attachments to this Plan.</p>	<p>All comments received were accepted.</p>	

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)
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	The City utilizes its website and a listserv to promote public participation opportunities and distribute documents for review. More than 250 individuals receive emails on the listserv.	No comments have been received in response to the website or listserv.	No comments have been received in response to the website or listserv.	<a href="http://www.trentonnj.org/cdbg">http://www.trentonnj.org/cdbg</a>

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

The following federal resources will be utilized for housing and non-housing community development in the City of Trenton.

Due to the Voluntary Grant Reduction (VGR), the CDBG amount is now \$1,152,958.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,152,958	25,000	0	1,177,958	3,533,874	



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: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	554,004	0	0	554,004	1,650,000	
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	213,526	0	0	213,526	639,000	

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 Trenton is adept at leveraging resources from all levels of government, as well as from for-profit and non-profit organizations to address the many needs in the community. The following is a description of non-CDBG resources to be leveraged in 2016.

In April 2016, the City applied for a Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant. The City intends to meet the 25% match requirement in part with a match of hard cost funding from the CDBG program.

The City will utilize CDBG funds to administer housing rehabilitation hard costs allocated from the City's Regional Contribution Agreements. In order to maintain regulatory compliance, the City has revised the program guidelines of these local funds to meet State (RCA) and Federal (CDBG) regulations. The Housing Rehabilitation activity of this Action Plan will be leveraged at a rate of 1:1 with RCA funding.

The Emergency Solutions Grant Program and the HOME Program require matching funds. All applicants to these programs must identify the match in the applications for funding from the Department of Housing and Economic Development. All matching sources are verified prior to commitment of any federal funds. The City has not committed any funds specifically to provide a monetary match to any activity, but may provide the match for Emergency Solutions activities through local grant-in-aid to homeless service providers. Sponsors of HOME activities are responsible to provide their match.

Specific matching requirements will be met as follows:

HOME: Anticipated sources of match will be provided by activities requiring match - the total value of which will meet or exceed 25% of the total HOME award, with the exception of program administration activities which do not require match. Sources will include waiver of fees, in-kind donations, donations of land, private, state and local government funds. The City of Trenton has a 100% match reduction.

ESG: Each agency must provide a 1:1 match for funding provided from the Emergency Solutions Grant Program. Most of the grant recipients are private non-profits with fund raising activities and other grants.

**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 Trenton owns land within the City that may be used for future housing and non-housing development.

**Discussion**

## 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	Increase the number of affordable units	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS	Create and Maintain Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$85,584 HOME: \$498,604	Rental units constructed: 11 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 45 Household Housing Unit
4	Improve public facilities	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS	Improve Public Facilities	CDBG: \$152,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons Assisted
6	Provide public services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS	Provide Public Services	CDBG: \$506,797	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Provide homeless housing and services	2015	2019	Homeless	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS	Provide Homeless Housing and Services	CDBG: \$45,000 ESG: \$197,512	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 10 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1500 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 30 Persons Assisted
9	Planning and administration	2015	2019	Planning and administration	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS	Planning and administration	CDBG: \$230,591 HOME: \$55,400 ESG: \$16,014	Other: 3 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Increase the number of affordable units
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Continue the housing rehabilitation, first-time homebuyer, and new housing construction activities to support an increase in the number of affordable units in the City of Trenton.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve public facilities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Public facilities serving low income residents including senior centers that require capital improvements.

6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Expand and continue non-housing community development supportive services.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide homeless housing and services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Preservation of short- and long-term homeless facilities and associated services.
9	<b>Goal Name</b>	Planning and administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Provide administrative support for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.

## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

The purpose of the Substantial Amendment is to add several new public services utilizing funds from reduced or canceled public services.

#### Projects

#	Project Name
2	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
3	HOME Housing Development
4	HOME CHDO Setaside
5	City Run Public Service Projects: Operation of Senior Centers
6	After School, Summer Camp, Day Care: Trenton Childrens Chorus
42	ESG16 Trenton
45	CDBG Administration
47	HOME Administration
48	Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Matching Funds
50	Public Service Projects -- After School, Summer Camp, Day Care: NJTL of Trenton
51	Public Service Projects -- After School, Summer Camp, Day Care: Boys & Girls Club of Mercer Co
52	Public Service Projects -- Homeless Services or Prevention: The Crisis Ministry of Mercer County
53	Public Service Projects -- Adult Ed/Life Skills/Financial Literacy & Counseling: Family Guidance Ctr
54	Public Service Projects -- Job Training or Career Development: Shiloh Community Development Corp
55	Public Service Projects -- Services for Seniors or Indv w/Disabilities: Interfaith Caregivers of MC
56	Public Service Projects -- Services for Seniors or Indv w/Disabilities: YMCA of Trenton
58	Public Service Projects -- Crime Prevention, Gang Awareness: Millhill Child & Family Development
59	Public Service Projects -- Crime Prevention, Gang Awareness or Prisoner Re-Entry: CJOOS
60	Public Service Projects -- Nutrition: TASK
61	Public Facilities Improvements -- Senior Citizen Center Improvements
62	Various Public Service Projects

**Table 7 - Project Information**

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

**needs**



**AP-38 Project Summary**  
**Project Summary Information**

<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase the number of affordable units
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Create and Maintain Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$86,584
	<b>Description</b>	Funds will be used to pay personnel and consultant costs directly related to implementing the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Housing rehabilitation program administration. HUD Matrix Code: 14H
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Housing Development
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase the number of affordable units
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Create and Maintain Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$402,643
	<b>Description</b>	The Housing Development funds will be allocated to a rental housing development to create affordable housing options in the City of Trenton.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	See above.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME CHDO Setaside
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS

	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase the number of affordable units
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Create and Maintain Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$80,529
	<b>Description</b>	The Housing Development funds will be allocated to a rental housing development to create affordable housing options in the City of Trenton.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12-31-2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	10
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Construction of new Rental Housing
4	<b>Project Name</b>	City Run Public Service Projects: Operation of Senior Centers
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$184,054
	<b>Description</b>	These funds will be used for operations and staffing of the City's senior centers. Services include health screening, counseling, physical examinations, immunizations, STD screening, testing and treatment.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Senior centers provide a variety of programs and recreational activities, which promote socialization and assist in maintaining economic self-support for the older adults. Activities include, but are not limited to: nutrition, painting, singing, dancing, bingo, sewing, on-site social services, health workshops, sign language classes, card playing, and cultural and recreation trips.
5	<b>Project Name</b>	After School, Summer Camp, Day Care: Trenton Children’s Chorus
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$30,000
	<b>Description</b>	Choral music education and performance opportunities to Trenton's under-served children and youth in kindergarten through 12th grade. This project was not intended to be part of the Substantial Amendment and should be ignored. The eCon Planning Suite was unable to remove this project from those the City was intending to modify.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	

