

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
DRAFT Annual Action Plan FFY 2024

for
Consolidated Plan Period
FFY 2020-2024 / CFY 2021-2025



Public Comment Period:
June 18 - July 17, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Hybrid Public Hearing:
July 2, 2024 at 6 p.m.
105 W. Chesapeake Ave, Suite 105
Towson, MD 21204 or via
www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/housing/grants

Send Comments to:
Terry Hickey, Director
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105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201
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Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

In accordance with federal requirements for jurisdictions receiving funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for housing and community development programs, Baltimore County prepared its Consolidated Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-2024. The document is a five-year strategic plan that proposes how the County will use Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG), to create decent housing, expand economic opportunity, and ensure a suitable living environment for low- to moderate-income persons and communities during Fiscal Years 2020-2024. The Consolidated Plan identifies other local, state and federal resources the County will use to leverage its housing and community development strategy. It also incorporates the objectives, goals, and strategies of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement executed among Baltimore County, Maryland, HUD, and several complainants. As part of the Consolidated Plan process, the County is required to submit an Annual Action Plan for each of the five years included in the Consolidated Plan. This 2024 Annual Action Plan (County Fiscal Year 2025) supports the work identified in the original Consolidated Plan and addresses the changes in funding and in priorities as the County, its subgrantee partners and its citizens work to meet the many challenges of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The original Consolidated Plan was developed through a year-long process that included input from low- to moderate-income persons and communities, community and non-profit organizations, individuals, local governments and government agencies, and business owners and associations. The County analyzed data available through the CHAS, American Communities Survey, GIS, and other data sources to understand and forecast trends. Throughout the collaborative process, the County organized listening sessions and public hearings to seek input and guidance in order to assess and prioritize needs, identify goals and objectives, and determine desired outcomes. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the final public hearing was held virtually. Four years out from that initial Consolidated Plan, the County has become more adept at holding virtual public hearings and our citizens are also more comfortable making public comments through online forums. This Action Plan period the County held a hybrid public hearing in December 2023 to garner feedback on the types of projects the County should include in this Action Plan and held a second hybrid Public Hearing on July 2, 2024 to receive comments on the proposed plan. The County continues to support a balanced philosophy that recognizes the complexity of opportunities and challenges facing the County. The County continues to support the creation of new housing opportunities and the revitalization of existing communities while focusing on the sustainability of low- to moderate-income households and neighborhoods, as well as entities serving vulnerable populations.

Introduction - The Consolidated Plan (Continued) and the FFY2024 Annual Action Plan

In keeping with the Consolidated Plan, Baltimore County prepares an annual plan to communicate its efforts in meeting the goals of the five-year consolidated plan during a particular plan year and to articulate priority funding areas and geographic priority funding needs. This “Action Plan” demonstrates the steps Baltimore County will undertake in Federal Fiscal Year 2024/County Fiscal Year 2025 to meet the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. This Action Plan builds on the strategic vision developed through a year-long process that included input from low- to moderate-income persons and communities, community and non-profit organizations, individuals, local governments and government agencies, and business owners and associations. This Action Plan, along with the County’s COVID response, used data available through the CHAS, American Communities Survey, GIS, and other data sources to understand and forecast trends. The County included public hearings as well as discussions with various stakeholders to seek input and guidance in order to assess and prioritize needs, identify goals and objectives, and determine desired outcomes. Like the Consolidated Plan, this Action Plan incorporates the priorities of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement within its proposed activities for the coming year.

The Action Plan forms the basis of how the County will allocate funding during the plan period and serves as a benchmark and reference point for those entities that seek additional competitive funding from HUD through the HUD SuperNOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) and through other HUD-funded initiatives. Partnered with its annual action plans, the Consolidated Plan is most importantly a framework and management tool that will assess the County’s performance and track its progress on a year-to-year basis. This Action Plan will build on the achievements of the past, acknowledge current conditions and prepare a solid foundation for the future while using the Consolidated Plan framework as its roadmap.

As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, Baltimore County households continue to face high levels of unemployment, food insecurity, health care issues, and potential housing instability, including eviction. The unprecedented influx of federal assistance to the County to help prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus pandemic assisted a tremendous number of households and held many evictions at bay, but that funding is ending and the threat of eviction remains for many County households. The themes of this Action Plan marry the priority need areas below with County efforts to use federal COVID funding to meet the affordable housing needs of Baltimore County citizens.

The County's Action Plan is organized around the following priority need areas and accompanying goals for our community development and housing programs:

- Affordable Housing
- Housing for Homeless/Those At-Risk of Homelessness
- Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs Population
- Community Infrastructure Improvements
- Community Sustainability

Lastly, this Plan was created using an electronic template required by HUD. That template dictates the order and manner in which each subject matter is addressed and in cases limits the explanation to 4,000 characters. The numbers in the charts and tables are prepopulated for Baltimore County and where numbers differ from what we find trending locally, explanations for those differences are included in the narrative discussion for each section.

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.

Prior to the pandemic and over a series of months in the first year of its Consolidated Plan, the County performed data collection and analysis; distributed surveys; and held focus groups and public hearings to perform its Needs Assessment. Identified needs were:

- Affordable rental housing for low-income households, veterans and persons experiencing homelessness
- Affordable housing that is located in areas not experiencing racial and ethnic concentrations or areas of high poverty
- Affordable housing for homeowners and assistance with needed home repairs for low to moderate-income citizens
- Programs providing supportive services and rapid rehousing for those experiencing homelessness and eviction prevention for those at-risk of homelessness
- Community infrastructure improvements and assistance sustaining viable neighborhoods and communities
- Programs dealing with day care, parenting, domestic violence, sexual abuse, life skills, job readiness and a myriad of other CDBG-eligible activities

Pre-pandemic analysis of the CHAS data from the 2007-11 American Communities Survey indicated that households at 50% and below of the Area Household Median Income experience housing cost burdens, with more households whose incomes are 30% or less experiencing housing cost burden or other housing problems. While both low-income owners and renters experience housing problems, low-income renter households are more likely to experience one or more housing problems than owner households. The data also indicated that African American households are more likely to experience housing problems, including housing cost burdens, than white households. The CHAS data indicates a need for more affordable housing for households earning less than 50% of the AMI and more particularly households earning 30% or less of the AMI. This data is consistent with the affordable housing production goals of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement.

For many, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated these housing needs, particularly among renter households. In April 2021, Baltimore County District Courts experienced a backlog of over 54,000 Failure

to Pay Rent (FTPR) filings on Baltimore County households. As federal and state moratoria were allowed to lapse, these households remain at-risk of future homelessness. The majority of the County's CDBG and ESG Coronavirus funding were used to maintain housing or rapidly rehouse individuals once housing was lost. The Coronavirus Pandemic and its recovery efforts reinforced the vulnerability of these households. Evidence shows District Court FTPR filings are beginning to return to pre-pandemic levels, and actual evictions are at 70% of their pre-pandemic levels as of September 2022 (last available data).

Section AP-20 outlines the specific Annual Action Plan goals for the County's entitlement funding and other funds supplementing the County's efforts to meet the goals identified below. Within each priority area, the chart offers a description of the goal, funding and outcome indicators, and identifies geographic priority areas to be targeted during the action and consolidated planning periods. The goals and accompanying outcome measures involve both activities agreed upon in the Voluntary Compliance Agreement as well as additional measures to assist Baltimore County's low to moderate-income citizens. Readers are advised that in some cases, activities associated with the identified goals can fall into more than one goal area. This is true even for some of the goals identified as part of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement. As such, please note that some crossover in the measured outcomes is to be expected.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

During the prior Consolidated Plan period (Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2019/County Fiscal Years 2017-2020), the County made progress towards a number of its affordable housing goals. Recognizing the need to increase family rental housing, the County assisted 586 family rental housing units since the submission of the County's Consolidated Plan. These units are located in various communities including identified Opportunity Areas in the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement. All rental housing projects assisted served households with incomes of 60% or below of established Area Median income (AMI).

During the plan period, the County expanded its funding for homeless programs with an expanding shelter operation coupled with a shelter diversion program. The shelter diversion program helps people at risk of being homeless access resources to help them maintain or access housing. The effort is being funded with County funds. Other accomplishments include the provision of increased funding for shelter operators which enable the shelters to expand their staffing to provide additional services. The additional funding allowed the agencies that operate the homeless shelters, eviction prevention, rapid rehousing, diversion, permanent supportive housing, etc to serve 6126 individuals (4,117 adults and 2,006 children). This represents 3,952 households in total, across all programs between July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020. Of those served, 3,482 (56%) came from a place not meant for human habitation. Of those served across all programs, 4,357 individuals moved into permanent housing. Of those, 285 moved from shelter into permanent housing between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

To add to the County's commitment to making homelessness rare and brief, the County recognized the need for improved shelter facilities. During the prior Consolidated Plan period, the County operated a shelter for men on the grounds of Spring Grove Hospital in Catonsville as well as constructed a new Eastern Family Resource Center, which includes a family shelter, a men's shelter, and a prior transitional housing section that was reclaimed during COVID as isolation space. This facility includes clinic space for Healthcare for the Homeless. Additionally, a shelter nurse program operates on-site to assist those most vulnerable, exiting emergency room and hospital stays, to return to shelter with some supportive services.

Evaluation (continued)

The County continued its commitment to increasing affordable homeownership and assisted 3000 households with the purchase of a home through the Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP). The program assisted 200 households with closing cost and down payment loans/grants. The program's investment has leveraged over \$302,360,632 in first mortgages throughout established communities in Baltimore County. The County also continued to provide pre and post purchase counseling to first time homebuyers as well as providing foreclosure prevention and default/delinquency as well.

During the plan period 375 low to moderate income homeowners were assisted with federal and state funds to make repairs and improvements to their homes. The County used its Level II Authority under the State of Maryland's Special Loans Programs to leverage its entitlement funds efficiently to assist more eligible households. Additionally, due to a recent outreach effort, the County has seen an increase in the number of requests for accessibility modifications for homeowners and rental properties.

Since the last Consolidated Plan period, the County was deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the County's nonprofit partners shut down programs temporarily and/or struggled to keep staff, homeless shelters were closed to new intakes and socially distanced, and housing rehabilitation programs were temporarily stalled by supply chain issues and adequate contractor supply. Programs reopened amid revised service plans reflective of post-COVID realities. The Single Family Housing Rehabilitation program has seen a boon in activity with high demand for services.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Baltimore County held two public hearings (December 13, 2023 and July 2, 2024) on the use of its federal entitlement funding. On December 13, 2023, Baltimore County held a hybrid public hearing to gather citizen comments on its draft plans for use of its HUD entitlement programs and the overall needs of County residents. The citizen comments spoke to both the need as it related to pandemic recovery and the needs of Baltimore County citizens of low and moderate-income. The County took public comments during its hybrid public hearing and offered the option of written submission of comments, though no written comments were submitted. In keeping with its Citizen Participation Plan,

the County provided 15 days' notice of both its December and July public hearings. Additionally County stakeholders were given 30 days to comment on the Action Plan.

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.

Among the public comments made during the December 13, 2023 public hearing, the following are areas of needs identified by organizations through their comments:

- Rent to Buy / Own with some type of down payment assistance to encourage affordable housing and to respond to vacant properties (South East Area)
- Affordable, accessible housing continues to be an unmet gap for many extremely low- and low-income Baltimore County residents living with disabilities, which continued to show as a need identified for accessible home modifications, which will allow persons with disabilities to age safely in place in their home.
- Affordable housing with supportive services continues as need identified again for low-income families in Baltimore County to maintain housing and avoid homelessness. There continues to be an over representation of populations that are seeing increased need for assistance, i.e., youth transitioning out of foster care / group homes, extremely-low income persons with disabilities, and Immigrant populations who have limited access to a living wage employment continued to struggle to maintain stable housing.
- Food insecurity continues to be a struggle for ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Baltimore County that continue to seek assistance with extreme needs as these households continue to make difficult decisions between feeding their family or paying another bill.
- 4-Years into the COVID-19 Pandemic, still seeing a critical need for both eviction prevention and utility assistance. With evictions continuing to rise here, it continues to be big unmet gap in Baltimore County. Providers are seeing households still needing 4-8 months of assistance that is needed because the large rental arrears these households have. Now that the U.S. Treasury funding is running out, there are no programs now for households to be referred that can help pay down these large arrears and the concern is that the families will become homeless.
- Mental health was mentioned by several nonprofit partners stating there was a lack of practitioners available for those in need.
- Chronic disease management among the senior/elderly population along with a need for socialization and accessible housing to age in place safely and bilingual counselors as necessary.
- Immigrant families, cultural food opportunities, health care access, case management and better job opportunities for this population of New Americans.
- Services to address substance abuse using moms; medication for opioid use and provider training on maternal opioid use which leads to lower birth-rate babies.

- Youth programming to support educational needs and skill development.
- Services to victims of Intimate Partner Violence

Summary of Public Comments (July 2, 2024 Hearing)

For the July 2, 2024 public hearing, the County held a hybrid hearing. County staff were in attendance in the Jefferson Building Hearing Room with an option for citizens to join online or in person. No citizens joined the public hearing. No citizen comments were submitted as part of the public hearing or during the 30-day public comment period. Any comments received are summarized in the next section.

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

Baltimore County accepts all comments and views submitted in response to the Annual Action Plan and incorporates all comments into the Plan. The official public comment on the draft Annual Action Plan ran from June 18 - July 17, 2024 in keeping with the required 30-day public comment period. A hybrid Public Hearing was held on July 2, 2024, in the Jefferson Building and via WebEx. The public comment period on the draft Annual Action Plan was not impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic.

7. Summary

The goal of this FFY 2024 Annual Action Plan is to provide County citizens with information on how the County plans to use its HUD Entitlement Grant funds and Coronavirus funding in order to improve the lives of Baltimore County's citizens with decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities for those who call Baltimore County home. The goals and strategies identified in this Plan support that effort.

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	BALTIMORE COUNTY	Balt. Co Dept of Housing and Community Development	
HOME Administrator	BALTIMORE COUNTY	Balt. Co Dept of Housing and Community Development	
ESG Administrator	BALTIMORE COUNTY	Balt. Co Dept of Housing and Community Development	

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) serves as the lead agency for housing and community development programs in Baltimore County. DHCD plans, administers, and implements the federally-funded CDBG, HOME, ESG, and Continuum of Care Programs as well as State and County funded homeless, housing and community development activities. Many of the County's activities are carried out by subrecipient partners both inside and outside of government. These nonprofit agencies provide needed services and/or housing development to the citizens of Baltimore County.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

Citizen and stakeholder participation is a critical component of Baltimore County's Consolidated Plan development and each of the County's Annual Action Plans included in the strategic plan period. This Action Plan covers the final year of the Consolidated Planning period and builds on the strong foundation of prior efforts. Baltimore County held two hybrid public hearings to garner public comment and reached out to other jurisdictions for ideas and comments.

