

DRAFT

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Consolidated Plan FFY2020-2024

CFY 2021-2025

Annual Action Plan FFY2020/CFY2021



Public Comment Period:

May 18, 2020 - May 26, 2020 at 5:00 pm

Submit Comments to:

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Virtual Public Hearing:

May 20, 2020 – 6 p.m.

Visit www.baltimorecountymd.gov/agencies/planning for details

Executive Summary

ES-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 has 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 Shelter Grant Program (ESG), to create decent housing, expand economic opportunity, and ensure a suitable living environment for low- to moderate-income persons and communities. The plan will also describe how the County will use and leverage other local, state, and federal resources to support our housing and community development strategy. Finally, the plan will also incorporate the objectives, goals, and strategies of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement executed among Baltimore County, Maryland, HUD, and several complainants.

The County developed this Consolidated Plan 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. The Consolidated Plan also incorporates the priorities of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement within its five-year strategy.

The plan is based upon a balanced philosophy that recognizes the complexity of the opportunities and challenges of the County. This philosophy includes creating new housing opportunities and revitalizing existing communities and focusing on the sustainability of low to moderate income households and communities, as well as entities serving vulnerable populations.

1. Introduction (Continued)

Throughout this Consolidated Plan, the emphasis is placed on the needs of low-income, homeless, and special needs populations. The Needs Assessment section analyzes the affordable housing, homeless, and community development needs present in Baltimore County. The Market Analysis section provides

an analysis of the County's housing market, the cost of housing, and condition of housing units in the County. Beyond housing, this section also includes a look at the services and facilities assisting the homeless and special needs populations, as well as barriers to affordable housing and non-housing community development assets.

It is in the Strategic Plan section that the County articulates its geographic priority areas and its priority funding needs. The 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. The Consolidated Plan will build on the achievements of the past, acknowledge current conditions and prepare a solid foundation for the future.

The County's 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. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

The Needs Assessment was conducted over a period of several months and included data collection and analysis, focus groups, public hearings, and surveys. 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**

An analysis of the CHAS data from the 2007-11 American Communities Survey indicate 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. Other housing problems include lack of adequate kitchen, or complete plumbing, and severe overcrowding. 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 indicates 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.

The following chart outlines the specific goals, objectives, outcomes, and geographic priorities to be achieved during the consolidated planning period. 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

During the prior Consolidated Plan period (Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2019/County Fiscal Years 2017-2020), the County made progress on achieving 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 operated the County's shelters the ability to offer expanded housing mobility and counseling programs. These programs have enabled 2927 households (4582 individuals) to exit shelter to permanent housing.

To add to the County's commitment to making homelessness rare and brief, the County recognized the need for improved shelter facilities. During the plan period, the County operated a new 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, transitional housing, and a men's shelter. This new facility includes clinic space for Healthcare for the Homeless.

3. 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. The program assisted 200 households with closing cost and downpayment 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 printing of the County's Resource Guide for Citizens with Disabilities, the County has seen a tremendous increase in the number of requests for accessibility modifications for homeowners and rental properties.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

Baltimore County engaged a large and diverse body of citizens and organizations to ensure robust citizen participation in the development of the Consolidated Plan.

The Department of Planning formulated a broad-ranging Community Needs Survey that allowed individuals to express their views in response to a consistent set of questions. More than 940 individuals completed surveys from October of 2019 to March 17, 2020. The survey asked citizens to express their views regarding the need for various types of housing and housing-related services, such as: affordable rental housing, market-rate housing, housing for people who are homeless, housing and apartments that are accessible to people with disabilities, rehabilitation of existing homes and financial assistance to first-time home buyers. The survey also touched upon the need for community infrastructure improvements, including roads, sidewalks and parks, and the need for more transportation options. Furthermore, the survey gathered input on the need for human development services, such as after-

school programs for at-risk youth, daycare opportunities, life-skills and job-readiness training, and financial assistance to prevent evictions and homelessness.

In addition to gathering survey responses, the Department facilitated focus group discussions and public meetings at which attendees gave verbal and written testimony regarding the county's needs in the areas of housing and community development. The Community Needs Survey was administered at most of these meetings.

The County held a public meeting to facilitate citizen participation in the Consolidated Planning Process on December 9, 2019. The meeting, advertised through paid legal notices and through a county press release, was attended by 88 individuals. On March 2, 2020, the County held a public meeting to facilitate comments on its updated Analysis of Impediments Fair Housing Action plan. On May 20, 2020, the County held a virtual public hearing necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic to hear comments on its draft Consolidated Plan for FFY 2020-2024/CFY 2021-2025 and Annual Action Plan for FY2021. At this hearing, the County also heard comments on its Substantial Amendment to its FFY 2019 Action Plan and modifications to its Citizen Participation Plan necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant stimulus funding.

The Department of Planning conducted focus group discussions and direct interviews to gather citizen input on key topics. The department interviewed the president of the North County Community Group and county cable administrator John Davis to gather information on the status of county broadband internet access and the current gap in services that exists in portions of the north county. The department conducted focus group discussions with members of: the Coordinated Entry Committee of the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable, the Housing Committee of the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable, the county Local Management Board, management of the Community Assistance Network. The county's fair housing specialist consulted on Consolidated Plan priorities with the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable, the Commission on Disabilities, Health Care for the Homeless, the county Housing Office and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council Regional Jurisdictional Partnership.

Summary of Citizen Participation Process and Consultation Process (continued)

The Community Needs Survey was personally administered by departmental staff to committees, organizations and various groups to ensure broad circulation and adequate outreach to service providers and low-income populations. Departmental staff administered the surveys to: attendees of the December 9, 2019, public hearing (12 surveys); a housing resources meeting organized to assist residents of the Turner Station community (19 surveys); a steering committee helping to renew the Liberty Road Sustainable Community plan (41 surveys); a gathering of veterans assembled to learn about housing resources (8 surveys); the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable (30 surveys); the Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities (18 surveys); the county Local Management Board (8 surveys); an affordable housing training session organized by the department (7 surveys); the consumer Advisory

Council of the Homeless Roundtable; the management team of the Community Assistance Network (8 surveys); a meeting of the Essex-Middle River Civic Council (1 survey done at meeting, 21 distributed); the survey was made available via the department's information table at four county executive town hall meetings.

Summary of Citizen Participation Process and Consultation process (Final)

Key demographics of the survey population are addressed below.

Of the 942 survey respondents, 596 were female (63.8%), 307 were male (32.9%), 25 did not want to say (2.68%) and five (.54%) answered Other.

Racial and ethnic breakdown of the respondents was as follows: Alaska Native or American Indian 4 (.56%), Asian 6 (.84%), Black or African American 200 (27.97%), Hispanic/Latino 7 (.98%), Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 1 (.14%), White or Caucasian 424 (59.3%), Multiple Ethnicity/Other 73 (10.21%). Of the 942 respondents to the survey, 717 answered the race/ethnicity questions and 227 skipped these questions.

With regard to income, 722 respondents, or 77% of the survey population, provided income information. Of the population that gave data, the department estimates that 203 respondents, 28% of the group, were residents of low-income households, meaning their indicated household income was at or below 80% of the Baltimore County area median income.

5. Summary of public comments

The Department of Planning received, compiled and analyzed public comment expressed in focus group meetings, public hearings and through a Community Needs Survey administered in the fall of 2019 and winter of 2020 which garnered 942 responses.

Survey Results – Housing

Tabulated results from the Community Needs Survey shows a significant portion of those surveyed do not favor increased rental housing in their community. Of those who expressed an opinion, 51.4% did not see a need for increased affordable rental housing, while 48.6% did. Opposition to an increase in market-rate rental housing was stronger, with 56.5% opposed and 43.5% supporting increased market-rate rental housing.

Survey respondents favored an increase in the county's inventory of owner-occupied homes, with 64% of respondents in agreement.

The survey population expressed a favorable view toward rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes, rental apartment units and rental properties. Despite palpable resistance to an increase in the inventory of rental dwellings, sentiment shifted when respondents were asked if the existing inventory of such

properties should be rehabilitated. Regarding the need to rehabilitate or improve the interior of existing apartments, 57% of respondents agreed with the need while only 17% did not. Regarding the need to rehabilitate or improve existing apartment buildings (exterior or ground), 63% of respondents favored such improvements.

The need to rehabilitate existing owner-occupied homes was strongly endorsed, with 75% of respondents affirming the need. Initiatives to financially support home purchases were generally supported by the survey population, with 67% of respondents agreeing to the need. The need for home weatherization improvements was embraced by 75% of respondents.

An important exception to the community's concern about increasing the inventory of rental housing was evident in its response to a question focused on the needs of people with disabilities. When asked if the community needs more homes/apartments modified to ensure they are accessible to people with a physical disability, 66% of respondents agreed.

The response to whether the community needs more supportive housing, which attaches social services to housing units was divided, with 47% of respondents agreeing to the need while 44% disagreed.

The need for more housing that accommodates people who are homeless was supported by 54% of respondents while 33% disagreed.

A Dichotomy in Survey Responses -- Housing

The survey succeeded in reaching a broad, diverse population. Respondents included those assisted by/affiliated with government and/or non-profit public service entities, and people who are not. As such, it is helpful to compare results that will highlight responses from groups actively engaged in providing services to low-income and special needs population.

To show differences in responses from service providers and the entire survey population, the department tabulated results from surveys administered to five gatherings: the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable, the Commission on Disabilities, a meeting of the management team of the Community Assistance Network, the Local Management Board and the department-facilitated public meeting held December 9, 2019. This designated "Service Providers Group" is comprised of 85 individual surveys.

Public Comment Part 2

The response to the survey question on affordable rental housing shows a pronounced difference between the two groups.

The Service Providers Group made a strong statement affirming the need for more affordable rental housing with 85% of its participants embracing the need. Meanwhile, 45% of the full survey population embraced the need. The two groups are separated by a 40 percentage-point differential.

The homeless chart depicts another case in which a wide gap exists between the response of the Service Providers Group and that of the full survey population. Regarding the need for more housing that can accommodate people who are homeless, 89% of the Service Providers Group embraced the need while 55% of the full survey population embraced the need, a 35 percentage-point differential.

The supportive housing chart also depicts a wide gap between the response of the Service Providers Group and that of the full survey population. Regarding the need for supportive housing, 87% of the Service Providers Group embraced the need while 46% of the full survey population embraced the need, a 41 percentage-point differential.

Focus Group/Public Hearing Comments – Housing

The views expressed in focus group discussions are in close alignment with the survey results compiled from the Service Providers Group discussed above. The Housing committee of the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable expressed a consensus view that the county needs more Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Committee members are familiar with the income capacity of those who are placed into PSH and those who are placed on the PSH waiting list. The committee strongly believes that this constituency and the broader constituency of people facing poverty, homelessness or the threat of homelessness cannot afford the vast majority of new housing that is being built in Baltimore County. The current inventory of Permanent Supportive Housing resources is not sufficient to meet the existing need/demand. The number of persons now registered on the PSH wait list, approximately 35, attests to the unmet need.

The committee suggested that case management services attached to Permanent Supportive Housing place greater emphasis on moving clients toward self-sufficiency and that they focus on: life skills, mental health, transportation and workforce development. The committee suggested that care plans for PSH recipients include a workforce development component and strategic assessments that identify barriers to sustainable income goals.

Public Comment Part 3

The committee stated that Rapid Rehousing is good option for some clients but not all. The group generally feels funding reductions for transitional housing have removed a valuable resource that cannot always be replaced with Rapid Rehousing. Many clients are not able to attain the income they need to pay for non-subsidized housing by the time their Rapid Rehousing resource expires. Such clients often experience a recurrence of homelessness.

The Coordinated Entry Committee of the county Homeless Roundtable expressed a consensus view that the county needs more affordable rental housing. It is the committee's present understanding that approximately 32,000 households are now on the waiting list for a federal housing choice voucher (Section 8). The group expressed deep concerns over the high cost of housing -- market-rate rents of \$1,300, to \$1,400 to \$1,600 -- and the large share of household income that must be directed to housing

for many families. Some clients/households served by organizations such as the Community Assistance Network and Prologue must put 78% of their monthly income toward housing, rent and utilities.

The management team of the Community Assistance Network (CAN) expressed a consensus view that Baltimore County needs more affordable rental housing. CAN managers stressed the importance of life skills training for low-income clients. The group advocated for more transitional housing, a resource available for a longer period than Rapid Rehousing. "It takes time getting ready for self-sufficiency," said a focus group participant. The group discussed the need for a better crisis response resources, the need for which arises in shelters when clients experience severe behavioral episodes.

A public meeting attendee stated the need for more housing that is affordable to households earning \$50,000 annually (or less). Another attendee, a homeless services provider, stated the need for increased outreach staff, more Permanent Supportive Housing, more affordable housing and more case management and supportive housing services to assist homeless individuals and families. Another homeless services provider stated the need for supportive, wrap-around services to the homeless individuals served by his organization.

A public meeting attendee stated that community concerns about specialized/subsidized housing can emerge because of a few bad actors. The attendee asserted that one block can create problems for the whole community, that some rental properties are not properly registered, not properly vetted. "We have slumlords," the attendee stated.

The Coordinated Entry Committee discussed the extent to which county zoning and land use policies limit group housing options. Exceptions to strict rules that limit the number of unrelated individuals that can reside in a dwelling may be available, but they are not always well known and require a concerted effort to obtain. This concern was echoed at the public hearing.

Public Comment Part 4

Human Development Needs

The Community Needs Survey asked participants to respond to six statements that assert the need for human development services. The survey population generally embraced the need for these services, as indicated below:

- 78.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for after-school programs that provide learning, guidance and activities for "at risk" youth.
- 73.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for programs that assist certain low-income populations with daycare services and parenting skills.
- 68.4% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for targeted counseling, legal and housing services to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

- 73.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for targeted services to provide life skills and job readiness training to some very low-income individuals.
- 53.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for targeted education and engagement services to assist recently arrived immigrant populations; 32.4% did not agree.
- 63.8% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for timely financial assistance that would help prevent low-income households from being evicted and keep their electricity on. Such assistance often helps prevent an incidence of homelessness.

Views related to human development, special needs populations and the need for public services expressed during the public hearing included the following:

- A representative of Court Appointed Special Advocates stated the need for additional/improved programming for youth in foster care because this clientele is mobile.
- A representative of the Maryland Food Bank stated that approximately 30,000 Baltimore County residents need the food resources the organization provides. The representative emphasized the importance of its school pantry program.
- An attendee stated that people with limited English proficiency generally face more challenges finding employment.
- A member of the county Commission on Disabilities expressed concerns about the accessibility of Towson parking garages and the Towson District Court facility and stated the need for a county-wide survey of the accessibility of county buildings/facilities.

Public Comment Part 5

Transportation Needs

The survey population embraced the need for additional transportation options, but the margin was thin, with 52% of respondents embracing the need while 42% rejected it. A slightly larger share of the population, 57.5%, embraced the need for more transportation options that serve people with disabilities and a smaller share, 25%, was opposed to expanding such options/services. The designated Service Providers Group strongly endorsed the need for additional transportation options, with 73% of the group agreeing to the need.

Planning, Community Improvements and Employment

The survey population appeared enthusiastic in its support for new or enhanced planning and analysis that would identify problems and explore solutions for the community it evaluated; 85.4% of

participants embraced this need. Similarly, the suggested need for revitalization of local commercial districts was supported by 82% of participants.

The survey asked if the evaluated community lacks or needs improvements to some aspect of its built environment, including items such as roads, sidewalks, pathways, trails, parks, open space, historic structures, drainage, lighting, etc. The survey population replied with a resounding, “Yes!” as 88.6% of participants affirmed the need for such improvements. Within this response 66% expressed *strong* agreement.

With regard to employment trends, the survey population in aggregate did not show an overwhelming concern over unemployment, with 33% of the population stating that their community was experiencing high unemployment and 36% indicating that the unemployment rate was not high. More than 30% of respondents felt uncertain and did not offer an opinion.

Public Comment Part 6 - Fair Housing

Fair Housing

The County engaged with several community-based and regionally-based organizations that represent protected class members throughout its Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consultation process. The groups included the county Continuum of Care Homeless Roundtable, the county Commission on Disabilities, Health Care for the Homeless, the Baltimore County Office of Housing and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council Regional Jurisdictional Partnership.

On March 2, 2020, the county held its Analysis of Impediments Fair Housing Action Plan public meeting to give citizens the opportunity to address and comment on the county’s progress since 2012 in expanding housing choice for members of the protected classes. In attendance at the public hearing were two individual community members, one of whom represented himself, the other representing the organization Beyond the Boundaries. The county has also considered public comments via email from a Regional Stakeholder Work Group, the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, and a consultant team led by Root Policy Research.

Comments Received:

- Strengthen the county's commitment to affirmatively furthering fair housing.
- Pass a strong and clean source of income anti-discrimination law to prevent discrimination against voucher-holders by landlords.
- Use financial incentives such as Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, Community Development Block Grant Funds and HOME Investment Partnership funds to create more affordable housing for families on sites outside of impacted areas.

- Advocate for regionalizing of the Section 8 program.
- Revamp the zoning regulations in their entirety to reflect the county's policy objectives, including the objective of affirmatively furthering fair housing.
- Expand access to economic opportunity by initiating conversations between housing and school officials, and by implementing an equity framework in public resource allocation decision making.
- Contribute to the regional goal of expanding housing for persons with disabilities in integrated, accessible environments.
- Ensure housing policies do not contain barriers to development and expanded choice.
- Set regional and jurisdictional affordability goals across area median income levels, and over a 10- and 20-year timeframe. Implement by dedicating land and/or under-utilized areas for redevelopment to meet goals.
- Implement a tenant-based rental assistance program that "buys-down" market rate accessible units to a level affordable to persons with disabilities living on SSDI.

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

All comments and views submitted in response to the Consolidated Plan were incorporated into this plan.

7. Summary

The goal of this FFY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan is to improve the lives of Baltimore County's citizens through 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.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

The following are the agencies/entities 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	Baltimore County Department of Planning
HOME Administrator	BALTIMORE COUNTY	Baltimore County Department of Planning
ESG Administrator	BALTIMORE COUNTY	Baltimore County Department of Planning

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

Baltimore County Department of Planning serves as the lead agency for housing and community development programs in Baltimore County, Maryland. Working in conjunction with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department 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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PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)

1. Introduction

Citizen and stakeholder participation was a critical component of Baltimore County Consolidated Plan development over the last 12 months. To this end, Baltimore County held a series of focus groups with stakeholder organizations and County citizens; prepared a widely-distributed citizen survey to elicit feedback on County needs; held two public hearings; and reached out to County staff familiar with analyzing data to make the necessary comparisons between data provided by HUD and that collected by Baltimore County. A complete detailing of these efforts is explained further in this Consultation section.

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

The Baltimore County Departments of Planning and Health and Human Services work together to engage in a number of partnerships with housing and service agencies, including the County's newly created Division of Housing and Community Development within the Department of Health and Human Services. The County's Office of Housing falls within the Division of Housing and Community Development. The agencies jointly develop priorities and align efforts to increase affordable housing opportunities in areas of opportunity as defined in the Voluntary Compliance Agreement and in accordance with federal regulations guiding HUD's entitlement programs. The County has been an active member of the Opportunity Collaborative, which is a regional organization that brings together local governments, public housing authorities, foundations, institutions, State government agencies, and nonprofit organizations within the region. The Opportunity Collaborative has developed the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development and it includes a Regional Housing Plan. The Department of Planning has also been active with the State Neighborhood Stabilization Task Force to address neighborhood revitalization and stabilization strategies throughout the State. The County also participates in the Regional Fair Housing Work Group, which collaborated on the region's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. Both departments participate in the County's Local Management Board to address the needs of children and families.

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 government serves as the local Continuum of Care lead (MD-505) in Baltimore County. As such, County staff are responsible for coordinating meetings of our Homeless Roundtable, drafting minutes, establishing workgroups on policies, procedures, program guidelines, as well as administering the bulk of the County's CoC grants.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS

The Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable is the public private stakeholder body of the Continuum of Care. County staff are responsible for the staffing of the Roundtable and administration of both the Consolidated Plan and the Continuum of Care for Baltimore County. Staff working on homeless issues plan and support the work of the Continuum of Care as well as the homeless programs that are funded with additional federal, state and county funds. Staff take their direction and guidance from HUD priority focus areas when addressing homelessness. This direction and focus is taken into the Continuum of Care meetings and it is these priorities, particularly in the area of rapid rehousing, upon which the Continuum of Care and Baltimore County have shaped the allocation of their ESG funds. Performance standards are created through policy development within the CoC's roundtable and vetted and approved by all members including ESG recipients. HUD ESG guidelines are reviewed and implemented into the County's HMIS Policies and Procedures. HMIS staff generate monthly reports for each program and evaluate where programs stand based on their performance standards, and post monthly "report cards" on Baltimore County's hmisadmin.com website. 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.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Dundalk Renaissance Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Development Corporation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the DRC attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey. The Department heard valuable testimony concerning the need for source-of-income legislation and the needs of older, established communities. The DRC will remain a valuable partner in community revitalization and housing.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Jewish Community Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Service Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Jewish Community Services attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey. JCS emphasized the need to assist youth, giving pa
3	Agency/Group/Organization	The Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Domestic Violence
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Family Crisis Center attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey. The Department heard valuable testimony concerning the need for the HOME ACT and challenges faced by women facing domestic violence. The group discussed to need to invest in prevention and follow-up services.

5	Agency/Group/Organization	H.H.H.: Heroes Helping Heroes, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Service Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Heroes Helping Heroes attended focus group meetings, public hearings and were invited to participate in the Community Needs Survey. The organization emphasized the importance of after-school programs that engage at-risk youth.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Appointed Advocacy Group
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Services Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Commission on Disabilities was invited to participate in the Community Needs Survey. Nine commission members participated. The group emphasized the need for financial and budget counseling, and improved transportation services for shopping and medical appointments.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of CHAI attended focus group meetings and participated in the Community Needs Survey. The organization recommended increasing investments in education and advocated for continuation of services for low-income and at-risk children.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Diversified Housing Development, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Services Need

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Diversified Housing Development participated in the Community Needs Survey. The organization cited the need for children to be more active, have more job opportunities and access to more opportunities in general.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Abilities Network, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness, Housing, Domestic Violence
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Abilities Network attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
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?	Anti-poverty Strategy Bilingual Services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the House of Ruth attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey. The organization advocated for improvements to help non-English speakers access government programs.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Episcopal Housing Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Episcopal Housing Corp. attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey. The organization stated that affordable housing should be available in all communities and that more is needed.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Anti Poverty

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of St. Vincent de Paul attended a focus group meeting, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey. The organization emphasized the importance of keeping families in their homes and out of shelters. The organization advocated for more case managers and rental assistance, and suggested the community needs landlords who are consistently willing to serve those in need.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Social Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Diverse Human Services
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of (DSS) attended focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey. DSS personnel lent assistance to the survey effort by circulating it to key staff and constituencies, including clients at homeless shelters. Agency representatives expressed concern about a rise in homelessness and the need for affordable housing
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Office of Housing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Housing Office attended focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Assistance Network
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Action Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Community Assistance Network (CAN) attended focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey. CAN personnel lent assistance to the survey effort by circulating it to key staff and constituencies, including clients at food pantries and homeless shelters.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Associated Catholic Charities, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Catholic Charities attended focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Creative Kids, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services, After school/Youth, Community Outreach
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Suitable Living Environment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Creative Kids participated in a focus group meeting.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	The League for People with Disabilities, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Addressing Special Needs- Afterschool/Youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of The League for People with Disabilities attended a focus group meeting and a public hearing.

28	Agency/Group/Organization	Lighthouse, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Lighthouse attended a focus group meeting, a public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	1000 Friends of Pikesville, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of 1000 Friends at Pikesville, Inc. attended a public hearing.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Night of Peace Family Shelter, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Night of Peace attended a focus group meeting and a public hearing.
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Pro Bono Counseling Project
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Addressing Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Pro Bono Counseling Project attended a focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.

33	Agency/Group/Organization	Prologue Inc
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Prologue attended a focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
35	Agency/Group/Organization	Churches for Streets of Hope
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Streets of Hope attended a focus group meeting.
36	Agency/Group/Organization	Affiliated Sante Group
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Affiliated Sante Group attended a public hearing.
39	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services attended focus group meetings, public hearings and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
40	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Local Management Board
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Baltimore County Local Management Board attended focus group meetings and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
41	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Office of Information Technology
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Baltimore County Office of Information Technology participated in the Community Needs Survey and interviews.
42	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Police Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Consultation
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An employee of the Baltimore County Police Department participated in the Community Needs Survey.
43	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Public Schools
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Other government - Local

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Consultation
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An employee of Baltimore County Public Schools participated in the Community Needs Survey.
44	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore Furniture Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Development Corporation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Service Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Baltimore Furniture Bank attend a public hearing.
45	Agency/Group/Organization	CASA of Baltimore County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the CASA of Baltimore County attended a public hearing.
46	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Consultation
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An employee of the Department of Economic and Workforce Development participated in the Community Needs Survey.

47	Agency/Group/Organization	The Dundalk Eagle
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Newspaper
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Outreach
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An employee of the Eagle participated in the Community Needs Survey.
48	Agency/Group/Organization	Chimes
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Addressing Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
49	Agency/Group/Organization	Community College of Baltimore County - Essex
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Educational Institution
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Community College of Baltimore County - Essex participated in the Community Needs Survey.
50	Agency/Group/Organization	Daniel Carl Torsch Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Daniel Carl Torsch Foundation attended a public hearing.

51	Agency/Group/Organization	Elevate Empress, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Elevate Empress, Inc. attended a public hearing.
53	Agency/Group/Organization	Medstar Franklin Square Medical Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An employee of Medstar Franklin Square Medical Center participated in the Community Needs Survey.
54	Agency/Group/Organization	Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc. attended a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
55	Agency/Group/Organization	Holistically Empowered Youth, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Holistically Empowered Youth attended a public hearing.

56	Agency/Group/Organization	The IMAGE Center of Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Addressing Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of The IMAGE Center of Maryland attended a public hearing.
57	Agency/Group/Organization	The Jemicy School, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Addressing Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of The Jemicy School, Inc., attended a public hearing.
58	Agency/Group/Organization	JP Homes, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Need Assessment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the JP Homes, Inc. attended a public hearing.
59	Agency/Group/Organization	Key Landing Apartments
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Key Landing Apartments participated in the Community Needs Survey.
60	Agency/Group/Organization	Key Point Health Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Key Point Health Services, Inc., attended a public hearing.
61	Agency/Group/Organization	Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Public Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition attended a public hearing.
62	Agency/Group/Organization	Maryland Department of Juvenile Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Consultation
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services participated in the Community Needs Survey.
64	Agency/Group/Organization	Maryland Waterways Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
65	Agency/Group/Organization	Moveable Feast, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Moveable Feast, Inc., participated in the Community needs Survey.
66	Agency/Group/Organization	MSBC 5 Star Program, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the MSBC 5 Star Program, Inc., attended a public hearing.
67	Agency/Group/Organization	Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital attended a public hearing.
68	Agency/Group/Organization	My Life Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the My life Foundation attended a public hearing.
69	Agency/Group/Organization	On Our Own of Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representative of the On Our Own of Maryland participated in the Community Needs Survey.
70	Agency/Group/Organization	Pressley Ridge Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Pressley Ridge Maryland attended a public hearing.
71	Agency/Group/Organization	PENN-MAR ORGANIZATION, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Penn-Mar Organization, Inc., attended a public hearing.

72	Agency/Group/Organization	People Encouraging People, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the People Encouraging People, Inc., attended focus group meetings.
73	Agency/Group/Organization	Student Support Network
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Student Support Network attended a public hearing.
74	Agency/Group/Organization	Y in Central Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Y in Central Maryland attended a public hearing.
75	Agency/Group/Organization	TurnAround, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of TurnAround, Inc., attended a public hearing.
76	Agency/Group/Organization	TIME Organization
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of TIME Organization, attended a public hearing.
77	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Central Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the United Way of Central Maryland attended a public hearing.
78	Agency/Group/Organization	The Nelson Ideation Group, LLC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of The Nelson Ideation Group, LLC., attended a public hearing.
79	Agency/Group/Organization	The Arc Baltimore
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of The Arc Baltimore, attended a public hearing.
80	Agency/Group/Organization	TALMAR, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the TALMAR, Inc., attended a public hearing.
81	Agency/Group/Organization	Rebuilding Together Baltimore, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing - Homeowners, Rehabilitation
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Rebuilding Together attended a focus group meetings, a public hearing and participated in the Community Need Survey.
82	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Department of Aging
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Baltimore County Department of Aging attended a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.

83	Agency/Group/Organization	AIDS Interfaith Residential Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Addressing Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An employee of AIDS Interfaith Residential Services participated in the Community Needs Survey
84	Agency/Group/Organization	Maryland Food Bank
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Needs
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Maryland Food Bank attended a public hearing.
85	Agency/Group/Organization	Emerge, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Emerge attended a public hearing.
86	Agency/Group/Organization	Penn-Mar Organization, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Penn-Mar Organization attended public hearing.
87	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Public Library
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Baltimore County Public Library attended a public hearing and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
88	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Fire Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Baltimore County Fire Department attended a public hearing.
89	Agency/Group/Organization	Help Baltimore Homeless
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Help Baltimore Homeless attended a public hearing

90	Agency/Group/Organization	Freedom Baptist Church
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Freedom Baptist Church participated in the Community Needs Survey.
91	Agency/Group/Organization	Matt's House Church Drop in Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Need
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Matt's House Church Drop in Center attended a public hearing.
92	Agency/Group/Organization	Baltimore County Minority and Womens Business Enterprise
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Baltimore County Minority and Women's Business Enterprise attended a public hearing.
93	Agency/Group/Organization	Mental Health Association of Maryland
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Mental Health Association of Maryland attended a public hearing.
94	Agency/Group/Organization	Mosaic Community Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of Mosaic Community Services, Inc., participated in the Community Needs Survey.
95	Agency/Group/Organization	Liberty's Promise
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Need
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Baltimore County Office of Information Technology attended a public hearing.
96	Agency/Group/Organization	Southway Builders
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Needs
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Southway Builders attended focus group meetings and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
97	Agency/Group/Organization	Summit Community Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Community Needs

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Summit Community Foundation attended a public hearing.
98	Agency/Group/Organization	Sussex Community Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Needs
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the Sussex Community Association attended a public hearing.
99	Agency/Group/Organization	U.S. Veterans Affairs Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Needs
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the U.S. Veterans Affairs Department attended focus group meetings and participated in the Community Needs Survey.
100	Agency/Group/Organization	North County Community Group, LLC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Needs
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Representatives of the North County Community Group, LLC, participated in interviews and the Community Needs Survey.

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 Planning	Provide supportive services including housing counseling to move people from homelessness to housing.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	Baltimore County Department of Planning	Foster integrated communities by creating affordable rental housing opportunities in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated.
Regional Plan for Sustainable Development	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Increase affordable rental housing for families in areas that are not racially or ethnically concentrated. Provide opportunities to increase employability.
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 Office of Housing	Provide opportunities for mobility counseling to help families access housing in areas of opportunity.
10 Year Plan to End Homelessness	Baltimore County Department of Planning	Creating permanent supportive housing
Sustainable Communities	MD Department of Housing and Community Development- Neighborhood Revitalization	Encourage investment in established areas to promote revitalization and stabilization of residential and business communities.
Workforce Development Plan	Baltimore Metropolitan Council	Remove barriers that keep low-skilled or low-income adults from progressing into family supporting careers through strategies that address skills gaps, housing and transportation barriers, and social barriers.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Baltimore County Workforce Investment Act Plan	Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development	Remove barriers that keep low-skilled or low-income 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 Strategic Plan 2019-22	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

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))

Baltimore County works with its counterparts at the State of Maryland, Baltimore City, and Anne Arundel, Howard and Harford Counties to leverage important resources and the intellectual capital that is needed to develop and implement a strategic plan that reflects 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 also works with the BMCs Opportunity Collaborative on the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development. This plan includes the Opportunity Maps; a regional housing plan, a workforce development plan and the Fair Housing Equity Assessment. The County partners with the BMC and regional governments on the Assessment of Fair Housing while incorporating the requirements of HUDs 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Final Rule.

The County works with the State of Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Development Administration and the Division of Neighborhood Revitalization to address housing and community development needs. The lead agency is a Level II Authority under DHCDs Special Programs and packages and recommends a variety of loans under the program, including the Maryland Housing Rehabilitation and the Lead Hazard Rehabilitation Programs. The Sustainable Communities designations in several key County communities makes them eligible for State resources to promote and assist with revitalization efforts in: Catonsville/ Patapsco; Greater Dundalk/ Sparrows Point, Hillendale, Parkville/ Overlea; Northwest Gateways; Pulaski Highway Redevelopment Area; Reisterstown; and Towson.

Through DHCD, the County obtained financial assistance for one important rental housing projects in the historic African-American communities of Turner Station. DHCD awarded Tax Credits and Rental Housing Partnership funds to Lyon Homes to fund the continuation of remaining substandard units. The County also worked with the Community Development Administration regarding the condition of Lyon Homes in

Turner Station. The property, constructed in 1942, originally consisted of 408 units. Baltimore County HOME funds will assist the project while the County works with the development team to address development concerns, permitting, temporary relocation of tenants during renovations, and other matters.

Lastly, the County's Department of Planning works closely with the Departments of Permits, Approvals, and Inspections (PAI); Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS); Health and Human Services; and Aging to coordinate efforts on a variety of issues including housing, health care, and access to social services and mainstream resources.