<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p>Support and grow Rivera satellite choir for 20 students:  TCC has partnered with Mercer Street Friends and Luis Munoz Rivera Middle School to create the TCC/Rivera School Choir. This pilot project, launched January 2016, is part of the Trenton Community Schools Initiative, an evidence-based program to provide the following five core services: 1) assistance to students who have been chronically absent, truant, suspended, or expelled; 2) family engagement, including parent training and parental involvement activities; 3) mental health services; and 4) mentoring and other youth development programs; and 5) access to other community-based social service programs. The TCC/Rivera School Choir will benefit from TCC’s 26-year history and experience, its seasoned artistic staff, and the legacy of years of performing, to give Rivera students a better choir program than the school could provide with its own limited resources. The new choir will also allow Rivera students to become community ambassadors representing the school community when it performs in outside venues, and serves as training grounds for cooperation, character, discipline, and good behavior.</p> <p>Leadership Training for 10 or more students:  In late summer 2016 TCC will launch teen leadership training, a two-day retreat to be held at the Princeton-Blairstown Center. Training is available to all members of the Chorale Choir, made up of teens in 9th through 12th grades. Princeton-Blairstown Center's social emotional learning programs promote community and help participants strengthen the creative problem-solving, teamwork and leadership skills necessary for success. The experiential education facility and staff provide participants with the opportunity to try new things that empower students to connect personal actions and the effect they have on their academic and personal lives.</p> <p>Provide intensive academic support to 40 or more students:  One-on-one academic coaching in literacy and mathematics, SAT prep for high school juniors and seniors, mentoring high school seniors through college application process, workshops for essay writing for college admission and scholarship and for learning styles and strategies, homework assistance.</p>
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6	<b>Project Name</b>	ESG16 Trenton
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide homeless housing and services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Homeless Housing and Services
	<b>Funding</b>	ESG: \$219,357
	<b>Description</b>	ESG funds will provide funds for Rapid Rehousing and Street Outreach, administration of the ESG program, emergency shelter repairs to the following facilities: Womanspace (\$20,000) and Anchor House (\$18,000). In addition, ESG funds will be used to support the HMIS system (\$15,000). Also, funds will be supplied to the Rescue Mission for shelter operations (\$15,000). ESG funds will also be provided for street outreach and rapid rehousing activities to Catholic Charities (\$129,512).
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
<b>Planned Activities</b>	ESG funds will provide funds for Rapid Rehousing and Street Outreach, administration of the ESG program, emergency shelter repairs to the following facilities: Homefront and Womanspace. In addition, ESG funds will be used to support the HMIS system. Also, funds will be supplied to the Rescue Mission for shelter operations (utilities and supplies).  Matrix code: 05S.	
7	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and administration
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Planning and administration
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$230,591
	<b>Description</b>	Administration of the CDBG Program.

	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Planning and administration.
<b>8</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and administration
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Planning and administration
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$53,686
	<b>Description</b>	HOME program administration.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	HOME program administration.
<b>9</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Matching Funds
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase the number of affordable units
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Create and Maintain Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$131,985
	<b>Description</b>	Funding to match a pending grant application to the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant.
	<b>Target Date</b>	

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Funding will be leveraged with Lead Hazard Reduction Grant to abate lead hazards in Trenton homes where a child has been identified with an elevated lead level.
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- After School, Summer Camp, Day Care: NJTL of Trenton
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$40,000
	<b>Description</b>	NJTL will provide Tennis instruction to Trenton Youth. Community Policing Program: Through the Community Policing Program, NJTLT will partner city police officers from each ward with kids in schools within that ward. Police officers will serve as volunteers, coaches, mentors, and positive influences for kids within NJTLT's outreach programs in Trenton elementary and middle schools. NJTLT is piloting a STEAM curriculum. By winter 2016-17, NJTLT will expand the STEAM program to include 3 middle schools, with approximately 30 kids at each site. The STEAM curriculum will seek to improve attitudes towards learning, encourage discussion, and improve self-confidence. The goals of the tennis portion will be to improve children's tennis skills and fitness levels, with the hope that they will become more seriously interested in playing tennis. The curriculum will connect STEAM concepts to the game of tennis. NJTLT offers its ACE curriculum to Trenton residents in grades 3-5 in six public and charter schools over two different sessions during the winter (3 in each session). NJTLT will increase that number in the 2016-2017 school year, adding one school each session for a total of eight. Students are taught math & literacy concepts in a way that makes learning fun and engaging by connecting the curriculum to the sport of tennis. When delivering Geometry, teachers use the angles on a tennis court as a teaching tool. Matrix code: 05D.
	<b>Target Date</b>	



	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	

<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p>This proposal will support the expansion of a number of existing NJTL of Trenton programs.</p> <p>Community Policing Program: This spring, NJTLT will partner with the City of Trenton Police Department and pilot a community policing/recreation program with 2-4 officers. After the initial pilot, NJTLT would like to expand the program, starting in July 2016, to include a total of 8-10 officers in the program. The Volley Against Violence (VAV) program, created by our sister organization in Dorchester, Boston, has trained over 40 police officers to deliver tennis instruction to youth from each officer’s respective districts. In light of recent events in Trenton and nationwide, NJTLT believes this initiative could positively impact relationships among city youth and law enforcement by connecting officers to our short court championship teams.</p> <p>STEAM Curriculum: NJTLT is piloting a STEAM curriculum this spring, which is modeled after the ACE curriculum developed by NJTLT, with the Living Hope Empowerment Center. The curriculum will target middle school kids in grades 6-8 and will give NJTLT a supplemental curriculum for kids Pre-K through 8th grade (PACE: Pre-K-2nd, ACE: 3rd-5th, and STEAM: 6th-8th). Anticipating similar success as it had with the ACE program, NJTLT will expand the STEAM program to 3 middle schools during the 2016-2017 winter, with approximately 30 kids at each site, and a total of 90 kids altogether.</p> <p>ACE Curriculum: Currently, NJTLT offers its ACE curriculum to 6 schools over two different sessions during the winter (3 in each session). ACE has grown since it's introduction to City of Trenton to become a nationally recognized curriculum and has since been purchased by the USTA. NJTLT will add two schools (one in each session) in the 2016-2017 school year, with 30 children from each school, totaling 60 additional participants.</p> <p>Villa Park Reconstruction: NJTL of Trenton will partner with Mayor Eric Jackson and the City of Trenton to rejuvenate the Villa Park tennis courts, similar to the way it did with the Cadwalader Park Tennis Facility. With a refurbished facility and improved infrastructure, NJTLT will expand the the base of Programs at Villa Park. Working with the Living Hope Empowerment Center and Julio Guzman (Chair of Trenton's Concerned Latino Pastors), NJTLT will continue to expand the number of Outreach Programs within the Hispanic community in Trenton’s East Ward, and will open up its Ashe Program at Villa Park.</p>
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<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- After School, Summer Camp, Day Care: Boys & Girls Club of Mercer Co
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$30,000
	<b>Description</b>	In brief, the Club intends to achieve the following outcomes: provide youth with a fun, safe and constructive place during out-of-school hours, continue to increase the number of members graduating from high school each year and increase the level of members school engagement. Matrix code: 05D.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	