As in developing the Consolidated Plan, the County continues to work with other departments and nonprofit organizations in developing recommended activities for the Annual Action Plan. The Department of Housing and Community Development, along with the Departments of Permits, Approvals, and Inspections (PAI); Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS); Health and Human Services; Aging; and Emergency Management coordinate efforts on a variety of issues including housing, health care, and access to social services, mainstream resources, and resiliency/disaster response as needed. The County's Office of Sustainability and the County's emergency response/management staff were also provided the opportunity to comment on this Plan. The COVID-19 pandemic and recovery altered how the County addresses many issues and provides an opportunity for departments to work collaboratively on issues. To this end, emergency management staff from a variety of agencies have been part of various task forces identifying needs around food distribution, potential swells in homelessness and housing instability, job/workforce training needs, and healthcare response/vaccine distribution in lower income communities in need. Weather related incidents - extreme heat, flooding, snow, etc. - are included in those types of discussions as well.

An area of particular concentration during the pandemic, increasing broadband access to underserved households, became even more critical as a communication, learning, and job necessity. Working with Comcast, 11,000 low-income households enrolled in Comcast Internet Essentials, providing low-cost internet access to income eligible families. Those on public assistance programs like the National School Lunch Program, Housing Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP and others can qualify. The County is also working to expand internet to areas where physical access is more difficult, like the more rural areas of the County, expanding public wi-fi to 50 locations across the County. The County received a grant for \$2.25 million from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to expand rural broadband to 900 households.

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))

Baltimore County plans to continue its citizen input process before making funding decisions to ensure the needs of low- and moderate-income persons, homeless persons and those with special needs have

the opportunity to voice their needs and concerns. The Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable will continue to meet and plan for ways to address the needs of the County's homeless citizens and preventing others from becoming homeless. The County's Commission on Disabilities will continue to meet and plan for ways to address the needs of the County's citizens with disabilities.

The County continues its collaboration with a group of six local governments, five public housing authorities (PHAs), and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) to support BMC's Housing Policy Coordinator position, a Regional Analysis of Impediments Stakeholder Work Group, and its own 2020 Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice. The County continues to look for new ways to support the work of these groups. The County departments also participate in the County's Local Management Board to address the needs of children and families.

Beginning in May 2023, non-profits that provide services to extremely low-, low- and moderate-income residents were invited to participate in a monthly call led by the County. These calls allow providers to share how their programs are serving the community post-COVID funding as well as discuss emerging needs and how the County can support these needs. These monthly calls are complimented by community listening sessions open to providers, but more geared towards the larger community. The County will utilize data from its participation in the National Low Income Housing Coalition/University of Pennsylvania Tenant Impact Study; sharing the results as well as a summary of ERA rental assistance expenditures. While the focal point of the discussion in the listening sessions will be on the survey and summary, it will also give the County an opportunity to hear from communities at large about needs they are experiencing. This information will further inform the work of the County's non-profit providers and help shape County priorities.

In addition to the two activities discussed above, the County is launching two Housing Stability related initiatives. The first is ERA 2 funded Housing Stability services throughout the County and the second program is the County's new Housing and Economic Mobility Initiative (HEMI); a collaborative effort between DHCD, Department of Economic and Workforce Development and Community College of Baltimore County. Our ERA 2 Housing Stability Programs will provide mid to intensive levels of case management, tenant and landlord mediation as well as re-housing services for individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness. HEMI will be a mobile initiative that will rotate around the County in areas of the County that experienced high levels of instability during the pandemic. This initiative will bring employment, educational and training opportunities to County residents as well as allow residents to be screened for supportive programs such as SNAP and provide assistance applying for child care vouchers. In addition to the collaboration of DHCD, DEWD and CCBC this initiative will also be working with landlords to host the events at larger properties, making it as convenient as possible for residents to access services.

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 Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development serves as the lead agency for the Continuum of Care lead (MD-505) in Baltimore County. As such, County staff are responsible for coordinating regular CoC meetings, drafting minutes, establishing workgroups on policies, procedures, program guidelines, as well as administering the bulk of the County's CoC grants. The County previously received HUD Technical Assistance (TA) to create its CoC Governance Document, update the ESG guidelines for grantees, and finalize the CoC Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) guide. This work ensures all grantees are following federal, state and county regulations for all grant types. Additionally the CoC revamped its Coordinated Entry (CE) to include assessment of vulnerability, prioritization, and referral for permanent housing to include rapid re-housing referrals and Permanent Supportive housing referrals. The chronically homeless, unaccompanied homeless youth and those with the longest length of time homeless will be prioritized for permanent housing solutions. The CoC manages bi-monthly By Name List (BNL) case conferences to make referrals to PSH, RRH, veteran VASH vouchers and Youth RRH. The County has also increased resources to maintain and expand RRH for those fleeing Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). Maintaining specific BNL's and holding regular case conferences to fill available housing vacancies and discuss challenges providers are having with housing each person referred, has reduced wait times for those seeking those resources and provides a place for providers to address any hurdles in the housing application process. In addition to length of time homeless, the vulnerability score is what allows each person to be prioritized for housing. The CE team, outreach teams and shelter case managers all have the ability to enter vulnerability scores for those with whom they are working. This makes access more equitable, transparent and helps to accelerate the referral process.

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 Baltimore County Continuum of Care (CoC) is a public private stakeholder group. County staff are responsible for the staffing of the Roundtable and administration of both the Consolidated Plan and the CoC for Baltimore County. Staff working on homeless issues plan and support the work of the CoC as well as the homeless programs that are funded with additional federal, state and county funds. The CoC follows funding, policy priorities and best practices outlined by HUD to make funding decisions to address homelessness. Baltimore County allocates the ESG funds to three providers, one that provides Rapid Rehousing, one that provides street outreach, and a third that provides cold weather shelter for up to 7 months of the year. Performance standards are based off of HUD System Performance Measures (SPM) and the outcomes of the CoC Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA). This past year, the CoC worked with HUD TA to create a quarterly SPM Score Card to show quarterly progress made by project type, towards each SPM goal. During the Action Plan period, the County will build off of this tool to create one that shows provider-level progress made towards each measure. The HMIS team has identified a HMIS "lead user" at each provider and will hold monthly meetings to include those data leads. Performance will be reviewed and members will be taught to pull their Annual Performance Reports (APRs) from HMIS, regularly and identify areas where they are not meeting SPMs. HUD ESG guidelines are reviewed

and implemented into the County's HMIS Policies and Procedures. HUD ESG guidelines are reviewed and implemented into the County's HMIS Policies and Procedures. If a program is not performing up to standard, funding can be withheld until the problem area is resolved. These report cards, along with other statistical data, are located on the HMIS website for public review.

In partnership with the goals of the CoC, the County releases a consolidated RFP in December each year. The RFP is released following an open orientation for all providers interested in applying for County, state and federal funds. All interested parties must apply for funding by developing a scope of work, program budget, and completing the Baltimore County Application for Financial Assistance. Applications are reviewed by a review committee comprised of members who are not associated with any of the applicant organizations. Review committees consist of county staff and private citizens. Review committees make a first round of recommended awards and approved award recommendations are sent to the Baltimore County Grants Review Committee. Recommended projects require approval by the Baltimore County Council and County Administrative Officer.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	BALTIMORE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearing.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Social Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearing.

3	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearing.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	CASA of Baltimore County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearing.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	CASA de Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearing.

6	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Assistance Network
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Churches for the Streets of Hope, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	DUNDALK RENAISSANCE CORPORATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Employment Business Leaders Civic Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearing.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	EASTER SEALS, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Episcopal Housing Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	H.H.H.: Heroes Helping Heroes, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	The House of Ruth Maryland, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	PENN-MAR ORGANIZATION, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	St Vincent De Paul
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.

15	Agency/Group/Organization	ASSOCIATED CATHOLIC CHARITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Maryland Food Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Hunger Relief
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Medstar Franklin Square Medical Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Pro Bono Counseling Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Mental Health Care
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	PROLOGUE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.

22	Agency/Group/Organization	THE ARC OF BALTIMORE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	TALMAR, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Richcroft, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Board of Child Care of the United Methodist Church
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Chimes
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated om priority needs assessment and public hearings.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	AfriThrive, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Hunger Relief
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency representatives attended and participated in priority needs assessment and public hearings.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - Local Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Homeless Roundtable members attended and participated in a needs assessment and public hearings.
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Baltimore County sought to include a wide range of stakeholders in its consultations for the Consolidated Plan. No groups were intentionally left out of our consultation process.

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	Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development	Provide supportive services including housing counseling to move people from homelessness to housing.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Foster integrated communities by creating affordable rental housing opportunities in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated.
The Baltimore Regional Housing Plan	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Foster integrated communities by creating housing opportunities in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated.
Fair Housing Equity Assessment	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Increasing the availability of affordable housing for families and persons with disabilities.
PHA Administrative Plan	Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development	Providing opportunities for mobility counseling to help families access housing in areas of opportunity.
10-Year Plan to End Homelessness	Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development	Creating permanent supportive housing.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Sustainable Communities	MD Department of Housing and Community Development	Encourage investments in established areas to promote revitalization and stabilization of residential and business communities.
Workforce Development Plan	Baltimore County Department of Economic and Development	Remove barriers that keep low-skilled or low-earning adults from progressing into family supporting careers through strategies that address skills gaps, housing and transportation barriers and social barriers.
Master Plans	Baltimore County Department of Planning	Encourage investment in established areas to promote revitalization and stabilization of residential and business communities.
Baltimore County Enterprise Strategy	Baltimore County Executive	Ensure all residents have access to high-quality and affordable housing, cultural and recreational opportunities in safe communities.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Baltimore County, the State of Maryland, Baltimore City, and Anne Arundel, Howard and Harford Counties leverage important resources and the intellectual capital needed to develop and implement a strategic plan reflecting the goals of the County and the region. Since 1994, the County has worked with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) to affirmatively further fair housing. The County works with the BMCs Opportunity Collaborative on the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development which includes the Opportunity Maps; a regional housing plan, a workforce development plan and the Fair Housing Equity Assessment. The County partners with the BMC/regional governments on the 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice Assessment of Fair Housing Choice in the Baltimore Region, incorporating the requirements of HUDs 2023 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Final Rule.

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

On December 13, 2023, Baltimore County held a virtual public hearing to elicit comments from County citizens and stakeholders on the needs to be funded as part of this Action Plan. All verbal comments were included in the summary and no written comments were submitted. The impact of COVID on housing and mental health needs remains an issue for many citizens. A full summary of comments can be found in the section entitled *Summary of Comments*. Baltimore County's Continuum of Care influenced priorities with their ongoing efforts to rate and rank CoC projects. RFP Review Committees included multiple citizen participants to review and recommend which projects should be funded under Public Services, Homeless Services and Capital projects. A second public hearing was held on July 2, 2024 to gather comments on the proposed Action Plan. No written comments were received during the hearing or submitted during the remainder of the public comment period. The hearing was held virtually. County staff were in attendance, but no stakeholder participants joined May's virtual hearing.

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-targeted/broad community All subgrantee organizations (federal, state, and county-funded) were asked to share notice	# Of County staff attended	July 2, 2024 hybrid public hearing. County staff attended. No written comments were received during the public hearing and # citizens attended.	No comments were offered at the hearing	Not applicable
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community All subgrantee organizations (federal, state, and county-funded) were asked to share notice	EM to complete	December 13, 2023 Public Hearing and RFP meeting. See summary comments in Executive Summary Section and Attachments Section	All comments 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)
3	Public Meeting	Continuum of Care (Homeless) Stakeholders	Approximately 30-40 attendants at each meeting	Throughout the year, the Baltimore County Continuum of Care (CoC) holds meetings where they set ongoing policies and priorities for the CoC. These priorities help guide the ESG-funded projects as well as impact all homeless services provided by the County whether funded through federal, state, or county dollars. As such, the CoC is an important venue for citizen involvement in the Action Plan.	All comments accepted	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Grant Review Committees	Non-targeted/broad community	Citizen members participate in the County's RFP review committee structure to make recommendations on projects to be funded with federal, state, and county funds. Citizen members have the same level of review and discussion opportunity as governmental staff.	All comments within the review committee are confidential. Citizen reviewer comments are received on par with staff reviewer comments.	All comments were accepted.	Not applicable
5	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Newspaper ad advising citizens of December public hearing to identify needs in Baltimore County and to promote the applications/RFP for Public Service, Homeless Services and Capital projects.	See public hearing outreach activity.	Not applicable	not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
6	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Newspaper ad advised citizens of where to find Action Plan for review during public comment period and upcoming Public Hearing.	See public hearing outreach activity	not applicable	Not applicable

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

During the Consolidated Plan period of FFY 2020-2024, Baltimore County expected its federal funding to remain relatively level. The County's Consolidated Plan period began on July 1, 2020 and end on June 30, 2025. In its final year of the five-year plan period, CDBG funding for FFY 2024 will be \$4,412,180 with HOME funding at \$2,049,404. The County's ESG funding in FFY 2023 will be \$385,426. The County received a slight increase to two HUD entitlement programs during this Action Plan period (CDBG and ESG) and a reduction to HOME. The County predicts program income will be of assistance to both the CDBG and HOME programs. The level of growth is based on projections from trends seen in FFY 2023. Due to the availability of continued HUD funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, additional COVID related funding will be used in this program year, but the actual programming of the funding can be found in the 2019 action plan. The resources anticipated below reflect the County's entitlement grants, anticipated program income, required local match dollars, Continuum of Care funds, Housing Choice Voucher Funds, and funds the County has agreed to dedicate to affordable housing through the Voluntary Compliance Agreement. COVID-19 stimulus funds were included in an amendment to the County's FFY2016-2019 Plan period because the funds were awarded during the term covered by that Plan. HUD announced HOME-COVID funds in the amount of \$7,471,986 for Baltimore County. The County submitted its HOME-ARP plan as

a Substantial Amendment on March 31, 2023.