Narrative (optional):

PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)

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

Section ES-05 provides a summary of the citizen participation comments. Baltimore County sought broad citizen participation, including steps to ensure participation by low-income households, special needs populations and minorities.

Through press releases and high volume email blasts, the County published three key items: December 9, 2019 public hearing which attracted nearly 90 people; Community Needs Assessment Survey with over 900 respondents; and a May 20, 2020 Virtual Public Hearing. Both public hearings were also supported by a paid legal announcement in two newspapers, including the Baltimore Sun. A community needs survey was distributed to all attendees of the December hearing which was attended by community members and a diverse range of service providers who serve special needs populations, including children in foster care, victims of domestic violence, people living with disabilities, and homeless individuals and families. This hearing also served as a focus group discussion allowing a verbal expression of needs to those working with special needs populations.

The County's Community Needs Survey to citizens from all walks of life to solicit County needs for housing, public services, transportation, employment and other community development efforts. The survey, both in paper and online format, was promoted through Town Halls, community meetings, and direct outreach to stakeholder groups. County press releases are also emailed to all county employees. 942 surveys were completed, a significant increase over the 365 participants who responded to a similar survey in 2015.

County staff administered the survey to two groups based in areas with a significant African-American population, Turner Station community and Randallstown Sustainable Community. The survey attracted 200 participants who identified as black or African-American, representing 28% of the total survey population that responded to the race/ethnicity question; this percentage is slightly above the county's African American demographic of 26%.

Efforts to reach special needs populations included meetings of the Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities as well as the County's Homeless Roundtable. The online survey was promoted in an email to all members to share with friends, family, stakeholders, and on social media. County staff also conducted a focus group with the County's community action agency, Community Assistance Network. CAN staff completed surveys and distributed the survey to their food pantries, homeless shelters, and other service locations. The County estimates 70

survey respondents from low-income households came through CAN. Of the total survey population, the County estimates that 203 respondents, or 28% of all respondents, were residents of low-income households.

Comments elicited in focus group meetings and public hearings, as well as survey results, provided vital assistance to the process of goal setting. The results from all forms of citizen participation were written and compiled before the Department undertook its review of grant proposals. The compilation of citizen participation findings, both written and numerical, has helped guide the process for setting goals for the Consolidated Plan and for reviewing grant proposals.

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	Administer Community Needs Service	Community Meeting	80 surveys completed - Randallstown, Turner Station, Essex-Middle River	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted.	
2	Administer Community Needs Service	Veterans Event	8 individuals completed surveys - November 15, 2019	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	all accepted.	
3	Administer Community Needs Service	Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities	18 individuals completed the survey - December 18,2019	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted.	

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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	Administer Community Needs Service	CocC Homeless Roundtable	30 individuals plus verbal discussions from Housing and Coordinated Entry Subcommittees. Need more PSH. Existing affordable housing still too expensive. Transitional housing needed. Westside needs DV shelter. Need longer term RRH with case management follow up.	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results. Homeless individuals shared challenges with employment and self-sufficiency.	All accepted	

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5	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	December 9, 2019 - Widely announced public hearing attracted non-profit organizations, government agencies and the general public. 88 individuals attended the meeting; more than 30 individuals gave testimony; 12 individuals completed the survey	The county needs housing affordable to households earning \$50,000 annually (or less). Homeless services providers advocated for increased outreach staff, more Permanent Supportive Housing, more affordable housing and more case management and supportive housing services to assist homeless individuals and families. Community concerns about specialized/subsidized housing can be triggered by a few bad actors. An attendee stated the need for additional/improved programming for youth in foster care. An attendee stated	All accepted	
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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)
				that people with limited English proficiency generally face more challenges finding employment. A member of the county Commission on Disabilities expressed concerns about the accessibility of public facilities in Towson and recommended a county-wide survey of the accessibility of county buildings/facilities.		
6	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	Community Needs Survey distributed at two County Executive Town Halls. Twenty-seven surveys distributed with ten returned at event.	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
7	Public Meeting	Affordable Housing Information Session	Community Needs Survey administered on January 31, 2020 to affordable housing professionals and advocates where seven individuals completed the survey.	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted	
8	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	May 20, 2020 virtual Public Hearing - Response TBD		All accepted	
9	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Community Needs Survey posted on County website. Press release and email sent out urging participation.	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted.	
10	Administer Community Needs Service	Local Management Board	Eight nonprofit partner and government agency representatives completed surveys.	Responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
11	Administer Community Needs Service	Broadband provider	Two interviews with North County community president and County Cable Administrator	Grassroots community research documented 1700 addresses claimed to be without internet access in northern, more rural portion of the County where cable companies do not provide service due to low density of households. County is pursuing grant opportunities and partnerships with service providers to extend service to certain rural areas. Approximately 6,000 households in the county are in difficult-to-serve areas.	All 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)
12	Administer Community Needs Service	Community Action Agency	Eight community needs survey received from program managers and many others distributed to clients.	Survey responses included in aggregate survey results.	All accepted	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The data employed in the Needs Assessment section of the *Consolidated Plan* are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which periodically receives "custom tabulations" of data from the U.S. Census Bureau. These data, known as the "CHAS" data (Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy), are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's five-year average of the American Community Survey (ACS) but are *largely not available through standard Census products*.

CHAS data demonstrate the extent of housing problems and housing needs, particularly for low to moderate-income households. The CHAS data are used by local governments to plan how to spend HUD funds, and may also be used by HUD to distribute grant funds. Furthermore, in order to be more responsive to questions in this section, ACS data are utilized, in addition to the CHAS data provided by HUD in the *Consolidated Plan* template.

Needs Assessment Overview Cont.

According to data provided by HUD for the *2016-2019 Consolidated Plan*, Baltimore County's population was 802,487 in 2011, which was a 6% increase from 2000. However, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates Baltimore County's population was 831,128 as of July 2015. The County's population is racially and ethnically diverse. The county's population is growing and its population growth trend reflects it as a mature, suburban community.

A thorough needs assessment is critical for an effective plan to address housing and related challenges in the County. Due to various demographic and economic factors and trends, some residents of Baltimore County currently experience challenges due to high unemployment rates, low incomes and poverty, low housing quality, overcrowding, homelessness, disabilities, and aging. They struggle to pay for housing and related expenses. Housing affordability and quality of life challenges in the County affect both owner and renter households, but particularly those who are low or moderate-income.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

Summary of Housing Needs

Baltimore County recognizes the affordable housing needs of very low and low-income families with children as well as families who have a member living with a disability. The most common housing problems are lack of complete plumbing and kitchen facilities, overcrowding (number of persons per room), and housing cost burden, as indicated in Tables 5 through 12 as well as Tables 13 through 16. These are fundamental physical or economic characteristics of housing collected and tabulated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and used by Baltimore County to assess housing needs among its citizenry. There is also a concern about the proportionate impact the lack of affordable housing may have on racial minorities (mainly African-American or Hispanic) in Baltimore County. These issues were fundamental to the Voluntary Compliance Agreement and specific goals are identified in the Strategic Plan and Action Plan sections to provide more rental housing options in areas of greater racial diversity and economic success.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Population	805,029	822,955	2%
Households	310,459	312,895	1%
Median Income	\$63,348.00	\$67,095.00	6%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	38,424	37,800	46,575	35,230	154,820
Small Family Households	10,374	11,714	17,855	14,205	81,240
Large Family Households	1,923	2,588	3,302	2,723	12,835
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	7,686	8,331	9,842	7,825	33,339
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	9,101	9,384	7,118	3,911	11,137
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	5,405	5,868	7,706	5,748	14,801

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	369	544	119	228	1,260	149	74	199	54	476
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	195	203	162	74	634	35	39	35	64	173
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	580	685	754	243	2,262	104	69	252	205	630
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	16,099	5,914	1,768	180	23,961	9,024	5,574	3,099	947	18,644

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,309	9,072	8,784	2,447	21,612	2,753	4,213	7,909	5,580	20,455
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	1,528	0	0	0	1,528	1,203	0	0	0	1,203

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	17,249	7,330	2,807	725	28,111	9,294	5,764	3,600	1,266	19,924
Having none of four housing problems	4,240	11,523	17,829	12,657	46,249	4,909	13,185	22,340	20,570	61,004

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	1,528	0	0	0	1,528	1,203	0	0	0	1,203

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	6,347	6,696	4,269	17,312	2,460	2,935	4,884	10,279
Large Related	1,063	1,076	500	2,639	568	946	1,006	2,520
Elderly	4,914	4,139	2,329	11,382	6,924	4,307	3,140	14,371
Other	6,013	4,226	3,862	14,101	2,016	1,728	2,156	5,900
Total need by income	18,337	16,137	10,960	45,434	11,968	9,916	11,186	33,070

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	5,934	2,138	599	8,671	2,212	1,992	1,281	5,485
Large Related	983	187	0	1,170	475	428	164	1,067

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Elderly	4,307	2,127	966	7,400	4,710	2,053	979	7,742
Other	5,698	1,902	223	7,823	1,755	1,166	735	3,656
Total need by income	16,922	6,354	1,788	25,064	9,152	5,639	3,159	17,950

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	630	824	742	157	2,353	94	69	223	211	597
Multiple, unrelated family households	160	50	89	160	459	10	39	64	58	171
Other, non-family households	10	30	84	0	124	35	0	0	0	35
Total need by income	800	904	915	317	2,936	139	108	287	269	803

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

Baltimore County, the 3rd largest jurisdiction in population in Maryland, has 312,895 households or occupied housing units (Table 5). The growth rate in households from 2009 to 2015 was 1%, which was relatively slower than that of population. The 2015 population estimate for Baltimore County was 822,955,136 instead of 802,029 as shown in Table 5. The slower household growth may indicate that the household size or number of persons per household has increased.

According to data in Table 6, there are five household types (The sum of data in individual categories do not equal the total). There are 140,057 single family households[1] in the County, representing 44.5% of total households. Among all the single family households, those who earn less than 30% of HAMFI[2], between 30% and 50% of HAMFI, and 50% and 80% of HAMFI may need housing assistance, particularly at the first two HAMFI levels (a sum of 19,153). The number of single-family households who earn between 50% and 80% is 21,157.

The household types by age, (at the last three rows in Table 6) may already be included in the single family or large family household categories. The number of those households (62 to 74 years old; 75 years or over; under 6 years old) in the low to moderate income categories is so significant that requires needs assessments on the housing assistance in the policy formation and program development. This especially corroborates true for households with at least one person aged 75 years old or over, in which 9,384 households are sustained by an income level less than 50% of HAMFI or 7,118 live in the moderate-income condition (50% to 80% of HAMFI).

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Using national statistics from the National Council on Disabilities, Baltimore County is able to estimate the number of County households in need of housing assistance and occupied by a person with a disability. National figures indicate that 30.36% of the nation's households are occupied by a person with a disability and 41% of this subset cannot afford their housing. National figures suggest that 12.5% of the nation's households need housing assistance and are occupied by a person with a disability. This percentage indicates that 39,226 County households are in need of housing assistance and occupied by a person with a disability. Approximately 21,555 (6.84%) of Baltimore County households with a disabled member and 11,660 elderly households (3.7%) have worst-case housing needs in which the household is very low income and paying more than half their monthly income for rent.

According to the latest Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting data relating to domestic violence, in 2014 there were 27,242 "domestically related crimes" in Maryland. Ninety percent of these were reported as assault cases. Baltimore County reported 6,352 domestically related crimes. When comparing to earlier data, it is important to note that State law changed in 2012 to include ten new relationships between aggressors and victims. Domestic violence victims must often flee their present dwelling to find safety and stability and therefore need temporary housing on an emergency basis and then transition to a new

housing option. A recent one-day census count of domestic violence services in Maryland found that 40% of calls for assistance that day pertained to housing.

What are the most common housing problems?

The cost of housing is the single most significant housing problem according to Table 7. For both renter and owner households, the housing cost burden of greater than 30% or 50% was significant. When information from Table 7 is paired with data from Tables 9 and 10 a more complete picture of the housing cost burden is available.

Cost burden greater than 50% of income. Among renter households regardless of income, 23,961 or 46.7% of total 51,257 suffer a housing cost burden greater than 50%. Households earning 30% or less of AMI suffer the most severe problems, followed by those in the 30% to 50% income bracket. On the owner household side, 18,641 or 44.8% of total 41,581 experience the same problem. The problem is the worst in the less than 30% of AMI and the second worst in the 30% to 50% of AMI category.

Cost burden greater than 30% of income. Renter-households earning 30% to 50% of AMI or 50% to 80% AMI experience so much severe problems than those in two other income categories. There are 21,612 renter-households that suffer the housing cost burden greater than 30% of income, accounting for 42.2% of total renter-households (51,257). Approximately 49.2% or 20,455 of total owner-households (41,581) suffer this housing problem, mostly in the 50% to 80% of AMI, followed by those in the 80% to 100% AMI.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

Substandard Housing

Table 7 shows the number of renter households who suffer from substandard housing (lack of plumbing or kitchen facilities) is much higher than that of owner households. Also, less than 30% of HAMFI households are more likely to reside in substandard housing. Table 8 shows renter households are more likely to suffer from one or more housing problems than owner households. Also, the lower the household income as a percentage of HAMFI, the more the household status will be in substandard housing (Table 8) regardless of their tenure.

Overcrowded Housing

Table 7 also shows more renter households who endure overcrowded or severe overcrowded problems than owner households. Renter or owner households who earn 50% to 80% of HAMFI are more likely to suffer overcrowded or severe overcrowded problems than those in other income categories. The second largest group with overcrowded or severe overcrowded problems is the households (renters or owners) earning 80% to 100% of HAMFI. Data in Table 11 shows the same trend as in Table 7; single-family renter households show a more serious problem of overcrowding than other household types.

Housing Cost Burden

In Table 9, all renter households (except large related/family) spending 30% to 50% of income on housing expenses reveal a substantial burden. This is greater among the small related/family households than elderly or other types. Among owner households, the elderly have more housing cost burden than other household types at the income levels less than 30% AMI or from 30% to 50% AMI. Between 50% and 80%, small related/family households show significant cost burden. Table 10 illustrates that 25,064 renter and 17,950 owner households spend at least 50% of their income on housing expenses. This is evident for small related, elderly, and other households who rent and earn 30% or less AMI. Next is renter households in the 30% to 50% income level, regardless of their tenure. For owner households, 7,742 elderly households spend more than 50% of the household income on housing expenses. This number is significantly higher than any other household type in any given income bracket. Small related owner households in the 0% -30% and the 30% - 50% income level suffer from the housing cost burden more than those in the 50% - 80% income group. For reference, ACS data for 2011-2015 shows that there are 63,622 of 210,981 owner households and 50,508 of 104,146 renter households that spend more than 30% of the household income on housing expenses. Around 48.6% of 63,622 owner households spending 30% or more of their income on housing expenses are in the \$50,000 or plus income brackets. On the renter side, 68.7% of 50,508 households spending 30% or more of their income on housing expenses live at the \$49,999 or less income level. Households that spend a large portion of their income on housing costs have little or no disposable income for other needs, which affects quality of life. These households have no resources for essential needs; food, healthcare, transportation, clothing or to pursue higher education. This also weakens the County's economy, as it reduces disposable income spent in the marketplace, consequently reducing market potential for local businesses and service providers. ACS for 2007-2011 data shows among 315,127 households in the County, 21,438 (6.8%) receive supplemental security income (SSI), public assistance or food stamps to sustain basic living. Among them, 29,030 are with children under 18 years old, of whom 61% are in female-headed households and 29.8% are married-couple families. In each household type, 7.6% of the married-couple, 18.3% of male-headed, 36.3% of female headed families, and 30.9% of non-family households receive SSI, cash public assistance, or food stamps. (Male or female headed are single parent families.)

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

Table 6 shows that 39,528 out of (Table 5's) total 312,895 (or 12.63%) are households with one or more children 6 years old or younger. Among them, 13.67% earn 30% or less of AMI, 14.85% earn 30% to 50% of AMI, 19.50% earn 50% to 80%, 14.54% earn 80% to 100%, and 37.44% earn 100% or more of AMI. Although nearly 40% of households with one or more children 6 years old or younger (39,528) are

in the upper income bracket, the remaining are in the very low, low, and moderate income ranges. Those children and their families may be at risk of residing in shelters or becoming homeless.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

Not applicable.

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

Tables 6, 9, and 10 shows that household contains at least one person age 75 or older (or elderly households without a specific age-range) are most likely to have increased risk of homelessness, followed by households with one or more children 6 years old or younger.

Tables 7 and 8 show that renter households are more likely to have an increased risk of homelessness than owner households. Households having 1 or more of four housing problems (substandard housing, crowded housing, and with housing cost burden) are more likely to have increased risk of homelessness. This is particularly the most serious for households in the 30% or less of AMI and then those in the 30% to 50% of AMI.

Regardless of housing characteristics and races, the very low and low income households generally have an increased risk of homelessness.

Discussion

Baltimore County recognizes the affordable housing needs of very low and low-income families with children as well as families who have a member living with a disability. There is also a concern about the proportionate impact the lack of affordable housing may have on racial minorities (mainly African-American or Hispanic) in Baltimore County. These issues were fundamental to the Voluntary Conciliation Agreement and specific goals were agreed upon in order to provide more rental housing options in areas of greater racial diversity and economic success.

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

In assessing the disproportionate housing problems among any racial or ethnic group, HUD uses the four housing problems as the basis for determining this disproportionate need. The four housing problems are as follows:

- Lacks complete kitchen facilities;
- Lacks complete plumbing facilities;
- More than one person per room; or
- Cost burden greater than 30%

In total, whites have the largest number of households with housing problems. Black or African American is the second largest in terms of the number of households with one or more housing problems in any of the given income levels. This is partially due to the absolute number of households in either racial group. In Baltimore County, 69.3% of households are white and 24.3% are black or African American.

Among white households, the number of those in the 0-30% of AMI is the highest among all income levels with regard to housing problems. However, the percentage of households with housing problems in each minority group is higher than that of white households in any of given income levels. This is particularly significant for the Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, and black or African American households respectively. By and large, the percent share of households with housing problems is higher in a minority group than that of white households.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	30,618	5,094	2,731
White	17,802	3,385	1,315
Black / African American	9,172	1,282	1,094
Asian	1,476	232	164
American Indian, Alaska Native	69	18	4
Pacific Islander	4	0	0
Hispanic	1,529	97	123

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	26,409	11,433	0
White	14,118	9,146	0
Black / African American	9,248	1,375	0
Asian	1,102	356	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	172	4	0
Pacific Islander	19	0	0
Hispanic	1,303	362	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	23,084	23,493	0
White	12,334	15,733	0
Black / African American	8,080	5,929	0
Asian	937	597	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	48	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	1,224	865	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	10,002	25,212	0
White	5,886	15,526	0
Black / African American	3,086	7,175	0
Asian	494	1,115	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	8	48	0
Pacific Islander	4	0	0
Hispanic	380	862	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

Data in Tables 9, 10, 11, and 12 help assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole. The percentage of total households in each race or ethnicity is used for the assessment, instead of that of total households in the County. The latter may mislead and skew meanings that data truly reveal.

For households earning 30% or less of AMI, regardless of races, 75% to 79% in each racial group have one or more of four housing problems, which is about the same as the countywide percentage (79.65%). Approximately 87.42% households with people from the Hispanic or Latina origin have one or more of four housing problems.

For households earning 30% to 50% of AMI, percent of households with one or more housing problems is 60.69% for white, 87.06% for black or African American, 75.9% for Asian or Pacific Islander, and 97.73% for American Indian or Alaska Native. The proportion for households of the Hispanic or Latino origin is 78.26%. The percentages for all minorities are higher than the county average, 69.79%.

For households earning 50% to 80% of AMI, percent of households with one or more housing problems is 43.94% for white, 57.68% for black or African American, 61.08% for Asian or Pacific Islander, and 92.31% for American Indian or Alaska Native. The proportion for households of the Hispanic or Latino origin is 58.59%. In comparison, the county average is 49.56%.

For households earning 80% to 100% of AMI, the differentiation among racial groups is not as significant as the above two income brackets in terms of percent of households with one or more housing problems: 27.49% for white, 30.08% for black or African American, 30.70% for Asian or Pacific Islander, and 14.29% for American Indian or Alaska Native. The proportion for households of the Hispanic or Latino origin is 30.60%. Countywide, the average is 28.40%.

The percentages among Asian or Pacific Islanders are significantly high. The reason is commonly known that albeit in the high educational attainment, there are Asian or Pacific Islanders who live in poverty due to lack of advanced education. The language barriers may be another factor. They are neither familiar with governmental programs nor seek out for eligible assistance for housing and services.

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

In assessing the need of any racial or ethnic group to determine if this group has a disproportionately greater need, HUD defines *severe* housing problem as follows;

- Lacks complete kitchen facilities;
- Lacks complete plumbing facilities;
- More than 1.5 persons per room; or
- Cost burden greater than 50%

Households with severe housing problems by race or ethnicity show the similar pattern to those with housing problems. Yet, the problem is more serious in the 0-30% of AMI, with reference to the percent share of total households in each racial or ethnic group (Tables 17 through 20). In absolute numbers, whites have the highest number of households with severe housing problems because of the large base of white households (Tables 17 through 20).

In the 30%-50% and 50%-80% income group, the Pacific Islander shows a higher percentage of households (of its total households) with severe housing problems than other minority groups including the Hispanic or Latino origin. It is worth noting that people of some other races and two or more races, representing 6,500 households, are not included in HUD’s data for Needs Assessments.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	26,543	9,149	2,731
White	14,942	6,245	1,315
Black / African American	8,332	2,132	1,094
Asian	1,300	390	164
American Indian, Alaska Native	59	28	4
Pacific Islander	0	4	0
Hispanic	1,399	225	123

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	13,094	24,708	0
White	7,442	15,837	0
Black / African American	4,163	6,467	0
Asian	531	924	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	49	127	0
Pacific Islander	19	0	0
Hispanic	678	983	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,407	40,169	0
White	3,889	24,149	0
Black / African American	1,680	12,285	0
Asian	450	1,082	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	44	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	323	1,767	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,991	33,227	0
White	1,271	20,156	0
Black / African American	392	9,879	0
Asian	177	1,429	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	58	0
Pacific Islander	4	0	0
Hispanic	124	1,118	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

Discussion

Similar to findings and discussion for NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems, data for severe housing by race or ethnicity show a similar trend but with a small percentage, as displayed in Tables 13, 14, 15, and 16. The percentage of total households in each race or ethnicity is used for the assessment, instead of that of total households in the County. The latter may mislead and skew meanings that data truly reveal.

For households earning 30% or less of AMI, 66.40% white, 72.09% black or African American, 69.97 Asian or Pacific Islander, and 64.84% American Indian or Alaska Native have one or more severe housing problems. Countywide, 69.08% of households have one or more severe housing problems.

For households earning 30% to 50% of AMI, percent of households with one or more severe housing problems is 31.97% for white, 39.16% for black or African American, 37.31% for Asian or Pacific Islander, and 27.84% for American Indian or Alaska Native. The proportion for households of the Hispanic or Latino origin is 40.82%. The percentages for all minorities are higher than the county average, 34.64%.

For households earning 50% to 80% of AMI, percent of households with one or more housing problems is 13.87% for white, 12.07% for black or African American, 29.37% for Asian or Pacific Islander, and 18.52% for American Indian or Alaska Native. The proportion for households of the Hispanic or Latino origin is 15.45%. In comparison, the county average is 13.76%.

For households earning 80% to 100% of AMI, the differentiation among racial groups is not as significant as the above two income brackets in terms of percent of households with one or more housing problems: 5.93% for white, 3.82% for black or African American, 11.24% for Asian or Pacific Islander, and 0% for American Indian or Alaska Native. The proportion for households of the Hispanic or Latino origin is 9.98%. Countywide, the average is 5.69%.

The percentages among Asian or Pacific Islanders are considerably high. As stated in the disproportionately greater need section, the reason is commonly known that albeit in the high educational attainment, there are Asian or Pacific Islanders who live in poverty due to lack of advanced education. The language barriers may be another factor. They are neither familiar with governmental programs nor seek out for eligible assistance for housing and services.

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction:

Similar to the data analysis in NA-15, NA-20, and NA-25, Table 21 shows the number of households experiencing the housing cost burden is most significant among white households, followed by black or African American households and Asian households in any given income bracket. This reflects the number of households by race in the county. The number of households with the cost burden, regardless of race, is the largest in the 0-30% of AMI category.

In the 0-30% AMI category, percent Asian or Pacific Islander households enduring the housing cost burden is the most substantial, followed by black or African American and Hispanic or Latino households. In the 30%-50% AMI category, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic or Latino origin each account for nearly one-fifth of total households in its racial or ethnic group. In the 50% or above AMI category, American Indian or Alaska Native, Pacific Islander, or Hispanic or Latino, respectively positioning, pose a higher percent share of households with the housing cost burden compared to total households in its own racial or ethnic group.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	210,863	53,840	45,219	2,908
White	145,139	30,464	26,948	1,415
Black / African American	47,777	17,645	13,418	1,149
Asian	9,047	2,202	2,070	174
American Indian, Alaska Native	336	234	103	4
Pacific Islander	52	12	23	0
Hispanic	5,664	2,338	1,993	123

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Discussion:

The table above shows that the majority of households in any race or ethnicity spend 30% or less of their income on housing. Countywide, 67.40% of households spend 30% or less on housing costs. Among racial groups, 71.16% of white spend 30% or less on housing costs, followed by Asian or

Pacific Islander (67.00%), black or African American (59.73%), and American Indian or Alaska Native (49.63%). Households of the Hispanic or Latino origin who spend 30% or less of their income on housing costs account for 55.98%.

Table 21 also indicates that among households who spend between 30% and 50% of their income on housing costs, the percentage for minorities and Hispanic or Latino origin is higher than that of white. The finding is similar for households who spend more than 50% of their income on housing costs. The percentages are 14.94% for white, 22.06% for black or African American, 16.30% for American Indian or Alaska Native. Households of the Hispanic or Latino origin who spend 30%-50% of income on housing costs amount to 23.11%. Countywide, the figure is 17.21%.

The observations from data in this same table seem to reveal that minorities experience more serious housing cost burden than white. The percentage of total households in each race or ethnicity is used for the assessment, instead of that of total households in the County, because the latter may mislead and skew meanings that data truly reveal.

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

Are there any income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

The majority of the households who bear any housing problems are white, followed by black or African American. Whites are the majority population in the County; while blacks or African Americans are the largest minority in the County. The percentage share of African American households with any housing problem of a minority group is higher than that of white households. While numerically, there are more white households that experience housing needs, African Americans experience housing needs at a disproportionately higher rate.

If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

The U.S. Census Bureau also defines that lack of heating fuel is a housing problem. The aging housing stock, lead-based paint, and inadequate maintenance can be common housing problems that need to be identified and improved.

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

On November 24, 2014, the Opportunity Collaborative released “Strong Communities, Strong Region: The Baltimore Regional Housing Plan and Fair Housing Equity Assessment.” This report still guides the County's work today and states that nonwhites – particularly black or African American population -- largely reside in the western portion of Baltimore County in Randallstown, Woodlawn, Owings Mills, Windsor Mill, Gwynn Oak as well as on the County's eastside in Rosedale and Middle River.

The Plan identifies vulnerable communities that are concentrated in the western areas between Route 40 and Route 140 (Reisterstown Road). In the east, vulnerable communities exist in Rosedale, Middle River, Essex, and Dundalk. The Plan defines vulnerable communities based on minorities, (especially black or African American population), rates of poverty, vacancy, and foreclosure, as well as median housing value. These areas have a relatively low share of white (39.9 percent) and Asian (2.9 percent) residents compared to the region as a whole, a share of Latino residents slightly higher than the regional average (5.4 percent), and a relatively high percentage of African American residents (51.0 percent). Areas with high concentrations of persons of color combined with high percentages of persons in poverty are exposed to even fewer neighborhood resources, which restricts their upward social and economic mobility. The vulnerable communities have consistently lower measures of school quality, the lowest levels of educational attainment, highest percentage of single parent families, the highest unemployment rates, high possibility of health issues.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

Baltimore County has no public housing developments. The County's Housing Choice Voucher program operates through private landlords chosen by voucher participants.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Alternate Data Source Name:

Baltimore County Office of Housing - Elite Data

Data Source Comments:

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	0	15,978	17,867	17,570	16,208	12,268
Average length of stay	0	0	0	4	3	7	4	1
Average Household size	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	3
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	96	11	46	39	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	0	1,743	164	1,495	84	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	0	1,193	185	901	91	16
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	0	5,844	0	5,705	139	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	149	0	149	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Alternate Data Source Name:
 Baltimore County Office of Housing - Elite Data
Data Source Comments:

Race of Residents

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	0	1,505	124	1,255	51	19	56
Black/African American	0	0	0	3,684	198	3,091	236	37	122
Asian	0	0	0	22	4	17	0	1	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	24	1	19	2	0	2
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Alternate Data Source Name:
 Baltimore County Office of Housing - Elite Data
 Data Source Comments:

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	0	115	11	90	10	3	1
Not Hispanic	0	0	0	5,121	316	4,293	279	54	179

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Alternate Data Source Name:

Baltimore County Office of Housing - Elite Data

Data Source Comments:

Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:

Baltimore County does not have Public Housing Developments.

Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders

As our Voluntary Compliance Agreement states there is a need for more accessible accommodations in our Housing Choice Voucher units. The needs of voucher holders are to accommodate life activities such as mobility and performing manual tasks. This is why as part of the VCA, the County has set aside funding to make HCV units accessible for persons with disabilities.

How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

Baltimore County has no public housing developments and therefore the housing needs are the same as that of the population at large.

Discussion

The prepopulated numbers contained in the charts shown were taken from the PIC (PIH Information Center), but no data parameters identifying the time period are included. As a result, this data is different from the most recent data provided by the Baltimore County Office of Housing. Below are the housing program demographics from 7/1/2019 to 2/17/2020.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The following homeless needs assessment was generated by data from Baltimore County’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) on the county’s homeless service providers, shelters, and transitional housing programs. Additionally, the county conducts an annual point-in-time survey during the last week in January each year in order to prepare an estimate of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night. The estimate for the number of unsheltered homeless is based on this point-in-time count. The point-in-time survey date for the data used for this needs assessment was January 22, 2019.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	254	43	1,857	1,429	690	45
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	232	206	2,387	1,837	879	45
Chronically Homeless Individuals	85	98	563	433	211	45
Chronically Homeless Families	10	2	45	35	17	45
Veterans	10	12	187	144	69	45
Unaccompanied Child	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	2	2	29	22	11	45

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments: Baltimore County Homeless Management Information System

Indicate if the homeless population Has No Rural Homeless
is:

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

Data could not be provided for "Persons in households with only children" and "Unaccompanied Child" because Baltimore County does not have any programs that deal directly with children only. These services are provided by DSS Child Protective Services and the Foster Care system.

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	585	0
Black or African American	1,680	0
Asian	15	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	21	0
Pacific Islander	5	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	65	0
Not Hispanic	2,365	0

Data Source

Comments:

Baltimore County Homeless Management Information System

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

Based on the data pulled from Baltimore County’s HMIS for FY 2019, 1208 adults and children experienced homelessness and obtained either emergency shelter or transitional housing beds. On a given night, approximately 241 homeless persons in families with children are provided with emergency or transitional housing.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

The data shows that a total of 2430 homeless persons in shelter for FY 2019. Of those, 69 percent (1680 persons) were identified as African American and 24 percent (585 persons) were identified as white. Less than 1 percent were Asian (15 persons), American Indian or Alaska Native (21 persons), and Pacific Islander (5 persons).

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

Twelve hundred and eight (1208) persons in families with children were housed in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs and twelve hundred twenty two (1222) single adults were given shelter or transitional housing. A total of eleven hundred six (1106) individuals were identified as residing on the street, in cars, or living in other places not meant for human habitation. According to the data entered into HMIS, fifty three (53) of these persons were reported as veterans.

Discussion:

The FY 2019 stats for the unsheltered population included data from our only street outreach agency, Prologue, Inc., which has a total of five street outreach programs in the region.

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Introduction:

Baltimore County citizens falling under the Non Homeless Special Needs designation would include: the elderly (age 65+); frail elderly; people living with a disability (mental, physical or developmental); persons with substance abuse problems (alcohol or another drug addiction); persons with HIV/AIDS and their family members; and/or victims of domestic violence/sexual assault. These special needs populations have a variety of needs. For example, some may need accessibility modifications to their housing units while others may need supportive services in their homes and/or communities. Membership in these special populations does generally place an additional financial burden on these households and the potential need for assistance from a government or nonprofit organization.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Figures from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey indicate that at least one elderly person lives in 95,993 of Baltimore County's households, a figure that represents 30.7% of county households.

The same source indicates that 95,506 Baltimore County residents have a disability, a figure that represents 11.7% of the county's population. Within this population, 6,786 individuals are under 18 years of age; 46,271 are 18-64 years of age; and 42,449 are 65 and older. The county's recently released draft Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AIFHC) indicates that 23% of the population age 65-74 has a disability, while 48% of the population age 75 and older has a disability.

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing choice indicates that Baltimore County residents with a disability earn significantly less than those with no disability. The analysis cites 2017 American Community survey data showing the median income for county individuals with a disability to be \$26,692, which is 36% less than the figure for individuals with no disability, which is \$41,976. Furthermore, the percentage of the county population with a disability that is employed, only 25%, is significantly lower than the percentage of the employed county population with no disability, which is 70%.

The Baltimore County Police Department reports that 9,546 domestically related crimes took place in 2017.