<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p>Students in middle school face unique challenges as they transition from elementary to high school. Some of them feel ready for more independence, while others still desire the structured and nurturing environment found in elementary school.</p> <p>Adding to these concerns are the effects of poverty and uncertain home lives. This makes school-based after-school programs safe havens that give kids opportunities to imagine a positive future.</p> <p>Grades 6 to 8 are critical for keeping youth engaged in school. Most students are too young for teen programs, yet they feel that after-school programs are designed for younger children. Often they are unwilling to participate. But middle school youth still need a safe place to have fun and learn.</p> <p>Boys &amp; Girls Club after-school programs offer multiple benefits to help middle schoolers navigate early adolescence, and prepare them for success in high school, college and beyond. Here is the program we deliver and will improve upon next fall to serve even more kids at the Rivera Middle School.</p> <p>Boys &amp; Girls Club After-School Programs at the Rivera Middle School operate five days per week for at least three (3) hours after school dismissal. Activities include a nutritious snack, tutoring, computer and financial literacy, physical fitness and recreation, and career exploration.</p> <p>Our 10-month program maintains a 90% daily attendance rate and is structured into three 12-week cycles with block plans developed to include a mixture of needs-based and interest-based programming.</p> <p>The weekly after-school block plan includes Education and Career programs (Project Learn, Tutoring, STEM, Career Explorers, and Future Entrepreneurs), Healthy Living (Triple Play, Sports Leagues, Cooking, and Smart Moves), and Leadership and Character Development (Torch Club and Helping Hands) These programs are interwoven with activities such as drama, arts, and field trips to provide a diverse, fun, and enriching after-school experience.</p> <p>Our program partners enliven activities with fresh takes on healthy living and physical fitness. These include Soccer for Success, ArtWorks,</p>
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		<p>Rutgers 4-H, intramural basketball leagues, and HiTops.</p> <p>The Boys &amp; Girls Club reinforces and engages students with learning while providing youths with a sense of belonging in a positive atmosphere. Each Club member sets goals and is guided by a caring staff member to stay on track and reach their full potential.</p> <p>The Club employs several basic principles to deliver successful youth outcomes. We utilize a mixture of interest-based programs combined with mission and needs-based activities. We believe that engaging youth while they are young helps them stay on track to achieve both short and long term goals. We tackle the most pressing issues facing Trenton youth including school dropout prevention and career preparation.</p> <p>In brief, the Club intends to achieve the following outcomes: provide youth with a fun, safe and constructive place during out-of-school hours, continue to increase the number of members' graduating from high school each year and increase the level of members' school engagement.</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Homeless Services or Prevention: The Crisis Ministry of Mercer County
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$45,000

<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p>The Crisis Ministry's Housing Stability Shallow Subsidy and Case Management program assists families and individuals who are in an imminent threat of homelessness or currently in a homeless episode by providing 1) immediate financial assistance to regain or stabilize current housing, 2) shallow subsidies to support housing costs for an average of five months but no more than one year, and 3) case management support. The first step rapidly stabilizes or restores housing, and the additional months of shallow subsidy are critical to maintain housing while the case manager works in partnership with the client to identify barriers to stability and to implement a Strength Based Goal Plan to address them. In addition to receiving financial assistance and case management, clients may visit our Trenton food pantries twice monthly to alleviate food insecurity and benefit from our workforce development resources such as professional development workshops, on-the-job training in our food pantries, and use of our computer lab for job search and resume writing. Matrix code: 05Q</p>
<p><b>Target Date</b></p>	
<p><b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b></p>	
<p><b>Location Description</b></p>	

<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p>Proposed program: The Crisis Ministry’s Housing Stability Shallow Subsidy and Case Management program assists families and individuals who are in an imminent threat of homelessness or currently in a homeless episode by providing 1) immediate financial assistance to regain or stabilize current housing, 2) shallow subsidies to support housing costs for an average of five months but no more than one year, and 3) case management support. The first step rapidly stabilizes or restores housing, and the additional months of shallow subsidy are critical to maintain housing while the case manager works in partnership with the client to identify barriers to stability and to implement a Strength Based Goal Plan to address them. In addition to receiving financial assistance and case management, clients may visit our Trenton food pantries twice monthly to alleviate food insecurity and benefit from our workforce development resources such as professional development workshops, on-the-job training in our food pantries, and use of our computer lab for job search and resume writing.</p> <p>Population served: The program serves families and individuals in Mercer County, with the greatest concentration of service in the City of Trenton. Funds from CDBG will serve only Trenton residents. The Crisis Ministry accepts referrals for the program from Mercer County Board of Social Services, the City of Trenton, HomeFront, and other community partners. Many referrals come directly from our homelessness prevention program, when it is determined that more than one-time financial assistance is needed to restore housing stability.</p> <p>Services provided: The program operates Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with after hour phone/text access to the case manager available to clients. Once the client is deemed eligible for the program by meeting the income guidelines of combined income of less than 80% of area median income and demonstrating an imminent threat of homelessness that will not be stabilized with one-time assistance, the Case Manager invites the client to be a participant of the program. The client signs a Participant Agreement Form that outlines projected amounts of shallow subsidies and responsibilities such as meeting with the Case Manager, defining goals and plan for achieving stability, and completing and following a budget. The client and Case Manager then meet to conduct a Strengths Assessment and Goal and Plan Chart. The Strengths Assessment asks the client to evaluate life areas such as Housing, Transportation, Finances, Vocation</p>
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		and Education, and Family and Relationships. The client defines their current status, aspirations, and desires, and identifies the personal and social resources he or she has used in the past. This exercise helps the client to bolster confidence and self-esteem and sets a positive and empowering tone for work toward goals. All clients participate in a budgeting exercise and then seek to maximize income through securing employment, benefits, or a combination through their goal plans. The case manager assists clients to access needed services identified in the plan, such as child care, transportation, health care including mental health, legal assistance.
13	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Adult Ed/Life Skills/Financial Literacy & Counseling: Family Guidance Ctr
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$46,000
	<b>Description</b>	Family Guidance will receive an individual's Social Security Disability Income and pay their monthly rent and utility bills on their behalf. This program is specifically designed for individuals with physical and/or mental health disabilities that are at risk for homelessness due to their inability to independently manage their finances. If these individuals did not have the assistance of the program, they would likely be evicted for neglecting to pay their rent, and would be at a high risk for homelessness. Matrix code: 05
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	



	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>The Representative Payee program is the only program of its kind in Central New Jersey. This program has been largely underfunded over the years and is in need of financial support to maintain service levels and to accommodate the growing number of referrals. The program is near capacity and would benefit from the addition of another part-time case manager and another part-time account manager.</p> <p>The main goals of the program are to prevent homelessness, avoid lease violations, eviction proceedings, and ensure that at-risk individuals can maintain stable housing. This is accomplished by managing their income and monthly bills on their behalf. The majority of clients currently accessing this service suffer from severe and persistent mental health and/or developmental disabilities. As a result, they are at risk for homelessness due to their inability to manage their household finances. Client outcomes are tracked by the Director of the Consumer Credit Counseling Service, and clients that are able are asked to complete an annual Client Satisfaction Survey.</p>
14	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Job Training or Career Development: Shiloh Community Development Corp
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$28,375
	<b>Description</b>	Shiloh CDC, in collaboration with local partners, is building a pathway to technology jobs. Shiloh is delivering an evidenced-based career readiness training called Ready to Launch. This is an optional training but is strongly encouraged for individuals who are chronically unemployed. Shiloh offers a popular web-design course that enables graduates to work as apprentices, upon graduation. Additionally, Shiloh offers career services that include resume writing, job development, and job placement that is free for Trenton residents. Matrix code: 05H
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	