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	4,412,180	400,000	1,227,263	6,039,443	0	Baltimore County is an Urban Entitlement Jurisdiction and therefore receives annual funding through the Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG), a flexible grant program that principally provides funding for housing and community development needs of Baltimore County's low- to moderate-income citizens. Prior year CDBG resources are available due to larger than expected program income received in a give year and/or projects that did not fully use the originally-programmed funds.

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	2,049,404	300,000	7,954,000	10,303,404	0	As part of its Urban Entitlement status, Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds are available to assist in building, purchasing, and/or rehabbing affordable rental housing as well as homeownership. Funds may also be used for rental assistance to low-income citizens. Prior year HOME resources are available due to several HOME Acquisition/Rehab projects that did not move forward as planned.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	385,426	0	60,000	445,426	0	Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds are provided as part of the Urban Entitlement and can be used to address the needs of homeless individuals including sheltering, rapid rehousing, and eviction. Prior year ESG resources are available because the Rapid Rehousing projects did not fully utilize their initial funding which is still available for use before their 24 month expenditure deadline. The County plans to reallocate those funds for use in the coming year.
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Other	2,957,037	0	0	2,957,037	0	Federal Continuum of Care funding to the Baltimore County Continuum of Care for assisting individuals experiencing homelessness transition to permanent housing.
Section 8	public - federal	Housing	96,215,372	0	0	96,215,372	0	HUD Housing Vouchers

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: \$		
Other	public - federal	Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental rehab	1,500,000	0	0	1,500,000	0	The County has \$1.5 million in funds to test for lead, remediate lead from homes, and provide educational training. Grant funds will assist Baltimore County rental owners and/or homeowners who meet the income requirements of the program.
Other	public - federal	Housing TBRA	1,544,655	0	0	1,544,655	0	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
Other	public - state	Overnight shelter Transitional housing Other	825,000	0	0	825,000	0	State Homeless Solutions Program funding support efforts to assist individuals experiencing homelessness. The County has applied for an increase of funds in FFY24 up to \$1,115,258, but if level funded would receive \$825,000.
Other	public - local	Other	3,300,000	0	0	3,300,000	0	Funding for accessibility modifications to renter households eligible for a Housing Choice Voucher

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: \$		
Other	public - local	Overnight shelter Public Services	6,620,383	0	0	6,620,383	0	County General Funds supporting homeless services, public services, homeless shelters, homeless daycare, fair housing, and community action agency operations.

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

During the Consolidated Plan period, CDBG, HOME and ESG federal entitlement funds are expected to leverage an additional \$40.4 million in federal, state and county funds. State funds through the Homeless Solutions Program of \$4,054,000, federal Continuum of Care funds are expected to be \$11,415,892, and Lead funding of \$2,000,000 complete the expected federal assistance. County General Funds for Homeless Services and Public Services are expected to be almost \$26.5 million in funding and include supportive service needs to low and moderate income citizens, fair housing, homeownership counseling, community action agency services as well as operations of the County's homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, shelter diversion, homeless daycare, and homeless shelters.

The County's ESG match requirement is more than satisfied based on the County's \$4.1 million annual general fund support of its three largest homeless shelters. The County's HOME match requirement was waived due to COVID-19 for Federal Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021 (County Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022). Baltimore County began reporting HOME program match in Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (County Fiscal Year 2023), using funds banked from disbursed VCA projects. As of FFY 2022, the County currently has \$17,391,598 available for reporting excess match in the next period.

During the Consolidated Plan period, the County received direct federal COVID-response funding for Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) totaling

nearly \$50 million, State ERA funding of over \$37 million and HUD COVID funding of nearly \$5 million in ESG-CV and nearly \$6 million in CDBG-CV. Rounding out this COVID response funding will be the nearly \$7.5 million in HOME-CV funding for which the County is currently holding listening sessions. The County expended over \$45 million in directly-awarded ERA funding in FFY 21-22, along with the full amount of State ERA funding in the same FFY21-22 timeframe. During the Action Plan period, the County will leverage ERA Housing Stability funding of approximately \$1M while it winds down its use of ERA2 reallocated funds - all for use by County households. During this Action Plan period, the County will also begin its HOME-ARP plan implementation.

In addition, as part of the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County has pledged to reserve \$300,000 each year to make housing accessibility modifications to Housing Choice Vouchers units as well as \$3,000,000 per year to assist affordable housing developers create affordable rental housing in Opportunity Areas throughout the County. Over the Consolidated Plan period, these additional resources would constitute an additional \$13,200,000 available for low-income renters.

The Ryan White HIV Case Management Program's primary goal is to link clients to medical and/or social services that stabilize their health and allow them to function independently. BCDH receives multiple funding streams (i.e., Ryan White Part A, Ryan White B Flex-Health Support Services, AIDS Case Management) to help clients with their unmet medical and psychosocial needs. A key factor to ensuring a client's health is access to permanent safe and affordable housing. The Ryan White HIV Case Management Program employs a 0.97 full-time equivalent (FTE) Housing Specialist that works closely with clients who are receiving rental assistance to ensure that their re-certifications are completed annually to maintain supportive housing assistance.

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

Four of the County's homeless shelters are housed in County-owned buildings. These shelters are operated by third-parties, but the buildings and all utilities and maintenance associated with the buildings are provided by Baltimore County. In combination, these shelters have been designed to offer emergency shelter for men, women and families. Nearly 600 shelter beds offer year-round shelter across the four shelters: the Westside Men's Shelter; Eastern Family Resource Center (primarily offers family congregate living areas as well as a men's only dorm); Hannah More Family Shelter that offers individual shared rooms for up to two families to share; and a domestic violence family shelter.

Discussion

The federal funds listed above will be used in conjunction with state and county funds to meet the needs of Baltimore County's low- to moderate-income citizens by concentrating on identified priorities. In addition, the nonprofit grantees receiving funds through the County's CDBG, CoC and/or State homeless programs use a variety of other fund sources (private donations, foundations, fundraisers, and other government grants) to assist in the full funding of their programs. Together these funds assist in meeting Baltimore County's priorities of:

- Affordable Housing
- Housing for Homeless/Those At-Risk of Homelessness
- Housing Opportunities for Non-Homeless Special Needs Population
- Community Infrastructure Improvements
- Community Sustainability

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 Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing		
2	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Opportunity Areas	Affordable Housing		
3	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing		
4	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness		
5	Support a range of homeless housing options	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those at Risk of Homelessness		
6	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those at Risk of Homelessness		
7	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs		
8	Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs		

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements		
10	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements		
11	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability		
12	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Community Sustainability		
13	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability		
14	Removal of Blighted Buildings	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability		
15	Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability		

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Goal Description	<p>Housing Counseling in conjunction with direct homeownership assistance designed to provide homebuyers/owners with pre-purchase and post-purchase counseling that provides budget and credit counseling, the costs of owning a home and homebuying process including credit repair, modification assistance, lender negotiations, and other appropriate referrals to avoid the loss of a home to foreclosure. Examples of assistance may include a mortgage write down, closing cost assistance, and down payment assistance as a means to increase the affordability of homeownership for low to moderate-income persons.</p> <p><i>Planned Activities include homebuyer counseling and financial assistance to potential homebuyers.</i></p>
2	Goal Name	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Goal Description	<p>Increase the supply of affordable housing through financing of new construction, substantial rehabilitation, acquisition of housing stock for income eligible populations. Increase the number of homeowners maintaining their homes through housing rehabilitation to rectify substandard housing conditions.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include financial assistance to large and small developers interested in creating affordable housing units as well as homeowners in need of rehabilitation. Projects falling under the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement will require developers to create an affirmative marketing plan targeted to those County residents least likely to apply in the protected classes.</i></p>
3	Goal Name	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing
	Goal Description	<p>Promote Fair Housing outreach and education in collaboration with certified Housing Counseling and FHIP Agencies</p> <p><i>Planned activities include collaboration with certified Housing Counseling and FHIP Agencies to facilitate Fair Housing educational workshops/seminars for county residents, housing advocates, property owners, rental licensees, and housing developers to provide most recent information regarding housing law and tenant/landlord/homebuyer rights.</i></p>

4	Goal Name	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness
	Goal Description	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness through eviction prevention and other diversion activities funded with CDBG or ESG. <i>Planned activities may include financial assistance like utility payments, back rent or security deposits to prevent eviction or diversion from shelter entry. Activities may also include other supports to include financial literacy training, counseling and/or referral services.</i>
5	Goal Name	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Goal Description	Support emergency and transitional housing through a variety of short-term housing options for citizens experiencing homelessness to get them rehoused and on their way to self-sufficiency, including rapid rehousing through ESG as well as permanent housing supports as well as acquisitions, construction or rehabilitation of permanent housing or other units for the homeless using CDBG, HOME or ESG funds. <i>Planned activities may include financial support for emergency and transitional shelters, including domestic violence programs, as well as other creative approaches as needed. ESG Rapid Rehousing efforts are measured using Goal Outcome Indicator (GOI) 12. Operational support of Permanent Supportive Housing programs use GOI 4, and transitional housing uses GOI 13.</i>
6	Goal Name	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Goal Description	Support development of or rehabilitation of Alternative Living Units or other small group settings for persons living with a disability.
7	Goal Name	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs
	Goal Description	Support shelter and transitional housing needs of non-homeless special needs populations funded with CDBG or ESG. <i>Planned activities could include emergency shelter, transitional housing or other types of housing for non-homeless special needs populations like survivors of domestic violence, substance abuse, and other special needs populations or the rehabilitation of construction of facilities to support these needs. For FY21, state and local funds are projected to support the operational activities associated with our domestic violence shelters. Should those funds no longer be available, the County reserves the right to use CDBG or ESG funds to assist these efforts.</i>

8	Goal Name	Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled
	Goal Description	<p>Support housing accessibility modifications to rental and homeowner units to help citizens living with a disability gain access or maintain access to suitable living accommodations.</p> <p><i>Planned activities include accessibility modifications that could include ramps, bathroom modifications, kitchen modifications, stair glides, and other changes to an owner occupied home or rental unit of a low to moderate-income person living with a disability.</i></p>
9	Goal Name	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Goal Description	<p>Provide funds for rehabilitation/construction of community centers, recreation centers, senior centers, etc in CDBG eligible areas/facilities so Baltimore County citizens may experience indoor community activities and services.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include rehabilitation of existing community centers or construction of new facilities in income-eligible neighborhoods/facilities for things like community centers, recreation centers, and senior centers. Funds could also be used to support rehabilitation/construction of buildings operated by a nonprofit organization in support of CDBG-eligible populations.</i></p>
10	Goal Name	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors
	Goal Description	<p>Provide funds for rehabilitation/construction of public facilities - including outdoor recreation centers, trails, parks, street improvements, sidewalks, flood drainage, etc. in CDBG eligible areas of Baltimore County so citizens may experience strong communities and neighborhoods.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include any number of CDBG eligible activities.</i></p>
11	Goal Name	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Goal Description	<p>Increase access to quality public services by supporting programs and services that improve the suitable living environment for those low and moderate-income citizens in need of additional services.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include child care/youth or afterschool programs, senior services, employment training including literacy, health/mental health services, substance abuse services, services for victims of domestic violence or child abuse/neglect, family support, food assistance, and other CDBG-eligible services.</i></p>

12	Goal Name	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless
	Goal Description	Increase access to quality public (supportive) services for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Per HUD guidance, ESG funded Street Outreach is also included here as Homeless Overnight Shelter. <i>Planned activities may include educational support services for youth homeless, food assistance, health care services, domestic violence supports, child care or after school services for children and other identified non-housing needs for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.</i>
13	Goal Name	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses
	Goal Description	Establish, stabilize, and expand small and micro businesses through support services and programs that provide small and micro business with loans to citizens for microenterprise opportunities in order to establish, stabilize, and expand. <i>Planned activities may include financial assistance to County citizens of low to moderate income in efforts to improve their economic circumstances through employment opportunities. Funds for this activity in FY21 are captured under Public Service – Non-Homeless. Future activities may be moved here if applicable.</i>
14	Goal Name	Removal of Blighted Buildings
	Goal Description	Clearance or demolition of building/improvements. <i>Planned activities may include the demolition of blighted properties in CDBG income-eligible neighborhoods for building posing a public health risk.</i>
15	Goal Name	Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities
	Goal Description	Maintain and increase the supply of decent housing in order to maintain livable communities. <i>Planned activities may include salaries and overhead costs associated with property inspections and follow up actions (such as legal proceedings) directly related to enforcement (not correction) or state and local codes.</i>

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The selection of projects in this year's Action Plan is based upon the priority needs, goals, strategies and outcomes identified in the County's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The vast majority of projects were identified through one of several Request for Proposal processes undertaken by the County to solicit projects that met the priority needs of the County. An annual hearing to gain citizen input on priority need areas and opportunities for expanded programming was part of this RFP process. The projects selected herein address the County's priority goal areas of: Affordable Housing, Housing for the Homeless/Those At-Risk of Homelessness, Housing Opportunities for NonHomeless Special Needs, Community Infrastructure Improvements, and Community Sustainability. The projects will use federal entitlement funds through CDBG, HOME and ESG, but these funds will leverage additional federal funds through the Continuum of Care program as well as State and County funds to support the priority goal areas mentioned above.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Public Facilities - ARC Baltimore - Outdoor Activity Area
2	Public Facilities - Board of Child Care - Roof Replacement
3	Public Facilities - CHIMES - Improvements to Group Home
4	Public Facilities - Key Point Health - Roof Replacement
5	Public Facilities - National Center on Institutions & Alternatives - Career Development Center
6	Public Facilities - Prologue- Interior Improvements to Headquarters Facility
7	Public Facilities - Richcroft, Inc - Improvements to Group Home
8	Public Facilities - St. Vincent de Paul, Inc - Renovation of Transitional Housing Facility
9	Public Services - Balance of Funds
10	Public Services - Abilities Network - Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness
11	Public Services - Baltimore County - Homeless Shelter Nurse Program
12	Public Services - Casa Inc, Expanded Baltimore County Education and Assistance Program
13	Public Services - CASA of Baltimore County, Inc - Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children
14	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Arbutus Permanent Supportive Housing
15	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Outreach Program
16	Public Services - Easter Seals - Adult Day Services
17	Public Services - Heroes Helping Heroes - At-Risk Youth After School Program
18	Public Services - House of Ruth - IPV Supportive Services