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

The County's recently released draft 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AIFHC) provides credible information on the status and needs of Baltimore County's population of people with disabilities. The AIFHC cites federal data showing that county residents with disabilities earn significantly less than people with no disability and are often unemployed. The AIFHC's statistical information, combined with responses it gathered from 700 Baltimore region survey participants from households in which a person with a disability lived, offers compelling evidence of the housing needs and challenges faced by county residents living with a disabling condition. The AIFHC's survey results and findings are reinforced by the results of the county's Community Needs Survey, which was administered to 18 members of the Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities (CoD).

Based on AIFHC survey result, 44% of the region's dwellings including a family member with a disability did not properly accommodate the needs of the disabled family member. The AIFHC states that while many government-subsidized, affordable housing developments include accessible units, a significant portion of those units are still priced too high to be affordable to many people with disabilities. The AIFHC found that the most significant needs of people with disabilities in the Baltimore region included: 1) affordable, accessible rental housing; 2) challenges with accessibility in older housing stock due to stairs and narrow hallways; 3) home modification programs that serve the needs of people with disabilities; 4) expansions of integrated living environments; and 5) expansion of transportation options, including service areas and hours, and provision of timely, reliable service.

Community Needs Survey results administered by County staff to 18 members of the CoD closely align with AIFHC. The CoD is comprised of people who have disabilities, leaders of non-profit agencies that serve people with disabilities and government representatives. The group of surveyed commission members embraced the need for more affordable rental housing in the county, with 83% of the group advocating for this type of housing. All members of the group agreed that the county needs more homes and apartments that are modified to ensure they are accessible to people with a physical disability. A strong majority of the group – 83% -- agreed to the need for more supportive housing. All members affirmed the need for more transportation options that serve people with disabilities. In response to the open-ended transportation question, several members stated the need for improvements to the state's mobility service. Additionally, members some housing needs can be met through group homes or alternative living units while other housing needs can be met through a modification to an individual unit.

Other special needs populations require no modifications to housing units. It is often the case that domestic violence victims must often flee their present dwelling to find safety and stability. They, therefore, need temporary housing on an emergency basis and then the ability to transition to a new housing option. A recent one-day census count of domestic violence services in Maryland found that 40% of calls for assistance that day pertained to housing.

The supportive service needs of the special needs populations are quite varied, but can include day programs, victim advocacy efforts, day care services, counseling for substance abuse and/or mental illness, and job training services. No one supportive service program meets the needs of all special needs citizens. Through our focus groups, survey responses, and public hearings, the supportive services needs of special needs populations were discussed and the results of those contributions are evidenced within the Plan's funded projects.

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:

According to a December 2018 profile from the Maryland Department of Health Center for HIV Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Evaluation, 3,191 Baltimore County residents are living with HIV. BCDH's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program is within the larger Ryan White HIV Case Management Program that serves all eligible individuals living with HIV that live or work in Baltimore County. The Ryan White HIV Case Management Program serves over 500 low-income individuals and families in Baltimore County. The need for safe, affordable and stable housing is often identified as a primary need for many of the Program's clients, the majority of whom are under 250% of the federal poverty level. Approximately 40% of BCDH's clients living with HIV have some type of housing subsidy. The Ryan White HIV Case Management Program's staff work with eligible clients to develop a realistic and practical plan of care to maximize their ability to live independently in the community.

Discussion:

While each special needs individual is different, typically those with special needs require some form of housing assistance and/or supportive service. Housing assistance may come in the form of a voucher, a housing unit modification or a group care setting. A vast array of special needs providers offer supportive services to assist County citizens with developmental disabilities, mental illness, physical disabilities, domestic violence, persons living with HIV/AIDSs, and the elderly.

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

Baltimore County's Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is the main funding and programming mechanism to implement Baltimore County's goals and priorities for the construction of large scale public facilities. The CIP consists of the upcoming fiscal year's appropriation and the succeeding 5-year program. The following is a brief summary of County Executive's FY2020 Capital Budget and CIP for FY 2021-FY 2025 which was approved by the County Council with minor changes. CDBG, HOME or ESG funds may support projects included in the CIP, if applicable, or be budgeted with other federal program funds for specific CDBG, HOME or ESG projects. All projects funded must meet the eligibility criteria of their funding source requirements.

Educational Facilities

Baltimore County's educational needs include the renovation and modernization of aging buildings and additions/new construction where overcrowded. State funding commitment is needed for these projects to move forward. For FY2020, \$260.3 million, or 54.8% of the County's non-water and sewer budget is dedicated to school renovation and construction projects; the total 6 year program is \$675.3 million. This 6 year program includes planning money for a new Lansdowne High School, and committed all of the County's portion of construction costs for the remaining projects under the Schools for Our Future program. The program also funds planning and design for two additional high schools in fiscal year 2022. State funding commitment is needed for these projects to move forward. All the high schools, and over half the elementary schools, serve students from low and moderate income families. The Community Colleges of Baltimore County (CCBC) system is a gateway to employment; buildings and equipment are needed for specialized training for adults. CCBC is one of the nation's top associate degree-granting colleges, serves 65,000 students and is a major component of the County's employment strategy. As a partner of the Dept. of Economic and Workforce Development, it trains people for careers in the 21st century economy. Over \$105.5 million has been appropriated for the system for FY2020 –FY2025. The top priority is the \$41.6 million renovation of the Health and Career Technology building on the Essex campus; remaining funds are for ADA alterations, power plant upgrades, maintenance, and asbestos removal on all campuses.

Recreational and Cultural Facilities

Recreational facilities are valuable community assets, especially for children and young adults. Regional arts and cultural institutions also provide important opportunities to learn and grow for residents of all ages. The FY2020 budget includes \$29.3 million for construction, property acquisition, and improvements to the County parks and playing fields. In FY2020, \$3.3 million was included to provide grants to arts, sciences, and humanities organizations that serve Baltimore City and County residents.

Through our Community Needs Survey, members of the Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities identified a need for improvements to parks and park resources that enhance access for people with disabilities.

Libraries

The Baltimore County Public Library system has 19 branches, many in low/moderate income communities. Services include access to books (paper and electronic), computer-based information, mobile services for seniors and the disabled, library services to County licensed day care centers and home child care providers, and a variety of public services such as applications for/information about passports, housing choice vouchers and renter's tax credits. The FY2020 budget included \$3.5 million for systemwide capital improvements.

How were these needs determined?

The CIP process includes citizen input meetings, County agency recommendations, Planning Board review and approval, County Executive recommendations, and County Council review and adoption. Each year, the CIP begins in October with citizen input meetings held by the Baltimore County Planning Board, joined by directors of County agencies that have a capital budget. The citizen input meetings at the beginning of the process provide County agencies opportunities to listen to and consider citizen requests prior to formulating agency recommendations for the budget and CIP.

In evaluating the merit of a capital project request, the criteria include:

- A project ought to be consistent with the guidelines of the County's *Master Plan 2020* and its amendments.
- A project ought to be in concert with the state Smart Growth principles.
- A project ought to continue or improve public safety and health of Baltimore County residents.
- Whether a project's affected community will be in support of this project.
- Whether a project will serve to protect or enhance the natural environment.
- The appropriateness of the timing of a project.
- Whether a project will help to leverage non-County funds for increasing the efficiency of local government services.
- Whether a project will comply with federal and state mandates.
- Whether a project will enhance or strengthen communities and neighborhoods.
- Whether a project will serve to repair or replace an existing deteriorated facility.
- Whether a project is part of a systematic replacement strategy providing a long-term upgrade of public facilities.
- Whether a project will improve the operating efficiency of a County agency by reducing future operating budgets.
- Whether a project is coordinated in its scheduling with other related capital projects.
- Whether a project will support or strengthen Baltimore County's economy.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

For purposes of this section, public improvements are streets/highways and storm drains.

Streets and Highways

Capital funding for roadways is used to upgrade existing roadways, construct new roadways, and improve safety and traffic carrying capacity; provide major maintenance and repair of existing roadways; construct and repair alleys, sidewalks, curbs and gutters; and conduct street sweeping as part of stormwater management requirements. The total funding for the six year program is \$145 million with \$24.3 million budgeted in FY 20. For the six year program, about \$26 million is reserved for replacing and repairing deteriorated curbs, gutters, and sidewalks as well as constructing new sidewalks where needed. About \$600,000 is dedicated to construct sidewalk ramps to assist the disabled.

Storm Drainage System

Storm drainage improvements are to correct flooding of streets, homes, and other private property caused by lack of or inadequate public storm drain, replace and repair existing storm drains, extend existing systems to accommodate new development, and address stormwater requirements. The total six year program funding is \$19 million with \$6.3 million allocated for FY 20.

How were these needs determined?

The Community Needs Survey conducted by the Department of Planning asked participants to comment on the need for public improvements in the built environment of their community, or of the county as a whole. Suggested types of infrastructure improvements that would be relevant to the question included: roads, sidewalks, pathways, trails, parks, open space, historic structures, drainage, lighting, etc.

Eighty-nine percent of survey's 942 participants said that their community, or the county as a whole, needed some form of built environment improvement. Participants were asked to list the improvements they believed were needed/beneficial. Sixty-three percent of survey participants listed an improvement.

The five most frequently mentioned improvements, ranked from top to bottom, are listed below:

- 1.) Roads (309 mentions)/ Streets (76 mentions)
- 2.) Sidewalks (182 mentions)
- 3.) Parks (101)

4.) Lighting (88)

5.) Drains/Drainage (72)

The need for public improvements is determined through citizen input at public meetings and hearings as well as thorough evaluations performed by various County agencies. The street and highways projects are developed by County engineers after being recommended by the Department of Planning and the Bureau of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning. These recommendations are generally based on maintaining traffic continuity, correcting safety problems, alleviating deficiencies, providing access to new growth areas, and upgrading deteriorating roadways. Many factors -- user benefits, service, safety, necessity and the economy -- are taken into consideration in determining the priority of any specific improvement. With regard to low and moderate income areas, the County would like to target neighborhoods with existing curb and gutter to install sidewalk to provide safe routes for school-aged children. The County currently budgets \$1,000,000 a year to upgrade pedestrian infrastructure with a new Streetscape program as well as \$200,000 for ADA upgrades. Many older areas of the County which are considered low income can benefit from additional funding allotted to these types of needs. For storm drains, the issues taken into consideration include flooded homes, protecting lives, street drainage, and damage to property when determining the priority for specific improvements.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The County's needs assessment reveals very low, low and moderate income households in need of additional public services to assist them in obtaining decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities. This includes special needs populations like County citizens living with a disability, the elderly, victims of domestic violence and persons living with HIV/AIDS. The public services needed by citizens include job training and micro business assistance, trauma therapy for victims of domestic violence/sexual assault, child care and positive afterschool programs for older children, homeless prevention and food assistance, day services for elderly and disabled adults, services for the limited English proficient and a host of other services that assist homeless and special needs populations maintain housing. The County has a need for all types of CDBG-eligible public service activities.

How were these needs determined?

The citizen participation process implemented by the Department of Planning in support of the Consolidated Plan provided critical support to the process of determining the need for public services. The Community Needs Survey, crafted to help facilitate the process, provided the most specific results in terms of gauging the views of the general public and of non-profit professionals regarding the need for public services.

The survey formulated six questions to explore the subject of public services under the heading of “human development.” This approach reflects the department’s outlook and experience after many years of funding public service grants with HUD dollars. The “human development” survey questions asked participants to evaluate the need for: learning, activities and guidance for at-risk youth; day-care services and parenting skills; assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse; life skills and job-readiness training; assistance to immigrant populations; eviction prevention services. The survey population generally embraced the need for these services, as indicated below:

- 78.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for after-school programs that provide learning, guidance and activities for “at risk” youth.
- 73.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for programs that assist certain low-income populations with daycare services and parenting skills.
- 68.4% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for targeted counseling, legal and housing services to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.
- 73.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for targeted services to provide life skills and job readiness training to some very low-income individuals.
- 53.1% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for targeted education and engagement services to assist recently arrived immigrant populations; 32.4% did not agree.
- 63.8% of survey respondents indicated agreement with the need for timely financial assistance that would help prevent low-income households from being evicted and keep their electricity on. Such assistance often helps prevent an incidence of homelessness.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The data employed in the Market Analysis section of the *Consolidated Plan* are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which periodically receives "custom tabulations" of data from the U.S. Census Bureau. These data, known as the "CHAS" data (Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy), are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's five-year average of the American Community Survey (ACS) but are *largely not available through standard Census products*.

CHAS data demonstrate the extent of housing problems and housing needs, particularly for low to moderate income households. The CHAS data are used by local governments to plan how to spend HUD funds, and may also be used by HUD to distribute grant funds. Furthermore, in order to better answer some questions in this section, ACS data are utilized, in addition to CHAS data provided by HUD in the *Consolidated Plan* template.

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

Introduction

The table below shows that there were 336,642 total housing units in Baltimore County. The majority of the housing units are single detached structures, which comprise 47% of total housing stock. Single attached units (townhouses) represents 24% of the housing stock for many of the communities located here in the County. Rental units of five or more represent 25% of the housing stock in Baltimore County. Those housing types can be owner or renter-occupied as shown in Table 28. Among owner-occupied units (or owner households as referred in previous sections), 83% are 3-bedroom in the structure. Among renter-occupied units (or renter households as referred in previous sections), 46% are 2-bedroom and 27% are one-bedroom units.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	159,185	47%
1-unit, attached structure	81,419	24%
2-4 units	9,989	3%
5-19 units	60,438	18%
20 or more units	22,595	7%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	3,016	1%
Total	336,642	100%

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	309	0%	2,540	2%
1 bedroom	3,716	2%	28,883	27%
2 bedrooms	31,833	15%	48,670	46%
3 or more bedrooms	171,529	83%	25,394	24%
Total	207,387	100%	105,487	99%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

Baltimore County has no public housing developments so all units assisted with federal, state and local program are operated through private landlords and nonprofit organizations.

Approximately 6,000 housing vouchers were available for use in these private developments. The county's housing stock is older and there is not a lot of open land for new housing developments. Recognizing the need to increase family rental housing, the County assisted a family rental housing development (Hollins Station) in Lansdowne. In Turners Station, Ernest Lyons Homes, a multifamily property was awarded Low Income Housing Tax Credit Credits to rehabilitate 118 units of affordable housing for families and for households with disabilities. Several layers of federal, state, and county funding were approved to completely rehabilitate ten deteriorating historic houses in Winters Lane, an Opportunity Area near Catonsville. Ten accessible units of scattered site rehabs of single family houses in several different Opportunity Areas have been completed using County funding and project based vouchers. As per the recently signed Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County used its newly created affordable rental housing fund to assist in the acquisition of Dunfield Townhouses, a 312 unit market-rate development in which 78 units were rehabbed with rents for families with incomes 60% and below Area Median Income (AMI).

The County has four permanent supportive housing properties in Arbutus, Edgemere, Owings Mills, and Rosedale providing 59 housing units as well as access to supportive services for people experiencing homelessness, a majority of which focus on chronic homeless. Partners include Community Assistance Network, Catholic Charities, Cornerstone, and St Vincent de Paul. The County has also expanded its local funding for homeless programs. The efforts include the highly successful shelter diversion program, which has helped 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 operated the County's shelters the ability to offer expanded housing mobility and counseling programs. These programs have enabled 1888 households (2955 individuals) to exit shelter to permanent housing.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

There is no expectation of lost units due to expiring Section 8 contracts and as part of its Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County has committed to maintaining certain identified existing affordable housing. However, the high rate of foreclosures of private properties in Baltimore County continues to impact the availability of affordable housing units. Foreclosed units remain vacant in many of the county's low and moderate income communities. Banks continue not to take title to foreclosed properties for a delayed period of time, leaving the availability of potential family housing units with three or more bedrooms limited for many large households.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

Baltimore County is the 3rd largest in population among 24 jurisdictions in Maryland. In the county, phenomenal growth occurred in the post-World War II booming era of the 1950s and 1960s. Since then, the absolute and percent changes in the county's population have decreased, which indicates that

Baltimore County has become a maturing jurisdiction. Since Census 1990, 90% of Baltimore County's population has resided within its internationally renowned Urban Rural Demarcation Line (URDL), reflecting the continued success of growth management and resource preservation.

The trend in housing construction in the county largely reflects that of population. The number of new housing constructions has become smaller since 2001 corresponding to a slow pace of population growth. Since 2008, the average number of new units per year has been around 1,200. In the latter part of the 1990s, the average was above 3,000. Between 2001 and 2007, the average number of new units was around 2,500. Since 2008, the County has been replaced as the regional lead in new housing constructions by Howard and Anne Arundel counties.

According to the Census Bureau's most recent estimates, the county's total population was 828,431 as of July 2019. The number of total housing units was 337,270. The ratio of population and housing corresponds to the county's relatively constant average household size of 2.58 (or 2.58 persons per occupied housing unit or household).

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

According to data in Table 27, in Baltimore County, single family housing units still are predominant, representing 74% of a total housing inventory. Multifamily units account for 25%. This housing structure type may suggest potential need of multifamily units to meet the needs of county population segments at various stages of life, socioeconomic conditions, or new life styles.

The data on unit size by tenure in Table 28 also indicate a potential demand of multifamily housing in the county. It is also important to note that some renters may dwell in single family housing units. Among owner-occupied units (or owner households as referred in previous sections), 82.71% are 3-bedroom in the structure. Among renter-occupied units (or renter households as referred in previous sections), 46.14% are 2-bedroom and 27.38% are one-bedroom units. In addition, renter-occupied units amount to 33.72% of total occupied units (or households). In other words, the proportion of renter-occupied units to owner-occupied units is 50.86%.

Discussion

The County expects to maintain the current level of affordable housing, but the private foreclosure crisis does have an impact on larger bedroom rental properties that might be affordable for low income households with larger families. The overall maturation of the County's population may stem the impact somewhat, but the smaller housing construction seems to mirror the corresponding pace of the County's population growth and available land near population center.

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

Introduction

Baltimore County has not been immune to the rise of the housing market costs over the last decade. Both rental and homeownership costs have risen significantly (56% for rental and 114% for homeownership). The median home value in Baltimore County is \$220,500 which is 1.95% over last year and Zillow predicts they will rise an additional 1.8% next year. In addition, RealtyTrac stated the median sales price of foreclosed homes in Baltimore County at \$120,000, or 54% lower than non-distressed home sales. The County experiences a great need for affordable rental units. The recent COVID-19 pandemic will no doubt also have an impact on the cost of housing, but it is too early to know how the County will be impacted.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Median Home Value	259,400	246,600	(5%)
Median Contract Rent	845	998	18%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	10,176	9.6%
\$500-999	44,748	42.4%
\$1,000-1,499	37,194	35.3%
\$1,500-1,999	9,818	9.3%
\$2,000 or more	3,503	3.3%
Total	105,439	99.9%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	5,210	No Data
50% HAMFI	19,313	11,690
80% HAMFI	57,726	39,190
100% HAMFI	No Data	65,283
Total	82,249	116,163

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	862	1,074	1,342	1,732	1,992
High HOME Rent	862	1,074	1,342	1,674	1,848
Low HOME Rent	862	946	1,136	1,313	1,465

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

There is a shortage of housing units affordable to households earning 30% or less of AMI and 30-50% of AMI. The units affordable to the former group is 13.56% of total households earning 30% or less of AMI. The units affordable to the latter is 82.02% of total households earning 30-50% of AMI. For owner households, Table 29 shows that the median home value dropped 5%, however there may still be an affordability challenge for some homeowners. Table 31 shows that there are 116,163 owner units affordable to low and moderate income households, including 65,283 households or 56.2% representing households earning 80-100% of AMI. There is no data for owner households earning 30% or lower, only 10.06% of units are available for households between 30-50% of AMI, and 33.74% of households between 50-80% or 39,190 homeowner households units were affordable.

On the rental side (Table 29), the median contract rent has risen 18%. Table 30 shows that 42.4% of renter households pay \$500-\$999 per month; another 35.3% pay \$1,000-\$1,499 per month on rent. In addition, 82,249 renter units are affordable to very low, low, and moderate income households (Table 31). Among them, 70.18% are households earning 50%-80% of AMI, 23.48% earning 30%-50% AMI, and 6.33% are those earning 30% or less AMI.

Of the 19,524 rental units included in Table 32, 35.86% are Fair Market Rent, 34.83% are High HOME Rent, and remaining 29.31% are Low HOME Rent. The proportion of types of rental units includes 13.25% in efficiency, 15.85% in 1-bedroom, 19.57% in 2-bedroom, 24.17% in 3-bedroom, and 27.17% in 4-bedroom.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

As indicated above, it would be great if CHAS data include total households by tenure by income level (i.e., percent AMI for that analysis can be complete. Table 31 shows total households by income levels with owner and renter combined instead of tenure (owner vs. renter). Also, there is lack of data for

comparison and/or in-depth analysis to answer some questions in NA and MA sections of the Consolidated Plan.

Nonetheless, there seems surplus of housing units affordable for households earning 50%-80% and 80%-100% of AMI with both owner and renter households combined. There is lack of housing units affordable to households earning 30% or less of AMI and 30%-50% of AMI, particularly the former. On the other hands, there exists housing assistance to very low, low, and moderate income households. As mentioned above, there are 19,524 rental housing units that are in the fair market rent, high HOME rent, and low HOME rent.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the maximum HOME rents are the lesser of:

- The fair market rent for existing housing for comparable units in the area as established by HUD under 24 CFR 888.111; or
- A rent that does not exceed 30 percent of the adjusted income of a family whose annual income equals 65 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for number of bedrooms in the unit.

Data in Table 32 show HOME rents (high or low) and fair market rents by the type and number of bedroom. However, the data on the area median rent (contract or gross) are not available for the type and number of rental units. Therefore, it poses a challenge to compare the HOME rents/fair market rent to the area median rent. There are also no CHAS data available for the fair market rent, high HOME rent, and low HOME rent.

Discussion

Affordable rental housing is needed in Baltimore County, particularly for the lowest income families. The focus of new affordable units needs to be near public transit, employment centers and areas of opportunity so that lower income citizens and their families can benefit from improved employment and educational opportunities in order to become self sufficient and financially stable.

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

Introduction

Table 34 shows that Baltimore County contains 50,411 housing units which were built prior to 1950, representing 16.11% of the county’s housing stock that is over 50 years old. Among total units (312,918), 45.5 percent of the county’s housing stock was built between 1950 and 1979, 28.78% in the 1980s, and 9.6% after 2000.

Definitions

Baltimore county has defined standard, substandard and substandard but suitable for rehabilitation as follows:

Standard Housing – housing which generally meets the County’s housing codes, is structurally sound, and has operable indoor plumbing, operable electricity, heating systems and kitchen.

Substandard housing – housing which lacks operable and complete plumbing facilities, electricity; safe source of heat; a kitchen; has been declared unfit for habitation by an agency or unit of government; and/or is overcrowded (more than two people per room).

Substandard Housing but Suitable for rehabilitation is housing which meets the above definition, but can be rehabilitated in compliance with Baltimore County Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program for costs not to exceed the Rehabilitation Loan Program limits.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	50,314	24%	49,119	47%
With two selected Conditions	809	0%	2,547	2%
With three selected Conditions	93	0%	373	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	156,160	75%	53,460	51%
Total	207,376	99%	105,499	100%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	19,975	10%	10,229	10%
1980-1999	56,018	27%	34,049	32%
1950-1979	94,873	46%	47,363	45%
Before 1950	36,541	18%	13,870	13%
Total	207,407	101%	105,511	100%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	131,414	63%	61,233	58%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	19,516	9%	11,529	11%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Total Units) 2011-2015 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	0	0	0
Abandoned Vacant Units	0	0	0
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Table 33 displays that 24% of owner occupied units have one, two, or three selected conditions. The owner occupied units with one selected condition account for 47% of the total. According to HUD, the selected conditions or characteristics of housing include lack of complete plumbing facilities, lack of complete kitchen facilities, more than one person per room, and cost burden. Those housing units need rehabilitation for providing or improving a decent living environment.

Table 34 shows that 64% of owner occupied units and 58% of renter occupied units were built prior to 1979. Among all housing units, 18% of owner occupied and 13% renter occupied units were constructed

before 1950. The aging housing stock indicates the necessity for renovation to improve the physical living conditions for residents in those housing units for their health, safety, and welfare.

Tables 35 shows the number and proportion of owner occupied or renter occupied units that were constructed prior to 1980, when the lead based paint was widely used. Among those housing units, 9% of owner occupied units and 11% of renter occupied have occupants who are under 18 years old. The number of owner and renter occupied units before 1980 with children totals 31,045. It is urgent in rehabilitating those units to reduce hazardous conditions for health of children.

Additionally, the 2019-2020 Community Needs Survey conducted by the Department of Planning asked participants to comment on the need for rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes and apartment dwellings. Seventy-five percent of survey respondents said that the county or their community would benefit from efforts to rehabilitate owner-occupied homes. A lower percentage agreed on the need for rehabilitation/improvements of apartments. Sixty-three percent of survey participants said that apartment building exteriors needed rehabilitation, while 57% cited the need to improve/rehab apartment interiors.

Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

It is estimated in Baltimore County that 192,647 housing units were built prior to 1980 and are at risk of lead based paint hazards according to the CHAS data, including 131,414 (or 63%) owner occupied units and 61,233 (or 58%) of renter units. This means that those housing units, regardless of tenure, may contain lead based paint hazards.

Discussion

Baltimore County will continue to support its housing rehabilitation program, code enforcement, preservation of rental units, and health department referrals to address the housing condition needs in the county.

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

Introduction

Baltimore County does not operate, nor own any Public Housing developments.

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available				6,862	368	5,884	298	74	238
# of accessible units									

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Alternate Data Source Name:

Baltimore County Office of Housing - Elite Data

Data Source Comments:

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Not Applicable	N/A

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

Discussion:

Baltimore County does not operate, nor own any Public Housing developments.

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

Introduction

Homeless persons in Baltimore County have an array of comprehensive supportive services, including case management, alcohol and drug abuse treatment, mental health care, educational and employment programs, child care, transportation services, medical services, and food. Baltimore County partners with five organizations to operate eight homeless shelters providing 590 beds. Our two largest providers oversee 444 beds. Community Assistance Network (CAN) manages three of those shelters - the Eastside Family Shelter (220 beds), Eastside Men's Shelter (15 beds), and Westside Men's Shelter (125 beds). St Vincent de Paul (SVDP) manages 16 family shelter rooms (84 beds) at the Hannah More Shelter. The Family Crisis Center (FCC) Domestic Violence Shelter has 12 sleeping rooms (42 beds). The County also provides additional 45 Code Blue shelter beds at Eastside Family Shelter and Westside Shelter. Churches for Streets of Hope has a partnership with CAN and manages 16 beds at the Men's Eastside Shelter from November-April. Shelters supported by local, state and federal funds include Night of Peace Shelter, Family Crisis Center, Turn Around, Inc., and Churches for the Streets of Hope Cold Weather Shelter. Shelters provide a variety of services that include meals, hot showers, sleeping facilities, case management, housing counseling, and can include day programming for adults and children. Code Blue shelters are open on nights when temperatures reach 32 or below, including wind chill. Shelter Bed access is coordinated through a central intake with the exception of Code Blue Shelter beds. During freezing weather events, individuals may walk into the freezing weather shelter without a referral and receive access to warmth, food, showers and shelter. The County also operates three transitional shelters operated by CAN (10 units), SVDP (10 units) and FCC (2 units).

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	366	45	76	217	0
Households with Only Adults	140	46	0	360	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	91	0
Veterans	0	0	0	438	0

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	0	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments: Baltimore County Homeless Management Information System

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons

Baltimore County providers work with clients to connect them to entitlement/nonentitlement mainstream resources, including housing stabilization, sheltering, and outreach/housing services. Connections can range from informal information and referral to intensive case management.

The Eastern Family Resource Center (EFRC) is a one-stop shop for many services for County residents and is also home to four of our shelters. The EFRC houses agencies from the Department of Health and Human Services and provides the following services: audiology, behavioral health, dentistry, harm reduction, health center, MCHIP, Infants and Toddlers, WIC and Healthcare for the Homeless. Baltimore County Department of Workforce Development provides services in County shelters. Assistance is provided to people who are: preparing for, seeking to secure; or maintain employment. Many County providers have undertaken the SOAR training to help access mainstream benefits. Prologue, the County's primary homeless outreach provider, employs a full-time SOAR specialist to process applications.

The Mainstream Resources Committee established an online directory (Homeless Resource Guide) available at <https://bcchcares.org/homeless-roundtable>. The resource guide is designed to assist providers that work with people who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. The guide is a quick reference tool to find the most recent mainstream resource information across the County and State. The committee meets bi-monthly to update the guide.

Shelter operators provide case management and housing services. Shelter have case management teams that play a critical role in identifying issues, overcoming obstacles, and connecting people who are homeless with needed services and resources. The case management services include a comprehensive assessment of issues and linkages to resources, alcohol and drug treatment if necessary, mental health treatment, AIDS-related treatment, education, employment assistance, child care, transportation, and other needed services. Case management services are provided by all of the shelter operators and housing providers to the clients they serve and are also offered by other county agencies.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

Abilities Network & Epilepsy Foundation - offers information & referral support, assistance with IEP.

AIRS (Samaritan & Shelter plus Care) - 9 units of permanent supportive housing for clients with HIV/AIDS (S+C) and 16 units of permanent supportive housing in Samaritan. Emergency Shelter & Permanent Supportive Housing services are provided.

Alliance, Inc. (SSVF) – Supportive Services for Veteran Families, case management, child care, employment preparation, material goods, moving expense assistance, rent payment/deposit assistance, transportation, & utility/ utility deposit assistance services are provided.

Baltimore County Health Dept. – Health supportive services are provided.

CAN Outreach – Eviction prevention legal assistance, information & referral, job finding assistance, personal financial counseling, time management skills development, & utility service payment assistance services provided.

CAN Eastside Shelters (Including Code Blue beds) - Emergency shelter beds for 220 family members (plus 30 code blue beds). Emergency beds for 15 single men (plus 35 code blue beds). Transitional Shelter with 10 family units. Daycare provided by Head Start - Y of Central MD.

CAN Westside Shelter (Including Code Blue beds) - Emergency shelter beds for 125 men (plus 15 seasonal weather beds). Supportive services provided by Lazarus Caucus include support with id's, birth certificates, transportation, clothing, and meal coordination.

CAN Samaritan – Homeless permanent supportive housing services offered.

CAN RRH – Case/ care management, housing counseling, housing search and information, & housing/shelter services offered.

Catholic Charities (Hosanna House & Catholic Charities) - 15 units of permanent supportive housing for single adults, & five units for families with children. Emergency shelter, homeless permanent supportive housing, & supportive housing services offered.

Community Crisis Center – similar to CEA below.

Catonsville Emergency Assistance – Christmas baskets, eviction prevention legal assistance, free school supplies, holiday gifts, emergency food assistance, prescription expense assistance, thanksgiving baskets, & utility service payment assistance services offered.

Churches for Streets of Hope - Offers 16 cold weather beds, November thru April.

Community Crisis Center eviction prevention, financial literacy, job and housing search assistance, gifts at holidays, personal grooming assistance

DSS Case Management – Case management for shelter residents.

DSS RRH – Case management for rapid rehousing, rental payment, & rent deposit assistance services offered.

DSS Screening – Call center for homeless services requests (coordinated entry), general case management, shelter placement, general referrals for mainstream resources, housing search & information.

Family Crisis Center (including Transitional Housing) - Domestic Violence Shelter for 48 women and children. 30 day stay with services including therapy, court accompaniment, meals, and various other services to help residents gain permanent housing & independence. Transitional housing is available for 8 women & children.

Additional Services and Facilities will be listed in the Appendix - As the character limit will not allow additional listing of all services, please see the appendix for the remaining list of facilities & services available in Baltimore County.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)

Introduction

Special Needs citizens include those with a developmental or physical disability, mental illness or substance abuse issue, the elderly, a person living with HIV/AIDs, and/or a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. While being a member of the special needs population does not automatically mean each person cannot support themselves, many of these residents may have difficulty being fully employed or maintaining housing. For some in this population, they must rely on Supplemental Security Income or disability payments and a small retirement check to provide for their daily living. Based on the National Council on Disabilities, approximately 95,000 Baltimore County households include someone living with one or more disabilities. Baltimore County has the highest record of domestic violence reports in Maryland and we know that substance use and drug use impact households as well.

Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs

Baltimore County citizens with special needs can use assistance with maintaining housing. Housing costs are high and households do not always have the funds for needed repairs or working families may be willing to care for an aging family member, but must find adult daycare to watch the family member while the wage earner works. Day programs for those with physical and developmental disabilities are also important to ensure persons with disabilities are not isolated in their homes, but instead have a chance to move into the community and interact with other County residents. Supported housing helps to defray the market rate cost of housing for special needs individuals. Since market rate developers do not often include special need populations in their planned development, it falls to nonprofits and government to assist these populations.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

Baltimore County Office of Housing administers the NED program which assists persons coming from medical institutions to independent living. The NED participants have individual case management through The Coordinating Center.

Additionally, the Baltimore County Office of Housing works with the Baltimore County Health Department in administering the HOPWA program. The program provides individual case management along with assisting persons diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in maintaining current housing or securing permanent housing.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

Using federal funds, Baltimore County plans to support adult day services (Easter Seals), victim advocacy services for those experiencing domestic violence (Family Crisis Center and Turnaround), afterschool and job readiness programming for citizens with disabilities (League for People with Disabilities), and mental health counseling for youth (Lighthouse). Additionally, Baltimore County also plans to provide a wide array of services using non-federal fund sources.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

The following barriers to affordable housing were identified, in part, in the 2011 Baltimore County Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, through the negotiating process for the Voluntary Conciliation Agreement, and in discussions with affordable housing developers and their representatives.