	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	<p>Description of services:</p> <p>1. Ready to Launch Career Workshops - Participants come face-to-face with their personal barriers to employment. Residents practice personality tests that employers are now administering online. They learn team building skills, and learning how to prevent workplace conflicts. Participants are exposed to trips to local technology employers and are matched with employers for local internships. The Ready to Launch workshops are held over a five-week period in the mornings and evenings. In 2016 there will be five sessions of Ready to Launch and four Web Design programs.</p> <p>2. Technical Training – Candidates can enroll in our web design course, and/or the computer repair training. Upon graduation, students who are eligible can participate in a six week internship. Students can also choose to increase their skills by pursuing additional industry training and certifications, such as Adobe, Photo Shop, A+ Certifications, or coding. Shiloh CDC will when possible provide scholarships for these endeavors.</p> <p>3. Employment –Our workforce development team enroll all clients - whether walk-ins or enrolled program participant. We also build relationships with area businesses in efforts to prepare our clients for job leads at local companies. We create networking and recruitment opportunities by holding three job fair events per year. Additionally, we hold eight employer group interviewing opportunities on site where candidates and employers are brought together. Clients can also come in for just resume creation/updating, interview preparation, job search, and job placement. We will accept referrals from local partners and draw from our database of more than 3000 clients. We distribute outreach materials in English and Spanish in order to serve our diverse population. These services are offered Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; with one late night. Our staff is multilingual. We speak English, Spanish, and Creole.</p>
<b>15</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Services for Seniors or Indv w/Disabilities: Interfaith Caregivers of MC
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services

	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$35,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Neighbors Helping Neighbors Stay Healthy Program has given ICGMC the ability to combine experiences in the areas of service provision (i.e. transportation, friendly visits, shopping etc.), health education, and volunteer management and apply them to a unique project geared to improving the health and well being of the City of Trenton's most vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities through the efforts of volunteers from local congregations and the community at large. Matrix code: 05A.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	In summary, to improve the health of Trenton's elderly and people with disabilities, ICGMC offers a project that meets simple but critical health needs: a ride to the doctor, a trip to the supermarket, a hot meal, a friend to talk with, an opportunity to exercise, delivery of prescriptions/medical supplies, referral to community services and access to preventive health information – all available at no charge by a strong, screened, well-trained and professionally supported network of volunteers.
<b>16</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Services for Seniors or Indv w/Disabilities: YMCA of Trenton
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$16,000

<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p>The YMCA of Trenton's mission for a healthy mind, body and spirit targets all life cycles. The Y is one of the few community-based organizations remaining in Trenton that includes offerings for mature adults and seniors; the organization plays a critical role in the lives of individuals and families regardless of age. Through exercise programs such as Silver Sneakers, volunteers opportunities and social gatherings, senior programming remains core to our vision. Based on the nationally recognized model, Active Older Adults (AOA) in the YMCA experience a strong sense of belongingness and a network of friends who provide supportive communities for sustained health and well-being. Through on-going, fun, safe, and engaging programs, activities, and events AOA members increase their self-confidence and sense of achievement while building relationships and celebrating the success and milestones of each older adult within their AOA community. Matrix code: 05A.</p>
<p><b>Target Date</b></p>	
<p><b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b></p>	
<p><b>Location Description</b></p>	

<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Access to Group Exercise</b>  The Trenton YMCA offers over 25 group exercise classes weekly with five being designated exclusively to older active adults. Certified instructors guide participants safely through movements that encourage flexibility, range of motion and muscle strengthening. AOA Participants will be bussed from senior citizen housing, private residences and other identified central locations to the Fitness Studios and main Trenton Y facility weekly to participate in structured group exercise classes. For housing complexes that prefer on site group exercise, fitness staff will be sent out for programming.</p> <p><b>Access to Fresh Food</b>  As coordinators of the Greenwood Avenue Farmers Market, the Trenton Y will engage Active Older Adults from all wards of the city by transporting them weekly to the farmers market where they will enjoy shopping at the market for fresh fruits and produce, taking fitness classes, and participating in social activities. Participants will also be transported to other regional farmer's markets and farms to select fresh produce. Using our highly successful matching dollars incentive, participants will be able to stretch their fixed income to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. In the summer months when many outdoor markets are not open they will have access to area indoor markets and fresh food delivery services.</p> <p>AOA small-group activities encourage older adult social interaction, provide meaningful engagement, build relationships, enhance a sense of belonging, and provide opportunities for involvement in program planning and delivery. Support from other people is important to most older adults.</p> <p><b>Social Programming</b>  Small-group activities include social clubs, potlucks, health and fitness, volunteer activity, day trip outings, senior sports, trips, travel, leadership, camping and outdoor center activities, and educational and special interest programs. Social clubs reinforce the YMCA goals to help individuals improve and move to a higher state of well-being by enhancing self-worth, fostering positive relationships, improving holistic health, and inspiring leadership. YMCAs offer older adults a variety of activities to ensure that each person finds something in which to engage and from which to gain encouragement and support.</p>
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17	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Crime Prevention, Gang Awareness: Millhill Child & Family Development
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$36,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Trenton PEERS, Performing, Educating, and Engaging about Responsible Strategies, is a year-round peer education and support group made up of two mixed gender teams of young adults, ages 13-18. The PEERS provides Trenton's vulnerable youth with the information, skills, and support needed to find confidence, develop leadership skills, establish healthy relationships, avoid dangerous choices and establish a path for a bright future. In a city struggling with poverty, crime, homelessness, teen pregnancies and more, the Trenton PEERS program provides much needed hope and support to youth who need it most. Trenton teens are faced with multiple social and economic barriers including trauma, discrimination, physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse/neglect, poverty, substance abuse, violence, gang-related pressure, family dysfunction, and/or other challenges. The Trenton PEERS program provides teens with a healthy and constructive alternative to unhealthy behaviors such as violence, gang involvement and substance abuse while supporting positive development and academic success. To help with these challenges facing Trenton teens, the PEERS establish close mentoring relationships with program staff and are coached on the complex issues of teen life. In addition to mentoring, the program provides leadership skills, empowers teens to think critically and provides a social circle that reinforces positive behavior and support for both high school graduation and higher education goals. Matrix code: 05I
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
<b>Location Description</b>		