#	Project Name
19	Public Services - Liberty's Promise - Helping Immigrant Youth Succeed
20	Public Services - Pro Bono Counseling Project, Inc. - Pro Bono Mental Health Care
21	Public Services - St Vincent de Paul of Baltimore - Healthy Food Access
22	Public Services - TALMAR, Inc - Farm-Based Therapies for People with Special Needs
23	General Administration and Activities Subject to the 20% Cap
24	General Administration - Fair Housing Activities - Subject to the 20% Cap
25	General Administration - Fair Housing Regional Coordination - Subject to 20% Cap
26	ESG 24 Baltimore County
27	Housing Rehabilitation Program
28	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
29	Housing Services
30	Housing Counseling Services - CDBG, HOME, County
31	HOME - CHDO Operating - 5%
32	HOME - CHDO Set Aside - 15% Minimum PLUS - Sisterhood Agenda
33	HOME Acquisition, Rehab and Preservation
34	HOME Administration - Balance
35	HOME - Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP)
36	HOME - Senior Rehabilitation Program for Homeowners (25 Units)

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Baltimore County seeks to create decent and fair housing in a suitable living environment with expanded economic opportunities for its citizens. The County wishes to minimize the number of its citizens experiencing homelessness and address those citizens with special needs. The priorities for allocating our federal funds followed those priority goal areas identified in this section's introduction. As part of the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County is spending much of its County General Funds dollars in identified Opportunity Areas. Programs and services in these areas are of great importance to the future of the County citizens, but not to the exclusion of those living in other areas of the County. Baltimore County will prioritize housing and other services to Opportunity Areas while continuing to support the needs of those living in Sustainable Community Areas and Community Conservation Areas. Many public services, like those for intimate partner violence and homelessness/eviction prevention, are available countywide.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Public Facilities - ARC Baltimore - Outdoor Activity Area
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$169,900
	Description	The Arc Baltimore, Inc. will implement an outdoor garden/educational/recreation space on the grounds of its Towson area headquarters facility. The new activity space will provide an accessible park/outdoor area for a disabled clientele of approximately 400 participants that is presently active in indoor day programming at the location.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	400 persons with a disability will benefit.
	Location Description	York Road, Towson, MD
	Planned Activities	Creation of an outdoor garden/educational/rec space on ARC facility grounds.
2	Project Name	Public Facilities - Board of Child Care - Roof Replacement
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	Board of Child Care of the United Methodist Church, Inc. will implement improvements and repairs to residential units experiencing deficiencies. Roof replacements at several group homes housing 12 youth migrants, unaccompanied youth, abused/abandoned youth.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	12 youth migrants, unaccompanied youth, and/or abused/abandoned youth.
	Location Description	Randallstown, MD
	Planned Activities	Roof replacement at group homes.
3	Project Name	Public Facilities - CHIMES - Improvements to Group Home
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$193,000
	Description	Chimes, Inc. will implement improvements and repairs to a group home serving four disabled clients, mitigating aging components and worn surfaces; implementing accessibility features.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four disabled clients living in the group home.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Repairs to group home and implementation of accessibility features.
4	Project Name	Public Facilities - Key Point Health - Roof Replacement
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$198,239
	Description	Key Point Health Services, Inc. will implement a full roof replacement at a Dundalk area facility serving 950 clients annually who have a designated disability related to mental health. The current roof is aging, sever disrepair and has outlived its useful life.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	950 clients are served annually in this facility.
	Location Description	Dundalk, MD
	Planned Activities	Full replacement of community mental health facility's roof.
5	Project Name	Public Facilities - National Center on Institutions & Alternatives - Career Development Center
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$86,000
	Description	The National Center on Institutions and Alternatives will implement varied modifications/remodeling of its Career Development Center located in the Woodlawn community. The improvements will accommodate new approaches to day programming activities that serve a population of approximately 58 people with disabilities.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	58 individuals living with disabilities will benefit from the career development center.
	Location Description	Woodlawn
	Planned Activities	Modifications/remodeling of NCIA's Career Development Center located in the Woodlawn community. The improvements will accommodate new approaches to day programming activities that serve a population of approximately 58 people with disabilities.
6	Project Name	Public Facilities - Prologue- Interior Improvements to Headquarters Facility
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Needs Addressed	Community Infrastructure Improvements

	Funding	CDBG: \$47,200
	Description	Prologue, Inc. will replace worn, uneven and unsafe floor surfaces in its headquarter facility in the Pikesville community, addressing a deficiency that has evolved over time. The improvements will strengthen the facility's operational capacity and support staff who serve a special needs population of approximately 550 clients.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	550 clients visiting the facility for mental health and/or homeless service appointments.
	Location Description	Milford Mill Road, Pikesville, MD
	Planned Activities	Replace worn, uneven and unsafe floor surfaces in Prologue's headquarter facility in the Pikesville community. The improvements will strengthen the facility's operational capacity and support staff who serve a special needs population of approximately 550 clients.
7	Project Name	Public Facilities - Richcroft, Inc - Improvements to Group Home
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$44,500
	Description	Richcroft, Inc. will repair and replace components of a group home in the Timonium community that serves three disabled clients. The project will replace an aging roof and renovate a bathroom to improve accessibility and mitigate leaks, drainage issues/poor plumbing.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Three disabled single adult households will benefit.
	Location Description	Alternative Living Unit home in Timonium, MD

	Planned Activities	Repair and replace components of a group home in the Timonium community that serves three disabled clients. The project will replace an aging roof and renovate a bathroom to improve accessibility and mitigate leaks, drainage issues/poor plumbing.
8	Project Name	Public Facilities - St. Vincent de Paul, Inc - Renovation of Transitional Housing Facility
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those at Risk Of Homelessness
	Funding	CDBG: \$300,000
	Description	St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore, Inc. will significantly renovate and remodel an existing communal bathroom facility to provide separate units, enhancing safety and addressing structural and plumbing deficiencies in an existing transitional housing facility that serves approximately 30 homeless families in the Pikesville community.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 families experiencing homelessness
	Location Description	Sudbrook Road, Pikesville, MD
	Planned Activities	St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore, Inc will renovate and remodel the communal bathroom into four separate bathroom units, enhancing safety and addressing structural and plumbing deficiencies in a homeless shelter facility serving 30 households annually.
9	Project Name	Public Services - Balance of Funds
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,296
	Description	
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	These funds will be utilized for an additional one to two projects that increase access to public service activities throughout the year. The number of beneficiaries will be determined once projects are selected.
	Location Description	Location will be determined by project selection.
	Planned Activities	Will be determined once projects are selected in line with eligible public service activities.
10	Project Name	Public Services - Abilities Network - Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000 County General Funds: \$10,000
	Description	Project ACT (All Children Together) is a program of the Abilities Network, Inc. organization that promotes high quality, inclusive early childhood education experiences for children by providing training and consultation services to early childhood professionals and families. Through coaching, mentoring, advocating, training, and the provision of resources, Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness supports educators' and families' use of inclusive practices to foster healthy social-emotional development, build resiliency and address the mental health and behavioral needs of children. Project ACT partners with families and early childhood professionals to develop solutions, prevent expulsions and encourage the natural growth of the children.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	90 children from 60 households will receive high quality, inclusive early childhood educational experiences and families will learn inclusive practices to foster healthy social-emotional development, build resiliency, and address mental health and behavioral needs of children.
	Location Description	

	Planned Activities	Project ACT (All Children Together) is a program of the Abilities Network, Inc. organization that promotes high quality, inclusive early childhood education experiences for children by providing training and consultation services to early childhood professionals and families. Through coaching, mentoring, advocating, training, and the provision of resources, Foundations for Kindergarten Readiness supports educators' and families' use of inclusive practices to foster healthy social-emotional development, build resiliency and address the mental health and behavioral needs of children. Project ACT partners with families and early childhood professionals to develop solutions, prevent expulsions and encourage the natural growth of the children. 90 individuals representing 60 households will benefit from this program.
11	Project Name	Public Services - Baltimore County - Homeless Shelter Nurse Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$125,000
	Description	On-site, short-term, nursing case management services to approximately 600 shelter residents at the county's largest homeless shelters. Priority is given to clients with acute and chronic health needs with the goal of reducing health disparities and barriers to permanent housing.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	600 individuals representing 450 households
	Location Description	Two largest homeless shelters with regular nursing services are located in Rosedale and Catonsville. Nursing services can also be requested of the county for other shelters as needed.

	Planned Activities	SNP follows a case management model with a focus on reducing health barriers that may impact shelter residents’ ability to maintain permanent housing. Shelter nurses work to identify health issues, provide appropriate interventions and referrals, and work with other homeless service providers to develop individualized plans of care to address the specific needs of the residents. This is accomplished by providing on-site, short-term, nursing case management services. The shelter nurses work in collaboration with the shelter managers and staff to assure residents receive individual and congregate living health education, health screenings and nursing services based on best practices as identified by Poulton B. et al, who identify “public health nursing as a key role, not only in intervention but also in the assessment of need, self-care skills to meet needs, referral and access to further care and health promotion and protection.”
12	Project Name	Public Services - Casa Inc, Expanded Baltimore County Education and Assistance Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	This program includes linguistically and culturally competent outreach to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) residents, focusing on Latino and Black immigrant communities, in targeted areas of the county. Community education on key financial, legal, health and workforce topics of importance to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) immigrant residents. Comprehensive screening/needs assessment, navigation and enrollment assistance of low-income LEP residents into available public benefits provided both by CASA and external partners on issues such as health care access, legal and social services (including support and interpretation services in navigating government systems as needed); taxes and citizenship; job readiness; education; and others. After school and college access programming for immigrant youth at partner high schools.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	666 individuals from 432 households
	Location Description	Services are offered at Owings Mills High School and may also occur in other locations as needed in Baltimore County. Headquarters for the organization is located in Baltimore City at 2224 E. Fayette Street.
	Planned Activities	This program includes linguistically and culturally competent outreach to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) residents, focusing on Latino and Black immigrant communities, in targeted areas of the county. Community education on key financial, legal, health and workforce topics of importance to low-income Limited English Proficient (LEP) immigrant residents. Comprehensive screening/needs assessment, navigation and enrollment assistance of low-income LEP residents into available public benefits provided both by CASA and external partners on issues such as health care access, legal and social services (including support and interpretation services in navigating government systems as needed); taxes and citizenship; job readiness; education; and others. After-school and college access programming for immigrant youth at partner high schools.
13	Project Name	Public Services - CASA of Baltimore County, Inc - Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000

	<p>Description</p>	<p>CASA of Baltimore County will recruit, screen, train, and support citizen volunteers who will serve as court-authorized advocates for 200 children from 160 households who are victims of abuse and neglect and are involved in Baltimore County court proceedings through the child welfare system. Volunteer advocates will develop close relationships with the children and will research and interview all adults involved in the cases, in order to make fact-based recommendations to the court as to the best interests of the children. Additionally, advocates will ensure that court-ordered medical, psychological, educational, and other services for the children are carried out and will monitor progress of the family as they work to address what brought the child into foster care. Particular attention will be given to older youth approaching independence and those having recently "aged out" of the foster care system, as they often require additional supports.</p>
	<p>Target Date</p>	<p>6/30/2025</p>
	<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>200 children from 160 households will benefit from CASA services</p>
	<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Headquarters building is in Towson, but participants will come from throughout Baltimore County.</p>
	<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>CASA of Baltimore County will recruit, screen, train, and support citizen volunteers who will serve as court-authorized advocates for 200 children from 160 households who are victims of abuse and neglect and are involved in Baltimore County court proceedings through the child welfare system. Volunteer advocates will develop close relationships with the children and will research and interview all adults involved in the cases, in order to make fact-based recommendations to the court as to the best interests of the children. Additionally, advocates will ensure that court-ordered medical, psychological, educational, and other services for the children are carried out and will monitor progress of the family as they work to address what brought the child into foster care. Particular attention will be given to older youth approaching independence and those having recently "aged out" of the foster care system, as they often require additional supports.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Project Name</p>	<p>Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Arbutus Permanent Supportive Housing</p>

	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000
	Description	Operational support for 13-unit single room occupancy permanent supportive housing project. CDBG funding will be paired with CoC funds and State HSP funds.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	13 individuals in 13 households
	Location Description	Facility is located in Arbutus, but residents are eligible countywide.
	Planned Activities	Operating support for Arbutus Permanent Supportive Housing facility with 13 single room occupancy units for chronically homeless single women.
15	Project Name	Public Services - Community Assistance Network - Outreach Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$71,000
	Description	Outreach services will provide: emergency grants to help forestall eviction; security deposit assistance to help household move to affordable housing; budget/financial counseling, case management, and other referrals to resources for mainstream benefits, food, childcare, job assistance, etc. CDBG funding of \$71,000 will be paired with County General Funds of \$273,900.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	375 individuals from 150 households

	Location Description	Outreach sites throughout the County. Eligibility is countywide.
	Planned Activities	Emergency grants to help forestall eviction; security deposit assistance to help household move to affordable housing; budget/financial counseling, case management, and other referrals to resources for mainstream benefits, food, childcare, job assistance, etc.
16	Project Name	Public Services - Easter Seals - Adult Day Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$21,000
	Description	Community-based supports for largely elderly and extremely vulnerable County residents at-risk of losing their independence due to physical frailty, intellectual/developmental disabilities, memory impairments or disabling condition like Alzheimer's or stroke.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	190 individuals representing 180 households.
	Location Description	Project is located in Windsor Mill. Participants could come from anywhere in the County, but are largely form the County's west side.
	Planned Activities	ADS-B offers a wide range of structured services built around individual interests, choices and abilities. The project provides medically supervised care; daily personal care - including toileting assistance; wheelchair accessible transportation to/from homes; nutritious meals and snacks that accommodate a wide range of special diets; organized and stimulating individual and group activities; community outings; daily exercise programs; educational programs; onsite occupational, speech, and physical therapies; adaptive equipment training; skilled nursing services and medical monitoring with interventions that include daily nursing assessments, blood pressure checks, medication administration & injections, diabetes management/blood glucose monitoring, and regular health screenings including checks for mental health, fall risk, and depression. Services for caregivers include respite and interventions to reduce isolation, increase knowledge, and build confidence in ability to care for loved ones.