Lack of Quantitative Objectives - Outcome based programming helps ensure that affordable housing goals are equally understood by various stakeholders, sets priorities for funding and staffing, and allows for monitoring and evaluation. To effectively implement rental housing choices in areas of opportunity for very low, low and moderate income African Americans, families with children, and those with disabilities, policy makers must establish a range of measurable objectives to judge achievement and to determine areas of improvement.

Redevelopment Barriers – Baltimore County is a national leader in “smart growth” and has directed development into areas serviced by public infrastructure, thereby reducing sprawl, preserving agricultural and natural resources (including the metropolitan region’s drinking water supply), revitalizing older neighborhoods, and creating new mixed use growth areas. To foster sustainable growth, the County’s land use and development strategy is to promote higher density, mixed use redevelopment in areas with public infrastructure. Higher density development is often the most economically feasible option for affordable housing in high cost housing regions such as the Baltimore metropolitan area.

However, land assemblage difficulties, stringent environmental regulations, failing traffic intersections, high cost of structured parking, and outdated zoning requirements all affect the bottom line of land acquisition and construction. Also, many suburban neighborhoods are anti-development, especially regarding infill development, and plan approvals are often appealed, again negatively affecting the cost of development.

Source of Income Restrictions There are substantial existing multifamily and townhouse rental options in the County’s urban opportunity areas, close to transportation, good schools, employment, and services. However, many voucher holders can’t afford these units because current federal and state laws allow property owners to exclude government benefits, such as Housing Choice vouchers, Social Security Income, and veterans’ benefits, in determining a tenant’s income. Compounding this barrier is a general anxiety about and unfamiliarity with the “Section 8” program by both landlords and community activists.

On November 4, 2019, the Baltimore County Council passed the "HOME Act," making it illegal for a property owner to refuse to rent to a potential tenant based on the person's source of income. Source of income can be from either a job or a public assistance program, inheritance, a pension, annuity, sale of a property and other similar financial considerations including participation in the Housing Choice

Voucher program. Just as renters cannot be discriminated against based on race, sex, religion and other legally protected groups, source of income is now no longer a reason for denying access to a property.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing (cont...)

Declining Financial Resources In general, the most successful public policies for affordable housing focus on reducing costs so that low and moderate income families can purchase, rent, and maintain their homes in the communities of their choice. The decline of public financing, especially on the federal level, is a barrier to affordable housing. Federal funding for programs that support low and moderate income families, such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program have been drastically cut over the past decade. Since 2011, HOME funds have decreased by 68 percent. With this decrease in funding, Baltimore County has had to reduce its contributions into potential affordable rental housing projects and the Settlement Expense Loan Program.

Payment Standards The Analysis of Impediments identified the need to increase Section 8 payments standards for high cost areas as a way of expanding fair housing choice in areas of opportunity. Without this increase from HUD, the County may be forced to reduce the total number of vouchers to make up the higher cost of rent in areas of opportunity.

Boards and Commissions Diversity The experiences and perspectives of members of protected classes on boards are important in enhancing the decision making processes in the County. The Planning Board, Homeless Roundtable, Human Relations Commission, Commission on Disabilities, Landmarks Preservation Commission, and the Design Review Panel are the boards most involved with advising the County on affordable housing issues. The membership on the boards should reflect the diversity of the county in terms of gender, ethnicity, and other protected classes.

Language Barriers Baltimore County's demographics are increasingly diverse. As a Presiding jurisdiction, now more than ever, it's critical to have an efficient language services program. Based on internal survey results, conducted in 2014, limited English proficient (LEP) persons have higher rates of inadequate access to fair housing rights information and associated opportunities. In an ongoing effort to address the needs of families and individuals that are limited in their ability to speak, read, or comprehend English, Baltimore County developed a Limited English Access Plan to provide assurances and demonstrate that all residents of Baltimore County are being provided meaningful access to program information, benefits and services.

2020 Analysis of Impediments The County has developed a DRAFT of its 2020 Analysis of Impediments (AI) in which barriers to affordable housing have been identified. Since our last AI, new barriers have been adopted based on input of fair housing advocates while the Source of Income barrier has been removed.

The County joined six local governments, five public housing authorities, and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council in developing the Draft 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in the Baltimore Region. The document uses HUD and other data sources to identify impediments to housing choice for populations protected under the Fair Housing Act as well as proposed action steps to be incorporated into the Consolidated Plan and Public Housing Authority plans starting July 1, 2020.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

Introduction

Baltimore County is Maryland's second largest job center. The county's diverse business community of more than 20,000 businesses can be found on corporate campuses in White Marsh, Hunt Valley and Owings Mills; in research and development facilities at University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) and Towson University; inside federal headquarters of the Social Security Administration and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; in the distribution and manufacturing hub on the Southwest and East side of the County and in the neighborhood shops of its traditional downtowns. Baltimore County's dynamic economy is driven by national leaders and regional businesses that span every major industry sector. Major operations of T. Rowe Price, Toyota Financial Services, Euler Hermes, Zurich America, Baltimore Life and Bank of America form a powerful finance-insurance community. The County's manufacturing community includes, McCormick, Stanley Black & Decker, Lockheed Martin, AAI, and Coty (formerly Procter and Gamble Beauty). BD Diagnostic Systems shares a ZIP code with one of the largest concentrations of computer game developers on the East Coast. Headquarters for the Social Security Administration and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and a core of IT contractors form the Woodlawn Federal Center. Healthcare and education are well represented in Baltimore County by five regional medical centers and five major colleges and universities.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	574	525	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	38,225	34,775	12	12	0
Construction	20,237	22,949	7	8	1
Education and Health Care Services	80,199	69,757	26	24	-2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	26,393	31,570	9	11	2
Information	6,487	5,887	2	2	0
Manufacturing	16,266	14,296	5	5	0
Other Services	13,525	12,091	4	4	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	38,720	34,066	12	11	-1

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	42,183	50,660	14	17	3
Transportation and Warehousing	12,428	7,829	4	3	-1
Wholesale Trade	14,600	12,419	5	4	-1
Total	309,837	296,824	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Workers), 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Notes: Business Activity

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey Data, the largest business sector is Education and Health Care Services. There were over 63,000 jobs in this sector, 12,000 more than the next largest sector, Retail Trade, with over 51,000 jobs. The biggest difference between the 2 sectors, however, is that there were 14,797 more workers than jobs in Education and Health Services, while there were 9,719 more jobs than workers in Retail Trade. Other notable sectors with more workers than jobs were Professional, Scientific, Management Services with 34,966 and 30,069 respectively; Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations (33,198 and 31,459, respectively); Wholesale Trade (14,674 and 12,748); and Transportation and Warehousing (10,745 and 9,620). The numbers of workers and jobs are more closely aligned in the remaining sectors of Information (about 7,500) and Manufacturing (20,000).

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	442,756
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	412,189
Unemployment Rate	6.86
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	19.18
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	4.72

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	113,094
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	17,036
Service	39,961
Sales and office	102,355
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	28,551
Production, transportation and material moving	18,767

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Transportation

The availability of convenient access and public infrastructure is critical to business location decisions. Through the extensive local highways system, people can easily live and work across the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. Approximately 50 percent of jobs in Baltimore County are filled by non-County residents and 50 percent of County residents work in another jurisdiction. Baltimore County and the State of Maryland have aggressively moved forward to construct new roads or improve the existing infrastructure to enable key development opportunity sites and better link jobs and residences. Baltimore County residents and businesses have access to a growing regional mass transit system. The Baltimore Metro Subway, a 15-mile heavy rail line, provides a fast, direct connection from Owings Mills Town Center in the northwest part of the County to the Johns Hopkins medical campus in downtown Baltimore. The Metro has 14-stations and links the Baltimore Central Business District, Owings Mills, and Johns Hopkins Medical Campus with a number of residential communities. A 30-mile, 32 stops light rail line runs from a northern terminus in Baltimore County’s Hunt Valley south through Baltimore City past Oriole Park at Camden Yards to BWI Airport. Ridership on the Light Rail is above 27,000 trips daily. One of three MARC (Maryland Area Regional Commuter) lines runs through the County, providing access to Baltimore and Washington, D.C. to the south and Harford County to the north. There is also service to Amtrak’s Baltimore Penn Station. The MARC train offers two commuter

train lines between Baltimore and Washington. One line connects Washington’s Union Station to Baltimore’s Penn Station; the other connects Washington’s Union Station to Baltimore’s Camden Station. Baltimore County, along with Baltimore City, offers an extensive commuter bus transportation network.

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	207,530	53%
30-59 Minutes	147,125	38%
60 or More Minutes	34,776	9%
Total	389,431	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Baltimore County has a network of resources providing transportation to seniors and low income disabled individuals. The Maryland Transit Administration's (MTA) Mobility Paratransit Program is a service for citizens who are unable to use regular bus, Metro subway or light rail service. Paratransit service is provided by the MTA's Mobility Department and Yellow Van Service, Inc. Yellow is a private company that operates under a contractual agreement with MTA. Baltimore County’s CountyRide is a specialized transportation program providing service to Baltimore County residents 60 years of age and over, disabled residents aged 21 to 59 and those living in rural areas. Destinations include medical appointments, shopping and other general-purpose trips. CountyRide's vans have easy, low-step entrances and all can accommodate wheelchairs. Escorts may accompany riders needing special assistance at no additional cost.

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	17,525	2,938	11,595
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	78,964	7,626	25,379
Some college or Associate's degree	96,410	5,742	21,705
Bachelor's degree or higher	146,505	4,381	18,784

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Education

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey, the more education a worker has, the more likely it is that he/she will be employed. The employment rate for Baltimore County residents in the Labor Force with Some college or an Associate's degree is 95%, for workers who are high school graduates – 92%, and for those who do not have a high school diploma (or equivalent) - 88%. The County promotes the concept of lifelong learning and continuous career development. Many businesses have unique hiring needs that make it difficult to identify qualified job candidates, so Baltimore County's Workforce Development group invests funds to offset the extraordinary costs of training new employees. Training projects for existing workers are funded based on funding availability, and the type of training and its impact on the business' competitive position, productivity, market share and profit. The County also provides ancillary services that are designed to provide assessment of skills and career guidance for job seekers.

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	724	2,702	2,885	4,936	8,371
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	5,828	5,056	4,456	12,031	12,666
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	23,665	25,741	22,242	63,980	41,943
Some college, no degree	34,808	25,298	19,638	45,245	21,609
Associate's degree	4,374	9,471	7,361	17,078	5,673
Bachelor's degree	9,293	29,245	25,305	44,924	18,803
Graduate or professional degree	892	14,606	19,300	36,477	17,892

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	1,192,588
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,763,177
Some college or Associate's degree	2,263,900
Bachelor's degree	2,981,515
Graduate or professional degree	3,781,175

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

The County's largest employment sector is Education and Health Care Services with 22% of the Total jobs in Baltimore County, with Retail Trade following with 18%. Other major sectors are Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations which has 11%; and Professional, Scientific, Management Services with 10%. All other sectors have less than 8% of the jobs in the County.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

Ideally, the number of workers in Baltimore County would match the number of jobs available and the transportation and education systems would provide smooth and efficient access to those jobs. However, the County's supply of workers does not align equally with the largest business sectors of education and health care services; professional, scientific and management services where there are more workers than jobs. Other important sectors: finance, insurance and real estate and retail trade have significantly more jobs than workers. In addition, while the county does have areas with a concentration of both housing and jobs in certain areas, there is an effort to promote and build more multi-use developments so workers can live closer to their jobs, or can access efficient public transportation to get them to their jobs. These efforts will assist the business community to find and retain a qualified workforce while allowing workers to have shorter commutes toward a better quality of life.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

Baltimore County will continue its long-standing policy of pursuing strategic partnerships and implementing targeted public investments to promote economic development, employment growth and workforce development. Presently the county is engaged in many efforts to promote economic growth and stability with significant endeavors in Towson, Owings Mills and Sparrows Point. There are several major projects underway in Towson. The county has invested over \$8 million to help facilitate private investment development of Towson Square, which has brought an estimated 1,530 jobs to the area: 660 construction jobs and another 870 jobs related to the completed project. The second development, Towson Row, is a mixed-use project with office space, a hotel, student housing, luxury apartments, shops and restaurants and a grocery store. Owings Mills has Metro Centre, a mixed-use, transit-oriented special taxing district that is being developed through the use of tax increment financing. At completion, the project will support more than 1.2 million square feet of commercial office space; 300,000 square feet of complementary retail space; 700 residential units; educational facilities and a hospitality component. Foundry Row is a \$140 million mixed-use development in Owings Mills which will include 356,000 square feet of retail space and 48,000 square feet of office space. In 2014, Tradeport

Atlantic (TPA) acquired the former steel production facility at Sparrows Point. The 3,250-acre property is being redeveloped for industrial and distribution use with deep water, freight rail and interstate access. Since redevelopment began TPA is projecting over \$2B in capital investment, 17,000 new jobs and annual economic impact of \$3B once complete. In 2018, TPA purchased Sparrows Point Shipyard for \$33.5 million to expand its maritime operations and received a \$20M grant from the US Dept. of Transportation to upgrade the port berth and deepen channels to improve efficient transport and movement of bulk cargo goods transfer. To date, the major tenants include: Gotham Greens LLC, Floor & Décor, FedEx Ground, Under Armour, and Amazon. TPA is currently in discussions with attracting additional companies finalized an agreement to develop Maryland's first state-of-the art offshore wind energy staging area and facility.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

One of the greatest challenges for any jurisdiction, however, is matching the abilities of its workforce to the needs to its employers. Large disparities in level of education leave either jobs unfilled or workers unemployed. The role of Baltimore County's Workforce Development staff is to assist workers with limited education or experience to find training in areas where there is a current or expected need in the near future. The Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development (Baltimore County DEWD)'s role in the workforce development arena is acting as a broker for initiatives designed to develop a skilled workforce. Baltimore County DEWD's customer base includes the Baltimore County business community, job seekers and students. Through a combination of federal, state and county financing, Baltimore County DEWD provides streamlined, comprehensive, and individualized services developed in response to local market and industry needs. The county's Workforce Centers prepare area residents to meet today's ever changing business requirements.

According to the 2007-2011 American Community Survey's Educational Attainment, at 62% Baltimore County has a high percentage of workers who have at least some college or have obtained a college degree. An additional 27% of the workforce has a high school diploma, which overall translates to a well-educated workforce. One of the greatest challenges for any jurisdiction, however, is matching the abilities of its workforce to the needs to its employers. Large disparities in level of education leave either jobs unfilled or workers unemployed. The role of Baltimore County's Workforce Development staff is to assist workers with limited education or experience to find training in areas where there is a current or expected need in the near future. The Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development (Baltimore County DEWD)'s role in the workforce development arena is acting as a broker for initiatives designed to develop a skilled workforce. Baltimore County DEWD's customer base includes the Baltimore County business community, job seekers and students. Through a combination of federal, state and county financing, Baltimore County DEWD provides streamlined, comprehensive, and individualized services developed in response to local market and industry needs. The county's Workforce Centers prepare area residents to meet today's ever changing business requirements.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

Baltimore County DEWD is part of Maryland Jobs Now (MJN), which is a network of high-performing, results-oriented workforce organizations that invest in employment and training strategies, services and initiatives which afford Marylanders good paying jobs in a thriving economy. Baltimore County DEWD focuses on worker training through the Workforce Development System, which invests funding to offset the costs of training new hires. Incumbent trainings and apprenticeships are also available. Baltimore County DEWD also promotes companies' internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job training opportunities to candidates at Workforce Development Centers. The Centers prepare area residents to meet today's ever changing business requirements. The county's key workforce development initiatives include:

- Recruit, train and retain skilled talent by working directly with businesses and job seekers to provide targeted recruitment campaigns, development of candidate pipelines, pre-screening/skills assessment, new hire/incumbent worker training strategies
- Conduct a thorough analysis of the County workforce delivery system and aggressively explore new models for complementing current efforts and delivering needed life-long learning, training and job related services to residents

Baltimore County DEWD has created a Talent Management team that works in partnership with the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR). The Talent Management team provides employers with access to an active and diverse candidate pool ranging from management level professionals to skilled laborers with expertise in various industry sectors, as well as skilled employees in transition from companies in similar industry sectors. The team offers professional assistance to meet companies' human resource and workforce needs and provides employers with a streamlined point-of-contact to coordinate customized solutions.

Baltimore County DEWD also assists employees when downsizing occurs. Staff can provide "rapid response" outreach and work with each organization to assess its needs and provide support to employees before their employment ends. Outplacement services are customized to each company's circumstances. Through its many workforce related efforts, Baltimore County is well positioned in preparing for job growth and business development by recruiting and training workers from various educational or professional backgrounds for advancing economy and quality of life.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

No

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

The County does not participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The County's new Economic Development Advisory Board is advising the County on comprehensive economic and workforce development issues. This initiative builds off the existing 2019 County Executive Transition Report and Enterprise Strategic Plan recommendations. As of the writing of this Consolidated Plan, the County is experiencing the response to the Coronavirus pandemic. Like so many jurisdictions, the County does not know the full economic impact of this on the County and its businesses.

Previously, the county's Department of Economic and Workforce Development created and adopted *The Strategic Operations Plan for Baltimore County Department of Economic Development, 2012*. This Plan outlines ambitious initiatives to expand the county's employment base, grow new job-generating employers, and ensure that business communities are prepared to attract the companies and workers of the future. Baltimore County continues its strong financial and debt management and its efforts to develop targeted, new strategies to cope with slowing property tax revenue and steep declines in income tax collections.

Baltimore County has a strong and diverse economy that is not overly represented by any one industry sector. As a result, the County has managed to withstand occasional contractions in any given sector over the years. The Strategic Operations Plan identified nine (9) high growth market areas as follows:

- UMBC-Southwest
- Federal Center @ Woodlawn
- Liberty Road Corridor
- Owings Mills
- Hunt Valley -- I-83
- Towson
- White Marsh -- Middle River
- Essex – Pulaski
- Sparrows Point -- Dundalk

The high growth market areas are presently, or have the potential to become, high employment centers. Each area has key strengths to be leveraged as well as challenges that must be addressed and weaknesses mitigated in order to improve conditions for sustained economic growth. These groupings of high employment clusters have enormous direct and indirect economic benefits. They (together with higher education) drive the County's economy and indirectly have positive impact on all other businesses. The County continues to focus on meeting the needs of six (6) core business groupings to ensure that they continue to prosper and create jobs for Baltimore County residents. The business groupings are:

- Corporate Headquarters/Operations Centers/Shared Services
- Federal Agencies and Contractors
- Healthcare
- Information/Advanced Technology
- Manufacturing
- Port-Related Industries, Logistics & Distribution Centers

The County provides programmatic and financial support to business incubators at Towson University and UMBC with a long track record of entrepreneurship development. The County's Small Business Resource Center, operated in partnership with the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce, provides direct assistance through individual business counseling on general start-up issues such as business and marketing plan development. The Center also provides minority and women-owned businesses certification and loan package preparation assistance. Additionally, the Center is active in providing small business start-up workshops in partnership with the County's Workforce Centers and public libraries. Baltimore County also offers direct financing programs designed to encourage investment and job creation in the County. Private sector financing is leveraged with Baltimore County gap and flexible financing programs to help businesses expand and grow.

Discussion

Baltimore County uses its entitlement funds (CDBG, HOME, ESG) primarily to assist the County's lower income residents with housing and public service needs. The Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development leads the County's efforts in job development and creation, in addition to training its workforce in areas needed by the business community. Any federal funds dedicated to job development and creation through the County's entitlement funds will be directed at the lowest income citizens in an effort to expanded the economic opportunities for this group of citizens.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

“Concentration” is defined as (1) lack of complete kitchen facilities; (2) lack complete plumbing facilities; (3) with more than one person per room; and (4) housing cost burden greater than 30% of income as referenced in Needs Assessment 15.

In Baltimore County, a small portion of households in a few communities do not have sufficient kitchen or plumbing facilities. Those communities are mainly located in the central, northwest, or southwest areas of the county.

Some communities that are situated within the urbanized areas experience overcrowded living conditions, in which more than one person occupies one bedroom as stated by both the Census Bureau and HUD’s data. Overall, the overcrowding issue is not too serious in most communities in Baltimore County, but it is more profound than those that lack complete kitchen or plumbing facilities.

The housing cost burden is defined as a household spending 30% or more on housing expenses. In Baltimore County, households with housing cost burden are located in urban and rural areas.

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

HUD defines an Area of Minority Concentration as, “A neighborhood in which the percentage of persons of a particular racial or ethnic minority is at least 20 points higher than that minority’s percentage in the housing market as a whole; the neighborhood’s total percentage of minority persons is at least 20 points higher than the total percentage of minorities for the housing market area as a whole; or in the case of a metropolitan area, the neighborhood’s total percentage of minority persons exceeds 50 percent of its population.” Because of demographic characteristics of Baltimore County, this analysis uses the first one. In Baltimore County, black or African American populations largely reside in the western area of the County.

HUD annually identifies qualifying low and moderate income Census Tracts for CDBG entitlement communities. There are three categories:

- Extremely low income – an area with a household income equal to or below 30% of AMI (Area Median Income);
- Low income – an area with a household income equal to or below 50% of the AMI;
- Moderate income – an area with a household income equal to or below 80% of the AMI.

Households falling in the Extremely Low, Low and Moderate Income categories can be located in either urban or rural areas of Baltimore County. The majority of categories fall within the urban areas where 90% of the County's population resides and where there is a high diversity in terms of socioeconomic characteristics.

Data on the unemployment rate reflects a similar pattern and trend as to those seen in the extremely low, low and moderate income households showing a correlation between the income and employment.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

The market characteristics of the communities with and in addition to multiple housing problems, minorities, and low to moderate income also show a relatively low homeownership rate due to housing types or personal preferences. The median home values in those communities is lower than that of homes in rural areas of the county. The housing vacancy rate across those communities tends to be higher than a universally acceptable threshold that is 5%. Some communities in rural areas also have a vacancy rate higher than 5%. In urban areas, the gross rent is higher in the central or western portion of the county than that of the eastern counterpart.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Even though there are some challenges in communities in terms of housing conditions or socioeconomic characteristics, there are definite assets including racial and economic diversity, an abundant variety of housing types for different needs of residents, public transit networks, established or expanded commercial and office uses, employment centers, neighborhood open spaces, excellent public schools and higher education institutions.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The areas identified with a concentration of multiple housing problems, black or African American population, and extremely low-to-moderate income households are valuable, integral parts of the vibrant socioeconomic fabric that is Baltimore County. As the economic conditions of the commercial and redevelopment areas maintain or expand, the surrounding communities will benefit from planned economic investments. Although there may be challenges in some of the communities, redevelopment will increase job opportunities, educational opportunities, decent housing options for all, transportation alternatives, and the provision of other potential community amenities.

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

A grass-roots research effort was undertaken by northern Baltimore County residents to document the extent to which sections of northern Baltimore County lack access to broadband internet services. 1700 addresses were identified as lacking access to broadband providers which compromised many aspects of modern life, including access to government programs, educational resources, telemedicine and job opportunities. Current cable and fiber-optic broadband service providers are not able to provide cost-effective service in sections of the north county due to the low density of households. The county is pursuing grant opportunities and partnerships with service providers to undertake projects to extend service to certain rural areas. Approximately, 6,000 county households are estimated to be in difficult-to-serve areas.

According to U.S. Census Bureau statistics, 84.8% of Baltimore County households had a broadband internet subscription between 2014-2018 and 90.6% of households had a computer. Comcast has a partnership with Baltimore County Public Schools to increase internet access for low income families. Families with at least one child eligible for free and reduced lunch at a Baltimore County Public School may sign up for Internet Essentials for \$9.99 per month. The program includes monthly internet, training on digital literacy, and the opportunity to purchase a computer for \$150. The company also has an amnesty program to wipe away old cable debt if that inhibits a household from accessing the program. Specific details on the program are available through BCPS.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

The county currently has two service providers, Comcast and Verizon Fios, in many areas of the county. However, in some areas of the county, there are no broadband service providers due to the lack of population density.

MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

With nearly 200 miles of shoreline, Baltimore County has been and is subject to coastal flooding with high tides, severe storms, storm surges and even "sunny-day" flooding. In certain areas, these incidents have caused significant waterfront erosion, made certain road impassable, caused basement flooding and damaged property. The county has also experienced riverine flooding due to an increase in severe weather events that have brought intense rain events in shorter periods of time. Similar to coastal events, there has been property loss, road closures and damage to public works.

A recent analysis in northern Baltimore County has led to projections looking out to 2050. The models indicate a significant increase in hot weather days over 95 degrees and an increase in severe precipitation events. These could impact agriculture, employment and exposure to various pests and public health risks.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

An examination of County GIS data layers indicates that, during the development process over the past 50 years, the County has been able to identify sensitive and floodplain areas and to prevent many homes from being built in these areas. This has reduced the risk of harm or damage to communities, regardless of income.

From the data, it appears that the most susceptible low and moderate income households are along the coast on the County's east side. In the Turner's Station/Sollers Point/Dundalk area, there were a substantial number of rowhomes and apartments that are in the floodplain or Critical Areas where flooding has and/or will occur with increased sea level rise and storm surges. Where first floor units are 3 inches high or higher, flooding does not typically enter the homes. Road flooding does occur and can limit egress/ingress until the water subsides. This depends upon the amount and duration of a storm.

In some areas, the problems are due to old storm drains that do not have the capacity to hold the amount of rainfall and back-up out of the drains. In certain areas, there is nuisance flooding due to the amount of impervious surface over which rain runs and cannot be absorbed.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

Based on the data from the Needs Assessment and the findings in the Market Analysis, this Strategic Plan aims to set a course for Baltimore County's use of federal funds in the areas of community development and housing over the next five years. The programs and services identified in this plan are designed to assist households with incomes less than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI). This Strategic Plan also incorporates the agreed upon next steps from the Voluntary Compliance Agreement. Many of the identified goals herein speak directly to those households identified in that agreement at 60% of AMI or below and reflect an expectation of affordable rental housing in Opportunity Areas. These Opportunity Areas have strong household incomes, quality schools, access to employment, low crime, public transportation and are served by a variety of public and private amenities.

New affordable rental housing in Opportunity Areas is a priority as the County also seeks to stabilize and preserve existing communities and housing stock in our Sustainable Communities and our Community Conservation Areas. In addition to housing units, the County will provide a variety of services to income eligible homeowners, citizens experiencing homelessness, and those with special needs like the elderly, people with AIDS, and those citizens living with a disability. The County also plan to continue its investments in historically significant communities like Winters Lane and Turners Station.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	Opportunity Areas
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	

<p>Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.</p>	<p><i>Baltimore County Opportunity Areas.</i> This is a two tiered map tied to the hard unit and voucher requirements established in the Conciliation Agreement executed on March 9, 2016 among Baltimore County, HUD, and several complainants.</p> <p>The Tier One areas are census tracts defined as Highest and High Opportunity by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council’s Opportunity Collaborative, (BMC OC), “Communities of Opportunity” by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and Opportunity Areas by the settlement of the Thompson v. US Department of Housing case.</p> <p>The Tier Two areas are census tracts defined as Moderate Opportunity Areas by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council’s Opportunity Collaborative which were then modified based on household income and elementary school performance.</p> <p>The Baltimore Metropolitan Council’s Opportunity Collaborative developed its composite mapping based on 92 weighted indicators within 6 categories: education, housing and neighborhood quality, social capital, public health and safety, employment and workforce, and transportation and mobility.</p> <p>http://www.opportunitycollaborative.org/assets/UM-NCSG-Oppty-Mapping-Tech-Memo-2-Sept2013.pdf?&ae56d8 . DHCD developed its Comprehensive Opportunity Maps based on a “Composite Opportunity Index”. The Composite Opportunity Index uses publicly-available data on three major factors: community health, economic opportunity, and educational opportunity. To be designated a Community of Opportunity, the community must have a Composite Opportunity Index that it is above the statewide average. http://dhcd.maryland.gov/maps/Pages/default.aspx</p>
<p>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</p>	<p>The 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 and range from healthcare, manufacturing, service, information technology, research, and governmental agencies. These areas are in the County’s Priority Funding Area, have public infrastructure, and are slated for growth consistent with the County’s Master Plan.</p>

<p>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</p>	<p>Both DHCD and BMC had extensive and intensive public involvement processes, involving hundreds of representatives from the various affordable housing interest groups that held local, regional, and state perspectives.</p>
<p>Identify the needs in this target area.</p>	<p>Baltimore County’s Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, prepared by Mullin and Lonergan Associates in 2011 found that there were concentrations of low income, minority families and that the County should revise its housing policies and financing to affirmatively support the creation of both hard units and use of Housing Choice Vouchers in areas of opportunity. The need for affordable rental housing is especially pronounced for low income African Americans, African American families, and the disabled.</p>
<p>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</p>	<p>Opportunity Areas generally have strong household incomes, quality schools, access to employment, low crime, public transportation, and are served by a variety of public and private amenities. They provide a positive environment for families to raise their children and live in a healthy community. Well designed, constructed, and managed affordable housing in Opportunity Areas would contribute to the overall vitality of the community and provide greater choices for the County’s lower income workforce.</p>
<p>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</p>	<p>Declining Financial Resources The decline of public financing, especially on the federal level, is a barrier to affordable housing. Federal funding for programs that support low and moderate income families, such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program have been drastically cut over the past decade.</p> <p>Source of Income Restrictions Discrimination based on source of income is a barrier to the use of Housing Choice Vouchers in Opportunity Areas within the County.</p> <p>Redevelopment Costs The Baltimore metropolitan area is generally a high-cost housing region and higher density redevelopment is often the most economically feasible option for affordable housing. Land assemblage difficulties, environmental issues, structured parking costs, and outdated zoning requirements can increase the time and cost of acquisition and construction.</p>

2	Area Name:	Sustainable Communities
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	<p>These communities were approved by the Governor’s Smart Growth Subcabinet as per the Sustainable Communities Act of 2010. By statute, they are geographic areas with an existing built environment in need of revitalization or additional investment to strengthen the local market. This place-based designation corresponds to areas identified in the Baltimore County Master Plan 2020 as Community Conservation Areas, Commercial Revitalization Districts, and/or Community Enhancement Areas. Refer to http://dhcd.maryland.gov/Communities/Pages/dn/communities.aspx for detailed background information</p>

<p>Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.</p>	<p>Catonsville/Patapsco resembles an Opportunity Area with higher income single family homes, while other areas are “inner Beltway” neighborhoods struggling with homeowner retention and rehabilitation issues. Catonsville has the highest home value, but lower than average rent. The downtown commercial district is a designated Commercial Revitalization District and is experiencing reinvestment, but the Paradise area lagging behind. Of specific note is the historic African American community of Winters Lane which is a target area for single family rehab for lower income households and for investment in community resources and infrastructure. Hillendale/Parkville/Overlea is made up of 3 neighborhoods that are aging communities with varying levels of reinvestment over recent decades. Developed primarily after World War II, the residential area is mid-level density and includes garden apartments, townhomes, and modest single-family houses. Large residential properties near high traffic commercial corridors have been subdivided into multifamily units with absentee owners. The cost of repairs have caused the exteriors of many properties to go into disrepair, having a domino effect on certain blocks and an appearance of disinvestment. This is compounded by an increasing elderly population who are unable to afford repairs. The absentee owners have subdivided homes into apartments, resulting in code enforcement problems, increased density, and incidents of crime. There are strip shopping centers previously anchored by supermarkets that have been replaced by discount stores. Reisterstown Main Street is a unique historic community of shops and restaurants. The core of Reisterstown, the historic Main Street area, is a National Register Historic District as well as a designated CRD. Towson is transitioning from suburban county seat to high density mixed use urban center. Lower scale commercial and residential buildings are being redeveloped with high-rise apartments and large scale retail. The downtown “Main Street” has struggled for decades, with patchwork reinvestment and disinvestment. New housing is higher income rental, which places pressure on adjacent lower density residential, especially for the nearby historic African American enclave of East Towson. Revitalization efforts include retaining owner occupied independent businesses, assisting in the upgrade of their buildings, and creating affordable housing opportunities. Northwest Gateways is a multi-cultural area built between 1950 and 1970 and characterized by mature neighborhoods of a mix of single-and</p>
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	<p>multi-family housing, rental and owner occupied, linked by a network of collector streets to retail, service, and office uses. While the single family units are well maintained, the older homes need expensive system upgrades. The area has several large apartment complexes, some of which suffer intermittently from neglect and high vacancy rates. There are over 600 units of new affordable, independent living units for seniors in the area. The predominant type of commercial use is the large retail shopping center. Both Liberty and Reisterstown Roads are CRDs. Greater Dundalk/Sparrows Point is one of the oldest industrial communities in the County. The historic downtown business district, also a CRD, is experiencing retail turnover, long term vacancies, and declining lease rates. Housing is mixed including well designed and constructed housing for former steel executives, WWI and II vintage housing for workers, solid working class rowhouses, and higher density, low income apartments. Of specific note is the historic African American community of Turner Station which is a mix of predominantly older, low income housing.</p>
<p>How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?</p>	<p>One of the purposes of the Sustainable Communities designation is to develop a comprehensive framework to support holistic strategies for community development, revitalization, and sustainability. The foundation for each Sustainable Community revitalization strategy is made up of approved smaller scale neighborhood plans. These were the product of extensive community participation in identifying needs, potential solutions, and long term implementation. Literally hundreds of people were involved in the formulation processes for these plans and included residents, businesses, institutions, civic organizations, and governmental agencies. All meetings were open to the public and public hearings were required.</p>

	<p>Identify the needs in this target area.</p>	<p>As older communities with significant low and moderate income residents, all of these communities are in need of reinvestment, both public and private. There is a universal need to maintain and improve the existing housing stock, revitalize aging retail centers and strips, repair deteriorating infrastructure, and provide civic and recreational amenities. Because most of these communities have housing built before 1978, lead paint remediation is a growing need. It is imperative that any redevelopment be inclusive, and offer living, employment, and recreational opportunities for a diversity of groups, especially lower income households, minorities, and the disabled. Both physical and social resources are needed to maintain these areas' stability.</p> <p>Special attention also needs to be paid to the historic African American neighborhoods found in each of these communities.</p>
	<p>What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?</p>	<p>All of the communities have active civic and business organizations that have a strong positive sense of identity. The Sustainable Communities designation offers an opportunity for coordinated and focused action and opens the door to specialized funding and resources from State agencies and programs. Likewise, the County's Commercial Revitalization District Program has a broad tool kit of architectural services, low to no interest loans, and tax credits.</p>
	<p>Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?</p>	<p>Lack of adequate funding to support the level of programming and reinvestment needed to significantly improve the quality of life for low income households in these targeted communities. Education, employment, and housing are the three critical determinants of success and can be either barriers or opportunities.</p> <p>English Proficiency There are a number of residents throughout these communities who speak English as a second language. Russian-speaking immigrants continue to settle in the Northwest Gateways communities, and there are new-comers from places including Nigeria and the Caribbean. Hispanic and Asian populations are also increasing in Dundalk.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Area Name:</p>	<p>Community Conservation Areas</p>
	<p>Area Type:</p>	<p>Local Target area</p>
	<p>Other Target Area Description:</p>	
	<p>HUD Approval Date:</p>	

% of Low/ Mod:	
Revital Type:	Comprehensive
Other Revital Description:	
Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	Community Conservation Areas were approved as a Land Management Area in Master Plan 2020 (p. 40) and encompass much of the land within the County’s Urban Rural Demarcation Line.
Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	The Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) generally consist of low to moderate density suburban residential neighborhoods that are often adjacent to higher density, more mixed use areas. Within CCAs are areas defined as Community Enhancement Areas that are suitable for sustainable redevelopment that is compact, mixed use and walkable. The County’s major commercial corridors and older business districts are in CCAs and offer redevelopment opportunities for affordable housing close to transit and commercial amenities such as grocery stores, health services, educational facilities, and recreational areas. Community Conservation Areas are within the Urban Rural Demarcation Line, served by public sewer and water, and are in the State’s Priority Funding Area.
How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	Community Conservation Areas have been identified in the County’s Master Plans and the County’s Consolidated Plans for decades and have been reviewed by a multitude of stakeholders from community and business associations, to local officials, to state and regional organizations.
Identify the needs in this target area.	Many neighborhoods in Community Conservation Areas have older housing stock that can be in need of repair and maintenance to keep the houses sound and the neighborhoods stable. And as many were developed before 1978, their houses may be candidates for lead paint remediation. Homeowners may be aging and/or lower income, so programs that offer financial assistance for renovation, emergency repairs, accessibility, lead paint abatement, alley repair, historic preservation, etc are needed. Older commercial districts with small locally owned businesses and older, often smaller buildings with limited parking are often at a competitive disadvantage with newer shopping centers and may need financial assistance and marketing services.