<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p>To help with these challenges facing Trenton teens, the PEERS establish close mentoring relationships with program staff and are coached on the complex issues of teen life. In addition to mentoring, the program provides leadership skills, empowers teens to think critically and provides a social circle that reinforces positive behavior and support for both high school graduation and higher education goals.</p> <p>Millhill’s 24 PEERS meet weekly at Millhill and learn about topics including gang awareness, substance abuse, and anger management and bullying. Over the course of last year, 40 workshops to over 2,000 adolescents in subjects ranging from bullying to HIV/AIDS awareness to violence prevention were held by the PEERS. Transportation is provided and teen members receive a healthy meal and ongoing group counseling/case management services. Teens earn a small stipend, which many give to their families for living expenses and school supplies.</p> <p>Putting their skills into action, the PEERS give back to their community by writing and performing skits and interactive workshops that help teens make decisions during time of conflict and in risky situations (gang confrontations, bullying, drug and alcohol abuse pressure, self-esteem, dating violence, HIV awareness, etc). After the skits the PEERS run small groups of activities designed to promote critical thinking and problem solving surrounding the workshop topics.</p> <p>PEERS primarily serve low-income middle and high school-age youth of color from struggling Trenton families. Last year, 79% of the team members were African American/African, 13% Latino, 4% mixed heritage and 4% Caucasian. A number of team members face literacy challenges, food insecurity and family instability. The challenges faced by team members – as with Trenton youth in general - greatly increase their vulnerability to gang activity, violence, and a wide variety of other unhealthy factors and harm.</p> <p>The number of homicides in the city in recent years has placed Trenton among the top five or ten communities with the highest homicide rates in the nation. Trenton youth are surrounded by gang activity, crime and violence and other unhealthy behaviors and effects of poverty. According to the 2010 US Census 22% of Trenton families are below the poverty level with 43% of children living in poverty – more than twice the average for New Jersey. Approximately, 36.3% of those living in</p>
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		<p>Trenton, NJ are living below the poverty line. (City Data, 2013).</p> <p>In addition, our teens are continually faced with multiple social and economic barriers including trauma; discrimination; physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse/neglect; poverty; substance abuse; violence; gang-related pressure; family dysfunction; and/or other upheavals. These challenges greatly increase their vulnerability to gang violence and activity, substance abuse, involvement with the juvenile justice system and other harms. With the support of our partners, Millhill and the PEERS aim to help reduce disparities by providing a safe and caring place to go after-school to receive support and reinforce positive behavior and encourage educational success.</p>
18	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Crime Prevention, Gang Awareness or Prisoner Re-Entry: CJOOS
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$51,368
	<b>Description</b>	The Summer Initiative will be an expansion of the existing CJOOS program, by offering an additional, more intensive, 18-session cycle during the summer months. The Summer Initiative will run for nine weeks (from the week of June 19 - August 19) and will meet twice per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) for a total of 18 sessions. By expanding the program in this manner, we will increase our level of service by 33% -- serving 80 unduplicated youth during the contract year, compared to 60 in previous years; and we will address an unmet need by reducing the significant community safety concerns that surface during the summer months when youth are out of school and have an abundance of unstructured time. Matrix code: 05I
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
<b>Location Description</b>		



<p><b>Planned Activities</b></p>	<p>Clients are Mercer County youth referred and mandated to the program by the Mercer County Family Court and/or the Juvenile Probation Unit; 95% of participants are Trenton residents who have generally been involved in auto theft; simple or aggravated assault; harassment; terroristic threats; theft or receiving stolen property; and 85% are gang-affiliated upon intake.</p> <p>CJOOS, a 16-week delinquency intervention program, provides youth on probation with violence-prevention and conflict resolution skills; gang culture education; computer and job preparation skills; academic support; training in respect for authority; and critical/strategic thinking that enables them to redirect their lives. Through mentoring, a proven, evidence-based curriculum, and recreational/educational excursions, CJOOS helps youth (age 11-17) improve communication, interpersonal relationships, and job readiness skills, develop a healthier life perspective; recognize risk factors for gang involvement; develop links to protective resources in the community; and reduce recidivism and future involvement with the juvenile justice system.</p> <p>Each program cycle is comprised of 20 youth, with 3 cycles a year, serving 60 youth annually. The Summer Initiative expansion for the 2016-17 grant year, will enable us to serve an additional 20 youth, increasing our level of service by 33%, through an intensive summer program -- thereby serving a total of 80 clients for the 2016-17 grant period.</p> <p>Sessions meet each Saturday, from 10 am - 1 pm, at Trenton's Sam Naples Center where participants use the Phoenix/New Freedom curriculum. The Project Phoenix anti-gang program was awarded the national Spirit of Excellence award at the National Gang Crime Research Center's 2004 conference, and regularly demonstrates significant reductions in recidivism (50+% reduction). Endorsed by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission and approved for use in NJ schools, the curriculum provides full group programming as well as smaller breakout groups for juveniles to work through specific issues (e.g. extreme anger, substance abuse). In 2012, we added a job readiness/career component, helping participants learn software, build resumes, identify career paths, and sharpen job search skills. In 2015, we included CPR/First-Aid training and a partnership with Capital Health focusing on violence-prevention, as participants easily find themselves in life-threatening situations precipitated by violence. The core curriculum successfully teaches skills that empower and motivate participants to de-escalate or walk away</p>
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		<p>from potentially violent situations.</p> <p>Staff and volunteer mentors educate youth about positive alternatives to criminal activity and gang involvement. Discussions/ activities related to pertinent topics, such as "Change for a Better Life" and "Healthy Risk Taking." Participants benefit from guest speakers, including community leaders and organizations, and one-on-one and group mentoring by the student scholars. Participants have the opportunity to spend a day on the TCNJ campus, and partake in program excursions and experiential learning opportunities which take them beyond the confines of the city. These excursions teach participants team-building, trust, and positive social skills which radiate out into the community after their time in the program is complete; and serve to enhance their life experience and expand their frame of reverence, providing the foundation for larger goals and aspirations.</p>
19	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Service Projects -- Nutrition: TASK
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve public facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improve Public Facilities
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	ASK is the only organization in the City of Trenton that feeds the hungry every weekday. TASK's Meal Service Program provides hot, nutritious lunch Monday-Friday and dinner Monday-Thursday from our Escher Street location in Trenton's North Ward. In addition, TASK has established partnerships with local churches to provide meals at 5 satellite locations in South, North and West Trenton and 6 sites in the greater Trenton area. TASK partners with Mercer Street Friends Food Bank and local schools to provide weekend meals to students who are food-insecure through the Send Hunger Packing Program: At the end of each school week, students enrolled in the program receive a meal pack filled with kid-friendly, easy-to-open, nutritious food for the weekend. Matrix code: 05W
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	

	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	TASK's Meal Service Program provides daily, consistent nutrition to people in Trenton who cannot afford it or access it. TASK serves a hot midday meal Monday–Friday, 10:30am–1:30pm, and an evening meal Monday–Thursday, 3:30pm–5:30pm, at our Escher Street facility, as well as weekday lunch and dinner at 5 satellite locations in Trenton and 6 sites in the Greater Trenton area. This past year, TASK provided 203,680 meals to patrons at Trenton locations, 12% more meals than the year before. We expect the meal count to continue to rise.
<b>20</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Facilities Improvements -- Senior Citizen Center Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve public facilities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improve Public Facilities
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$152,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City will complete various capital improvements in one or more of the five (5) senior citizens centers.
	<b>Target Date</b>	
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Funds will be used to make improvements to the City's senior centers. Improvements include the repair or replacement of major systems and the removal of architectural barriers. Matrix code: 03A
<b>21</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Various Public Service Projects
	<b>Target Area</b>	
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide public services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Provide Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$17,345,875
	<b>Description</b>	24.5% of annual CDBG allocation; plus \$395,659 of Program Income
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2019

<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
<b>Location Description</b>	
<b>Planned Activities</b>	

## **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**

By federal regulation, 70% of CDBG funds must be spent in neighborhoods where at least 51% of the population is Low and Moderate Income (LMI). Portions of all census tracts in the city meet the LMI criteria with two exceptions (Census Tract 6 -- the Villa Park neighborhood and Census Tract 22 – the neighborhoods surrounding Cadwalader Park).