17	Project Name	Public Services - Heroes Helping Heroes - At-Risk Youth After School Program
	Target Area	Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
	Description	After school development program aimed at improving academics, life skills and athletic ability of 120 at-risk Baltimore County youth ages 5 to 18. The program is built on three core elements - academic achievement, community services, and teamwork through athletics.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	120 youth from 120 households living in the Middle River area.
	Location Description	Salvation Army Middle River Boys and Girls Club in Middle River and at Middle River Middle School.
Planned Activities	Heroes Helping Heroes is a community based after school youth development program aimed at improving the academics, character, and athletic ability of at-risk Baltimore County youth ages 5 to 18. The uniquely designed proactive program is built upon a core structure of three central elements, academic achievement, community service, and teamwork through athletics. Academic success is achieved through monitoring and improving school attendance, structured homework time and academic tutoring. Community service, the unique hallmark of the Heroes Helping Heroes program, involves youth in volunteering with pediatric hospital patients. The third element of the program emphasizes developing goals, teamwork, and a strong work ethic through participation on competitive basketball teams.	
18	Project Name	Public Services - House of Ruth - IPV Supportive Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$22,660 County General Funds: \$14,340

	Description	House of Ruth Maryland will provide service access to underserved members of the community experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV) with information, food support, crisis support, community resource referral, and communal support groups. This trauma-informed project offers clients programming in safe, undisclosed, locations that are easily accessible by public transit. To reduce language barriers to a living a safe, independent life all services are available in Spanish.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	55 individuals from 55 households experiencing Intimate Partner Violence
	Location Description	Locations purposefully withheld due to intimate partner violence services.
	Planned Activities	Access underserved members of the community experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV) with program service information, food support, crisis support, community resource referral, and communal support groups. This trauma-informed project offers clients programming in safe, undisclosed, locations that are easily accessible by public transit. To reduce language barriers to living a safe, independent life, all services are available in Spanish
19	Project Name	Public Services - Liberty's Promise - Helping Immigrant Youth Succeed
	Target Area	Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
	Description	The program educates low-income, immigrant youth about opportunities and resources in a welcoming environment where they feel comfortable exploring all the possibilities of their futures. Topics for immigrant youth include civic knowledge, community engagement, high school and college readiness, and career exploration. Students participate in hands-on activities, are introduced to new role models, and begin acclimating to their new community on field trips.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	72 individuals from 72 households
	Location Description	Lansdowne and Sudbrook Middle Schools catchment areas of Baltimore County. Lansdowne Middle - 2400 Lansdowne Road, Baltimore MD 21227 and Sudbrook Magnet Middle School - 4300 Bedford Road, Baltimore, MD 21208
	Planned Activities	Liberty's Promise works with Baltimore County newcomers who come from every part of the world seeking a better life. The program works with those new immigrants facing challenges, including financial hardship and a discouraging lack of information about what they need to do to succeed in their new community. The Civics and Citizenship Junior (C&C Junior) program in Lansdowne Middle School and Sudbrook Magnet Middle School is designed to fill that gap, inspiring immigrant youth to set big goals and equipping them to pursue their own American dream. The program educates low-income, immigrant youth about opportunities and resources in a welcoming environment, where they feel comfortable exploring all the possibilities of their future. The program focuses on four core elements to help implement personal growth and development: Civic Knowledge, Community Engagement, High School and College Readiness, and Career Exploration. With these four pillars in mind, students participate in hands-on activities, are introduced to new role models, and begin acclimating to their new community on field trips.
20	Project Name	Public Services - Pro Bono Counseling Project, Inc. - Pro Bono Mental Health Care
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$39,070
	Description	Project will increase access to mental health care for low to moderate-income Baltimore County residents through assessments, matching clients with counselors, community resources, recruitment of volunteer clinicians that reflect the diversity of the County, and providing a WARMLine for mental health support and brief interventions.

	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	660 individuals from 575 households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	Project will increase access to mental health care for low to moderate-income Baltimore County residents by: 1) Conducting assessments for individuals seeking counseling, 2) Matching clients with licensed mental health providers (based on client's needs and state preferences) for ongoing free counseling, 3) Connecting clients to appropriate community resources for additional needs (e.g. insurance navigation, specialized or intensive mental health services), 4) Maintaining contact with clients and clinicians to monitor client satisfaction and outcomes, 5) Recruiting volunteer clinicians who reflect Baltimore County's geographical, racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity, 6) Providing free education and support to volunteer clinicians (e.g. continuing education workshops, peer consultation groups, and book clubs, 7) Providing the WARMLine, which directly connects callers to a mental health professional for mental health support and brief interventions.
21	Project Name	Public Services - St Vincent de Paul of Baltimore - Healthy Food Access
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$19,000
	Description	
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4800 low-income children will receive meals through the summer and afterschool programs.
	Location Description	Summer meal sites and afterschool program sites throughout Baltimore County.

	Planned Activities	Program will expand access to summer and afterschool meals for low-income children. Program aims to increase access to healthy, nutritious meals by maintaining existing sites and creating new sites. The HFA program provides training, sponsorship, and technical assistance, ensuring CACFP compliance. Meals are provided by SVDP's social enterprise, Good Harvest, a full-service meal production enterprise.
22	Project Name	Public Services - TALMAR, Inc - Farm-Based Therapies for People with Special Needs
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000
	Description	TALMAR will provide agriculture-based therapies to individuals, families and small groups of people with special needs in Baltimore County on its campus inside of Cromwell Valley Park. Activities are tailored to each participant to ensure they are supported in reaching goals they set for themselves.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 individuals representing 265 households
	Location Description	1994 Cromwell Bridget Road, Parkville, MD 21234. Cromwell Valley Park, but open to residents countywide
Planned Activities	TALMAR will provide agriculture-based therapies to individuals, families and small groups of people with special needs in Baltimore County on its campus inside of Cromwell Valley Park. Activities are tailored to each participant to ensure they are supported in reaching goals they set for themselves.	
23	Project Name	General Administration and Activities Subject to the 20% Cap
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$819,631

	Description	Funds are used for the coordination, administration, and implementation of eligible activities under the CDBG Program, ESG Program and Continuum of Care Programs as well as other federal, state and local efforts supporting CDBG-eligible activities. Included in these efforts are eligible CDBG planning and fair housing activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable. Administrative funds.
	Location Description	Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	General administration and planning activities
24	Project Name	General Administration - Fair Housing Activities - Subject to the 20% Cap
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000 County General Funds: \$100,000
	Description	Funds activities in support of vendor services around Fair Housing testing and referrals. This is an administrative activity promoting the County's Fair Housing efforts. Services include fair housing outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing and investigation of complaints/referrals. Services are currently being provided by Economic Action Maryland.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 Fair Housing rental tests and 20 Fair Housing mortgage lending tests
	Location Description	Oversight is at Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204. Tests will take place around the County based on need.

	Planned Activities	Funds will support \$50,000 worth of CDBG costs associated with conducting fair housing tests throughout the County. An additional \$100,000 in County General Funds support the education, outreach, and \$85,000 in ARPA funding supports the tenant landlord counseling to assist households and landlords feeling the stress of the COVID pandemic and now transitioning into a COVID recovery period. No GOI indicators numbers are included for this activity subject to the 20% cap. This is an administrative activity promoting the County's Fair housing efforts. Services include fair housing outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing and investigation of complaints/referrals. Services are currently being provided by Economic Action Maryland.
25	Project Name	General Administration - Fair Housing Regional Coordination - Subject to 20% Cap
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$13,800
	Description	Funds support Baltimore County's portion of the Baltimore Metro Council's Fair Housing Regional Coordination staff work.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable. Administrative funds.
	Location Description	Department of Housing and Community Development, 105 W Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
Planned Activities	This is administrative activity related to Fair Housing Activities of the Baltimore Metro Region. Funds support Baltimore County's portion of the Baltimore Metro Council's Fair Housing Regional Coordination staff work.	
26	Project Name	ESG 24 Baltimore County
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those at Risk of Homelessness

	Funding	ESG: \$385,426
	Description	
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	22 households will receive Rapid Rehousing. 550 individuals will receive homeless outreach services.
	Location Description	Homeless street outreach locations will occur throughout the County. Rapid Rehousing will occur in locations through the County. Administrative oversight of the ESG program will occur at 105 W. Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD.
	Planned Activities	Homeless street outreach, rapid rehousing services.
27	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$620,000
	Description	Funds will be used to support CDBG-eligible acquisition and rehabilitation activities. Example include, but are not limited to, assisting eligible homeowners make needed repairs to their properties; accessibility renovations to assist those with disabilities (renters and homeowners) make renovations to their living units so they are accessible; and assistance to developers attempting to provide greater housing options by rehabilitating properties for Baltimore County residents.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 low-income households will receive assistance with the rehabilitation of their homes. 25 homeowners living with a disability will receive assistance through the HAMP program. 5 renters will receive similar HAMP assistance.

	Location Description	105 W Chesapeake Ave, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204 is the administrative address. Actual locations will be identified as client applications are reviewed after client application submission.
	Planned Activities	The County plans to serve 25 single family (homeowner) households rehabilitation assistance (\$1M). The Housing Accessibility Modification Program (HAMP) is projected to provide rehabilitation assistance to 25 homeowners (\$30K) and five renters living with disabilities (\$50K). The County plans to use \$620,000 in FFY entitlement award and \$730,000 in old CDBG to fund these projects.
28	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$953,951
	Description	CDBG-funded program delivery and salary costs associated with the Housing Accessibility Modification Program, Single Family Rehabilitation Program and the Multi Family Rental Rehabilitation Programs. Activities include construction/rehabilitation inspections, loan management, loan underwriting and other costs supporting the delivery of rehabilitation program performance goals and audit compliant CDBG-funded program activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity provides salary and program delivery costs associated with oversight.
	Location Description	105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson, MD 21204 is the administrative headquarters for this activity.
	Planned Activities	This is a program delivery activity funding salary and program delivery costs associated with construction management and loan oversight.
29	Project Name	Housing Services
	Target Area	Countywide

	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$730,410
	Description	Funds are used for the oversight/program delivery of the County's housing development efforts associated with the Housing Opportunities (rehabilitation) Program which includes HOME funded rehabilitation loans, direct home-ownership assistance and housing development.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity associated with oversight of the housing loans, direct homeownership assistance, and housing development.
	Location Description	105 W Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	Activities include construction/rehab inspections, loan management, and loan underwriting. Funds are used for staff oversight/program delivery of the County's housing development efforts associated with the Housing Opportunities (rehabilitation) Program which includes HOME funded rehabilitation loans, direct home-ownership assistance and housing development.
30	Project Name	Housing Counseling Services - CDBG, HOME, County
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$193,400 HOME: \$164,000 County General Funds: \$300,000
	Description	Project supports direct homeownership counseling for pre-purchase, post-purchase and foreclosure counseling to residents expecting to purchase a home in the County and/or residing in Baltimore County. Entitlement support will be \$193,400 in CDBG and \$164,000 in HOME.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 35 counseled homeowners will receive direct homeownership counseling assistance resulting in Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP) assistance to homebuyers in Baltimore County. Federal funds support this activity. County general funds support additional housing counseling activities.
	Location Description	Exact addresses for SELP loans will be selected by potential homeowners.
	Planned Activities	Contracted nonprofit providers will provide homeownership counseling for pre-purchase, post-purchase and foreclosure counseling to residents interested in purchasing homes in Baltimore County. Of those receiving counseling, approximately 35 will be provided direct assistance through the SELP program. Actual numbers served will be captured as part of the SELP loan activity.
31	Project Name	HOME - CHDO Operating - 5%
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$102,470
	Description	Funds will assist Community Housing Development Organizations.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	CHDO Operating costs. No beneficiary data.
	Location Description	Sisterhood Agenda services will be in Middle River. Once a second CHDO is identified, a second location will be provided.
Planned Activities	CHDO Operating services	
32	Project Name	HOME - CHDO Set Aside - 15% Minimum PLUS - Sisterhood Agenda
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$307,411

	Description	CHDO Set Aside funds of 15% of HOME Award without Program Income (\$2,049,404) totaling 307,411 for use by Sisterhood Agenda for housing development loans. This fund is used to support activities that increase and expand homeownership, stabilize and revitalize existing housing stock, and address the housing needs of persons who require supportive housing. The production of units will be carried out by the certified CHDO - Sisterhood Addition for the addition of ?? units of ?? housing. A total of \$?? will be set aside for this project in this Action Plan period.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Individuals living at 80% of AMI or below will benefit. In FFY24, efforts will support construction of approximately 10 units of permanent supportive housing.
	Location Description	Middle River
	Planned Activities	CHDO Set Aside funds of 15% of HOME Award without Program Income (\$2,049,404) totaling \$307,411 for use by Sisterhood Agenda for housing development. This fund is used to support activities that increase and expand homeownership, stabilize and revitalize existing housing stock, and address the housing needs of persons who require supportive housing. The production of units will be carried out by the certified CHDO - Sisterhood Agenda for the purpose of creating approximately 10 units of permanent supportive housing.
33	Project Name	HOME Acquisition, Rehab and Preservation
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those at Risk of Homelessness
	Funding	HOME: \$854,583
	Description	FFY 2024 allocation of HOME funds reserved for homeowners to repair/renovate their homes is focused on the Senior Repair Program established under a separate HOME activity. The County currently has no general HOME funds reserved for this effort. However, the County is retaining this project in the event that another project falls through and more HOME funds become available for use. At that time, the County may opt to use some of those newly available funds toward this effort.
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At present, no activities are expected because the funds are in the pre-development phase of Sisterhood projects. Completed project will support 10 permanent supportive housing units. As other potential projects move forward, additional households will be served and type of families expanded.
	Location Description	Sisterhood Agenda is focused in Middle River.
	Planned Activities	HOME funds may be used for extremely low, very low, and low-income homeowners to repair and renovate their homes, bringing them in compliance with Baltimore County codes. Homeowners countywide are eligible for the program. Repairs and renovations are done in accordance with healthy home standards and guidelines. HOME Rehab can also support the creation of permanent supportive housing, as it will do in this case.
34	Project Name	HOME Administration - Balance
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$70,940
	Description	Funds will be used for the coordination, administration, and implementation of the HOME Investment Partnership Program.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity. Funds are used for staff costs and other administrative activities.
	Location Description	105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson, MD 21204
	Planned Activities	
35	Project Name	HOME - Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP)
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$350,000

	Description	During FFY 2024, the County will allocate HOME funds to support 35 first-time buyers with purchasing a home in Baltimore County with \$10,000 assistance per household.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At \$10,000 assistance per household, 35 households will benefit from this project.
	Location Description	Location is determined by homebuyers purchasing properties in Baltimore County. Properties are selected by individual residents.
	Planned Activities	Nonprofit organizations will support first-time buyers with purchasing a home in Baltimore County with \$10,000 per household. The program provides assistance to 35 households to purchase homes in Baltimore County.
36	Project Name	HOME - Senior Rehabilitation Program for Homeowners (25 Units)
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$500,000
	Description	The Senior Repair Program is designed to assist income-eligible senior homeowners with a grant to repair or replace major systems which have failed/at imminent danger of failure and pose a hazard to senior occupants' health or safety.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 senior homeowners will be able to remain in their homes after receiving rehabilitated home systems/conditions remedied.
	Location Description	Projects will be based on individual residential applications and could be provided anywhere within the County to an income eligible homeowner in need of repair.