	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	As the name implies, CCAs are areas where the development emphasis is revitalization, redevelopment and compatible infill development. As such, there are opportunities to promote the creation of new affordable housing for both homeowners and renters, reinvestment into older commercial corridors and centers, and moderate scale mixed use development along public transportation routes. Homes in CCAs are often affordable when compared to more newly constructed housing and can have the advantage of solid construction, architectural details, mature landscaping and a strong sense of community. If properly maintained and marketed, these homes can be excellent choices for first time homebuyers and those with moderate incomes.
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	Financial assistance may be needed for first time homebuyers, renovators of older buildings, small independent businesses and redevelopers of underused land for a mix of residential and commercial uses. Homebuyers may not yet have established credit or need assistance with high closing costs in Maryland. Redevelopments in inherently more expensive than green field development and incentives may be needed to offset the risk. The difficulty of returning foreclosed houses to the non-speculative market place remains an obstacle.
4	Area Name:	Countywide
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	Projects operate throughout Baltimore County
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	The neighborhood boundaries for this project are the entire County of Baltimore.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	Earlier discussions of entire County characteristics are applicable.

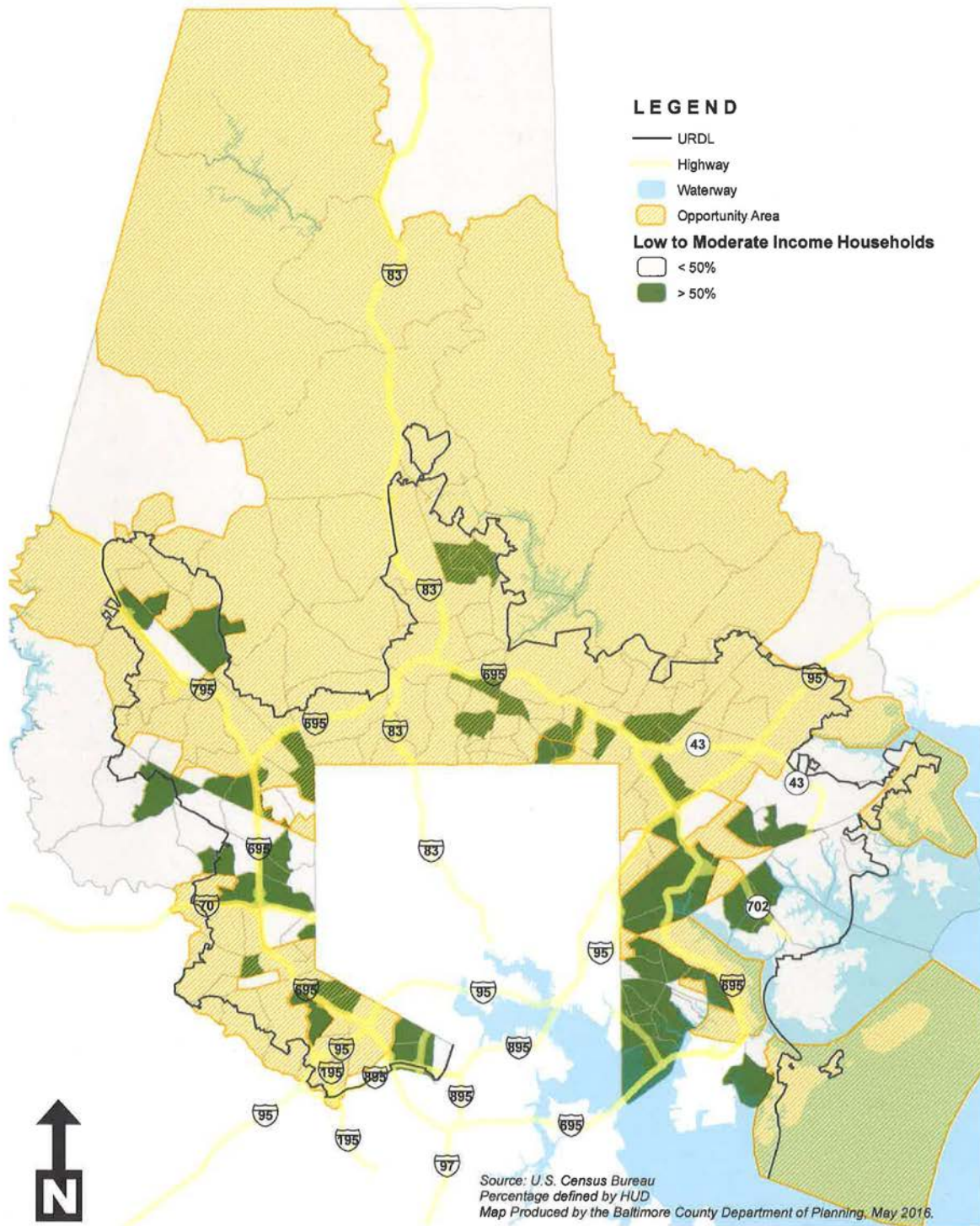
How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	Citizens recognize that there are some neighborhood areas that need efforts, but there are also programs and services that should be available to all citizens in the County regardless of where that citizen lives.
Identify the needs in this target area.	The needs are those demonstrated countywide.
What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	The improvements are those needed countywide.
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	The barriers to improvement are the paucity of funds in comparison to the need as well as the complicated nature of many social and housing needs of the citizens in needs.

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

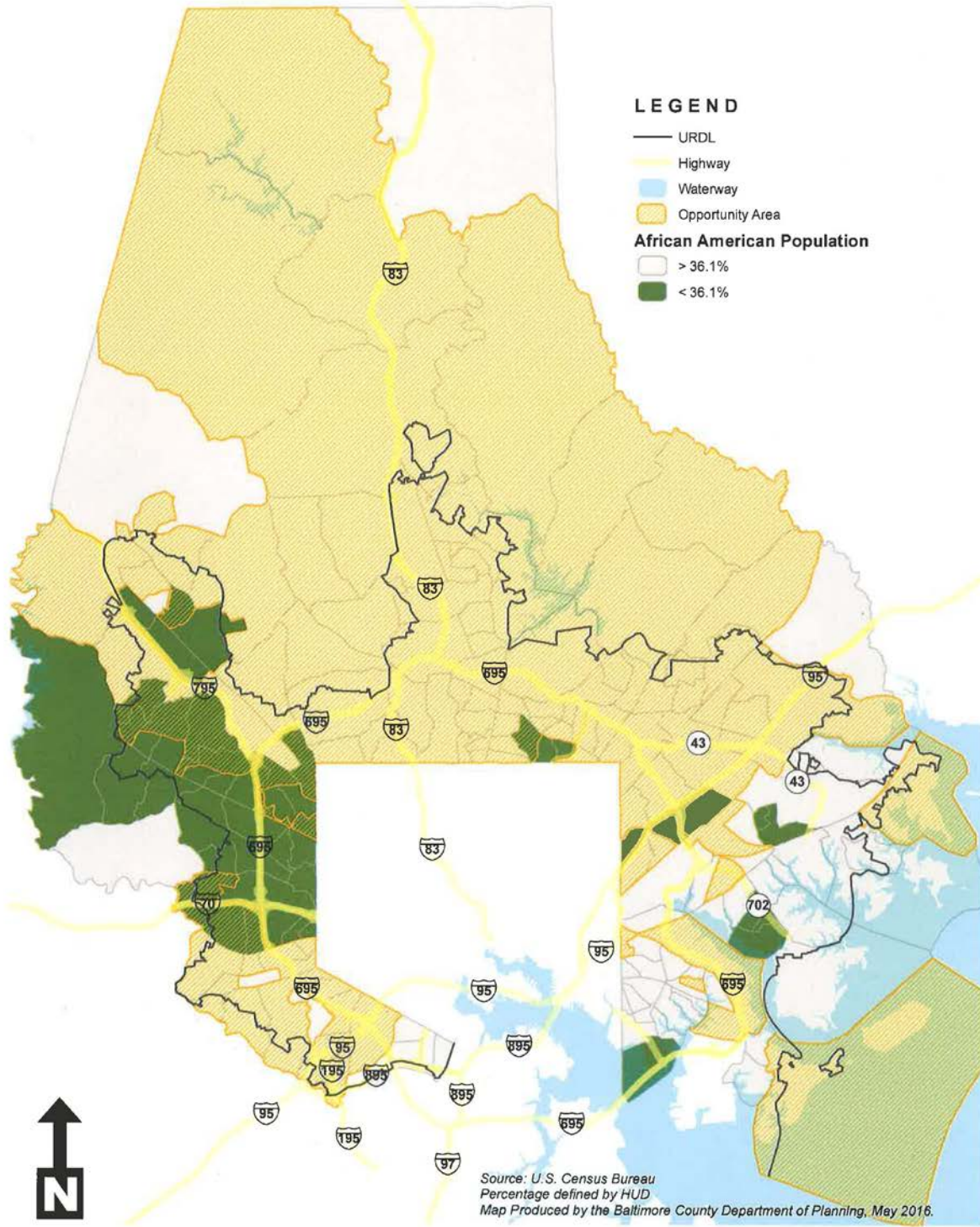
Baltimore County allocates its federal funding with the goal of impacting HUD’s statutory requirements of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities in the hope of improving the lives of Baltimore County citizens who are of low to moderate-income. Additionally, Baltimore County allocates its investments over the next four years in a manner consistent with the Voluntary Compliance Agreement and the housing unit measurement goals identified therein. All funding associated with the Voluntary Compliance Agreement will be targeted towards the identified Opportunity Areas. Two other areas of geographic priority (Community Conservation Areas and Sustainable Communities) may overlap with some neighborhoods identified in Opportunity Areas. Funding to assist Baltimore County homeowners make emergency repairs, remove environmental toxins, and receive pre and post purchase counseling will be available countywide. Supportive services and housing services for those experiencing homelessness as well as those with special needs will also be available countywide. In keeping with HUD requirements, funding for services mentioned are subject to income certifications and Baltimore County will concentrate its efforts on serving very-low, low and moderate income citizens during the Consolidated Plan period.

Baltimore County Opportunity Areas Geographic Distribution of Low to Moderate Income Households



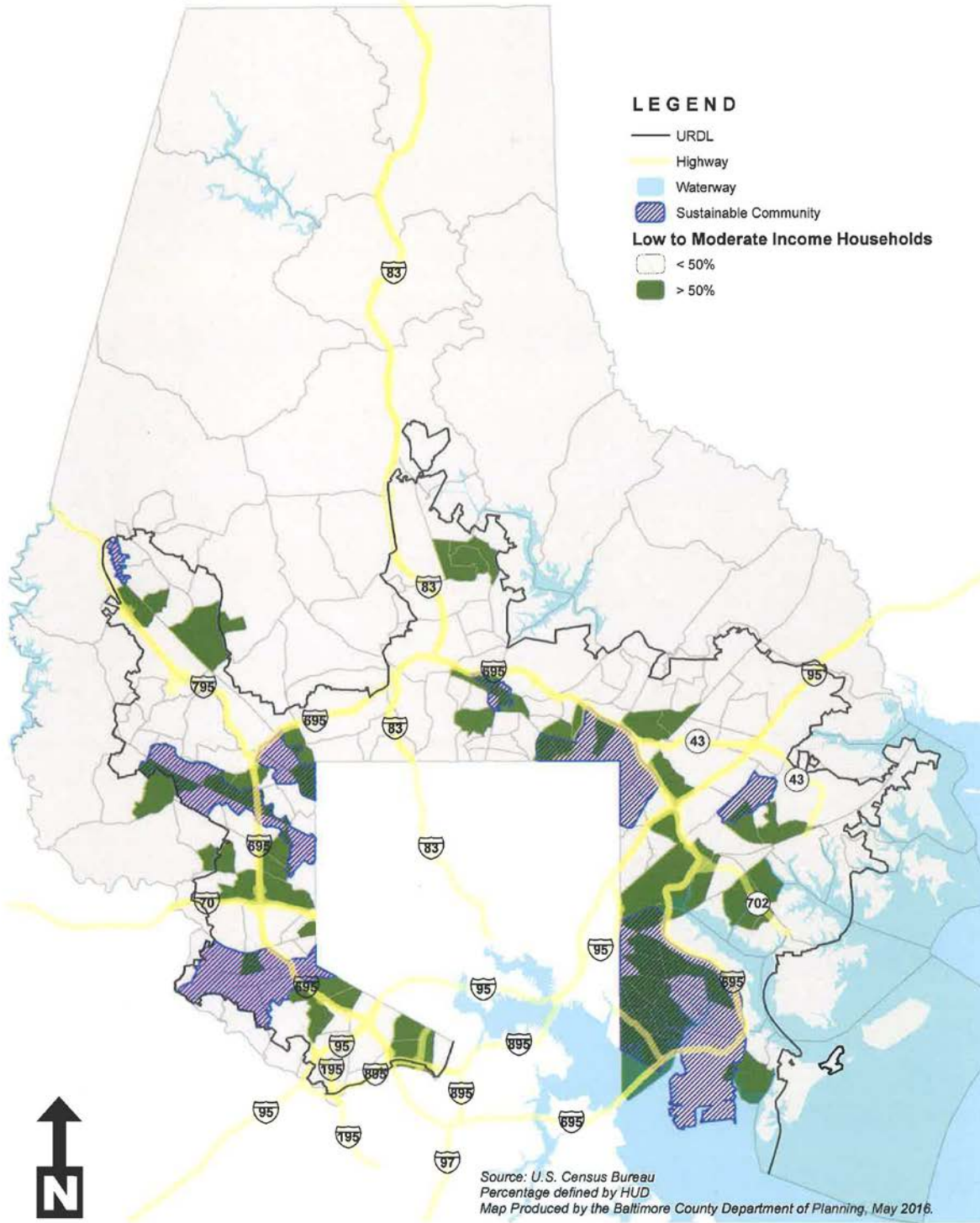
Map: Opportunity Areas LMI

Baltimore County Opportunity Areas Geographic Distribution of African Americans



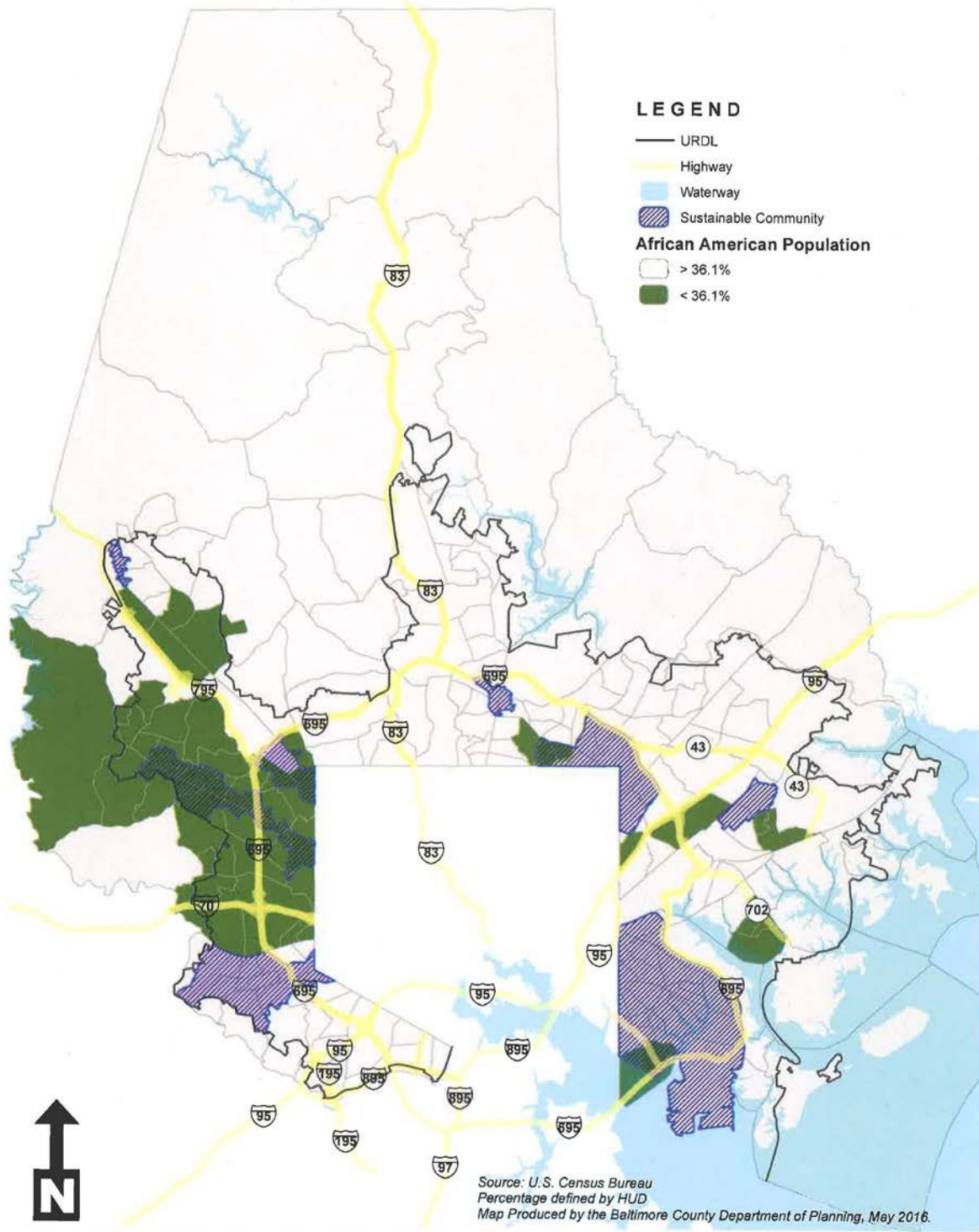
Map: Opportunity Areas AA

Baltimore County Sustainable Communities Geographic Distribution of Low to Moderate Income Households



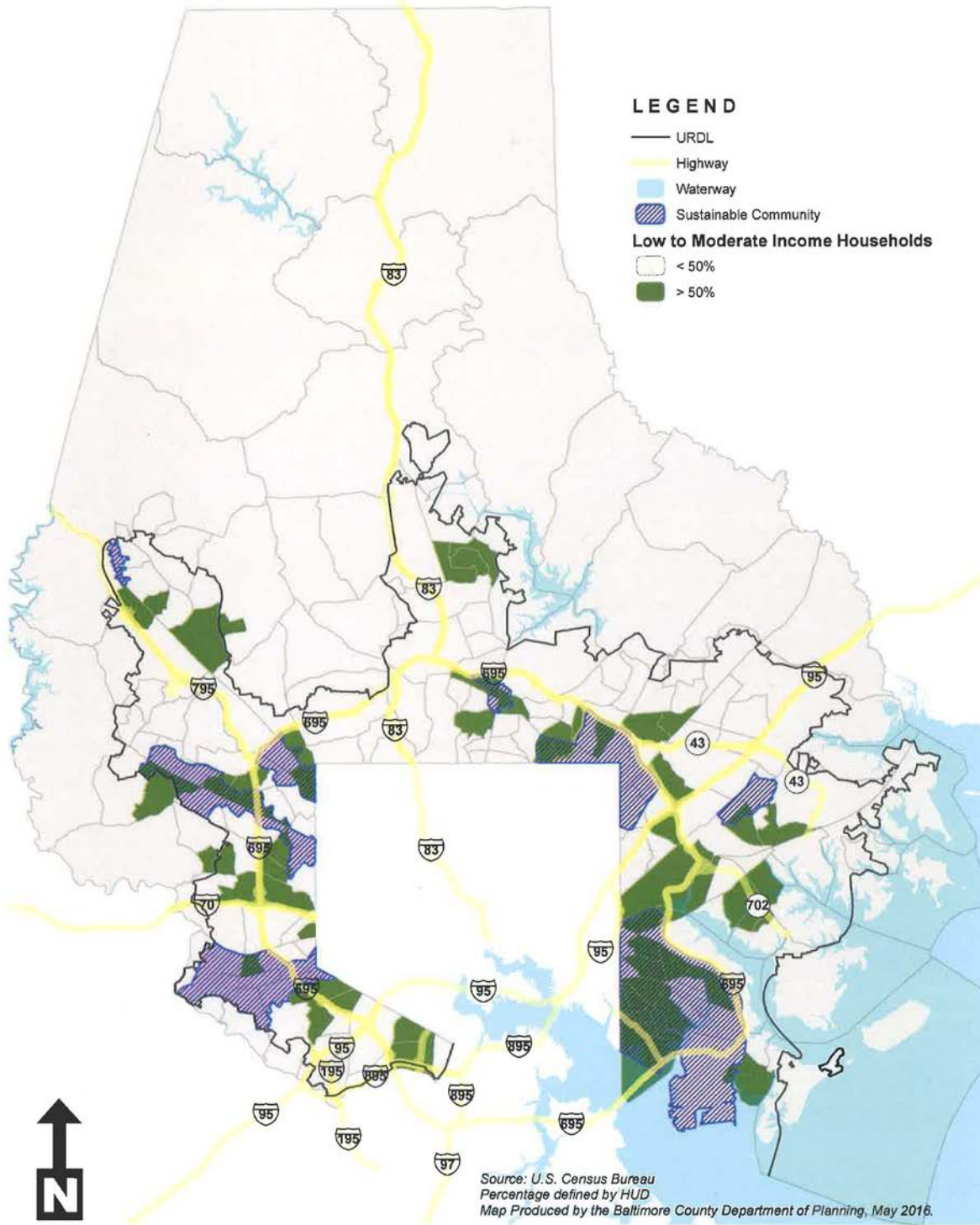
Map: Sustainable Communities LMI

Baltimore County Sustainable Communities Geographic Distribution of African Americans



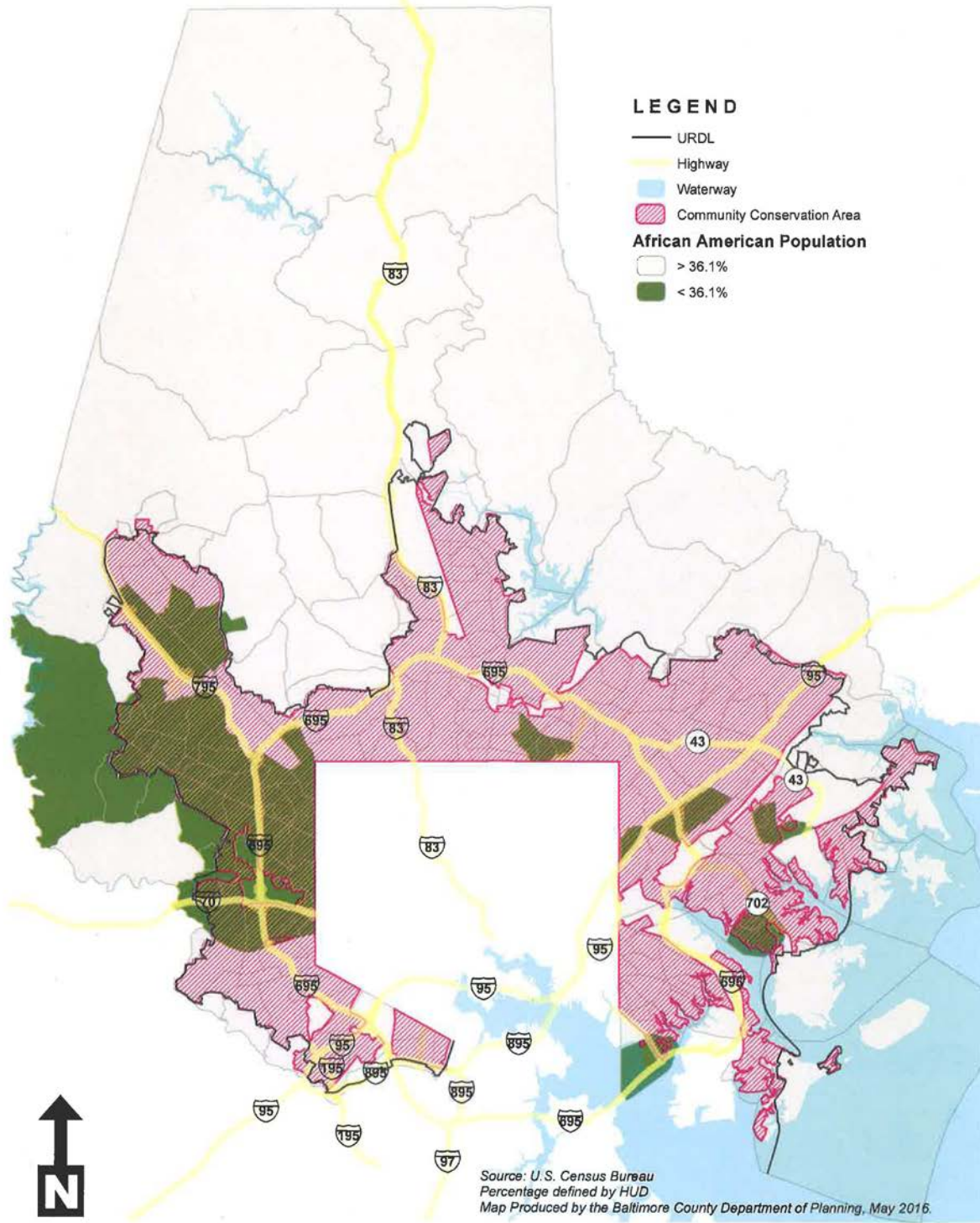
Map: Sustainable Communities AA

Baltimore County Sustainable Communities Geographic Distribution of Low to Moderate Income Households



Map: Community Conservation LMI

Baltimore County Community Conservation Areas Geographic Distribution of African Americans



Map: Community Conservation AA

SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Affordable Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas
	Associated Goals	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Description	There is a need to increase the availability of decent affordable rental and homeowner housing in Baltimore County to meet the needs of very low, low and moderate income individuals and families both within the Housing Choice Voucher program and for those not participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program. As the Needs Assessment and Market Analysis sections show, the County has a need for more affordable housing, particularly for our larger families and lowest income renters. Funds in this priority area will be used to both stabilize the existing inventory as well as expand the affordable housing options available to County citizens.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Priority was determined through public consultation process and review of the data.
	2	Priority Need Name
Priority Level		High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Other
	Geographic Areas Affected	Countywide
	Associated Goals	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness Support a range of homeless housing options
	Description	The Homeless priority involves efforts to prevent homelessness with eviction prevention assistance, divert people from entering shelter, decrease shelter stays, increase access to mainstream resources, provide more shelter case management, increase and sustain permanent supportive housing opportunities for the homeless, including the chronically homeless, and to rapidly re-house homeless persons to stable housing. This priority also includes support for the work of the Continuum of Care and other increased supportive services for those experiencing homelessness and others the prevention of homelessness.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Priority was determined through public consultation process and review of the data.
3	Priority Need Name	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	Countywide
	Associated Goals	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings
	Description	The County has a need for housing in a variety of forms to meet the needs of special populations - the elderly, survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault, persons recovering from substance abuse. Examples of this housing support could include support of residential rehabilitation to assist the elderly or disabled make modifications to their own homes or rental units in order to avoid moving into a more congregate setting or it might be in the form of group homes or alternative living units for those persons living with a disability, surviving domestic abuse, or recovering from substance abuse.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Priority was determined through citizen consultation and review of the data.
4	Priority Need Name	Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	Countywide

	Associated Goals	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings
	Description	In addition to housing, Baltimore County citizens need neighborhood infrastructure that supports the feeling of community. The County recognizes the need for community centers, recreation centers, senior centers and other types of community infrastructure necessary to help maintain social connections and livable communities. The County believes this priority need will allow for CDBG funds to assist with infrastructure activities like street improvements, parks, senior centers, recreation centers that help our local neighborhoods thrive as well as the ability to react to the building needs of CDBG-eligible populations not already identified.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Priority was determined through public consultation and review of the data.
5	Priority Need Name	Community Sustainability
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	Countywide
	Associated Goals	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless Removal of Blighted Buildings Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities

Description	In this priority area, the home and neighborhood environment within which Baltimore County citizens live should be of benefit to the communities, families or individuals living there and add to the sustainability of neighborhoods. Activities may include social service efforts that improve the quality of life of a neighborhood - e.g. afterschool programs, literacy training, substance abuse programs, counseling services, domestic violence prevention, juvenile delinquency prevention, community centers, services for abused and neglected youth, supportive services for seniors, day care, etc. Providing County residents with the increased tools to improve their economic status is also necessary to help the County's low and moderate income citizens achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency. Activities funded under this priority need area may also help individuals improve their economic situation with job training, job search skills and microenterprise training/startup funding. Code enforcement in CDBG eligible areas and the removal of blighted buildings may also be included as a need in this Priority Area.
Basis for Relative Priority	Priority was determined through public consultation process and review of the data.

Narrative (Optional)

The five Priority Need Areas identified represent the County's attempts to categorize the multitude of needs addressed during its expansive public consultation process into manageable and citizen friendly priorities. These needs align with the planned uses of the federal funds provided through CDBG, HOME and ESG as well as the expected use of the leveraged County and State monies. As part of its Voluntary Compliance Agreement, the County is putting \$3,000,000 aside each year in County General Funds for the development of affordable housing units in Baltimore County during this Consolidated Plan period. The federally funded activities prioritized here will work in conjunction with that effort to provide decent housing for both renters and owners as well as fair housing and a suitable living environment for County citizens. Federal funds will help the County expand economic opportunities for its residents while also addressing the needs of the homeless and our special needs populations.

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	The Baltimore County Office of Housing is authorized to issue 6100 Housing Choice Vouchers. Based on the identified housing needs of low-income residents, preferences have been established for families, people with disabilities, and homeless persons.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Baltimore County administers HOPWA vouchers allocated to Baltimore City to address the long term housing needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS. Further, Baltimore County also administers Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers to address the housing needs of veterans residing in Baltimore County.
New Unit Production	Because of the increasing needs for affordable rental housing units in opportunity areas, Baltimore County has set aside a special fund of \$30 million over 10 years in the Economic Development Finance Fund to create 1000 affordable rental units new to the market in Opportunity Areas. Further, the County will also use HOME funds to create affordable housing units in both opportunity areas and areas in need of revitalization or stabilization.
Rehabilitation	Baltimore County’s housing stock is aging and a significant percentage is functionally obsolete and in need of repairs. The majority of which was constructed prior to 1978, which can also indicate the presence of lead paint hazards in homes where children under the age of 6 may reside.
Acquisition, including preservation	In certain communities, declining homeownership rates and the presence of foreclosures indicate a need to assist low to moderate-income households with home purchase and to implement strategies to reduce the presence of foreclosed properties.

Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

During the Consolidated Plan period of FFY 2020-2024, Baltimore County expects its federal funding to remain relatively level. The County's Consolidated Plan period will begin on July 1, 2020 and end on June 30, 2024. As a starting point to this five year plan period, CDBG funding for FY 2020 will be \$4,190,565 with HOME funding at \$2,066,087. The County's ESG funding in FY 2020 will be \$356,952. The County projects its resources below, and currently factors for level funding. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, funding may be adjusted as the magnitude of the situation dictates over the next five years. 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. Phase 1 of the COVID-19 stimulus funds are planned for in an amendment to the County's FFY2016-2019 Plan period because the funds were awarded during the term covered by that Plan.

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	4,190,565	400,000	2,000,000	6,590,565	17,562,260	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.

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	2,066,087	100,000	2,500,000	4,666,087	9,865,201	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.

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	356,952	0	45,706	402,658	1,427,808	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.
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Other	2,853,973	0	0	2,853,973	11,415,892	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	213,662,737	0	0	213,662,737	854,650,948	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	Housing TBRA	1,371,064	0	0	1,371,064	2,933,228	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
Other	public - state	Other	57,246	0	0	57,246	228,984	State funds specifically used for eviction assistance
Other	public - state	Overnight shelter Transitional housing Other	465,964	0	0	465,964	1,863,856	State funds to support services to individuals experiencing homelessness
Other	public - local	Other	3,300,000	0	0	3,300,000	13,200,000	Housing Accessibility Modification Program for Housing Choice Voucher holders to make needed modifications to their rental units.
Other	public - local	Overnight shelter Public Services	6,620,383	0	0	6,620,383	26,481,532	County General Funds supporting homeless services, public services, homeless shelters, homeless daycare, fair housing and community action agency operations.

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

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, these CDBG, HOME and ESG federal funds are expected to leverage nearly an additional \$38.4 million in federal, state and county funds. State funds through the Homeless Solutions Program and the Emergency Assistance Program will provide \$2,092,840. Federal Continuum of Care funds are expected to be \$11,415,892. 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 moderated 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 million general fund support of its three large homeless shelters.

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 Voucher 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 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 recertifications are completed annually to maintain supportive housing assistance.

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

Four of the homeless shelters mentioned in this plan 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 offer emergency shelter for men, women and families, a small transitional housing shelter for families and one shelter also includes a homeless daycare operation.

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

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable	Government	Homelessness Planning	Jurisdiction

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The Baltimore County Department of Planning is tasked with administering housing and community development funds, including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and CoC funds, in Baltimore County. The Department, and its predecessors, the Office of Community Conservation and the Department of Community Development, has many years of experience administering federal, state and local funds and works in coordination with private industry, non-profit organizations and other public institutions in implementing housing and community development activities.

In Baltimore County, the CoC is coordinated through the Baltimore County Department of Planning. In 2014, Baltimore County announced its Ten Year Plan to Prevent and Reduce Homelessness. The Plan was developed to bring the County’s homeless service system into alignment with best practices and regulatory changes in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s homeless assistance programs and goals. The Plan’s creation marked the beginning of a homeless services system change in Baltimore County and provided comprehensive strategies to move forward in the prevention and reduction of homelessness. In order to oversee the development, coordination, implementation and evaluation of The Plan, the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable (the Roundtable) was developed.

The Roundtable membership is open to all interested community members and organizations and includes public and private nonprofit agencies, faith-based organizations, service providers, mainstream programs, consumers, and concerned citizens. The Baltimore County Department of Planning serves as staff to the Roundtable. The responsibilities of the Roundtable include identifying and developing partnerships, setting performance and outcome standards, identifying resources, monitoring programs, and overseeing the homeless management information system. The Roundtable was structured to align with the proposed objectives in The Plan to include Outreach and Prevention, Housing, Mainstream Resources, Coordinated Entry and Data Management committees. These committees function to implement The Plan.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	X
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance		X	X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	X
Mobile Clinics	X	X	X
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	X
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X	X	X
Education	X	X	X
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	X
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X
Other			
	X	X	X

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

Baltimore County has a continuum of services available for the homeless and those at-risk of homelessness including prevention, outreach, supportive services, as well as emergency, transitional, and permanent housing. The Roundtable is responsible for the coordination of homeless services and programming, identifying and developing partnerships, setting performance and outcome standards, identifying resources, creating assessments and evaluations, assessing all data through the Homeless Management Information System to assure quality assurance, and rating, ranking, and prioritizing applications for homeless service provision. Each of the county’s sub-committees including, the Executive Committee, Mainstream Resources, Coordinated Entry, Housing, Ending Veterans Homelessness, Recuperative Care, Rating and Ranking, and Data Management Committees), come together to share their ideas, progress, and any issues that may arise.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

Our 2016-2019 Consolidated Plan identifies the need for additional emergency shelter beds. In 2018, the County finalized its construction of the Eastern Family Resource Center (EFRC). The EFRC has over 300 emergency shelter beds available to persons experiencing homelessness, thereby doubling the number of emergency shelter beds in the County. Baltimore County also offers convalescent care at the following shelters for the homeless: Hannah More, Westside Men's and Eastside Family shelters. Within the County's shelter system, convalescent, or respite care, is defined as "acute and post-acute medical care for homeless persons who are too ill or frail to recover from a physical illness or injury on the streets, but who are not ill enough to be in a hospital." Baltimore County Department of Health's Shelter Nurse Program offers medical monitoring of those in convalescent care. Each shelter offers 10 lower bunks, in close proximity to a handicap accessible bathroom, for those persons referred to and admitted to convalescent care.

An enhanced gap in the system is the increase in aging residents with convalescent care needs living in the shelter. These residents often need more care than the shelter can provide. Our current convalescent program operates only 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, but some residents really need 24/7 convalescent care.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

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	CDBG: \$1,000,000 HOME: \$3,300,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 250 Households Assisted
2	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$2,262,552 HOME: \$111,231,288	Rental units rehabilitated: 250 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 320 Household Housing Unit
3	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$250,000 County General Funds: \$500,000	Other: 20 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness	2020	2024	Homeless	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness	CDBG: \$325,000	Homelessness Prevention: 575 Persons Assisted
5	Support a range of homeless housing options	2020	2024	Homeless	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness	CDBG: \$830,810 ESG: \$1,443,645	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 38 Households Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 270 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 300 Persons Assisted
6	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$212,635	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$0 ESG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted
8	Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$750,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 35 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 65 Household Housing Unit
9	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$2,182,730	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4190 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
10	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$825,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4100 Persons Assisted
11	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$1,480,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4845 Persons Assisted
12	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$606,445 ESG: \$361,105	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3050 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 725 Persons Assisted
13	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$0	Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
14	Removal of Blighted Buildings	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$350,000	Buildings Demolished: 15 Buildings

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
15	Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$416,585	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 50 Household Housing Unit

Table 53 – 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 home buying process including credit repair, modification assistance, lender negotiations, and other appropriate referrals to avoid the loss of a home to foreclosure. Housing Counseling is provided in conjunction with direct homeownership assistance. 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 direct 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, education, testing and complaint referral 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 as well as fair housing testing.</i></p>
4	Goal Name	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness
	Goal Description	<p>Assist persons at-risk of homelessness through eviction prevention and other diversion activities funded with CDBG or ESG funds.</p> <p><i>Planned activities to prevent homelessness may include financial assistance like utility payments, back rent, or security deposits as well as financial counseling and/or referral services.</i></p>

5	Goal Name	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Goal Description	<p>Support a range of housing options for the homeless including the use of overnight emergency shelter and transitional housing, expanding shelter beds as necessary, and permanent housing as well as the acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of permanent housing units for the homeless using CDBG or HOME funds as well as ESG support of rapid rehousing.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include operational support for emergency and transitional shelters as well as permanent supportive housing operations or capital funds to support the creation of housing for the homeless through a variety of creative approaches as needed. ESG funded RRH are measured under Goal Outcome Indicator (GOI) 12. Permanent Supportive Housing operating assistance is measured by GOI 4, and transitional housing is measured under GOI 13.</i></p>
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	<p>Support shelter and transitional housing needs of non-homeless special needs populations supported by CDBG or ESG funds.</p> <p><i>Planned activities may include operation support of 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. Activities may also include rehabilitation/construction of said housing. The County reserves the right to utilize CDBG or ESG funding for these needs during the Consolidated Plan, but presently uses state and local funds for the operational costs associated with our domestic violence programs. Should these funds no longer be available in the future, the County may wish to use CDBG or ESG funds to provide these services. The County also reserves the possibility of use of these funds for renovation/rehabilitation/construction of non-homeless special needs housing during the Con Plan period.</i></p>

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 for things like community centers, recreation centers, and senior centers. Funds could also support rehabilitation/construction of buildings operated by nonprofit organizations 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, parks, street improvements, sidewalks, flood drainage, etc in CDBG eligible areas so Baltimore County 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 street outreach will also be captured 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, technical assistance, or general support services to owners and developers of microenterprises (five or fewer employees, including the owner) and to County citizens of low to moderate income in efforts to improve their economic circumstances through employment opportunities. FY21 project is currently captured under Public Services-NonHomeless. Future years may capture this activity as a non-public service activity.</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 buildings 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) of state and local codes.</i>

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

During the Consolidated Plan period, the County will direct its federal resources to increase access to affordable and sustainable housing for extremely low, low and moderate-income households. Sustainable housing is housing that its residents can occupy, maintain, and afford

housing in a way that does not compromise their ability to live healthy and productive lives. Our federal resources will be applied to benefit a continuum of housing activities that may include individual, family and senior rental housing, homeownership, as well as special needs and supportive housing. Funds will be directed to those housing activities that demonstrate sustainability, affordability, and durability. The County will leverage its entitlement funds with other local, state and other federal resources to support the following types of housing activities:

Estimated assistance to 250 (50 per year) very low, low to moderate income buyers to purchase their first home in Baltimore County.

The County estimates providing assistance to 420 (84 per year) extremely low, low, and moderate income homeowners will receive repair and modifications to their homes, bringing them in compliance with Baltimore County codes and repairs/renovations done in accordance with healthy home standards and guidelines. Those rehabilitations/repairs are expected to come through the County's Single Family Rehabilitation Program, the County's Housing Accessibility Modification Program, HOMEownership repair, and nonprofit services of Rebuilding Together.

Rehabilitation of Alternative Living Units (ALU) Special Needs populations at 6 units assisted per year will mean an estimated 30 citizens living with disabilities assisted through modifications to their ALU.

Housing Accessibility Modification Program for renters and multifamily affordable rental housing units are expected to provide 350 rehabilitated units during the Consolidated Plan period.

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

Baltimore County Office of Housing committed to create at least 200 accessible units over ten years, coordinate modifications with the Modification Fund, and improve reasonable accommodations.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

Use of Project-Based Vouchers to secure accessible housing for affordability period of at least 15 years, Modification Fund and availability of a Reasonable Accommodations Counselor.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

No

Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation

Not applicable.

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The following barriers to affordable housing were identified, in part, in the 2011 Baltimore County Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, through the negotiating process for the Voluntary Conciliation Agreement, and in discussions with affordable housing developers and their representatives.

Lack of Quantitative Objectives - Outcome based programming helps ensure that affordable housing goals are equally understood by various stakeholders, sets priorities for funding and staffing, and allows for monitoring and evaluation. To effectively implement rental housing choices in areas of opportunity for very low, low and moderate income African Americans, families with children, and those with disabilities, policy makers must establish a range of measurable objectives to judge achievement and to determine areas of improvement.

Redevelopment Barriers – Baltimore County is a national leader in “smart growth” and has directed development into areas serviced by public infrastructure, thereby reducing sprawl, preserving agricultural and natural resources (including the metropolitan region’s drinking water supply), revitalizing older neighborhoods, and creating new mixed use growth areas. To foster sustainable growth, the County’s land use and development strategy is to promote higher density, mixed use redevelopment in areas with public infrastructure. Higher density development is often the most economically feasible option for affordable housing in high cost housing regions such as the Baltimore metropolitan area.

However, land assemblage difficulties, stringent environmental regulations, failing traffic intersections, high cost of structured parking, and outdated zoning requirements all affect the bottom line of land acquisition and construction. Also, many suburban neighborhoods are anti-development, especially regarding infill development, and plan approvals are often appealed, again negatively affecting the cost of development.

Source of Income Restrictions There are substantial existing multifamily and townhouse rental options in the County’s urban opportunity areas, close to transportation, good schools, employment, and services. However, many voucher holders can’t afford these units because current federal and state laws allow property owners to exclude government benefits, such as Housing Choice vouchers, Social Security Income, and veterans’ benefits, in determining a tenant’s income. Compounding this barrier is a general anxiety about and unfamiliarity with the “Section 8” program by both landlords and community activists.

On November 4, 2019, the Baltimore County Council passed the "HOME Act," making it illegal for a property owner to refuse to rent to a potential tenant based on the person's source of income. Source of income can be from either a job or a public assistance program, inheritance, a pension, annuity, sale of a property and other similar financial considerations including participation in the Housing Choice

Voucher program. Just as renters cannot be discriminated against based on race, sex, religion and other legally protected groups, source of income is now no longer a reason for denying access to a property.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

Baltimore County joined with a group of six local governments, five public housing authorities, and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council to release for public comment its DRAFT 2020 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in the Baltimore Region (AI). The report uses HUD data and other sources to identify impediments to housing choice for populations protected under the Fair Housing Act and proposed action steps to be incorporated into jurisdictional Consolidated Plans and Public Housing Authority plans that begin July 1, 2020.

The County's strategy to address affordable housing barriers is comprehensive and ongoing. The County's Master Plan is the guiding document for land use and development policies. The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing recommends the Plan include the County's commitment to expanding fair housing choice for members of protected classes through affordable rental opportunities in a variety of neighborhoods. Specific annual goals for the creation of new affordable rental units have been established, with the ultimate goal being 1000 units approved in 10 years. To date, the County has created 522 of those hard units and will continue its work in this area during this Action Plan period. To address the needs of families with children, the disabled, and the very low income, 332 of the created units are 3+ bedrooms, 65 units are accessible for those using wheelchairs, and 95 are families with incomes at 30% or below AMHI. The County continues to support the creation of new hard units in Opportunity Areas (OAs) to meet the overall new unit goal. Three million dollars is allocated to the fund annually until the County reaches a total of \$30 million annually. The County will continue to use layers of financing incentives to achieve these goals. The County has also requested that DHCD include OAs in its 2020 Qualified Allocation Plan and Multifamily Rental Financing Program Guide per the County's 2016 Conciliation Agreement with HUD. A County Mobility Counseling Program will offer expanded housing opportunities to families using HCVs, and avoid clustering families using HCVs in racially segregated or low income areas. The Program will support at least 2,000 families to secure voucher-assisted housing located in OAs during over a 10 year period. The County's Housing Accessibility Modification Fund, funded at \$300,000/year, will be used to make needed structural modifications for rental families and the disabled. In accordance with the VCA, since less than 70 percent of the modification funds have been committed after four years of program operation and making a good faith and demonstrated effort at outreach, the County may provide the use of uncommitted funds to other low income rental families. These funds will not be confined to those with a HCV, but also go to those renters who need assistance to pay for structural housing modifications to meet the accessibility needs of a family member with a disability. The County will identify voucher holders in need of such modifications as well as very low income families in need. A Reasonable Accommodations Coordinator in the Office of Housing will help facilitate the process for tenants with HCVs.

To address impediments posed by source of income restrictions, Baltimore County passed the "HOME Act" prohibiting housing discrimination based on lawful sources of income. Additionally, the County will

continue to use 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 outreach, training, rental, sales and lending testing, investigation of complaints and referrals. The County's Procurement Office selected a fair housing provider through a competitive bidding process. These services are currently being performed by the National Fair Housing Action Center of Maryland.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

In 2014, The Baltimore County Continuum of Care launched “A Home for All,” ten-year plan to prevent and reduce homelessness. Now in its sixth year, “A Home for All” continues to align our homeless service delivery system with best practices and regulatory changes made through HUD’s homeless assistance programs and goals. It aligns with federal the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, and establishes specific goals and objectives targeted at ending chronic homelessness and reducing homelessness. The plan was created with input from a diverse group of stakeholders from the public and private sectors, and technical assistance from the Corporation for Supportive Services and the National Alliance to End Homelessness. In 2018, the Coordinated Entry Committee of the Homeless Roundtable finalized its work on a coordinated system for homeless services within Baltimore County. The CE Committee built a vulnerability scale in order to serve clients with the highest needs first, creating a shelter diversion program to conserve limited shelter spaces for those who most need them, and is currently working to strengthen the overall real-time reporting methods of shelter availability.

After comparing various national models of centralized and decentralized intake procedures, the CE Committee believed elements of both a centralized and decentralized system would best fit the needs of the county. Centralized intake is used for shelter diversion, shelter beds and rapid rehousing while a more decentralized system is used for street outreach, eviction prevention, homeless prevention and other supportive services for the homeless. There are various providers offering these services throughout the county and clients are able to access these services directly. Prologue, Inc is the County's primary homeless outreach provider with services supplemented by Healthcare for the Homeless (HCH) and veteran outreach services. The decentralized model offers individuals multiple locations from which they can access services. Prologue's outreach team meets people where they are: on the streets, in vehicles or campsites, in order to be responsive to their needs and begin to establish a trusting relationship. Services provided include, but are not limited to, case management, housing referrals, access to mainstream resources, transportation, and short/long-term planning. Prologue also operates at outreach center that is often a first point of contact for those seeking assistance. The center offers basic needs such as food, clothing, restroom, shower, laundry and relief from the weather. It is often the starting point to case management and access to other services. HCH also has a drop in clinic that can be a bridge to further engagement and links to services/resources.

The coordinated aspect of this model comes from the fact that agencies use the same set of assessment tools via the Human Management Information System (HMIS). HMIS is a computerized record keeping system that captures information and the service needs of people experiencing homelessness. HMIS connects both the centralized and decentralized systems by tracking data and providing technological support to the agencies that provide homeless services. Team HMIS has created a universal screening tool based on HUD standards so that the agencies are collecting uniform information.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The centralized system mentioned above is used for shelter diversion, shelter placement, and ultimately for housing. The Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services Adult Information, Referral and Screening Unit (Screening Unit) is the single point of entry for shelter placement, diversion and homelessness resources. All of the shelters (except for Domestic Violence and Freezing Weather) receive referrals directly from the Screening Unit to fill available beds.

Baltimore County has 506 year round and 91 seasonal emergency shelter beds for individuals and families. Typically, emergency shelter provides temporary housing for 90 days or less, along with three meals, case management, life skills, training, housing search assistance and other support services. The cold weather shelter, Churches for Streets of Hope, provides transportation, meals, and temporary housing between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. from November through April. The county has 76 transitional housing beds for families. Transitional housing provides temporary housing and intensive supportive services for up to two years, though most programs range from 3-9 months on average. The county has recently begun focusing more on Rapid Re-housing programs which prove to be more cost effective thus making it possible to serve more people in need. There is generally a shortage of emergency shelter for both families and individuals in the county, especially during the summer months when the cold weather shelter and freezing weather beds are unavailable.

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 County is committed to ending chronic homelessness by outreaching and developing housing options for this population. Between FY 2016 and FY 2019, Baltimore County decreased the average length of stay for clients in shelter from 62 days to 41 days. The County also increased exits to Permanent Housing from 70% in FY 2016 to 83% in FY 2019.

Baltimore County providers have embraced the Housing First Model as its strategy for ending chronic homelessness. As part of the Coordinated Entry process, the County adopted the Arizona Self Sufficiency Matrix as its assessment tool and incorporated it into the HMIS system. The Matrix evaluates and ranks each homeless individual or family based on a number of risk factors discussed and agreed upon by members of the Roundtable and generates a master list of most vulnerable, chronically homeless individuals and families. Those who are ranked as the most vulnerable and chronically homeless are given priority for all of the county's HUD funded permanent supportive housing programs and other services. The county's family shelters also work to help families increase their income so that they can find housing.

If individuals or families become homeless again, they are flagged in HMIS and provided immediate support services to reestablish some sense of stability. Shelter staff use a specialized team approach, including the client, case managers, housing specialists, and other to provide intensive case management, beginning with a review of the circumstances that led to the return to homelessness. Services are then adjusted to address the issues that led to homelessness and to ensure that the client has the knowledge, resources and skills to manage a budget, based on their income, and to maintain housing. Education is provided as appropriate, and a realistic view of housing options is undertaken with the client. Once housed, aftercare services are offered as well as referrals to supportive services in the community.

The Community Assistance Network has an Aftercare Outreach Program that provides case management and resource linkages to those individuals and families that have been rehoused via the agency's operations at the Westside or Eastside Shelters. Aftercare is a voluntary program and individuals can be case managed for up to six months after exiting shelter. Linkages include employment assistance, food pantry referrals, landlord mediation, and support for household items such as kitchen and bath furnishings as well as beds when funding allows. Aftercare assists individuals and families who have transitioned into permanent housing and helps them maintain that housing.

The Data Management Committee has also formed an Ending Veterans Homelessness Committee for the purpose of targeting veterans specifically for assistance and services in order to help with shelter and housing needs in addition to helping maintain housing. A By-Name list is being created which will have all homeless veterans ranked by most vulnerable.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

One of the county's key strategies for ending homelessness is to prevent individuals from becoming homeless in the first place. A number of county agencies assist households in avoiding homelessness by providing financial assistance to prevent eviction, as well as to help with preventing the disconnection of utilities. The county uses Federal, state, and county funds to provide this assistance. The county has several strategies, depending on the population being served, to prevent individuals being discharge from a publicly funded institution (such as foster care, hospitals, mental health programs, and or jail) from becoming homeless. The county works to ensure children leaving the foster care system do not become homeless. The county's Department of Social Services 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 after care assistance including housing.

Shelter diversion programs are currently being used across the country and work to keep people in danger of losing their housing, or those that have already lost their housing, from entering homeless

shelters. The shelter diversion program in Baltimore County is funded by the County and the United Way of Central Maryland. The program has enabled the County to use available shelter beds more effectively and reduce the impact of homelessness on individuals and families as well as on the homeless service system. Key components of the program include a coordinated intake/referral system through the Department of Social Services' centralized intake system, flexible funding and case management. Diversion case managers provide assessments, interventions, conflict mediation and advocacy and referral services. In order to keep individuals/families in current housing, to unify them with family/friends, to move quickly into new housing, or to navigate other obstacles to housing, financial assistance is provided through a flexible fund which can be used to meet the specific needs of the individual/family. Examples of flex fund use include, but are not limited to, short term rental assistance, one time emergency assistance grants, transportation funds, security deposits and first month rent.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP 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.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

Baltimore County recognizes the need for lead based paint testing in low and moderate income households, for children under six years of age, who reside in County housing built prior to 1978 and therefore supported House Bill 396 Lead Risk Standards - Maintenance of Exemptions in the 2016 Maryland State Legislative Session. This Bill requires an owner of a specified residential rental property to submit certification and affidavits to the Department of the Environment (DOE) to maintain an exemption from lead –based paint risk reduction standards; providing that an exemption for a multifamily rental dwelling expires on October 2020, unless an inspection was conducted in accordance with regulations adopted by the Department of Environment.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

A lead risk assessment and radon testing is required for every existing dwelling constructed prior to 1978 when seeking assistance from Baltimore County housing programs or seeking assistance for repairs or remediation of a specific issue occurring at the unit.

The risk assessment is conduct by either in house lead certified inspector or a contracted entity to perform this requirement. Upon receipt of lead report, if lead is detected, a scope of eligible work is prepared.

In some cases, the estimate of the cost to repair all necessary code deficiencies will exceed the amount of funds the applicant is eligible to borrow. Every effort will be made to try to assist applicants to qualify for assistance, but it is recognized that there are some circumstances beyond the scope of the County's program and that addressing only some of the code problems will not achieve a satisfactory result. In

this instance, the applicant will be notified that the scope of work exceeds funds available and the applicant is therefore ineligible for assistance.

[a] Lead-Based Paint Hazard Assessment

[1] As part of the loan application the following facts are determined: the date of the dwelling's construction (or at least whether the dwelling was constructed prior to 1978); whether a child under the age of seven is a resident or frequent visitor to the dwelling; and whether the applicant is aware of any lead-based paint hazard and/or flaking or peeling paint on any surface.

[2] If the dwelling was constructed prior to 1978 and/or any of the other information elicited indicates the possibility of the presence of a lead-based paint hazard, the rehabilitation specialist will make a thorough inspection to determine whether a hazard actually exists or there is good reason to believe that a hazard exists, and to what extent. On the basis of this inspection, a test by a licensed testing firm may be ordered in order to make a risk assessment. The cost of such a test as well as the cost of abatement or hazard reduction are eligible project costs.

[3] If test results indicate a significant lead hazard exists, and there are children under the age of seven in the property, it will be recommended the applicant have the children tested by a health professional to determine if they have an elevated blood lead level.

[4] Each household applying to the program is provided with a copy of the most recent edition of the informational pamphlet on lead-based paint published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The applicant signs a receipt verifying that he/she has been given this pamphlet. This receipt becomes a part of the project file.

[5] If lead hazard reduction or lead abatement work is to be undertaken as a part of the scope of work, a state certified lead paint abatement contractor must be utilized. Program staff will provide a current list of certified contractors for use by the applicant in obtaining proposals.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

Baltimore County considers the many aspects of a successful community and what it takes to move people out of poverty and into sustaining jobs and living. It is for this reason that the County's efforts over the next five years do not solely focus on housing alone. The County plans to fund job training and education programs, affordable after school and child care programs that help train our next generation of leaders while providing working parents with the comfort of knowing their children are cared for in a safe environment. The County funds multiple non-profit agencies that provide financial literacy counseling and programs to assist the homeless move from shelter to independent living. The County will continue to target its federal funds, along with additional State and County funds, to meet the needs of the extremely low, low and moderate income households in need of additional supports to reduce the burden of poverty on their households.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Baltimore County believes in a strong quality assurance system which includes a comprehensive monitoring strategy of all Federal formula entitlement funds, including CDBG, HOME, ESG, the Continuum of Care programs and the County's Assessment of Fair Housing activities. The basis for these monitoring efforts are those set forth in HUD regulations and any HUD monitoring guidance. To assure that there are mechanisms in place to enforce compliance with regulatory requirements and all other appropriate standards, grant and contract agreements detail the standards of accountability for sub-recipients and standard templates are approved by the County Law Office. These agreements provide specific detail regarding regulatory requirements, e.g. Davis Bacon Act requirements, Scope of Work, Outcome Performance Measurements, reversion of assets, and the documentation that must be collected and maintained to evidence national objective compliance.

Program and financial staff working with CDBG, HOME, ESG and CoC funds are responsible for conducting monitoring reviews of subrecipient agencies. These monitoring efforts ensure that all subrecipients maintain appropriate documentation to support funded efforts. Monthly desk reviews are conducted of costs charged before subrecipient reimbursements occur and matched with monthly statistical reports to ensure on-task performance with expected program goals. On site reviews of subrecipient agencies also occur throughout the program year. On site reviews include program file review, financial record review to support costs submitted for reimbursement, income verification and /or presumed eligibility determination, and other program specific certifications for federal funds like affirmative fair housing efforts, drug-free workplace, non-discrimination and equal opportunity policies, etc. On site reviews include an exit interview and follow up correspondence detailing monitoring efforts.

The goal of all monitoring efforts, whether through desk review or on-site visits, is to identify areas of success for the subrecipients as well as areas of deficiency and to provide technical assistance to assist subrecipients correct deficient practices. This technical assistance should result in compliance with federal laws, regulations, policies and procedures that support proper administration of federal programs and minimize the risk of improper use of federal funds.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

During the Consolidated Plan period of FFY 2020-2024, Baltimore County expects its federal funding to remain relatively level. The County's Consolidated Plan period will begin on July 1, 2020 and end on June 30, 2024. As a starting point to this five year plan period, CDBG funding for FY 2020 will be \$4,190,565 with HOME funding at \$2,066,087. The County's ESG funding in FY 2020 will be \$356,952. The County projects its resources below, and currently factors for level funding. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, funding may be adjusted as the magnitude of the situation dictates over the next five years. 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. Phase 1 of the COVID-19 stimulus funds are planned for in an amendment to

the County's FFY2016-2019 Plan period because the funds were awarded during the term covered by that Plan.

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	4,190,565	400,000	2,000,000	6,590,565	17,562,260	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.

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	2,066,087	100,000	2,500,000	4,666,087	9,865,201	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.

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	356,952	0	45,706	402,658	1,427,808	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.
Continuum of Care	public - federal	Other	2,853,973	0	0	2,853,973	11,415,892	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	213,662,737	0	0	213,662,737	854,650,948	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	Housing TBRA	1,371,064	0	0	1,371,064	2,933,228	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
Other	public - state	Other	57,246	0	0	57,246	228,984	State funds specifically used for eviction assistance
Other	public - state	Overnight shelter Transitional housing Other	465,964	0	0	465,964	1,863,856	State funds to support services to individuals experiencing homelessness
Other	public - local	Other	3,300,000	0	0	3,300,000	13,200,000	Housing Accessibility Modification Program for Housing Choice Voucher holders to make needed modifications to their rental units.
Other	public - local	Overnight shelter Public Services	6,620,383	0	0	6,620,383	26,481,532	County General Funds supporting homeless services, public services, homeless shelters, homeless daycare, fair housing and community action agency operations.

Table 54 - 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, these CDBG, HOME and ESG federal funds are expected to leverage nearly an additional \$38.4 million in federal, state and county funds. State funds through the Homeless Solutions Program and the Emergency Assistance Program will provide \$2,092,840. Federal Continuum of Care funds are expected to be \$11,415,892. 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 moderated 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 million general fund support of its three large homeless shelters.

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 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 recertifications are completed annually to maintain supportive housing assistance.

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

Four of the homeless shelters mentioned in this plan 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 offer emergency shelter for men, women and families, a small transitional housing shelter for families and one shelter also includes a homeless daycare operation.

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	2017	2021	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$200,000 HOME: \$660,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 50 Households Assisted
2	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners	2017	2021	Affordable Housing	Opportunity Areas	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$754,184 HOME: \$3,405,201	Rental units rehabilitated: 50 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 64 Household Housing Unit
3	Promote Fair Housing Outreach, Education, Testing	2017	2021	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$50,000 HOME: \$100,000	Other: 4 Other
4	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness	2017	2021	Homeless	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness	CDBG: \$65,000	Homelessness Prevention: 115 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Support a range of homeless housing options	2017	2021	Homeless	Countywide	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness	CDBG: \$166,162 ESG: \$288,729	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 38 Households Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 54 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 60 Persons Assisted
6	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$42,527	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6 Households Assisted
7	Shelter and Transitional Housing for Special Needs	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	Housing Accessibility Modifications for Disabled	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Countywide	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$150,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 7 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 13 Household Housing Unit
9	Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$436,546	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 838 Persons Assisted
10	Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$165,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 820 Persons Assisted
11	Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$296,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 969 Persons Assisted
12	Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$121,289 ESG: \$72,221	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 610 Persons Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 145 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
13	Establish/stabilize/expand small/micro businesses	2017	2021	Non-Housing Community Development	Opportunity Areas Sustainable Communities Community Conservation Areas	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Persons Assisted Businesses assisted: 0 Businesses Assisted
14	Removal of Blighted Buildings	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$70,000	Buildings Demolished: 3 Buildings
15	Code Enforcement to Maintain Livable Communities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Community Sustainability	CDBG: \$83,317	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 10 Household Housing Unit

Table 55 – 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	
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	<p>Assist persons at-risk of homelessness through eviction prevention and other diversion activities funded with CDBG or ESG.</p> <p><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></p>

5	Goal Name	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Goal Description	<p>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.</p> <p><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></p>
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	<p>Support shelter and transitional housing needs of non-homeless special needs populations funded with CDBG or ESG.</p> <p><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></p>
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	<p>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.</p> <p><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></p>

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 - NonHomeless. 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	Housing Rehabilitation Program
2	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
3	Housing Services
4	Public Services
5	Public Facilities - Nonprofit or Public Capital Improvements
6	Enforcement and Clearance Activities in CDBG Eligible Areas
7	General Administration and Activities Subject to the 20% Admin Cap
8	ESG20 Baltimore County
9	HOME Administration
10	HOME - Settlement Expense Loan Program
11	HOME Ownership Program - Repair/Renovation
12	HOME Acquisition and Rehab
13	CHDO Operating

Table 56 – 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 Fund 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. Additionally, certain services, like those for domestic violence and homelessness, will be available countywide.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$904,184
	Description	Funds will be used to support CDBG-eligible rehabilitation activities. Examples 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	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	50 households will be assisted in FY 21 through the County's Single Family Rehab Program, 15 will be assisted through efforts of Rebuilding Together, and an additional 33 households able to gain better accessibility to their living unit based on accessible modifications made to their homes.
	Location Description	Countywide. Actual addresses will be included as applications are taken and funded.
	Planned Activities	Same as above
2	Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Administration
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$717,794
	Description	Administrative activities related to the Housing Rehabilitation Program
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity.
	Location Description	Department of Planning, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	This is an administrative activity.
3	Project Name	Housing Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$833,285
	Description	Funds are used for the coordination, administration and program delivery costs associated with the Housing Opportunities (rehabilitation) Program which includes HOME funded rehabilitation loans, home-ownership assistance and housing development.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity.
	Location Description	Department of Planning, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	This activity is for coordination, administration, and program delivery costs.
4	Project Name	Public Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Assist persons at-risk of homelessness Support a range of homeless housing options Increase Access to Public Services - Non-homeless Increase Access to Public Services - Homeless

Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness Community Sustainability
Funding	CDBG: \$681,085
Description	Public Services that support a range of CDBG eligible services to low to moderate-income citizens and presumed beneficiary groups, including but limited to eviction prevention services, shelter/transitional/permanent housing support, services for children/youth, abused children, the elderly, those battling substance abuse, victims of domestic violence, persons with disabilities, etc. Eviction Prevention programs funded with CDBG can offer up to three months of assistance to avert eviction and maintain stable housing and may include referrals or services to further identify/address factors that may be contributing to housing instability.
Target Date	6/30/2021
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 45 households (115 individuals) will receive eviction prevention assistance, 20 households (60 individuals) will receive transitional housing, operating assistance will be provided to three permanent housing programs serving approximately 38 households (72 individuals), and 550 homeless individuals will receive nursing services at the County's homeless shelters. The following populations will also receive services directed to their needs: 100 domestic violence victims, 174 at-risk youth, 200 abused and neglected children, 300 immigrants and/or limited English proficient individuals, 140 fragile elderly, and 55 job training, microenterprise and/or small business services for individuals.
Location Description	A range of public services will be provided throughout Baltimore County. Most of the County's nonprofit partners who receive federal funds through this Consolidated Plan are located in either a Community Conservation area or an Opportunity Area. However, all projects funded by the County are available to all Baltimore County citizens meeting the CDBG eligibility guidelines. This occurs despite the physical location of the project site.