In Trenton itself there are clear patterns of racial segregation throughout the City. Tract data from the 2000 Census shows evidence of minority concentration with respect to both the African-American and Latino populations. Approximately 62% of the City’s African-American population lived in tracts in which 65% or more of the population was African-American. The Latino population was concentrated in the city's South Wards, Census Tracts 3, 4, 7 9, 10, 11, and in the North Ward in Census Tracts 8 and 12.

### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
CITY OF TRENTON RESIDENTS	100

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

### **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

CDBG and HOME funds are intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities to be funded with CDBG funds include public improvements, housing rehabilitation and preservation, affordable housing development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration.

The system for establishing the priority for the selection of these projects is predicated upon the

following criteria:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the CDBG program;
- Meeting the needs of very-low, low-, and moderate-income residents;
- Focusing on low- and moderate-income persons, areas, or neighborhoods;
- Coordinating and leveraging of resources;
- Responding to expressed needs; and
- Achieving sustainability and/or long-term impact.

## **Discussion**

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

The following are estimates of the affordable housing goals in 2016.

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported</b>	
Homeless	500
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	500

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

<b>One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through</b>	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	32
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	32

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

#### Discussion

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

The Trenton Housing Authority (THA) provides public housing within the City of Trenton. The Trenton Housing Authority is comprised of nine housing developments. These developments have more than 1,900 residences that provide affordable homes to approximately 3,200 people.

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

THA will continue to use its Capital Fund grant to make, physical, operational and management improvements at its various housing developments and administrative sites.

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

THA has resident councils in its developments. These resident councils have input/involvement with THA management operations and modernization needs. Resident council officers serve on THA's Resident Advisory Board (RAB).

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

Not applicable.

### **Discussion**



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

### **Introduction**

See below for homeless and other special needs activities.

### **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**

Under the CoC Program, the Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care is responsible for conducting a Point-in-Time count of the homeless persons, at least biennially; however, the CoC has elected to conduct the count annually. The Point-in-Time Count provides a one day snapshot of homeless households in our communities. The Count conducts a sheltered and unsheltered report of all homeless individuals and families according to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definitions.

The Trenton/Mercer CoC adopted the Opening Doors Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The goals of the plan are to:

- Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in 2017
- Prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in 2015
- Prevent and end homelessness for families, youth, and children in 2020
- Set a path to ending all types of homelessness

In April 2015, the Coordinated Entry & Assessment Services (CEAS) Center was opened to help the chronically homeless navigate housing options and support services at one location. In addition, a mobile outreach initiative was launched to span all four wards of the city to outreach to those “hard to reach” individuals and those reluctant or unable to enter emergency shelter.

In November 2015, Mayor Eric Jackson and Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes signed on to the White House Challenge to End Veteran's Homelessness in the Trenton/Mercer area by 2015. Seventy-nine homeless veterans were identified and housed no later than December 31, 2015. In addition, the government officials declared Functional Zero which states that episodes of homelessness among

veterans will be brief, rare, and prioritized.

The City of Trenton, Department of Health and Human Services is the lead agency for planning and the grant application for the CoC Program. The CoC is comprised of over 30 social service providers; both governmental and non-profit organizations.

The Trenton/Mercer CoC coordinates a broad array of services that includes, but is not limited to:

- Outreach Assessments Prevention of Homelessness Emergency Shelter/Services Rapid Rehousing Transitional Housing Case management/Support Services Permanent Housing Education Resources

### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The City is supporting emergency shelters with support for both operations and capital improvements from the Emergency Solutions Grant. The Rescue Mission will receive \$15,000 toward operation support. Anchor House (\$18,000) and Womanspace (\$20,000) are being awarded funds to make improvements to their emergency shelters.

### **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 Trenton and the CoC have a valuable partner in the Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness. In 2009, the Alliance spearheaded efforts to shift the CoC's efforts to combat homelessness in Trenton from a sheltering model to a rehousing model. The Alliance works with the County of Mercer, the Mercer County Board of Social Services and the City of Trenton's Department of Health and Human Services to leverage significant resources.

Families receiving rapid re-housing have been very successful at remaining stably housed. Since the CoC transitioned to a rehousing service model 94% of families that were rehoused did not become homeless again. Pilot projects targeting the singles population, during the same period of time, show similar success with 98.5% of participants not returning to 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.**

The Trenton/Mercer CoC worked with the New Jersey Policy academy to develop the States discharge plan. The vision for this plan is one that plans for greater coordination of services and programs required to address homelessness in New Jersey including the promotion of prevention strategies and services to prevent homelessness and reduce the risk of homelessness for families and individuals.

The New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of Mental Health Services, New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Youth and Family Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, and the New Jersey Department of Corrections in conjunction with the Department of Health and Senior Services Division of AIDS, prevents discharges from facilities without the immediate provision of shelter. Thus, the State's plan guarantees no persons being discharged from and institutional setting into homelessness.

Thus, because Foster Care in New Jersey is a statewide system it is part of this statewide discharge policy. Specially, the case worker works with the youth to identify available Trenton and Mercer County City and County resources and appropriate housing. Under current New Jersey child welfare reform legislation, several new programs have been implemented that allow for a more seamless transition from youth to adulthood. Many of these programs include permanent housing.

## **Discussion**

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

### **Introduction:**

See below for the actions planned to address barriers to affordable housing.

### **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**

As described in the Consolidated Plan, there are two key issues that are currently limiting the ability of would-be purchasers of government-subsidized homes to obtain mortgages. The first is the requirement of many government agencies that there be a second mortgage recorded on properties for the amount of the subsidy that has gone into the home, to help protect the public investment. This frequently raises the loan to value ratio to well beyond both the sales price and the appraised value of the home, creating a situation lenders perceive as high risk, despite the fact that these liens are subordinated to the lender's first mortgage. This practice is being required not only by the state, but also by many county and municipal governments in NJ, and is being applied to homes funded by HOME, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, Balanced Housing and other programs.

The second issue is that many housing subsidy programs require affordability controls in the form of deed restrictions that do not extinguish in the case of foreclosure. It has become a problem over the last few years because lenders are relying increasingly on FHA to insure their mortgages, rather than private mortgage insurance companies, and FHA rules prohibit them from insuring mortgages that have deed restrictions that survive foreclosure. While this rule has been on the books at FHA for years, it apparently wasn't aggressively enforced until recently.

These issues combine in a way that is severely limiting the availability of home purchase financing for subsidized homes in Trenton.