	Planned Activities	The Senior Repair Program is designed to assist 25 income-eligible senior homeowners with a grant to repair or replace major systems which have failed/at imminent danger of failure and pose a hazard to senior occupants' health or safety.
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The County will group entitlement funds in four geographic target areas of Baltimore County during the Consolidated Plan period. Please note that due to issues with the design of the HUD database and download of this document, the fourth distribution area, Countywide, does not appear in the chart below. The vast majority of the County's funds are open to individuals across the entire County. The general exception to this is the built-environment projects around affordable housing which are targeted to Opportunity Areas associated with the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement. With Countywide not showing as an option below, the remaining geographic areas identified are - Opportunity Areas, Sustainable Communities, and Community Conservation Areas - and in multiple cases these areas can overlap. As a result, a funded project could be represented across all three listed areas and/or a project could physically be operated in one of the geographic areas listed below and still serve eligible citizens countywide. The majority of public service activities in Baltimore County are open to citizens countywide as long as the CDBG eligibility requirements are satisfied. This is the case even if the project is located in one of the County's identified geographic target areas. For the purposes of building affordable housing, however, the County is prioritizing family housing in Opportunity Areas. The Sustainable Community and Community Conservation Areas are locally designed and correspond to State or local urban planning/funding areas.

Opportunity Areas are predominantly in the southwest and the northwest/central/ and northeast sections of the County. Areas inside of the Urban Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) are predominantly "outer Beltway" communities that are a mix of older suburban villages and traditional, lower density suburban development as well as high density growth areas with a mix of housing types, amenities and services. Most of the County's employment opportunities are here – healthcare, manufacturing, services, information technology, research and governmental agencies. These areas in the County's Priority Funding Area, have public infrastructure, and are slated for growth consistent with the County's Master Plan. Sustainable Communities – These communities are older suburban villages or towns anchored by downtown business districts and surrounded by a mix of housing types of varying densities and ages. Community Conservation Areas – generally consist of low to moderate density suburban residential neighborhoods that are often adjacent to higher density, more mixed-use areas served by public water and sewer facilities and often represented in the older communities ringing the Baltimore Beltway. Community Conservation Areas are within the URDL and considered part of the Priority Funding Area. Countywide services are primarily representative of the public service activities. Many of these are located in Community Conservation areas serving the County's older communities.

Multiple projects are located in Opportunity Areas, but provide services to residents Countywide. No projects funded with FY25 entitlement funds are exclusively for the use of those in an Opportunity Area or exclusively a Sustainable Community. Only the four projects specifically tailored to the residents of the Community Conservation target area listed are captured below. Other projects located in an

Opportunity Area, but open to residents countywide, or located in a sustainable community, but open to residents countywide, are not captured in the chart below. As a result, the chart numbers do not add to 100.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Opportunity Areas	
Sustainable Communities	
Community Conservation Areas	
Countywide	51

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The County wishes to support the movement of housing and other services for those most in need into the County’s Opportunity Areas. These areas have been identified as having high economic opportunity, a strong homeowner occupied housing stock, strong median household income, low poverty rates and are not in areas of minority concentration. Generally, these areas are considered to have strong schools, low crime, and good transportation options to work. Although the geographic distribution chart above only captures the federal entitlement funds spent, Baltimore County will also continue to provide County General Funds in the amount of \$3 million per year for affordable housing construction. In addition, Baltimore County will be setting aside \$300,000 a year in County General Funds for housing modifications to make accessible rental units in Opportunity Areas for those participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

The County will also be using OLD CDBG and HOME funds in Opportunity Area projects in Rosedale, Towson and on Oak Avenue. These funds will total \$2,275,000 in old CDBG and \$3,300,000 in old HOME funds.

In addition to the aforementioned County funds, HUD funds will be used to assist low and moderate-income individuals living in Opportunity Areas, Sustainable Communities and Community Conservation Areas. HUD defines low and moderate-income areas as those where income concentrations of a block group fall within a jurisdiction’s top 25 percent. In Baltimore County this means neighborhoods where the percentage of the County’s citizens have incomes at or below 80 percent of the area median income. A high portion of these neighborhoods are also home to the County’s minority population. Many of these neighborhoods fall within the Community Conservation Areas and the County feels it is important to support these neighborhoods with a variety of services. Lastly, it is important to remember that there are also services that will be provided countywide like services for victims of domestic violence, homeless, and immigrants and others with Limited English Proficiency. The County maintains its commitment to these populations by choosing to have the majority of its provided services available

to the entire county.

Discussion

The County funds just over 30 projects that range in assistance from \$15,000 to over \$2,000,000 and 27 of those projects are open to residents of the entire County. There is no Countywide distribution option in the table below. The County uses both current year entitlement funds as well as old CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds to support these efforts. For the purposes of calculating the distribution below, however, the County uses only its current year entitlement funds in the calculation. The distribution of funds below does not include the funds spent on administrative activities in support of General Administration, Housing Rehabilitation, Housing Services, and HOME Administration. 51% of the remaining funds will be used for projects exclusively serving residents in a Community Conservation area. This number represents four projects and is skewed, however, by the fact that two projects are receiving a large infusion of HOME funds (\$1,000,000 and \$743,583) in comparison to the many smaller funded projects scattered around the County receiving grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$200,000.

Of the County's entitlement award, only four projects (totaling \$1,883,583) are designated as serving in a particular Target Area above. The largest of these are two HOME activities – CHDO Set Aside and Permanent Supportive Housing Construction, and Acquisition/Rehab. Together these projects encompass roughly \$1.7 million in expected spending during the Plan period. Two other smaller projects are operating in a Community Conservation Area though in theory their activities fall in those areas more by service area footprint than specific project design to exclusively serve the Target Area population. Both projects assist youth in their catchment areas related to their school enrollment. The remaining activities identified throughout this Action Plan provide services that operate countywide.

Baltimore County's geographic priority areas reflect the housing and community development needs of its citizens. Housing (new construction, acquisition, and rehabilitation) will be concentrated largely in the Opportunity Areas while the County also maintains its commitment to providing needed public services like affordable child care, quality afterschool programming, job training and citizenship services.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The charts below reflect affordable housing units provided using federal CDBG and HOME funds only. The County also plans to use its own funds to support the creation of additional affordable rental housing in Baltimore County. Those are reflected in our narrative discussion of this document. The chart below pulls numbers only from those projects funded through federal funding. In the case where a project is funded with both federal and county or other funds, those units will be included in the chart below.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	10
Non-Homeless	268
Special-Needs	19
Total	297

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	121
The Production of New Units	82
Rehab of Existing Units	94
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	297

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

Discussion

The Annual Affordable Housing Completion Goals (Table 3B Section 215) is captured in the County's Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER). In prior Consolidated Plans, the County included its CDBG funds for 59 Permanent Supportive Housing under the Homeless households above. The County continues to provide funds to those 59 households. However, those funds are used for general program operations rather than specific rental unit costs. As a result, the County has removed those units from the 215 Chart. Additionally, the County continues to make a grant to Rebuilding Together for its rehabilitation of older homes in the County, however, the County is funding the administrative oversight only. As a result, the County has removed the specific unit association from this direct calculation since the funded activity is rehab administration only and not hard unit costs.

Expected units assisted in the coming Action Plan period would include: homeowners receiving rehabilitation through the Single Family Rehab program (25) and HAMP for homeowners(25),

rehabilitation of Alternative Living Units for citizens living with a disability (19), housing accessibility modifications through CDBG to renters (5), preservation of senior rental housing units (116), new construction for senior rental housing in Rosedale (72), HOME CHDO set aside funds for new construction of permanent supportive housing units for families experiencing homelessness (10), and rehabilitation of senior homeowner housing (25).

Not captured in the chart above, because the County will use Lead funds, is a historic preservation project in the Turner Station community of Dundalk. The County will replace windows of 90 units at Dave Village townhomes using Lead funding.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Baltimore County does not own, or operate any Public Housing developments.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

Not Applicable.

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

Introduction

Baltimore County, Maryland, is located in the geographic center of Maryland, surrounding the City of Baltimore almost entirely, and is bordered by Howard, Harford, Carroll, and Anne Arundel Counties. The county, with a population of over 800,000, is the largest jurisdiction in the Baltimore-Towson Metro Area and is the second largest Continuum of Care (CoC) in the state of Maryland. The CoC serves just over 3,000 individuals annually across all homeless service programs. The County's 2024 Point in Time (PIT) count totaled 536 individuals (421 sheltered and 115 unsheltered). This represents an overall reduction of 25% in homelessness since 2020 as captured by the PIT count.

Starting in the fall of 2021 through the spring of 2023, Baltimore County CoC receiving HUD Technical Assistance (TA) which resulted in the creation of formalized CoC governance bylaws and structure, a consolidated CoC standard operating policies (SOP) document, a revised Coordinated Entry system that included updated assessment, prioritization and referral process to Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing and finally an updated tool to measure communicate system performance measures across all project types within the CoC. During this fiscal year, the CoC has focused on establishing the revamped CoC Governance Board and on executing and improving the revised process' under the CoCs prevue. The County continues to utilize its federal, state and county funding awards to provide eviction prevention, shelter diversion, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing to those in need. The County is open to best practices learned from communities nationwide to identify local strategies that will prevent more households from becoming homeless. For those who do become homeless, these strategies will reduce the length of time that they experience homelessness. The County will use its HOME funds, CDBG, county General Funds and Payments in Lieu of Taxes to preserve and create affordable rental housing that will be affordable to families with an emphasis on expanding housing opportunities in non-impacted areas and in areas of high opportunity. This investment will include the \$7.4 million in HOME-ARPA funds allocated to the County in response to the COVID pandemic. The County HOME-ARP allocation plan was approved by HUD on June 14, 2023.

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

Baltimore County's CoC is focused on preventing first time homelessness by consolidating and enhancing our homeless prevention and diversion services through one provider. That provider will also be offering, for the first time, time limited, direct payments to extremely vulnerable households. Additionally, the CoC will continue to enhance our coordinated entry intake and the larger assessment, prioritization and referral to permanent housing options. Finally, the CoC will remain focused on training and supporting our housing providers to address the needs of extremely vulnerable clients to secure and

maintain housing.

Baltimore County has expanded homeless outreach services over the last 3 years by adding an additional street outreach provider. We have and will continue to allocate ESG funds to support both outreach providers. Outreach providers work with those living in a place not meant for human habitation, to build trust to encourage people to agree to accept services and housing. Since most unsheltered persons living on the street are highly vulnerable and both outreach providers are a point of entry for our CoC's Coordinated Entry (CE), both have the ability to "streamline" any person living unsheltered, into shelter during off hours and when CE is closed. Both teams provide services to each person living unsheltered, they provide referrals to health care services and will coordinated with emergency services to respond to needs of each person. Both teams help coordinate the successful execution of the annual Point in Time (PIT) count. Prologue also offers a part-time drop-in center, open 2 days per week, for those who are unsheltered in our county. Anyone can stop by to access showers, laundry, kitchen facilities and case management support.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The County contracts with six non-profit organizations for the operation of six year-round emergency shelters, including a domestic violence shelter. Additionally, federal, state and county funding also support the operation of one cold weather shelter (open Nov-April) and two freezing weather shelters (open by night based on temperature). The CoC funds a total of 556 shelter beds (312 family beds and 40 adult beds) and an additional 65 weather beds. Our shelters provide a wide range of programs and services, including but not limited to sleeping accommodations, meals, laundry, shower and other essential services, case management, health and mental health services and referrals, parenting classes, life skills and other workshops, job skills training and employment assistance, child development and recreational activities, housing and budget counseling, tutoring, and more. The majority of the county shelter beds are in a congregate setting, with top and bottom bunks. The county is considering ways to reduce the free up more bottom bunks so higher needs people can access shelter.

Between 7/1/23 to 6/6/24, Baltimore County shelters have served 1,866 individuals, 1,213 adults and 629 are children. 2% veterans and 8% met the definition of chronically homeless. Of those served in shelter, 33% exited to positive housing destinations. The CoC will continue to focus its efforts on increasing exits to permanent housing and reducing returns to homelessness and lengths of stay in emergency shelter.

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 Baltimore County CoC has revamped our Coordinated Entry (CE) process and the assessment we used to determine vulnerability. As a result, since this change in policy as of 7/1/23, our CoC has prioritizing households with higher vulnerability and chronicity for Permanent supportive housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH). Our CoC manages bi-monthly By Name List (BNL) case conferences to make referrals to PSH, RRH, veteran VASH vouchers and Youth RRH. We also have increased resources to maintain and expand RRH for those fleeing Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). Maintaining specific BNL's and holding regular case conferences to fill available housing vacancies and discuss challenges providers are having with housing each person referred, has reduced wait times for those seeking those resources and provides a place for providers to address any hurdles in the housing application process. In addition to length of time homeless, the vulnerability score is what allows each person to be prioritized for housing. Our CE team, outreach teams and shelter case managers all have the ability to enter vulnerability scores for those they are working with. This makes access more equitable, transparent and helps to accelerate the referral process.

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.

A key strategy for ending homelessness is preventing individuals from becoming homeless in the first place. With the end of COVID relief funding, our CoC took time in FY24 to gather data to understand the needs for homeless prevention, shelter diversion and housing stability in our county. With the start of FY25 we will have a co-located eviction prevention and shelter diversion program that will focus on preventing households from falling into homelessness. They will also offer state funded, time limited direct cash assistance to those households at highest risk of homelessness. Into FY25 we will continue to offer housing stability services through a handful of non-profits, that provide intensive case management services to keep households housed. A number of County and nonprofit agencies provide financial assistance to prevent eviction as well as preventing the disconnection of utilities.