	Planned Activities	CDBG-eligible public service activities including services for at-risk youth, the fragile elderly, victims of domestic violence, abused and neglected children, immigrant and limited English proficient individuals, support to small business, micro-businesses and those needing job training, shelters for the homeless, operating assistance to Permanent Supportive Housing projects, and assistance to persons at-risk of homelessness. Operating assistance to PSH will benefit 38 households under Goal Outcome Indicator (GOI) 4. Transitional Shelter activities will benefit 60 individuals under GOI 13. Homelessness Prevention Assistance will be provided benefitting 115 persons under GOI 15. GOI 3, Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit will benefit 1579 for public service activities meeting the needs of the non-homeless along with the supportive service needs of the homeless.
5	Project Name	Public Facilities - Nonprofit or Public Capital Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing for Persons in ALUs and Group Settings Support Community Infrastructure through Buildings Support Community Infrastructure Outdoors
	Needs Addressed	Housing Opps for Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$601,546
	Description	CDBG eligible infrastructure projects including acquisition, construction or rehabilitation infrastructure including, but not limited to, group homes/alternative living units, senior centers, facilities for persons with disabilities, homeless facilities, youth centers, neighborhood centers, parks and recreational facilities, street improvements, child care centers, health facilities, rehabilitation/renovation of a historic building and other CDBG infrastructure activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Potential projects will provide the following benefits: Six county residents will receive assistance through modifications to their alternative living units; Building modifications include handicapped accessible kitchen, improved elevator and HVAC system in buildings that dedicated to assisting CDBG eligible populations will benefit 838 County residents; and Outdoor projects to create an outdoor day learning center for the disabled and erect a fence for public safety at another site serving citizens with disabilities will benefit approximately 820 County residents.

	Location Description	Exact locations will be provided once projects are finalized, but as currently planned projects will be spread throughout the County. Projects will serve citizens from across the County regardless of project site. On a very select basis, a funded project may be located outside of Baltimore County if the unique nature of the project provides a service not similarly available in Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	CDBG eligible planned infrastructure activities. See estimate of number and type of citizens benefitting above.
6	Project Name	Enforcement and Clearance Activities in CDBG Eligible Areas
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Community Sustainability
	Funding	CDBG: \$153,317
	Description	Activities may include code enforcement and clearance activities for community sustainability. Funds may be used for items like code enforcement (\$83,315) for salaries and overhead costs associated with property inspections and follow-up actions (such as legal proceedings) directly related to the enforcement (not correction) of state and local codes AND \$70,000 in clearance or demolition of approximately 3 buildings/improvements, or the movement of buildings to other sites.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Two to three blighted properties will be removed for public health/neighborhood impact. Other properties will be visited for code enforcement in CDBG-eligible community. These numbers will reported in the County's Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report.
	Location Description	CDBG-eligible neighborhoods of Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	Code enforcement in CDBG eligible neighborhoods of Baltimore County and removal of blighted buildings that pose a public health/community sustainability issue within a neighborhood.
7	Project Name	General Administration and Activities Subject to the 20% Admin Cap
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$918,113

	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	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This is an administrative activity.
	Location Description	Department of Planning, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	General administration and planning activities.
8	Project Name	ESG20 Baltimore County
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Support a range of homeless housing options
	Needs Addressed	Housing for Homeless/Those At Risk Of Homelessness Community Sustainability
	Funding	ESG: \$402,658
	Description	Federal Program Year 2020 HESG funds (\$356,952)(and prior year HESG balance funds of \$45,706) will be programmed for selected organizations that will (a) assist in rapidly rehousing (RRH) persons who are chronically homeless or (b) provide street outreach to individuals and families who are homeless and have one or more qualifying special needs. The organizations providing RRH services will be: Episcopal Housing Corporation, Prologue Inc, and St Vincent de Paul of Baltimore, Inc. The County anticipates serving 54 households through RRH. The County anticipates serving 145 individuals via street outreach efforts, with Prologue, Inc serving as provider. Baltimore county will also utilize 7.5% of the funds for salary costs associated with the coordination, administration and implementation of the ESG program. No ESG funds are currently planned for homelessness prevention, emergency shelter, or HMIS, but the County reserves the right to use ESG funds for those purposes should the need arise and funding is available.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Rapid Rehousing services for 54 households (approximately 131 individuals) will be provided and approximately 145 individuals currently experiencing homelessness by living on the streets or areas not meant for human habitation will receive outreach related case management. These 145 individuals will represent 630 street outreach contacts.</p> <p>The Rapid Rehousing beds supported through this ESG funding are included in performance measures below, but ESG Performance Measures are also reported separately in the back of Plan under the ESG specific requirements. Per HUD's May 2018 Desk Guide to the ConPlan, the 145 individuals assisted through street outreach case management are included in the HUD Goal Outcome Indicator of 13. Homeless person overnight shelter because there is currently no GOI for ESG-funded Street Outreach activities and must include an explanation to this effect in a text box.</p>
	<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Actual location of units funded through Rapid Rehousing will be decided upon by the client at the time of service. Street outreach service locations will vary based on where persons present themselves.</p>
	<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>Three organizations (Episcopal Housing Corporation, Prologue and St Vincent de Paul) will operate rapid rehousing programs to 54 households and one organization (Prologue) will operate a Street Outreach program in Baltimore County providing outreach related case management to 145 individuals. Administrative funds of 7.5% will be utilized by the County for implementation, oversight, and coordination.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Project Name</p>	<p>HOME Administration</p>
	<p>Target Area</p>	<p>Countywide</p>
	<p>Goals Supported</p>	
	<p>Needs Addressed</p>	
	<p>Funding</p>	<p>HOME: \$221,609</p>
	<p>Description</p>	<p>Funds will be used for the coordination, administration, and implementation of the HOME Investment Partnership Program.</p>
	<p>Target Date</p>	<p>6/30/2021</p>
	<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Not applicable. Administrative activity.</p>

	Location Description	Department of Planning, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204
	Planned Activities	This is an administrative activity. Funds are used for staff costs and for Housing Counseling in direct support of homeownership assistance.
10	Project Name	HOME - Settlement Expense Loan Program
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$500,000
	Description	During County Fiscal Year 2021, the County will allocate HOME funds to support first time buyers with purchasing a home in Baltimore county with \$10,000 assistance per household.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At \$10,000 assistance per household, 50 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 50 households to purchase homes in Baltimore County.	
11	Project Name	HOME Ownership Program - Repair/Renovation
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$494,478
	Description	HOME funds reserved for homeowners to repair/renovate their homes.
	Target Date	6/30/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	6 homeowners will benefit from repaired/renovated homes using HOME funds.
	Location Description	Department of Planning, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson MD 21204 is the administrative location, but individual homeowners will apply for assistance from across the County.
	Planned Activities	HOME funds will be used for extremely, 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 will be done in accordance with healthy home standards and guidelines.
12	Project Name	HOME Acquisition and Rehab
	Target Area	Opportunity Areas Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Affordable/Accessible Housing - Renters/Homeowners
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$3,500,000
	Description	The County will pursue opportunities to invest HOME funds to create and preserve affordable housing (rental and homeowner). The County will use HOME funds to provide gap financing to developers of affordable housing with an emphasis on funding projects in opportunity areas. The County will use the Neighborhood and Site Selection Standards found at 24 CFR Part 983 to guide its funding decisions.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Potential projects, totaling approximately 250 units, come from Lyons Homes, Essex Project, and Voluntary Compliance Agreement projects located in Opportunity Areas throughout the County.
Location Description	Units will be focused in Community Conservation and Opportunity Areas, but other areas may also apply for funds. Funds used in support of Voluntary Compliance Agreement projects will be used in Opportunity Areas.	

	Planned Activities	Assistance to developers of housing projects for acquisition or rehab of properties serving Baltimore County families and individuals in need of affordable housing.
13	Project Name	CHDO Operating
	Target Area	Community Conservation Areas
	Goals Supported	Increase Homeowner Affordability & Sustainability
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$100,000
	Description	This fund will be used to support operating costs associated with activities that increase and expand homeownership, stabilize and revitalize the existing housing stock, and address the priority housing needs of persons who require supportive housing. The production of units will be carried out by certified CHDOs. Specific projects are to be determined.
	Target Date	6/30/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Individuals living at 80% of AMI or below will benefit. Efforts will support homeownership initiatives.
	Location Description	Community Conservation areas around Baltimore County.
	Planned Activities	This project supports CHDO Operating costs. Specific projects are to be determined.

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 three geographic areas identified below are - Opportunity Areas, Sustainable Communities, and Community Conservation Areas - and in multiple cases 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. As a result, the numbers in the chart below will not add to 100%. All 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 focus 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.

The distribution of funds below does not include the funds spent on administrative activities in support of General Administration, Housing Rehabilitation, Housing Services, HOME Administration.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Opportunity Areas	50

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Sustainable Communities	10
Community Conservation Areas	95

Table 57 - 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 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.

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 as well.

Discussion

Baltimore County’s geographic priority areas reflect the housing and community development needs of its citizens. Housing (new construction and rehabilitation) will be concentrated largely in the Opportunity Areas while the County maintains its commitment to providing needed public services like affordable child care, quality afterschool programming, job training and citizenship services. As mentioned in the first paragraph of this section, due to the overlapping boundaries of the distribution areas above, projects may hit multiple target areas. As a result the numbers will not add to 100, but show percentages over 100.

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	0
Non-Homeless	154
Special-Needs	6
Total	160

Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	160
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	160

Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The Annual Affordable Housing Completion Goals (Table 3B Section 215) will capture the information above 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 chart. For the purposes of this chart, the Special Needs label is assumed to be Non-Homeless Special Needs. This is being done to maintain an unduplicated count of households supported.

The units in the chart above are planned from the following activities: homeowners receiving rehabilitation through the Single Family Rehab program, Rebuilding Together, and HAMP (78), rehabilitation of Alternative Living Units for citizens living with a disability (6), housing accessibility modifications through CDBG to renters (20), multifamily affordable rental housing for units through

HOME(50), homeownership repair through HOME(6).

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

Baltimore County does not own, nor 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. Baltimore County's homeless services are funded independently from other counties, yet data shows that those experiencing homelessness in Baltimore County frequently cross borders between the surrounding jurisdictions. The county utilizes 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.

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

Since the 1990s Prologue's Street Team, funded through the CoC, has served the most chronic and vulnerable homeless population throughout Baltimore County, providing both outreach and intensive case management. The Team is dedicated to meeting people where they are in order to be responsive to their needs and most importantly to begin the important process of establishing trust in order to build an effective working relationship. A vulnerability assessment is completed to determine severity of service needs and length of homelessness, and a housing plan is developed as part of the case management provided to those willing to accept ongoing services. The ultimate goal is to assist unsheltered homeless individuals and families to obtain mainstream benefits and other resources so that they can secure a stable, safe living environment. Historically, the Street Team has been comprised of a team leader as well as case managers who are responsible for both outreach and for providing ongoing case management to persons "enrolled" in case management services. Most recently, in order to be more responsive to concerns from elected officials, local police, community groups, private citizens, service providers, BDPS, and others, the County provided Prologue with additional funding in order to create a team dedicated strictly to outreach. As a result of this dedicated outreach team, Prologue staff is able to respond to calls regarding homeless unsheltered persons within two days of the referral.

As part of Prologue's services, they also have an outreach site, open three days a week, in Towson. Persons who are homeless may visit the site to obtain a hot meal, to take a shower, to do laundry, to get personal needs items, to speak with a case manager, or simply as a place to stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer. This has proved to be a valuable resource in reaching people and

developing relationships. Additionally, Prologue has a staff person who administers SOAR as appropriate in order to secure benefits. The County will continue to support Prologue's efforts, and the efforts of local faith-based groups and others, to reach out to unsheltered persons, to assess their needs, to provide resources and to engage person in plans to obtain housing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The County contracts with two non-profit organizations for the operation of the three largest emergency shelters (Eastside Family Shelter - 265 beds, Hannah More Shelter - 85 beds, and the Westside Men's Shelter -140 beds). Using federal, state and county funding, the County has also supported three additional emergency shelters at the Night of Peace Family Shelter, the Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County, and Churches for Streets of Hope. The County supports three transitional shelters in Turn Around, Inc., the Family Crisis Center, and St Vincent de Paul INNterim House. The 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.

Many of the households served in Baltimore County are served by the emergency shelter system. However, the cost of serving them with the current emergency shelter model is very expensive. On average, an exit to permanent housing for a family from shelter is over \$43,000, almost three times the cost for them to exit a transitional housing program and many times more costly than the average rapid re-housing program. This high cost can be attributed to the longer lengths of stay in the emergency shelters (higher than the HEARTH Act goal of 30 days) and the number of exits to permanent housing, and other factors including service costs that are not housing focused. To become cost effective and high performing in terms of desired permanent housing outcomes, shelters will become more focused on rapidly re-housing the households they serve. Having an emergency shelter system that is integrated into coordinated assessment but focused on moving households out quickly will also help keep lengths of stay brief. Services will shift to a housing focus.

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

Baltimore County's 10 Year Plan to Prevent and Reduce Homelessness focuses on the housing first model and permanent housing, and as such, County shelters, as well as the Prologue's Homeless Outreach Team, have shifted to a housing focus. The County is utilizing Federal funding to support

established rapid re-housing programs. The programs are designed to move sheltered families from the shelters expeditiously and into permanent housing with time limited supportive services designed to help ensure housing stability. Additionally, the County provides local flex funding to the shelter's Rapid Re-Housing Specialists to assist shelter residents to identify and overcome obstacles to housing and to locate and secure permanent housing. The funds may cover items including, but not limited to housing and utility arrearages, first month's rent and security deposit and essential furnishing. Finally, in order to serve the needs of those that require longer term supportive services, the County also continues to support and expand the supply of both site based and scattered site permanent housing units. Within the next year, the County will implement the use of the Arizona Self-Sufficiency Matrix to evaluate and rank homeless individuals and families being referred to permanent supportive housing programs. Through HMIS, households will be placed on a waiting list, with those most vulnerable receiving priority for placements. The County is currently in the process of training case managers on the use of this vulnerability assessment tool.

The system-wide shift toward a housing first/rapid re-housing focus required a shift in how emergency shelters do business, from their general operations to their case management services. This new emphasis however has helped shelters serve more people, has reduced the number of people forced to live on the street, and has reduced the amount of time households spend homeless.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The county is shifting attention to the rental housing needs of low-income families and persons with disabilities. The county wants to create and expand rental housing for these households and members of the protected classes 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 has 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 will 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 will establish a mobility counseling program to assist voucher holders. The county will support source-of-income legislation at both the state and local government levels.

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, the Baltimore County

Department of Planning will continue to work with its governmental, faith based, consumer and private citizen partners to address the multivariant needs of this population.

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

Introduction:

In SP-55, the County outlined its strategy to remove or ameliorate barriers to affordable housing. The following is a description of the actions that will be taken in CFY 21 to implement the strategy.

Included in the County's Master Plan 2020 a clear statement articulating the County's commitment to expanding fair housing choice for members of protected classes through the creation of affordable rental opportunities in a variety of neighborhoods and include the applicable elements of the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA). The Master Plan must comply with the established review and approval procedures of the Planning Board and County Council.

The County Executive submitted his proposal for the operating and capital budgets for CFY 21 to the County Council. In compliance with the VCA, this included a \$3 million addition to the Economic Development Financing Fund to support the creation of affordable rental "hard units" in Areas of Opportunity as well as \$300,000 for accessibility modifications needed by Housing Choice Voucher holders. In accordance with the VCA, the County pursued the goal of accessibility modifications at \$300,000 per year for over four years. Despite good faith and demonstrated outreach to voucher families with a household member living with a disability, less than seventy percent of the modification funds have been committed. Based on the VCA agreement, the County may provide the use of uncommitted funds to other low income rental families who need assistance to pay for structural housing modifications to meet the accessibility needs of a family member with a disability.

The County will continue to use 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 education and outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing counseling, and investigation of complaints and referrals. The County's Procurement Office selected a fair housing provider through a competitive bidding process. Services include fair housing outreach, training, rental testing, sales testing, lending testing, and investigation of complaints and referrals. These services are currently being provided by the National Fair Housing Action Center of Maryland.

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 prohibiting 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 use 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 education and outreach, counseling, investigation of complaints and referrals. The County's Procurement Office selected a fair housing provider through a competitive bidding process and these services are currently being provided by National Fair Housing Action Center of Maryland.

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.

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.

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 Emergency Assistance Program dollars in its eviction prevention efforts, State funding from the Homeless Solutions Program to assist homeless/transitional shelters and homeless youth programs in the County. 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 mentioned 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 Corona Virus pandemic, the County has also amended its FFY2019 Action Plan to include federal stimulus funds targeted to helping individuals and families maintain housing or gain quick entry into housing as part of the pandemic response.

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.

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 CASA of Baltimore County (abused children), Churches for Streets of Hope (homeless), the Community Assistance Network (eviction prevention, food bank, financial literacy), Episcopal Housing's Neighbor to Neighbor program (eviction prevention), the Family Crisis Center (domestic violence), St Vincent de Paul -INNterim House (transitional shelter), Maryland Food Bank, Night of Peace (emergency shelter), Prologue (homeless outreach), St Vincent de Paul (shelter diversion for families), Deltas (afterschool), Jewish Community Services (job training/counseling), 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 continues to provide housing vouchers for those most in need and the County's Departments of Economic and Workforce Development, 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.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Baltimore County Department of Planning administers housing and community development funds in conjunction with a host of governmental and private nonprofit partners. The County's Continuum of Care is operated through the Baltimore County Homeless Roundtable and the coordination of services and programming is a joint effort of governmental service providers in social services, health, planning, emergency services as well as faith based organizations, nonprofit serves, consumers and private citizens. Additionally, the Voluntary Compliance Agreement will guide efforts of the Housing Office and Planning Department as they work with developers and landlords to increase the number of affordable

housing units over the next five years.

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.

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:

This section details specific program requirements for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	36,322
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:	36,322

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:

None

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:

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

1. 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.

Projects failing to meet the minimum affordability requirements will be subject to the recapture provisions. If the property fails to meet the minimum Period of Affordability, Baltimore County will recapture those funds. 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.

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.

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

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

Baltimore County will use the bulk of its County Fiscal Year 2021 ESG funds for rapid rehousing programs run by three nonprofits – St Vincent de Paul of Baltimore, Episcopal Housing Services, and Prologue and for Street Outreach program also run by Prologue. As per agreement with our CoC Roundtable, the County also reserves the right to fund homelessness prevention and emergency shelter should the need arise during the program year. Written standards for ESG are attached.

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

The Coordinated Entry Committee of the Homeless Roundtable is focused on enhancing and further developing the coordination of services for the homeless among shelters, essential services, prevention providers, mainstream resources and housing providers. The centralized system is used for shelter diversion, shelter placement, and ultimately for housing. The Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services Adult Information, Referral and Screening Unit (Screening Unit) is the single point of entry for shelter placement, diversion and homelessness resources. All of the shelters (except for Domestic Violence) receive referrals directly from the Screening Unit to fill available beds. The decentralized system is used for street outreach, eviction

prevention, and housing and homelessness prevention programs. There are various providers offering these services throughout the county and clients are able to access these services directly. The decentralized model offers individuals multiple locations from which they can access services. The coordinated aspect of this model comes from the fact that agencies use the same set of assessment tools via Human Management Information System (HMIS). HMIS is a computerized record keeping system that captures information and the service needs of people experiencing homelessness. HMIS connects both the centralized and decentralized systems by tracking data and providing technological support to the agencies that provide homeless services. HMIS creates a universal screening tool based on HUD standards so that the agencies are collecting uniform information.

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 Homeless Roundtable, Baltimore County continues to use its existing processes for making sub-awards. 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 got 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.

In collaboration with the Roundtable Committee and the Baltimore County Communities for the Homeless, a 15 member consumer advisory board provides guidance to our program delivery and design. It is comprised of formerly homeless and/or currently homeless individuals and provides feedback on the progress of the county's 10-year plan to end homelessness as well as plans to utilize new funding targeted to citizens experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

The following performance standards are proposed for Baltimore County's ESG funded programs:

- **Provision of Services** – 75% of enrolled clients will receive case management services, as it is a requirement for receiving rental assistance
- **Determination of Risk** – 100% of applicants are assessed and determined to be most at-risk of homelessness and remaining homeless using a pre-determined assessment tool.

- **Length of Stay** – 65% of enrolled clients will remain housed for 1 year.
- **Employment** – 45% of employed clients will maintain employment.
- **Access to Mainstream Resources** – 65% of enrolled clients will gain access to mainstream resources.
- **Homeless Reduction** – The number of sheltered and street homelessness will be reduced by 12%.

Reduction of Homeless Length of Stay – The length of time homeless for 100 individuals will be reduced by 90 days.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

Policy & Procedures Manual

Published May 2020



ESG Policy and Procedures Manual Cover

Overview

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act passed into law on May 20, 2009. The bill amended and reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program is one of the primary McKinney-Vento programs affected by the HEARTH Act. HUD released interim regulations for the ESG program in 2011.

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) designed to identify sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons, as well as those at risk of homelessness, and provide the services necessary to help those persons quickly regain permanent housing.

The ESG program consists of five components, rapid re-housing, homeless prevention, emergency shelter, outreach, and HMIS. The program provides funding to (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters; (3) help operate these (or ESG) shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents; (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals/ families; and (6) prevent individuals and families from beginning homeless.

Baltimore County Department of Planning is a recipient of an annual allocation of ESG funding. The Department of Planning and the Continuum of Care Homeless Roundtable work together to prepare a notice of funding availability/request for project proposals for awarding ESG along with other federal, State, and local funds.

All funded projects are required to follow federal regulations to ensure compliance. This policy and procedures manual is to assist ESG project recipients in carrying out programs under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations found at 24 CFR 576. Guidelines are tested annually by the Department of Planning.

To be eligible for ESG funding, the program participant must meet the definition of homelessness per HUD's regulation at 24 CFR 576.2. The definition:

Homeless means:

- (1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence meaning:
 - (i) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
 - (ii) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by

- Developing individualized housing and service plans, including planning a path to permanent housing stability; and
- Conduct re-evaluations.

Mediation:

ESG funds may pay for mediation between the program participant and the owner and/or person(s) with whom the program participant is living provided that the mediation is necessary to prevent the program participant from losing permanent housing in which the program participant resides.

Legal Services:

Must be required to resolve legal problems that prohibit the program participant from obtaining or keeping housing. Eligible legal costs include:

- Landlord/tenant matters
- Child Support
- Guardianship
- Paternity
- Emancipation
- Legal Separation
- Orders of protection and other civil remedies for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking
- The appeal of veterans and public health claims denials
- Resolution of criminal warrants

Credit Repairs:

ESG funds can be used to pay for credit counseling and other services necessary to assist program participants with critical skills related to:

- Household budgeting
- Credit counseling
- Managing money
- Accessing a free personal credit report

*ESG funds cannot be used to help program participants in the payment or modification of debt.

Standards for the duration and amount of rental assistance:

ESG provides the program participant with up to 24 months of assistance within a three year period. The assistance may be short-term and/or medium-term rental assistance, payment of rental arrears, or any combination of this assistance.

- Short-term rental assistance is for up to three months of rent
- Medium-term rental assistance is for more than three months but no more than 24 months of rent payments.

- Payment of rental arrears consists of a one-time payment for up to six months of rent in arrears, including any late fees in those arrears

The ESG sub-recipient may set a maximum amount or percentage of rental assistance that a program participant may receive, a maximum number of months that a program participant may receive rental assistance. The subrecipient may also require program participants to share in the costs of the rent. Except for the one-time payment of rental arrears on the tenants' portion of the rental fee, rental assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is receiving tenant-based rental assistance or living in a housing unit receiving project-based rental assistance or operating assistance, through other public sources. Rental assistance may not be provided to a program participant who has been supplied with replacement housing payments under URA during the period covered by the URA provisions.

Homeless Prevention

ESG funds can be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short-term to medium-term rental assistance for an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph 1 of the homeless definition in 576.2. This assistance may be provided to individuals who meet the criteria under the "at risk of homelessness" definition, or meet the requirements in paragraph 2, 3, or 4 of the homeless definition and have income below 30 percent of the median family income for the area determined by HUD. The costs of homeless prevention can only be eligible to the extent that the assistance is necessary to help the program participant regain stability in the participants' current permanent housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing or move into other permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. This assistance can be provided to program participants who meet the following criteria under the "homeless" definition:

- Category 2 – Imminent Risk of Homelessness

Documentation required for prevention service eligibility include:

- A court order resulting from an eviction action notifying individual or family that they must leave, or
- For individuals and families leaving a hotel or motel, evidence they lack the financial resources to stay; or a documented oral statement; and
- Certification that no subsequent residence has been identified; and
- Self-certification or other written documentation that the individual lacks the financial resources and support to obtain permanent housing.

Eligible Costs:

- Rental assistance and rental arrears up to six months
- Short and/ or medium-term rental assistance
- Housing stabilization and relocation services

Standards for Determining Participant Share of Rent and Utility Costs

The ESG funded Prevention activities may provide funds to pay a portion or all of a participant rent as well as one-time payment for rental arrears (not to exceed six-month arrears). The total length of assistance may not exceed 12 months.

Standards for Determining the Type, Amount, and Duration of Services

All Prevention participants will be required to participate in stabilization services, including case management, while receiving tenant-based rental assistance. A housing stability plan will be developed for each participant. It may include ensuring the participant receives all available mainstream resources, job counseling, referral to workforce development services, and transportation services. At a minimum, case managers have contact with the participant monthly to ensure the household is stable and the rent is paid. A participant can choose to continue stabilization services for an additional six months but will receive no more than 12 months of financial assistance.

Standards for Determining Length and Level of Rental Assistance

The ESG funded Prevention activities will provide rental assistance payments to participants households for a period not to exceed 12 months; however, the goal is to provide one to three months of assistance.

- Providers shall determine the type, maximum amount, and duration of housing stabilization and/or relocation services for individuals and families who need rapid rehousing through the initial evaluation, re-evaluation, and ongoing case management processes. Standards for determining the share of rent and utility costs that each program participant must pay, in any, will be based on the following guidelines:
- Providers may provide up to 100 percent of the costs of rent in rental assistance to participants
However, to maximize the number of households that can be served with prevention resources, it is expected that providers will provide the level of need based on the goal of offering only what is necessary for each household to be stably housed for the long term.
- Rental assistance cannot be provided for a unit unless the rent for that unit is at or below the Fair Market Rent (FMR) limit, established by HUD.
- The rent charged for a unit must be reasonable to leases currently being billed for comparable units in the private unassisted market. It must not be more than rents currently being charged by the owner for equivalent, unassisted units.

Other stabilization financial assistance such as help with rental application fees, security deposit, last month's rent, utility deposits or arrears, and moving costs will be provided. Specifically, assistance with security deposits can equal no more than two months of rental payment.

Rent Reasonableness

HUD's rent reasonableness standard is designed to ensure that rent being paid is reasonable with rents being charged for comparable, unassisted units in the same market. Sub-recipients should determine rent reasonableness by considering the location, quality, size, type, age of unit, any amenities, maintenance, and utilities to be provided by the owner. Comparable rents can be checked by

using a market study of rental units of different sizes in different locations or by reviewing advertisements for equivalent rental units.

Sub-recipients will be required to fill out the Rent Reasonableness Checklist and its certification in its entirety for each program participant who receives rental assistance. Records should be kept in client files.

In completing the rent reasonableness certification, sub-recipients cannot exclusively utilize units with in the same apartment complex where the program participant will be renting. Sub-recipients cannot use units that are more than one mile away from the unit to be rented.

Also, sub-recipients should send out a letter to all program participants indicating the amount of rental assistance that will be provided. All rent calculation forms are required to be signed and dated by the sub-recipient staff completing the form.

Emergency Shelter

ESG funds can be used for costs providing essential services to homeless families and individuals in emergency shelters, renovating buildings to be used as an emergency shelter for homeless families and individuals, and operating emergency shelters. Individuals and families meeting categories 1-4 of the homeless definition are eligible for emergency shelter services.

Essential Services. ESG funds can be used to provide critical services to individuals and families who are in an emergency shelter, as follows:

- Case management. The cost of assessing, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the program participant is eligible. Component services and activities consist of:
 - Using the centralized or coordinated assessment system;
 - Conducting the initial evaluation, including verifying and documenting eligibility;
 - Counseling;
 - Developing, securing, and coordinating services and obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits;
 - Monitoring and evaluating program participant progress;
 - Providing information and referrals to other providers;
 - Providing ongoing risk assessment and safety planning with a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and
 - Developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning a path to permanent housing stability.

- Childcare. The costs of child care for program participants, including providing meals and snacks, and comprehensive and coordinated sets of appropriate developmental activities, are eligible. The children must be under the age of 13 unless they are disabled. Disabled children must be under the age of 18. The childcare center must be licensed by the jurisdiction in which it operates in order for its costs to be eligible.

- Education services. When necessary for the program participant to obtain and maintain housing, the costs of improving knowledge and basic educational skills are suitable. Services include instruction or training in consumer education, health education, substance abuse prevention, literacy, English as a Second Language, and General Educational Development (GED).
- Component services or activities are screening, assessment and testing; individual or group instruction; tutoring; provision of books, supplies and instructional material, counseling; and referral to community resources.
- Employment assistance and job training. The costs of employment assistance and job training programs are eligible, including classroom, online, and/or computer instruction; on-the-job instruction; and services that assist individuals in securing employment, acquiring learning skills, and/or increasing earning potential. The cost of providing reasonable stipends to program participants in employment assistance and job training program is an eligible expense. Learning skills include the skills that can be used to secure and retain a job, including the acquisition of vocational licenses and/or certificates. Services that assist individuals in obtaining employment consists of employment screening, assessment, or testing; structured job skills and job-seeking skills; specialized training and tutoring, including literacy training and prevocational training; books and instructional material; counseling or job coaching; and referral to community resources.
- Outpatient health services. Eligible costs are for direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions and are provided by licensed medical professionals. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds may be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate health services are unavailable within the community. Eligible treatment consists of assessing a program participant's health problems and developing a treatment plan; assisting program participants in understanding their health needs; providing directly or assisting program participants in obtaining appropriate medical treatment, preventive medical care, and health maintenance services, including emergency medical services, providing medication and follow-up services; and providing preventative and non-cosmetic dental care.
- Legal Services
 - Eligible costs are hourly fees for legal advice and representation by attorneys licensed and in good standing with the bar association of the State in which the services are provided, and by persons under the supervision of the licensed attorney, regarding matters that interfere with the program participant's ability to obtain and retain housing.
 - ESG funds can be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate legal services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community.
 - Eligible subject matters are child support, guardianship, paternity, emancipation, and legal separation, orders of protection and other civil remedies for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, the appeal of veterans and public benefit claim denials, and the resolution of outstanding criminal warrants.
 - Component services or activities may include client intake, preparation of cases for trial, provision of legal advice, representation at hearings, and counseling.
 - Fees based on the actual services performed are also eligible, but only if the cost would be less than the cost of hourly fees. Filing fees and other necessary court costs are also available if the sub-recipient is a legal service provider and performs the services itself, the

- eligible costs the sub-recipients employees' salaries, and other expenses necessary to perform the functions.
- Legal services for immigration and citizenship matters and issues relating to mortgages are ineligible costs. Retainer fee arrangements and contingency fee arrangements are ineligible costs.
- Life skills training. The costs of teaching critical life management skills that may never be learned or have lost during physical or mental illness, domestic violence, substance use, and homelessness are eligible costs. The services must be necessary to assist the program participant in functioning independently in the community. Component life skills training is budgeting resources, managing money, managing a household, resolving conflict, shopping for food and needed items, improving nutrition, using public transportation, and parenting.
- Mental health services.
- Costs are the direct outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions.
 - ESG funds can only be used for these services to the extent that other appropriate mental health services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community.
 - Mental health services are the application of the therapeutic processes to personal, family, situational, or occupational problems to bring about positive resolution of the issue or improved individual or family functioning or circumstances. Problem areas may include family and marital relationships, parent-child issues, or symptom management.
 - Eligible treatment consists of crisis interventions; individual, family, or group therapy sessions; the prescriptions of psychotropic medications or explanations about the use and the management of medicines; and combinations of therapeutic approaches to address multiple problems.
- Substance abuse treatment services.
- Eligible substance abuse treatment services are designed to prevent, reduce, eliminate, or deter relapse of substance abuse or addictive behaviors and are provided by licensed or certified professionals.
 - ESG funds may only be used for these services to the extent that other appropriate substance abuse treatment services are unavailable or inaccessible within the community.
 - Eligible treatment consists of client intake and assessment and outpatient treatment for up to 30 days. Group and individual counseling and drug testing are allowable costs. Inpatient detoxification and other inpatient drug or alcohol treatment are not eligible costs.
- Transportation. Available costs consist of the transportation costs of a program participant's travel to and from medical care facilities. These costs include:
- The cost of a program participant's travel on public transportation;
 - If service workers use their vehicles, mileage allowance for service workers to visit program participants;
 - The cost of purchasing or leasing a vehicle for the recipient or sub-recipient in which staff transports program participants and the cost of gas, insurance, taxes, and maintenance for the vehicle; and
 - The travel costs of the recipient or sub-recipient staff to accompany or assist program participants in using public transportation.