### **Discussion:**

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

In FY 2016, the City of Trenton plans the following actions to help address the housing and community development needs of City residents, especially low/moderate income residents.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

The chief obstacle to meeting underserved needs is a lack of, or inadequate, resources -- both financial and human (staffing). The City of Trenton will continue to collaborate with human and social service agencies and the Continuum of Care to identify potential resources for meeting the service needs of City residents. The City will support the efforts of service agencies to maximize the use of available resources and to obtain additional resources whenever possible.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

The City of Trenton will continue to allocate funds to create and maintain affordable housing. The City will continue to support its goals of maintaining and expanding affordable housing by utilizing its FY 2016 CDBG and HOME allocations to create new opportunities for affordable rental and homeownership and rehabilitate existing affordable units. The City applied for nearly \$2M in assistance from HUD in April of 2016 to reduce the hazards of lead-based paint in Trenton's homes. The City's housing rehabilitation program is slated to double its production in 2016 as it enters year 2 of a streamlined program that utilizes the resources and capacity of a professional consulting firm.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

Lead-based paint abatement is an eligible rehabilitation program, and participation in the City's housing rehabilitation programs will reduce the number of homes with lead-based paint hazards. In April 2016, the City will applied for a Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant for approximatel \$2M. CDBG funds will be used as match toward that grant.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

The resources that the City of Trenton has to reduce the number of persons with incomes below the poverty level are limited. The City will continue to pursue and support various economic development and housing activities in an effort to provide an environment that will attract or retain businesses or facilitate the expansion of existing businesses thereby securing employment and increased incomes for

City residents.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City of Trenton relies on a network of public sector, private sector, and non-profit organizations to deliver needed housing and community development services to City residents, particularly the homeless and special needs populations. Many of the organizations in the network operate on a county or regional level. The demand for services greatly exceeds the available resources. The City of Trenton will continue to collaborate with human and social service agencies and the Trenton/Mercer County Continuum of Care (CoC) to identify potential resources for meeting the service needs of City residents. The City will support the efforts of service agencies to obtain any available or future resources.

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

The Department of Housing and Economic Development (HE&D) is the lead agency responsible for administering the City's CDBG and HOME programs. HE&D works with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Inspections to coordinate activities undertaken in the Action Plan. The Department of Health and Human Services administers the City's ESG program.

The Trenton/ Mercer CoC is a planning committee that reviews, evaluates , maintains and develops ongoing strategies to address quality of life issues for the residents of Mercer County who may be homeless or in jeopardy of homelessness. The CoC has developed a system-wide approach for implementation of the HEARTH Act which is to consolidate homeless assistance programs, codify the CoC planning process, and establish a goal of ensuring that families who become homeless return to permanent housing with 30 days.

The Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness, the Mercer County CoC, and County of Mercer County have all been partners in the development of this Action Plan.

Each sub-recipient will match its allocation of ESG funds dollar for dollar in one of the following ways as outlined in 24 CFR 576.51(a)(b): cash; the value or fair rental value of any donated material or building; value of any lease on a building; any salary paid to staff to carry out the program activities; and the value of the time and services contributed by volunteers to carry out program activities. The Sub-recipient

may use any reasonable method to establish a fair market value when calculating or determining the value of any donated material or building, or any lease.

In addition, the City of Trenton, Office of Adult and Family Services provides a number of services which address the needs of persons who are not homeless, disabled, mentally & physically ill and who require supportive housing . These services include: (a) rental assistance to families and individuals in order to prevent homelessness (b) intensive and comprehensive case management services (c) referrals to other social services agencies which include substance abuse, mental health counseling, medical and dental services and educational and occupational training (e) referrals for emergency food, clothing and furniture (f) provide information for budget management, cleaning up personal credit, buying a home and preventing foreclosures.

The City continues to work with a host of social service providers including:

- Enable, Inc- makes housing accessible to persons with disabilities
- Mercer Arc - provides services for the developmentally disabled
- Family Guidance Center- operates a Consumer Credit Counseling component and representative payee services for recipients of Social Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)
- Greater Trenton Behavioral Healthcare - provides supportive services focus on mental health issues
- Mercer County Office on Aging - provides supportive services, meals and other services to the elderly
- Trenton Treatment Center - provides substance abuse counseling and treatment to drug and alcohol addicts

**Discussion:**

## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Introduction:

The following provides program specific information for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.

#### 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        |
| <b>Total Program Income:</b>   | <b>0</b> |

#### Other CDBG Requirements

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities   | 0      |
| 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. | 70.00% |

#### HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

All HOME funds will be invested in a manner consistent with 24 CFR 92.205(b)(I). Specifically, HOME



funds are invested as construction financing for new construction and gut rehabilitation projects.

The City of Trenton HOME Program provides incentives to develop and support affordable rental housing and homeownership. New construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of non-luxury housing with suitable amenities, including real property acquisition, site improvements, conversion, demolition, and other expenses, including financing costs, are all considered eligible uses of HOME program funds. All HOME funded housing must be permanent or transitional housing.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

To promote affordable housing, the City of Trenton provides funds to construct or rehabilitate housing to reduce the purchase price of ownership units throughout the city. This allows households of low- or moderate- income to purchase homes at a reduced price. Each buyer enters into an Affordable Housing Agreement with the City which requires that the buyer occupy the unit as their principal residence, and that they sell their unit only to another income-eligible buyer. The future resale price will be based on the original purchase price, plus an annual return on equity utilizing the regional income limits established by the NJ Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) per N.J.A.C. 5:97-9.3 as well as allowances for eligible capital improvements which may include any additions, exterior improvements such as windows, doors, solar panels, HVAC, or other energy-efficiency improvement to the housing unit. Per COAH guidelines, the price of owner-occupied low- and moderate-income units may increase annually based on the percentage increase in the regional median income limit for each housing region. In no event shall the maximum resale price be lower than the last recorded purchase price.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

See above.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

The City of Trenton does not use HOME funds to refinance existing debt. The City has several certified Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOS). The City of Trenton will commit

the statutory 15% CHDO set aside for several projects .

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

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

The Department of Health and Human Services implements ESG-funded activities and supports subrecipients of ESG funds targeted to deal with health and human services issues. The Department of Health and Human Services hosts an annual capacity building workshop to provide tools for applying for funding and highlighting performance and financial management expectations. The City will continue to help sub-recipients reach their goals through the use of performance-based contracts and conducting reviews of monthly programmatic reports. The contracts will continue to outline specific target timeframes for achieving specific goals and plans for addressing non-performance issues. Discussions and meetings will continue to be held to discuss performance issues and recommended solutions. A review of the recommendations within a reasonable timeframe will determine if issues were resolved. Severe performance issues that are not reasonably addressed may jeopardize the sub-recipients future funding opportunities.

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

The Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care, through a comprehensive Coordinated Assessment Process, targets and prioritizes the most vulnerable persons experiencing homelessness in the community. The CoC follows a two-part coordinated assessment process for families and individuals.

a. For homeless households with children, a centralized intake is in place at the Mercer County Board of Social Services that seeks to mediate/prevent homelessness whenever possible and reduce the length of time families are homeless through a rapid rehousing - a model that places a priority on moving a family experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible, ideally within 30 days of a family becoming homeless. A Universal screening Tool is used to identify and prioritize families for services with a primary goal of returning the family to permanent housing.

b. For individuals unaccompanied by children, CoC has developed a Coordinated Entry and Assessment System (CEASe) for individuals experiencing homelessness. This system operates as the point of entry to access housing and community services for homeless individuals. Through a coordinated assessment process, the needs of the homeless are identified and prioritized and a plan to move from homelessness to housing is developed. The goal of this system is to prioritize chronically homeless individuals and families with the longest history of homelessness and with the most severe service needs.