The County has several strategies to prevent individuals being discharged from a publicly funded institution (foster care, hospitals, mental health program, jail, etc.) from becoming homeless. The County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is responsible for implementing discharge planning for children in foster care. The County's goal is to make sure every child has a permanent supportive connection before they age out of care. As policy, if youth leave after they turn 18, they can return until they are 21 and receive aftercare assistance. Youth may also be placed on a waiting list for either the Family Unification Program or Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) for possible future housing. the Chief of Homelessness continues to work closely with emergency services, police and hospitals to

identify barriers with Coordinated Entry (CE) hotline calls for individuals being discharged from an ER or Hospital stay to emergency shelter or crisis beds. DHHS works with Corrections to address discharge planning for clients. DHHS's Behavioral Health unit provides in-house case management support to clients with mental illness to assist with the transition, including limited crisis response and residential rehabilitation housing beds through a variety of providers.

The county is also placing continued attention on the rental housing needs of low-income families and persons with disabilities. The County is working to create and expand rental housing for low-income families and persons with disabilities in areas of low poverty and high opportunity. Ideally this housing is best when located close to good schools, employment, transportation, and services such as health care centers, libraries, and community centers. The County set a goal of establishing 1,000 new affordable housing units over a 12-year period. Ten percent of these units would be available to disabled households; 50% would be available to larger households and feature three bedrooms. The County agreed to direct 2,000 Housing Choice Vouchers to Very High, High and Moderate Areas of Opportunity over a ten- year period, 10 percent of which must be for disabled households. The County also established a mobility counseling program to assist voucher holders. The County also supported source-of-income legislation for the state and enacted its own source-of income law.

Discussion

The County has a strong commitment to meeting the needs of the County's homeless citizens and in efforts to divert people from becoming homeless. As the lead agency for homeless service planning, the Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development will continue to work with its governmental, faith based, consumer and private citizen partners to address the multivariate needs of this population.

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

Introduction:

The County outlined its strategy to remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing in its Consolidated Plan. The following is a description of the actions that will be taken in CFY 25 to implement the strategy.

The County’s Master Plan 2030 articulates the need for more housing as a central goal for the County over the next several years. The Plan’s “Growth Framework” Section outlines the challenges of creating new housing in a county where the urban core is almost completely built out and the preservation of the County’s rural areas is enshrined in State law, prohibiting any significant development in those areas. The Plan’s answer to this challenge is to invest heavily in the revitalization of aging commercial corridors, many of which contain areas where traditional retail and office spaces sit vacant. The Plan proposes the redevelopment of these spaces to create new, walkable, mixed-use communities, with high density residential uses heavily incorporated, and affordable units encouraged.

Additionally, the Plan’s “Vision Framework” Section outlines several goals and actions related to addressing barriers to housing, the creation of new housing, and the advancement of fair housing efforts. These suggested actions include:

- Conduct a comprehensive review of the Urban-Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) to determine whether it contributed to past racial and economic segregation and is meeting the current and future needs of Baltimore County and the Baltimore region.
- Evaluate the current Planned Unit Development (PUD) process.
- Create new and adjust existing overlay districts to encourage walkable, mixed-use development.
- Identify older sub-standard buildings and incentivize adaptive re-use.
- Eliminate barriers to redevelopment by expanding strategies to encourage development in greyfields.
- Study the current Comprehensive Zoning Map Process (CZMP) and recommend improvements.
- Streamline the Development Review process.
- Establish zoning practices that remove barriers and support mixed-use and mixed-income development for a wide-range of housing options.
- Partner with non-profit organizations and/or land trusts to reduce barriers for homeownership.
- Establish age- and disability-friendly policies to support and enhance initiatives for aging in place and people with disabilities.
- Establish place-based strategies to improve and enhance the housing stock in older communities

while ensuring affordability in those areas to prevent displacement.

- Establish a strategy for the revitalization of uninhabited and vacant structures.
- Expand opportunities to establish Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).
- Identify underutilized County owned land that can be used for affordable housing units.
- Identify and pool currently available County, State and Federal incentives and resources available to residents and developers, and identify and propose potential new incentives which may include additional financial assistance, new infrastructure and public improvements as well as streamlining and expediting County approvals processes.
- Work with The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to develop a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) strategic plan to increase the use of transit services and connect jobs, housing, entertainment and retail.
- Use historic preservation tools to advance housing diversity and market affordability.
- Work with surrounding jurisdictions to encourage and support the sustainable development of housing and employment centers that are along the public transportation system and transportation corridors.
- Implement the County's Fair Housing Action Plan in alignment with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council's (BMC) regional policies on 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.

To address impediments posed by source of income restrictions, the Baltimore County Council passed the "HOME Act" on November 4, 2019, which prohibits housing discrimination based on lawful sources of income. As a result, it is now illegal for a property owner to refuse to rent to a potential tenant based on the person's source of income, in the same manner that renters cannot be discriminated against based on their race, sex, religion, and other legally protected groups. Source of income can refer to income from a job, public assistance programs, benefits, inheritance, a pension, an annuity, the sale of a property and other similar financial considerations including participation in the Housing Choice Voucher program. The County will continue to support efforts to educate rental property owners and lessen opportunities for income discrimination in housing.

The County will continue to use ARP-SLRF, HOME and CDBG to increase access to homeownership and maintain and increase housing for low/moderate income households, and will continue to fund fair housing activities including testing, education and outreach, counseling, investigation of complaints and referrals. The contract for fair housing services to Economic Action Maryland, awarded through a competitive bidding process, was approved by the County Council on June 6, 2022. Equal Rights Center was approved by the Council on February 20, 2024 to assume and perform the Testing scope of the contract. These services are currently being provided by both Economic Action Maryland and Equal

Right Center, and they will continue to provide these services in the new fiscal year and beyond.

Baltimore County established an Affordable Housing Work Group in 2021 with membership from a variety of stakeholder groups, including government, the private sector, advocacy organizations, and County citizens. The work group had three subcommittees - education, zoning, legal/best practices - and published its final report in July 2022, providing recommended next steps in each of the subcommittee areas.

Discussion:

Efforts to make changes that affect various public policies such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations and other policies that contribute to the creation of barriers to access affordable housing will involve consistent, outcome directed education for citizens as well as the political realm. Implementation of the Affordable Housing Work Group recommendations is the next step in this effort. The initial package of local housing legislation recommended by the Work Group was passed by the County Council in February and March 2023 and will directly and indirectly have a positive impact on the development of affordable hard units. This package included:

- The creation of the HOF (Bill 4-23) to centralize funding sources which can be utilized to help the County meet its housing goals;
- The establishment of a “Vacant Structure” definition in the County Code (Bill 5-23), allowing the County to officially designate properties as vacant and establish a public facing inventory of vacant properties;
- The creation of an allowance for the construction of townhouses less than 20 feet wide, assuming the project includes a certain level of affordability (Bill 6-23); and,
- The expansion of the allowed usage of ADUs in the County (Bill 7-23).

This initial package has allowed the County to advance certain housing goals, including the utilization of the HOF to fund key affordable housing projects. The County has also established its public facing vacant property inventory, and is in the process of building out a program to connect developers with these properties to create new affordable homeownership and rental opportunities.

The County’s next significant housing-related policy proposal, Bill 3-24, was introduced in January 2024. The legislation would have streamlined mixed development projects in the areas specifically identified in the Master Plan 2030 as commercial corridors in need of investment and revitalization. The bill included a component that would have allowed further incentives for projects which met certain affordability thresholds. Resistance from the public and members of the Council ultimately led to the bill being withdrawn. A compromise piece of legislation, Bill 9-24, which created a mixed-use overlay zoning district, was introduced by members of the Council in March 2024 and was subsequently passed.

The County is conducting research and examining its options to be included in a potential future housing

legislative package. These include the zoning and development changes recommended by the AHWG as well as tools that have been used successfully in other Maryland jurisdictions.

The County's housing policy involvement also extended to the State level during the 2024 Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly. The County actively took part in discussions with the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD DHCD) and the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) in the development of legislation related to land use policies at specific sites (HB 538). The legislation, which has since passed, will create new allowances for projects at certain sites to proceed in certain zoning classifications if the projects include a certain percentage of affordable units. In addition to its involvement during the drafting of the legislation, the County also advocated to members of the General Assembly in key leadership and committee roles as well as the Baltimore County House and Senate Delegations to help secure their support.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The federal funding which supports the activities identified in this document's federally-funded project list represents just a portion of the efforts necessary to meet the needs of Baltimore County's low to moderate income citizens. In addition to the County's entitlements fund of CDBG, HOME, and ESG, the County adds federal Continuum of Care funds, State homeless funds, and a considerable portion of County funds to support activities like those in the project list.

Additionally, in response to COVID-19 pandemic, the County has specific funding dedicated to pandemic response. This includes CDBG-CV, ESG-CV, US Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program funding and the expectation of upcoming HOME-ARP funding. Combined these funds have provided approximately \$80 million to Baltimore County in response to the pandemic, with an additional \$16 million in the pipeline from SLFR-funded projects. The vast majority of these funds were dedicated exclusively to rental assistance and eviction prevention. Plans for some of the above-mentioned funds were included in the FFY 2019 and FFY20 Action Plans, as appropriate. The County is also expecting to invest a combined \$1.44 million in eviction prevention legal services through a mix of CARES-CRF and SLRF between October 2020 and December 31, 2024 and over \$2 million on housing stability services through a combination of ERA and CARES-SLRF in the coming years.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Federal funds alone are not enough to meet the need of Baltimore County's citizens. The County leverages these federal funds with State and County monies while encouraging our nonprofit partners to seek private funders as we all work together to meet the needs of our low- and moderate-income citizens. To this end, the County uses State Homeless Solutions Program (HSP) funds to assist with eviction prevention, rapid rehousing for adults and unaccompanied homeless youth (UHY), emergency shelters and homeless outreach efforts. The County provides substantial funding to the Maryland Food Bank as well as the County's community action agency and a host of other nonprofit agencies working with low- and moderate-income County citizens.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

As noted several times throughout this document, the County's Voluntary Compliance Agreement sets out a road map for construction of affordable rental housing for larger families, citizens living with a disability, and those least likely to seek out affordable housing in Opportunity Areas. As part of this effort, the County will: increase the total number of affordable rental units including an expansion of those that are wheelchair accessible with accessible public and common spaces, make housing modifications/accessibility repairs to assist special needs populations and the elderly remain in their homes, support permanent supported housing for individuals, families and the chronically homeless, remediate environmental toxins like lead and mold from homes, support Fair Housing efforts, assist

homebuyers through pre purchase and post purchase counseling and mortgage write down, and increase the overall supply of affordable rental housing through new construction, substantial rehabilitation or acquisition. One hundred percent of the County's entitlement funds in this area are expected to serve the County's low- and moderate-income citizens. As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, the County has also amended its FFY2019/FFY2020 Action Plans in response to federal stimulus funds targeted to helping individuals and families maintain housing or gain quick entry into housing as part of the pandemic response.

The County has also taken several broad steps to foster the creation of new affordable housing:

- The County is shifting to a model of proactive developer engagement. It now hosts an annual development meeting, a panel and presentation focused event including industry experts, government leaders in the housing and development sectors, and County staff. The most recent iteration, held on April 18, 2024, was attended by over 100 developers, development attorneys and other associated housing professionals. Panel discussions included information on industry trends, the changing legislative and budget landscape at the Federal and State levels, and direct information about Baltimore County's development process.
- Proactive developer engagement also occurs in the form of regular meetings and technical assistance for developers seeking County investment in critical affordable projects, particularly for those projects which will assist the County in completing its VCA goals.
- The County is in the process of amending its existing Request for Applications (RFA) to solicit VCA eligible development projects. The amended RFA will focus on soliciting projects which include a high volume of three-bedroom units, units preserved for households at or below 30% AMI, and/or UFAS compliant units.
- The County is exploring alternative and previously untapped funding sources to utilize for investment in affordable housing projects. Sources being explored include CDBG Section 108 funds to assist with acquisition deals, New Market Tax Credits, Federal infrastructure funding provided through the Inflation Reduction Act, and private capital. The County is also exploring non-lapsing sources for the HOF and discussing use of its bonding authority in credit enhancement models.
- The County's application for HUD's PRO Housing grant included funding for projects and initiatives relating to fostering affordable housing (further details provided in the previous section – *AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)*)

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

In August 2013, Baltimore County began educating county citizens about lead-based paint (LBP) risks associated with housing units built prior to 1978 and began to remediate homes containing lead. The County's goal is to increase the access and availability of lead safe and lead-free housing for low- and moderate-income County households. In accordance with the Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992; before any construction activities are undertaken the County requires that a certified Maryland

Risk Assessor test each applicable residence for the existence of LBP and to prepare a risk assessment report which dictates the required methods for addressing the LBP hazard. Per the State of Maryland's Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing law, owners of rental properties are required to register their units with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), distribute specific educational materials to prospective tenants and to meet specific LBP hazard reduction standards. In addition, all contractors performing lead paint abatement activities must be trained by a MDE accredited/licensed training provider and must receive accreditation to perform lead paint activities.

In January 2021, the County received word that it was awarded new funding of \$2 million to remediate homes with lead in the County. \$900,000 is available during the Action Plan period to remediate homes with lead. During this upcoming FFY24, Lead funds will be used to replace windows at Day Village Townhomes in historic Turner Station.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

As part of the public comment process for this Action Plan, the needs of the poverty-level families were discussed and the need for additional funding supported. Beyond the projects identified in this Action Plan, the need for continued County funding of a variety of non-profit efforts to assist children and their families living in poverty is also recognized. Other efforts during this Action Plan period include Churches for Streets of Hope (homeless), the Community Assistance Network (eviction prevention, food bank, financial literacy), Cornerstone Franciscan Ministries (eviction prevention), the Family Crisis Center (domestic violence), St Vincent de Paul - INNterim House (transitional shelter), Maryland Food Bank, Prologue (homeless outreach), Deltas (afterschool), and Pro Bono (mental health counseling).

In addition to the programs above, the County's Department of Social Services continues to address poverty concerns by providing cash assistance, housing and energy assistance and food assistance to low income, needy County residents. The Housing Choice Voucher Program provides limited vouchers to those that have been on the county voucher wait list. The County is currently housing those that joined the wait list in 2008 and 2009. The County's Department of Economic and Workforce Development (DEWD) in partnership with the CoC was awarded a state innovation grant in the amount of \$200,000 aimed at expanding and improving the supported employment program focused on those receiving short-term rental assistance referred to as rapid rehousing, with employment and training referrals and support, to help extremely low-income families move out of poverty and sustain housing and employment. Public schools, libraries and community colleges also continue support services to prevent individuals and families from falling into poverty as well as efforts to assist those living in poverty. DEWD provides a holistic customer service model for delivering workforce services to unemployed and underemployed adults through three career centers and mobile career centers to provide workforce services in the heart of communities. As an outgrowth of COVID, the County established virtual customer services to engage with customers early in the process, providing a more robust and defined system of partners to offer complementary services, while focusing career pathways that support self-sufficiency and living wages. Staff serve targeted populations more effectively and efficiently by

providing wrap around case management and assisting job seekers in alleviating barriers, connecting to career pathways, and employment that is at or above their previous wage to promote self-sufficiency on a career path with advancement and career success. Staff work directly with 150 individuals a year and fund occupational skills training that leads to industry recognized credentials and employment/careers.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development administers housing and community development funds associated with entitlement funds of CDBG, ESG and HOME, the Continuum of Care funding, and the Housing Choice Voucher program. The Baltimore County Department of Housing and Community Development joins with a host of governmental and private nonprofit partners to promote and develop affordable housing, sustainable communities and strong neighborhoods throughout the County. The County's Continuum of Care will continue to operate through the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable to provide a coordination of services and programming in a joint effort of governmental service providers in social services, health, planning, emergency services as well as faith-based organizations, nonprofit services, consumers and private citizens. Additionally, the Voluntary Compliance Agreement guides the County's Department of Housing and Community Development as it works with developers and landlords to increase the number of affordable housing units during the remaining Consolidated Plan period.

In October 2023, the County contracted with Guidehouse Consulting's Housing and Community Solutions practice to undertake a review of two of DHCD's core functions. The first effort focuses on assessing the existing status of the Housing Finance Program and developing realistic, actionable recommendations based on the assessment and financial analyses. The second effort focuses on exploring the County's Supportive Housing Programs, describing the state of the programs, and providing recommendations on how to enhance the programs' processes and impact.

In its draft recommendations, Guidehouse has provided several potential areas of improvement within the Housing Finance Division and action steps to achieve those improvements. They have also created a modeling tool to help the County properly assess how much investment (gap financing, PILOT agreements, etc.) the County should be providing for individual housing deals. This is in addition to other sources of information provided by Guidehouse, including previously untapped potential sources of funding for housing production. Collectively, the County believes these recommendations will allow the Housing Finance Division to work more effectively in seeking and processing deals where the County finances housing projects which include VCA eligible Hard Units.

Additionally, the County has taken a number of steps to integrate housing considerations into regularly occurring County decision-making processes. These steps include:

- The inclusion of DHCD in internal meetings to discuss potential property acquisitions by the

County, ensuring that all potential acquisitions are analyzed for possible residential uses.

- The inclusion of DHCD on circulated communications regarding the potential disposition of surplus County, State or Federal property, ensuring that the agency has a chance to object to potential dispositions of property that shows potential for significant residential development.
- The inclusion of DHCD as a commenting agency during the County's 2024 CZMP cycle, ensuring the agency has an opportunity to take official, public positions on zoning changes which could potentially impact the likelihood of residential development at certain sites.

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

Baltimore County plans to continue its citizen input process before making funding decisions to ensure the needs of low- and moderate-income persons, homeless persons and those with special needs have the opportunity to voice their needs and concerns. The Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable will continue to meet and plan for ways to address the needs of the County's homeless citizens and preventing others from becoming homeless. The County's Commission on Disabilities will continue to meet and plan for ways to address the needs of the County's citizens with disabilities. The County plans to continue its regional involvement in fair housing efforts with Baltimore City as well as Anne Arundel, Harford, and Howard Counties.

As the County moves into recovery era programming, we will be operating initiatives that will take into account feedback from residents, encourage interagency collaboration and promote efficient service delivery.

Beginning in May 2023, non-profits that provide services to extremely low-, low- and moderate-income residents were invited to participate in a monthly call led by the County where providers can share how their programs are serving the community post-COVID funding as well as discuss emerging needs and how the County can support these needs. In addition, community listening sessions are open to providers, but geared towards the larger community. The County will continue to utilize data from its participation in the National Low Income Housing Coalition/University of Pennsylvania Tenant Impact Study; sharing the results as well as a summary of ERA rental assistance expenditures. While the focal point of the discussion in listening sessions is on the survey and summary, it also gives the County an opportunity to hear from communities at large about needs they are experiencing. This information will further inform the work of the County's non-profit providers and help shape County priorities.

The County will continue to support ERA 2-funded Housing Stability services throughout the County as well as the County's Housing and Economic Mobility Initiative (HEMI); a collaborative effort between DHCD, Department of Economic and Workforce Development and Community College of Baltimore County. The ERA 2 Housing Stability Programs will provide mid to intensive levels of case management, tenant and landlord mediation as well as re-housing services for individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness. HEMI is a mobile initiative that rotates around the County in areas of the

County that experienced high levels of instability during the pandemic. This initiative will bring employment, educational and training opportunities to County residents as well as allow residents to be screened for supportive programs such as SNAP and provide assistance applying for child care vouchers. In addition to the collaboration of DHCD, DEWD and CCBC this initiative works with landlords to host events at larger properties, making it as convenient as possible for residents to access services.

Discussion:

The County will continue its efforts to meet the needs of the County's low- and moderate-income citizens through a variety of actions to develop programs, services and processes that support the ultimate goals of decent housing in a suitable living environment for our citizens.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	97.00%

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:

The County is not using other forms of investment beyond those identified in Section 92.205.

Information on the County's HOME-funded programs is summarized below. Further explanation, as

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well as how to obtain applications, can be found on the County's website at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/planning/housingopportunities/index.html.

Settlement Expense Loan Program - This program is an effort to encourage first time homebuyers to consider home ownership in existing residential communities in Baltimore County. The program is administered by nonprofit groups who offer homebuyer workshops and home ownership counseling to potential homeowners in search of settlement expense loans up to \$15,000. Households whose income is at or below 80% of area median as adjusted for household size are eligible for these loans on a first come –first serve basis. Information can be obtained on Baltimore County website, through contracted non-profit organizations, or by calling 410-887-3124 to request information to be mailed and/or emailed.

Homeowner Rehab - Assistance is in conjunction with Baltimore County's Single Family Rehabilitation Program, a program earmarked for homeowners that are at least 80% or below of area median income. If homeowner income is below 80% (and/or below 30%) of area median income, and extensive work is required, HOME funds will be used to assist these households - not exceeding maximum subsidy limits. In these cases, HOME is used to leverage other funding, or if units are deemed to have extensive safety issues, during underwriting or initial site visit to the unit of the homeowner by the Rehabilitation Specialist. Initial inquiry is made by the homeowner to the phone number above. An initial application is mailed to the homeowner to complete and return to our office. At time of underwriting and the review of documentation submitted, the use of HOME funds may be deemed appropriate when the unit is severely in need of restoration, income limits match better than those for state, or CDBG).

Development Projects – For developers interested in project development in Baltimore County, a courtesy meeting/ pre- committee meeting is scheduled. Developers are provided a copy of the Developer's Guide for review and are encouraged to apply for financial assistance. Should potential developers have questions or need clarity beyond the guidance provided in the Guide, they are encouraged to email questions directly to the Director of Planning and/or the Housing Finance Chief. The revised and update Guide is available on the website mentioned above or can be sent via US mail or email. Included in the developer's guide is a copy of the financial application which can be requested at any time as long as funds are available.

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:

Baltimore County follows the recapture guidelines as specified in the HOME regulations found at 24 CFR 92.254. For assistance provided to homebuyers through down payment assistance, if the Property ceases to be occupied by the homebuyer as the homebuyer's principal residence, or is sold, or otherwise transferred prior to the end of the Period of Affordability or (an "Event of Conveyance"), the Loan, or a portion thereof, shall be immediately due and payable out of the Net

Proceeds. The amount of the Loan to be repaid to the Beneficiary shall be reduced proportionately, based on the time the property has been owned and occupied by the Buyer measured against the Period of Affordability, according to the schedule established.

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:

All housing assisted with HOME program funds in Baltimore County must meet the definition of “modest housing,” as defined by HUD. As established by HUD, the purchase price of HOME assisted housing may not exceed 95% of the median purchase price within the statistical area.

Baltimore County Settlement Expense Loan Program (SELP) ensures affordability of units acquired through its mortgage and/or regulatory agreement recorded in Maryland State Land Records. Homeowner assisted units through the Single-Family Rehab Program will have their affordability captured in Maryland Land Records in the Deed of Trust and Loan Agreement. For development projects assisted with HOME funds, the recordation of the affordability is included in the recorded loan instruments as Declaration of Covenants, Deed of Trust and Loan Agreements.

In addition, all transactions have a Promissory Note included in the file that is not required to be officially recorded as above, but is maintained in each HOME assisted file for the purposes of early payoff or to determine recapture amount to be returned to Baltimore County if applicable. In the case of recapture, the amount subject to recapture is that of the direct subsidy to the homeowner. Depending upon the amount of funds disbursed, the period of affordability will run in accordance with HOME requirements stated in 24 CFR 92.254 for a period of five to 20 years. Exceptions can be granted based on the amount of assistance. The unit recapture can be extended to 20 years or the life of the borrower's ownership of the unit. If the unit is sold by the borrower, or its estate, all funds assisting the unit will be recaptured (in this instance Baltimore County is in first lien position).

For assistance provided to homebuyers through new construction or rehabilitation, if the Property ceases to be occupied by the homebuyer as the homebuyer's principal residence, or is sold, or otherwise transferred prior to the end of the Period of Affordability or (an “Event of Conveyance”), (A) Each Eligible Homebuyer purchasing the Unit, shall receive a loan from the Borrower (hereinafter referred to as “Owner's Loan”) from the proceeds of the Loan which shall be evidenced by a promissory note together with a regulatory agreement that shall be recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County, and shall run with the land and be binding on successors and assigns of the Eligible Homebuyer. The Regulatory Agreement shall restrict transfer of the Unit or the disposition of net proceeds of sale in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

(B) Owner's Loan Terms - The Owner's Loan shall be repaid according to the following schedule: (a) If the Eligible Homebuyer refinances the first mortgage, and such refinancing involves an equity withdrawal, the Eligible Homeowner will be required to repay the Owner's Loan

to the County to the extent of the withdrawal. To the extent that repayment is not required as a result of refinancing, the resale restrictions imposed upon the Unit will remain in force according to the terms of the Act; (b) Where an Event of Conveyance (including sale, lease or other transfer) transpires during the Period of Affordability, the County shall be repaid all or a portion of the Owner's Loan out of the Net Proceeds (defined below) of the sale. The amount of the Owner's Loan to be repaid to the County shall be reduced proportionately, based on the time the Eligible Homebuyer has owned and occupied the Unit measured against the Period of Affordability.

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:

Baltimore County does not plan to refinance any existing debt with HOME funds. Any HOME Program funds recaptured will be used to support and assist other eligible HOME Program activities.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

Baltimore County will not be funding any TBRA activities through the FFY2024 Annual Action.

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

Baltimore County will not be funding any TBRA activities through the FFY2024 Annual Action Plan.

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

Baltimore County will not be funding any TBRA activities through the FFY2024 Annual Action Plan.

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

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

Baltimore County will allocate the \$340,000 of Federal Fiscal Year 2024/County Fiscal Year 2025 ESG

funds to four organizations: two nonprofits that will provide rapid rehousing – St Vincent de Paul of Baltimore and Family Crisis, our DV provider. and two additional organizations that provide street outreach services – Prologue and Community Assistance Network (CAN). The balance of the HUD ESG award will be used for County administrative oversight of the ESG funds.

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

Baltimore County Coc received HUD Technical Assistance for eighteen months between Fall 2021 and spring of 2023 to help guide our work to revamp our Coordinated Entry (CE) assessment, prioritization and referral policies and process'. As a result of this TA, we have a fully integrated CE system and prioritization tool that ensures those with the highest vulnerability and chronicity are prioritized for permanent housing. The CE team has also worked with our shelter providers to reduce barriers for entry to emergency shelter. We have reduced the assessment tool used to refer people to shelter and have worked with our outreach teams to establish a "streamline" shelter referral process, that honors the outreach teams as an extension of our CE/point of entry, by allowing them to get folks directly from the street, into an available shelter bed. All referrals to permanent housing and shelter bed census management are now completed through HMIS, creating efficiencies and transparency across the shelter system for the CE team.

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).

In partnership with the Baltimore County Continuum of Care (CoC), the County releases a consolidated RFP in December each year. The RFP is released following an open orientation for all providers interested in applying for County, state and federal funds. All interested parties must apply for funding by developing a scope of work, program budget, and completing the Baltimore County Application for Financial Assistance. Applications are reviewed by a review committee comprised of members who are not associated with any of the applicant organizations. Review committees consist of county staff and private citizens. Review committees make a first round of recommended awards and approved award recommendations are sent to the Baltimore County Grants Review Committee. Recommended project then go to the Baltimore County Council and County Administrative Officer for final approval.

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.

The revamped CoC Governance Board, began meeting in May of 2023, and has a member with recent experience of homelessness. The board is actively recruiting to fill the second board seat for a person with lived experience. Additionally, the CoC Administrator has been working diligently to

establish a policy that pay all members of the CoC Governance Board, and PWLE Advisory Committee a stipend for their time to participate. We are using state funds to support this crucial aspect of engaging with PWLE around the policy and governing work of the CoC.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Each project type is held to a specific set of System Performance Measures based on CoC and ESG requirements. The following performance standards are proposed for Baltimore County's ESG funded programs:

- **All funded RRH projects must meet the following:**90% must maintain permanent housing following RRH assistance100% of clients will be referred to mainstream resources and supported employment to increase income and at least 20%, will increase their income between entry and exit100% of ESG participants will receive case management at least monthly if not more frequently as needed.

All funded outreach projects must meet the following:

- All engaged clients must have a date of engagement entered into HMIS by outreach team.
- 35% or more must have a positive housing exit (to shelter or permanent housing)
- No more than 20%, once placed into a positive housing placement, may return to homelessness.
- Outreach teams must engage with the unsheltered household regularly, document their start of homelessness, applicable disability and a vulnerability score to ensure they are prioritized for housing through RRH or PSH.

The updated ESG policies as well as the Continuum of Care (COC) Standard Operating Policies (SOP) are available upon request. The CoC received intensive HUD TA to support our work to revamp both resources. We are also planning a specific training on the CoC SOPs for our providers during county FY25.