- During day time business hours, homeless individuals are directed to the Mercer County Board of Social Services. Screening and assessments are conducted to determine housing needs and eligibility to benefits (emergency assistance). For those persons who cannot be diverted from the system, emergency shelter referrals are provided.
- After business hours, homeless individuals are directed to the Rescue Mission Emergency Shelter where screening for housing need and shelter services are provided.
- Additional System Access Points will be added as the system develops.
- A screening tool is used to assess individuals for vulnerability risk factors and chronic homelessness.

See AP-25 Unique Appendices for the full description of the CoC Coordinated Assessment Process.

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

Under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, cities such as Trenton receive formula-based entitlement grants from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) each year. Among them is the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

Nonprofit corporations and faith-based organizations are eligible to apply for ESG funds. Organization need not be located within the City limits of Trenton. However, the beneficiaries or participants of the program must be Trenton residents.

Eligible activities for ESG funds will be divided into two categories: 1) Rapid Re-Housing for Individuals; and 2) Renovations, Operations, and Essential Services for Emergency Shelters. The City intends to award the Rapid Re-Housing for Individuals Program (including Street Outreach) to one (1) agency. Multiple awards may be made for Emergency Shelter projects.

The City utilizes an online grant application system called ZoomGrants (<http://www.zoomgrants.com>) to facilitate the application process.

Applications to the Emergency Solutions Grant will be scored by a committee of at least three (3) individuals. Three members of the Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care Executive Board reviewed and scored the applications.

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

N/A.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

All ESG activities are setup as programs in the CoC's HMIS system. The CoC's System Oversight Committee (which includes the City's CDBG Coordinator) meet monthly to review the accomplishments and challenges to the implementation of all CoC and ESG-funded activities. As necessary, representatives from the sponsors of troubled projects are invited to future meetings to help resolve issues.

## Attachments

## Citizen Participation Comments

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE**  
**CITY OF TRENTON ANNUAL ACTION PLANS for FY 2015 and 2016 and 2017**

The City of Trenton invites public comment on a Substantial Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Action Plan. The public comment period will end on November 13, 2018. A copy of the substantial amendment is available at the Department of Housing and Economic Development at 319 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608 or at [www.trentonnj.org/odbg](http://www.trentonnj.org/odbg) or mailed upon request by calling 609-989-3536 (7-1-1 TDD - NJ Relay Center).

The purpose of the Substantial Amendment to the Annual Action Plan is to reflect a reduction in the budget for FY 2017 due to a loss of funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The prior administration elected to take a voluntary grant reduction to repay FY2007-2013 funds that HUD found were ineligible expenses and then HUD reduced the balance due to a problem with the timely expenditure of the funds.

The City also invites comment on a substantial amendment to FY 2015 and FY 2016. Several public service activities identified in the FY 2015 Consolidated Plan were not funded or funds were reduced due to capacity issues.

FY2015 Program - Projects Canceled Or Reduced	IDIS	FY2015 Budget	FY2015 Budget Recapture	FY2015 Revised Budget
Young Scholars' Institute	1718	\$38,250.00	(\$16,707.39)	\$21,542.61
Living Hope Empowerment Center	1723	\$28,526.00	(\$28,526.00)	\$0
Milhill Child & Family Development Corporation	1727	\$40,694.00	(\$197.96)	\$40,496.04
Boys & Girls Club of Trenton/Mercer County	1734	\$25,500.00	(\$388.22)	\$25,111.78
Boys & Girls Club of Trenton/Mercer County	1737	\$25,500.00	(\$310.41)	\$25,189.59
Mercer County Hispanic Association	1738	\$42,500.00	(\$42,500.00)	\$0
Bonner Center for Chic and Community Engagement at The College of NJ	1739	\$42,296.00	(\$2,516.25)	\$39,779.75
Enable, Inc.	1740	\$42,092.00	(\$29,885.32)	\$12,206.68
Play Soccer Nonprofit International	1741	\$32,045.00	(\$12,396.00)	\$19,649.00
YWCA Trenton	1744	\$29,750.00	(\$29,750.00)	\$0
Vocational Arts Science & Training Center Inc.	1745	\$17,000	(\$10,281.20)	\$6,718.80
			<b>(\$173,458.75)</b>	

The \$173,458.75 recaptured from FY 2015 activities will be used to fund the cancelled activities identified in the FY 2017 Action Plan. The following activities will be programmed in FY 2016:

FY 2016 - Projects to be added	IDIS	FY2015 Budget	FY2015 Revised Budget
Senior Center Operations	n.a.	\$185,630.19	\$85,458.75
The Trenton Community Music School, Inc.	1819	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) of Mercer County	1813	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Milhill Child & Family Development Corporation	1817	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund	1815	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Trenton Children's Chorus, Inc.	1819	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00

A meeting to provide opportunity for public comment will be held on October 26, 2018 at noon at City Hall, 319 East State Street, Trenton, in the Council Chambers. The meeting space is accessible. Persons with disabilities or those requiring translation services to participate in the meeting are asked to call at least 48 hours before the hearing to make such arrangements.

**La información será proporcionada en español a petición.**

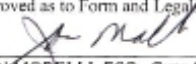
By Authority of:  
W. Reed Gusioro, Mayor  
City of Trenton  
319 East State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08618

10/11/18 THE TIMES \$97.44

Grantee Unique Appendices

RESOLUTION No. 18-822

Date of Adoption DEC 20 2018

Approved as to Form and Legality  
  
 JOHN MORELLI, ESQ. CITY ATTORNEY

Factual content certified by  
  
 ARCH LISTON, INTERIM DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING ECONOMIC & DEVELOPMENT

Councilman/woman  presents the following Resolution:

**APPROVING THE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has identified the City of Trenton, New Jersey as an entitlement grantee, and the City of Trenton has elected to accept its status as an entitlement grantee and therefore took the required steps in order to receive the FY 2016 funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to fund public service agencies who will be cut from the FY2017 program due to the action by HUD to rescind those funds; and,

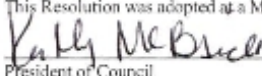
**WHEREAS**, several public service projects in FY 2015 were reduced or canceled providing additional resources within the City's public service cap to fund new activities; and,

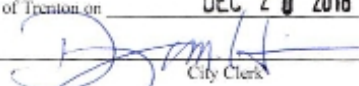
**WHEREAS**, the City of Trenton has prepared and made available for public review for a thirty (30) day period a draft Substantial Amendment to the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan reflecting the creation of new public service activities in FY 2016 CDBG funds; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Trenton, New Jersey that the attached Substantial Amendment to the FY 2016 Annual Action Plan is hereby approved.

**AND, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Trenton that the Annual Action Plan for fiscal year 2016-2017 be submitted to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Newark Field Office—Region II at One Newark Center, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102-5260 for their review and approval.

	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
BLAKELEY	✓				MUSCHAL	✓				MCBRIDE	✓			
CALDWELL	✓				RODRIGUEZ	✓								
WILSON	✓													
HARRISON	✓				VAUGHN	✓								

This Resolution was adopted at a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Trenton on DEC 20 2018  
  
 President of Council

  
 City Clerk