- Services for special populations. ESG funds can be used to provide services for homeless youth, victim services, and services for people living with HIV/AIDS, so long as the costs of providing these services are eligible.
- Renovation. Qualified expenses include labor, materials, tools, and other fees for repair (including significant rehabilitation of an emergency shelter or conversion of a building into an emergency shelter or conversion of building into an emergency shelter). The emergency shelter must be owned by a government entity or private nonprofit organization.
- Shelter operations. Eligible costs are the costs of maintenance (including minor or routine repairs), rent, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter. Where no appropriate emergency shelter is available for an homeless family or individual, eligible costs may also include a hotel or motel voucher for that family or individual.
- Assistance required under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (URA). Eligible costs are the costs of providing URA assistance under 24 CFR 576.408, including relocation payments and other support to persons displaced by a project assisted with ESG funds. Persons that receive URA assistance are not considered “program participants” for this part, and relocation payments and other URA assistance are not considered “rental assistance” or “housing relocation and stabilization services” for this part.

Prohibition against involuntary family separation. The age of a child under 18 must not be used as a basis for denying any family’s admission to an emergency shelter that uses ESH funding or services and provides shelter families with children under age 18.

The minimum period of use.

Renovated buildings. Each building renovated with ESG funds must be maintained as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for not less than a period of three to ten years, depending on the type of renovation and the value of the building. The “value of the building” is the reasonable monetary value assigned to the building, such as the value assigned by an independent real estate appraiser. The minimum use period must begin on the date building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation. A minimum period of use of 10 years, required for significant rehabilitation and conversion, must be enforced by a recorded deed or use restriction.

- Major rehabilitation. If the rehabilitation cost of an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building before restoration, the minimum use period is ten years.
- Conversion. If the costs to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the minimum use is ten years.
- Renovation other than the significant rehabilitation or reformation in all other cases where ESG funds used for restoration, the minimum period of use is three years.

Essential services and shelter operations. Where the recipient or sub-recipient uses ESG funds solely for essential services or shelter operations, the recipient or sub-recipient must provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families at least for the period during which the ESG funds are provided. The recipient and sub-recipient do not need to limit these services or

shelter to a particular site or structure, so long as the location or structure serves the same type of persons initially served with the assistance (families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or serves homeless persons in the same area here, the recipient or sub-recipient initially provided the services or shelter.

Maintenance of effort. The support of effort requirements, which apply to the use of ESG funds for essential functions related to street outreach, also apply for such funds for essential services related to an emergency shelter.

Street Outreach Component

Eligible costs. Subject to expenditure limits found at 576.100(b) ESG funds can be used for costs of providing essential services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless people; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent, non-facility-based care to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility. For this section, the term “unsheltered homeless people” means individuals and families who qualify as homeless-s under paragraph (1)(i) of the “homeless” definition under 576.2. The eligible costs and requirements for essential services consist of:

- Engagement: The costs of activities to locate, identify, and build relationships with unsheltered homeless people and engage them to provide immediate support intervention, and connections with homeless assistance programs and/or mainstream social services and housing programs. These activities consist of making an initial assessment of needs and eligibility; providing crisis counseling; addressing urgent physical needs, such as providing meals, blankets, clothes, or toiletries; and actively connecting and providing information and referrals to programs targeted to homeless people and mainstream, social services and housing programs, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, community-based services, permanent supportive housing, and rapid re-housing programs. Eligible costs include the cell phone costs of outreach workers during the performance of these activities.
- Case management: The cost of assessing housing and service needs, arranging, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of the program participant. Eligible services and activities are as follows: using the centralized or coordinated assessment system, conducting an initial evaluation, including verifying and documenting eligibility, counseling, developing, securing and coordinating services, obtaining Federal, State, and local benefits, monitoring and evaluating program participant progress, providing information and referrals to other providers, and developing an individualized housing and service plan, including planning at the path to permanent housing stability.
- Emergency health services. Eligible costs are for the direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions. Treatment is provided by a licensed medical professional operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered homeless people are living. ESG funds can be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the area. Eligible treatment consists of assessing a program participant’s health problems and developing a treatment plan, assisting program participants in understanding their health needs providing directly to assisting program

participants in obtaining appropriate emergency medical treatment, and giving medication and follow-up services.

- Emergency mental health services. Eligible costs are the direct outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions operating in community-based settings, including streets, parks, and other places where unsheltered people are living. ESG funds can be used only for these services to the extent that other appropriate mental health services are inaccessible or unavailable within the community. Mental health services are the application of therapeutic processes to personal, family, situational, or occupational problems to bring about positive resolution of the issue or improved individual or family functioning or circumstances. Eligible treatment consists of if crisis interventions, the prescription of psychotropic medications, explanation about the use and management of medications, and combinations of therapeutic approaches to address multiple problems.
- Transportation. The transportation costs of travel by outreach workers, social workers, medical professionals, or other service providers are eligible, provided that this travel takes place during the provision of services allowable under the Street Outreach component section. The costs of transporting unsheltered people to emergency shelters or the service facilities are also eligible. These costs include the following: the cost of program participant's travel on public transportation; if service workers use their vehicles, mileage allowance for service workers to visit program participants, the costs of purchasing or leasing a vehicle for the recipient or sub-recipient in which staff transports program participants and/or staff serving program participants, and the cost of gas, insurance, taxes and maintenance for the vehicles and the travel costs of the recipient or sub-recipient staff to accompany or assist program participants in using public transportation.
- Services for special populations. ESG funds can be used to provide services for homeless youth, victim services, and services for people living with HIV/AIDS, so long as the costs of providing these services are eligible. The term victim services mean services that assist program participants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including services offered by rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters, and other organizations with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- The minimum period of use. The recipient or sub-recipient must provide services to homeless individuals and families for at least the period during which ESG funds are provided.
- Maintenance of effort. If the recipient or sub-recipient is a unit of general-purpose local government, its ESG funds cannot be used to replace funds the local government provided for street outreach and emergency shelter services during the immediately preceding 12-month period, unless HUD determines that the unit of general-purpose local government is in a service financial deficit. Upon the recipient's request, HUD will determine whether the unit of general-purpose local government is in severe fiscal deficit, based on the following:
 - The average poverty rate in the unit of general-purpose local government's jurisdiction was equal to or greater than 125 percent of the average national poverty rate during the calendar year for which the most recent data available, as determined according to information from the U.S. Census Bureau.
 - The average per-capita income in the unit of general-purpose local government's jurisdiction was less than 75 percent of the average national per-capita income during

the calendar year for which the most recent data are available, as determined according to information from the U.S. Census Bureau.

- The unit of general-purpose local government has a current annual budget deficit that requires a reduction in funding services for homeless people.
- The unit of general-purpose local government has taken all reasonable steps to prevent a reduction in funding of services for homeless people. Reasonable steps may include steps to increase revenue generation, steps to maximize cost savings or measures to reduce expenditures in areas other than services for homeless people.

HMIS

ESG funds can pay the costs of contributing data to HMIS designed by the Continuum of Care for the area, including the costs of:

- Purchasing or leasing computer hardware.
- Purchasing software and software licensing.
- Purchasing or leasing equipment, including telephones, fax machines, and furniture.
- Obtaining technical support.
- Leasing office space.
- Paying charges for electricity, gas, water, phone service, and high-speed data transmission necessary to operate or contribute data to the HMIS.
- Paying salaries for operating HMIS, including:
 - i. Completing data entry.
 - ii. Monitoring and reviewing data quality.
 - iii. Completing data analysis.
 - iv. Reporting to the HMIS Lead.
 - v. Training staff on using the HMIS or comparable database.
 - vi. Implementing and complying with HMIS requirements.
- Paying costs to staff to travel to and attend HUD-sponsored and HUD-approved training on HMIS and programs authorized by Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act.
- Paying staff travel costs to conduct intake.
- Paying participation fees charged by the HMIS Lead, in the recipient or subrecipient is not the HMIS lead. The HMIS Lead is the entity designated by the Continuum of Care to operate the areas HMIS.

If the recipient is the HMIS lead agency, as designated by the Continuum of Care in the most recent fiscal year Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grants Competition, it may also use ESG funds to pay the costs of:

- Hosting and maintaining HMIS software data;
- Backing up, recovering, or repairing HMIS software or data;
- Upgrading, customizing and enhancing, the HMIS; and
- Integrating and warehousing data, including the development of a data warehouse for use in aggregating data from sub-recipients using multiple software systems.

- Administering the system.
- Reporting to providers, the Continuum of Care, and HUD.
- Conducting training on using the system or comparable database, including training and travel.

If the sub-recipient is a victim services provider or a legal services provider, it may use ESG funds to establish and operate a comparable database that collects client-level data over time and generates unduplicated aggregate reports based on the data. Information entered comparable database must not be entered directly into or provided to HMIS.

Client Eligibility Verification

All sub-grantees must evaluate and certify the potential program participant. Once the program participant is found eligible to participate in the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program, the program participant's eligibility is verified once every three months for all households receiving homelessness prevention assistance. Annually for all families receiving rapid re-housing assistance. The three-step process is as follows:

1. **Initial Consultation** – Sub-recipients must conduct an initial evaluation to determine the eligibility of each individual's or family's eligibility for ESG assistance and the amount and type of assistance the participants needs to attain stability in permanent housing. These evaluations must be conducted within the centralized or coordinated assessment requirements set forth under 24 CFR 576.400(d).
2. **Verification of Income** – Sub-recipient must verify program participant's household income is below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI) as set by HUD.
3. **Verification of Homelessness or Risk of Homelessness** – Sub-recipient must verify that the individual or family qualifies for services under the ESG program by following HUD's definition of homelessness found at 24 CFR 576.2.

Documenting Participant Eligibility

Sub-recipients must maintain program participant files and keep in a secure location. Each participant file should contain documentation qualifying the participant for assistance through the ESG program. Documentation required for participant eligibility can be found at 24 CFR 576.500 and described below:

Homelessness

If the participant qualifies as homeless under (1)(iii) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 576.2 because he or she resided in an emergency or place not meant for human habitation and is exiting an institution where he or she lived for 90 days or less, acceptable evidence is one of the following:

1. Discharge paperwork or a written or oral referral from a social worker, case manager, or another appropriate official of the institution, stating the beginning and end dates of the time residing in the institution. An intake worker must record all oral statements.
2. Where evidence is not obtainable, a written record of the intake worker's due diligence in attempting to obtain the proof and a certification by the individual seeking assistance that states he or she is exiting or has just exited an institution where he or she resided for 90-days or less.

If the individual or family qualifies under paragraph 2 of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 576.2 because the individual or family imminently lose their housing, the documented evidence must include:

1. A court order from an eviction action, a Notice to Quit, or a Notice to terminate that requires the individual or family to leave their residence within 14 days after the date of their application for homelessness assistance or the equivalent notice under applicable state law,
2. For individuals and families whose primary, the nighttime residence is a hotel or motel not paid for by a charitable organization or federal, state, or local government programs for the low-income individual. Evidence that the individual or family lacks the resources necessary to reside there for more than 14 days after the date of application for homeless assistance.
3. An oral statement by the individual or head of household that the owner or renter of the housing in which they currently reside will not allow them to stay for more than 14 days after the date of application for homeless assistance. The intake worker must record the statement and certify that it was found credible. To be found credible, the oral account must either: be verified by the owner or renter of the housing in which the individual or family resides at the time of application for homeless assistance and documents by a written certification by the owner or renter's oral statement or if the intake worker is unable to contact the owner or renter, be documented by a written certification by the intake worker or renter's verification and the written certification by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that his or her statement is accurate and complete. Certification by the individual or head of household that no subsequent residence has been identified. Certification or other written documentation that the individual or family lacks the resources and support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.

If the individual or family qualifies as homeless under paragraph (3) if the homeless definition at 24 CFR 576.2, because the individual or family does not otherwise qualify under the homeless definition but is an unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or homeless family with one or more children or youth, and is defined as homeless under another Federal Statute or section 752(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, documentation must include:

1. Certification of homeless status by the local private nonprofit organization or State, or local government entity responsible administering assistance under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (47 U.S.C 5701), the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C 9831) and subtitle N of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e), section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C 254b), the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011), section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786) or subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431).

2. A referral by a housing or service provider, a written observation by an outreach worker, certification by the homeless individual or head of household seeking assistance;
3. Certification by the individual or head of household and any supporting documentation that the individual or family moved two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance. Including recorded statements or records obtained from each owner or renter of housing, provider of shelter or housing, or social worker, caseworker, or the appropriate official of a hospital or institution in which the individual or family resided, or where these statements or records are unobtainable, a written record of the intake worker's due diligence in attempting to obtain these statements or documents. Where a move was due to the individual or family fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, then the intake worker may alternatively obtain written certification from the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they were fleeing that situation and that they resided at the address;
4. Written diagnosis from a professional who is licensed by the State to diagnose and treat the condition (or intake staff-recorded observation of disability that within 45 days of the application for assistance confirmed by a professional who is licensed by the State to diagnose and treat that condition), employment records, department of correction records, literacy, English proficiency tests, or other reasonable documentation of the conditions required under paragraph (3)(iv) of the homeless definition; and
5. If the individual or family qualifies under paragraph (4) of the homeless definition in 576.2 because the individual or family is fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related violence, then acceptable evidence includes an oral statement by the individual or head of household seeking assistance that they are fleeing that situation, that no subsequent residence has been identified and that they lack the resources or support networks (family, friends, faith-based, or other social networks) needed to obtain additional housing. If the individual or family is receiving shelter or service provided by a victim service provider, the oral statement must be documented by either a certification by the individual or head of household or certification of an intake worker. Otherwise, the oral report that the individual or head of household seeking assistance has not identified a subsequent residence and lacks the resources or support networks must be documented by a certification by the individual or head of household that the oral statement is accurate and complete and, where the safety of the individual or family would not be jeopardized, the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or other dangerous or life-threatening condition must be verified by a written observation by the intake worker or a written referral by a housing or service provider, social worker, legal assistance provider, pastoral counselor, or any other organization from whom the individual or head of household has sought assistance for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The written referral or observation need only include the minimum amount of information necessary to document that the individual or family is fleeing or attempting to escape domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

At-Risk of Homelessness

For each individual or family who receives Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) homelessness prevention assistance, the records must include the evidence relied upon to establish and verify the

individual or family's "at risk of homelessness" status. This evidence must consist of an intake and certification form that meets HUD specifications and is completed by the recipient or sub-recipient. The evidence must include:

1. Documentation that shows the program participant meets the criteria under paragraph (1) of the homeless definition at 24 CFR 576.2:
 - Documentation verifying that the program participant's annual income is below 30 percent of the area median income as defined by HUD;
 - The certification on a form specified by HUD that the program participant has insufficient financial resources and support networks immediately available to attain housing stability and meets one or more of the conditions under paragraph (1)(iii) of the definition of "at risk of homelessness in 24 CFR 576.2; and
 - The most reliable evidence available to show that the program participant does not have sufficient resources or social networks, immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the "homeless" definition. Acceptable evidence includes:
 - ✓ Source documents (notice of termination from employment, unemployment compensation statement, bank statement, health-care bill showing arrears, utility bill showing arrears)
 - ✓ To the extent where source documents are unavailable, a written statement by the relevant third party (former employer, public administrator, relative) or the by the recipient's or sub-recipients intake staff of the oral verification meets one or both of the criteria under paragraph (1)(ii) of the definition of "at risk of homelessness" in 24 CFR 576.2.
 - ✓ To the extent that source documents and third-party verification are unobtainable, a written statement by the recipient or sub-recipient intake staff describing the efforts taken to obtain evidence.
2. The most reliable evidence is available to show that the program participants meet one or more of the conditions under paragraph (1)(iii) of "at risk of homelessness." Acceptable evidence includes:
 - Source documents that evidence one or more of the conditions under paragraph (1)(iii) of the definition: eviction notice, a notice of termination from employment, and bank statement;
 - To the extent that source documents are unobtainable, a written statement by the relevant third party: employer, owner, primary leaseholder, public administrator, hotel or motel manager) or the written certification by the recipients and sub-recipients intake staff of the oral verification by the relevant third party that the applicant meets one or more of the criteria under paragraph (1)(iii) of the definition of "at-risk homelessness"; and
 - To the extent that source documents and third-party verification are unobtainable, a written statement by the recipients or sub-recipients intake staff that the staff person has visited the applicant's residence and determined that the applicant meets one or more of the criteria under paragraph (1)(iii) of the definition or, if a visit is not

practical or relevant to the determination, a written statement by the recipient, or sub-recipients intake staff describing the efforts taken to obtain the required evidence.

3. If the program participant meets the criteria under paragraph (2) (3) of the “at-risk of homelessness definition at 24 CFR 576.2, certification of the child or youth’s homeless status by the agency or organization responsible for administering the participants assistance.

Determination of ineligibility. Individuals and family members determined to be ineligible to receive Emergency Grant Solutions Grant (ESG) assistance, and the record must include documentation of the reason for that determination.

Annual Income

For program participants who receive homelessness prevention assistance, or who received rapid re-housing assistance longer than one year, the following documentation of annual income must be maintained:

1. Income evaluation form containing the minimum requirements specified of HUD and completed by the recipient or sub-recipient.
2. Source documents for the assets held by the program participant and income received over the most recent period for which representative data is available before the date of the evaluation (wage statements, unemployment compensation statement, public benefits statement, bank statement).
3. In circumstances where source documents are unobtainable, a written statement by the relevant third party (employer or government benefits administrator) or the written certification by the recipients or sub-recipient staff of the oral verification by the applicable third party of the income the program participant received over the most recent period in which representative data is available.
4. To the extent that source documents and third-party verification are unobtainable, the written certification by the program participant of the amount of income the received for the most recent period representative of the income reasonably expected to earn over the three months following the evaluation.

Program participant records.

In addition to evidence of homeless status or “at risk of homelessness” status, as relevant records must be kept for each program participant that document:

1. The services and assistance provided to that program participant, including, as applicable, the security deposit, rental assistance, and utility payments made on behalf of the program participant.
2. Compliance with the applicable requirements for providing services and assistance to that program participant under the program components and eligible activities provisions at 24 CFR 576.101 through 576.106, the regulation on determining eligibility and amount and type of assistance at 24 CFR 576.401(a) and (b), and the provision on using appropriate aid and services at 576.401(d) and (e).
3. Where applicable, compliance with the termination of assistance requirement in 576.402.

Centralized or coordinated assessment system and procedures

The recipient and its sub-recipients must keep documentation evidencing the use of, and written intake procedures for, the centralized or coordinated assessment system developed by the Continuum of Care in accordance with the requirements established by HUD.

Rental Assistance agreements and payments

The records must include copies of all leases and rental assistance agreements for the provision of rental assistance, documentation of payments made to owners for the provision of rental assistance, and supporting documentation for these payments, including dates of occupancy by program participants.

Utility Allowance

The records must document the monthly allowance for utilities (excluding telephone) used to determine compliance with the rent restriction.

Shelter and housing standards

The records must include documentation of compliance with the shelter and housing standards in 576.403, including inspection reports.

Emergency shelter facilities

The recipient must keep records of the emergency shelters assisted under the ESG program, including the amount and type of assistance provided to each emergency shelter. As applicable, the recipient's records must also include documentation of the value of the building before the rehabilitation of an existing emergency shelter or after the conversion of a building into an emergency shelter and copies of the recorded deed or use restrictions.

Services and assistance provided

The recipient must keep records of the types of essential services, rental assistance, and housing stabilization and relocation services provided under the recipient's program and the amounts spent on these services and assistance. The recipient and its sub-recipients that are units of general purpose local government must keep records to demonstrate compliance with the maintenance of effort requirement, including records of the unit of the general purpose local government's annual budgets and sources of funding for street outreach and emergency shelter services.

Coordination with Continuum of Care and other programs

The recipient and its sub-recipients must document their compliance with the requirements of 576.400 for consulting with the Continuum of Care and coordinating and integrating ESG assistance with programs targeted toward homeless people and mainstream service and assistance programs.

HMIS

The recipient must keep records of the participation with HMIS or a comparable database by all projects of the recipients and its subrecipients.

Matching

The recipient must keep records of the source and use of contributions made to satisfy the matching requirement in 24 CFR 576.201. The records must indicate the fiscal year grant for which each matching contribution is counted. The records must show how the value placed on third-party, noncash contributions was derived. To the extent feasible, volunteer services must be supported by the allocation of regular personnel costs.

Conflicts of interest

The recipient and its sub-recipients must keep records to show compliance with the organizational conflicts-of-interest requirements in 24 CFR 576.404(a), a copy of the personal conflicts of interest policy or codes of conduct developed and implemented to comply with the requirements in 576.404(b), and records supporting exceptions to the personal conflicts of interest prohibitions.

Homeless participation

The recipient must document its compliance with the homeless participation requirements under 24 CFR 576.405.

Faith-based activities

The recipient and its sub-recipients must document their compliance with the faith-based activities requirements under 24 CFR 576.406.

Other Federal requirements

The recipient and its sub-recipient must document their compliance with Federal requirements in 24 CFR 576.407 and 576.409, including:

1. Records demonstrating compliance with the nondiscrimination and equal opportunity requirements under 24 CFR 576.407(a) and the affirmative outreach requirements in 576.407(b), including
 - i. Data concerning race, ethnicity, disability status, sex, and family characteristics of persons and households who are applicants for, or program participants in, any program or activity funded in whole or in part with ESG funds.
 - ii. Documentation required under 24 CFR 5.168 regarding the recipient's Assessment of Fair Housing and the certification that the recipient will affirmatively further fair housing.
2. Records demonstrating compliance with uniform administrative requirements in 2 CFR part 200;
3. Records demonstrating compliance with the environmental review requirements, including flood insurance requirements;
4. Certifications and disclosure forms under the lobbying and disclosure in 24 CFR part 87; and
5. Data on emergency transfers requested under 24 CFR 576.409 of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including data on the outcomes of such requests.

Relocation

The records must include documentation of compliance with the displacement, relocation, and acquisition requirements in 576.408.

Financial records

1. The recipient must retain supporting documentation for all costs charged to the ESG grants.
2. The recipient and its sub-recipients must keep documentation showing that ESG grant funds were spent on allowable costs following the requirements for eligible activities under 576.101 through 576.109, financial management in 2 CFR 200.302, and the cost principles in 2 CFR part 200, subpart E.
3. The recipient and its sub-recipients must retain records of recipients and use of program income.
4. The recipient must keep documentation of compliance with the expenditure limits in 576.100 and the expenditure deadline in 576.203.

Sub-recipients and Contractor

1. The recipient must retain copies of all solicitations of and agreements with sub-recipients, records of all payment requests by dates of payments made to sub-recipients, and documentation of all monitoring and sanctions of sub-recipients as applicable. If the recipient is a State, the recipient must keep a record of each recapture funds under 576.501.
2. The recipient and its sub-recipients must retain copies of all procurement requirements in 24 CFR part 200, subpart D.
3. The recipient must ensure that its sub-recipients comply with the recordkeeping requirements specified by the recipient and HUD notice or regulations.

Other records specified by HUD

The recipient must keep other records specified by HUD.

Confidentiality

The recipient and its sub-recipient must develop and implement written procedures to ensure:

1. All records containing personally identifying information (as defined in HUD's standards for participation, data collection, and reporting in a local HMIS) of any individual or family who applies for and/or receives ESG assistance will be kept secure and confidential.
2. The address or location of any domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking shelter project assisted under the ESG will not be made public, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of the shelter.
3. The address or location of any housing of a program participant will not be made public, except as provided under a preexisting privacy policy of the recipient or sub-recipient and consistent with state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

The confidentiality procedures of the recipient and its sub-recipients must be in writing and maintained per this section.

Period of record retention

All records each fiscal year for ESG funds must be retained for five years or the period specified below. Copies made by microfilming, photocopying or similar methods may be substituted for the original records.

1. Documentation of each program participant's qualification as a family or individual at risk of homelessness or as a homeless family or individual and other program participant records must be retained for five years after the expenditure of all funds from a grant under which the program participant was assisted.
2. Where ESG funds used for the renovation of an emergency shelter involves costs charged to the ESG grant that exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before the renovation, records must be retained until ten years after the date that ESG funds obligated for the renovation.
3. Where ESG funds used to convert a building into an emergency shelter and the costs charged to the ESG grant for the conversion exceed 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, records must be retained until ten years after the date that ESG funds first obligated for the conversion.

Access to Records

1. Federal government rights. Notwithstanding the confidentiality procedures established under paragraph (x) of this section, the recipient and its sub-recipients must comply with the requirements for access to records in 2 CFR 200.336.
2. Public rights. The recipient must provide citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties with reasonable access (consistent with state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality requirements to this part) to records regarding any uses of ESG funds the recipient received during the previous five years.

Reports

The recipient must collect and report data on its use of ESG funds in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) and other reporting systems, as specified by HUD. The recipient must also comply with reporting requirements under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

Other ESG Requirements

Habitability Standards: Sub-recipients providing rental assistance with ESG funds will be required to conduct initial and any appropriate follow-up inspections of housing units into which a program participant will be moving. Units should be inspected on an annual basis and upon change of tenancy. Sub-recipients must complete the Habitability Standards Inspection checklist. These checklists are to be stored in the clients' files.

Lead-Based Paint Requirements

The lead-based paint requirements exist to protect vulnerable families from potential health hazards. To prevent lead poisoning in young children, ESG recipients must comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act of 1973 and its applicable regulations found at 24 CFR 35, Parts A, B, H, J, K, M, and R. As agencies provide assistance to and advocate on behalf of the disadvantaged population, it is essential to understand that the Lead rule is a tool that helps you ensure the safety and well-being of your clients. This guidance was developed to assist grantees and subgrantees in understanding how the lead-based paint regulations apply to ESG. Please refer to the regulations for additional information. Under ESG, a lead-based paint visual assessment is required to be completed for all units that meet the three following conditions:

- The household living in the unit assisted with ESG financial assistance (rental assistance, utility assistance, utility/security deposits, or arrears).
- The unit constructed before 1978.
- A child under the age of six is or will be living in the unit.

Under ESG, the lead requirements apply regardless of a household remaining in an existing unit or moving to a new unit. The visual assessment must be complete before ESG assistance can be provided, and annually after. Grantees and sub-recipients (ESG program staff) are responsible for ensuring that property owners and managers meet the lead-based paint requirements. It may be helpful for grantees to think of the requirements in two categories:

- HUD's disclosure form for rental properties disclosing the presence of known and unknown lead-based paint.
- A copy of the "Protect Your Family from Lead in the Home" pamphlet.

Both the disclosure form and pamphlet at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/enforcement/disclosure.cfm>

Visual assessments for ESG funded units triggered under the following circumstances:

- The leased property constructed before 1978;
- A child under the age of six will be living in the unit by the household receiving 1978.

Sub-recipients must complete and sign the Lead Screening Worksheet for each participant receiving assistance. Documentation to support the certifications are required. Visual assessments are required to be conducted by a HUD-Certified Visual Assessor and must meet the requirements as outlined in the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act.

Overview

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act passed into law on May 20, 2009. The bill amended and reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program is one of the primary McKinney-Vento programs affected by the HEARTH Act. HUD released interim regulations for the ESG program in 2011.

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) designed to identify sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons, as well as those at risk of homelessness, and provide the services necessary to help those persons quickly regain permanent housing.

The ESG program consists of five components, rapid re-housing, homeless prevention, emergency shelter, outreach, and HMIS. The program provides funding to (1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters; (3) help operate these (or ESG) shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents; (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals/ families; and (6) prevent individuals and families from beginning homeless.

Baltimore County Department of Planning is a recipient of an annual allocation of ESG funding. The Department of Planning and the Continuum of Care Homeless Roundtable work together to prepare a notice of funding availability/request for project proposals for awarding ESG along with other federal, State, and local funds.

All funded projects are required to follow federal regulations to ensure compliance. This policy and procedures manual is to assist ESG project recipients in carrying out programs under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations found at 24 CFR 576. Guidelines are tested annually by the Department of Planning.

To be eligible for ESG funding, the program participant must meet the definition of homelessness per HUD's regulation at 24 CFR 576.2. The definition:

Homeless means:

- (1) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence meaning:
 - (i) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
 - (ii) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

Policy & Procedures Manual

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- The household living in the unit assisted with ESG financial assistance (rental assistance, utility assistance, utility/security deposits, or arrears).
- The unit constructed before 1978.
- A child under the age of six is or will be living in the unit.

Under ESG, the lead requirements apply regardless of a household remaining in an existing unit or moving to a new unit. The visual assessment must be complete before ESG assistance can be provided, and annually after. Grantees and sub-recipients (ESG program staff) are responsible for ensuring that property owners and managers meet the lead-based paint requirements. It may be helpful for grantees to think of the requirements in two categories:

- HUD's disclosure form for rental properties disclosing the presence of known and unknown lead-based paint.
- A copy of the "Protect Your Family from Lead in the Home" pamphlet.

Both the disclosure form and pamphlet at:

[Http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/enforcement/disclosure.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/enforcement/disclosure.cfm)

Visual assessments for ESG funded units triggered under the following circumstances:

- The leased property constructed before 1978;
- A child under the age of six will be living in the unit by the household receiving 1978.

Sub-recipients must complete and sign the Lead Screening Worksheet for each participant receiving assistance. Documentation to support the certifications are required. Visual assessments are required to be conducted by a HUD-Certified Visual Assessor and must meet the requirements as outlined in the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act.

Housing Stability Case Management

Requirement: Program participants receiving homelessness prevention or rapid-re-housing assistance must meet with a case manager not less than once per month unless specific statutory prohibitions apply.

Citation: 24 CFR 576.401(e)

Explanation: Under 24 CFR 576.401(e), the recipients or sub-recipients require program participants to meet with a case manager not less than once per month to assist them in ensuring long-term housing stability, unless the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 or Family Violence Prevention and Services Act prohibits the recipient or sub-recipient from making its shelter or housing conditional on the participant's acceptance of services.

Justification: Recipients are reporting limited staff capacity as staff members are home for a variety of reasons related to COVID-19 (e.g., quarantining, children home from school, working elsewhere in the community to manage the COVID-19 response). Also, not all program participants have the capacity to meet via phone or the internet. Waiving the monthly case management requirement, as specified below, will allow recipients to provide case management on an as-needed basis and reduce the possible spread and harm of COVID-19.

Applicability: The waiver is in effect for two months beginning March 31, 2020.

Restriction of Rental Assistance to Units with Rent at or Below FMR

Requirement: Restriction of rental assistance to units with rent at or below FMR.

Citation: 24 CFR 576.106(d)(1)

Explanation: Under 24 CFR 576.106(d)(1), rental assistance cannot be provided unless the total rent is equal to or less than the FMR established by HUD, as provided under 24 CFR part 888, and complies with HUD's standards or rent reasonableness, as determined under 24 CFR 982.507.

Justification: Quickly moving people into permanent housing is especially critical in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Waiving the limit on rental assistance to rents that are equal to or less than the FMR, established by HUD, will assist recipients and sub-recipients in more quickly locating additional units to house individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Applicability: The FMR restriction is waived for any individual or family receiving Rapid Re-Housing or Homeless Prevention assistance who executes a lease for a unit during the six months beginning March 31, 2020. The ESG recipient or sub-recipient must still ensure that the units in which ESG assistance is provided to these individuals and families meet the rent reasonableness standard.

MA – 30 Homeless Facilities and Services (continuation of service and facility description)

INNterim Housing Corporation – (INNterim Gardens (PSH) & INNterim House (TH)) Permanent and Transitional Housing for women and children. INNterim Gardens: Permanent Housing offering 7 units for homeless women and children coupled with case management and supportive services. INNterim House: Transitional shelter for 9 women and their children in 9 units. In both locations, there is common space for meetings, offices, lobby, laundry rooms, and playrooms. Residents may stay for up to 2 years while they work on such goals as employment, financial stability, child care, education, etc. to help them obtain permanent housing. Services provided are case management, tutoring for the children, parenting skills, employment and housing assistance, and counseling.

JCS – Homeless prevention program that offers career counseling, case/ care management, mental health and substance abuse services, money management, rent payment assistance, and rental deposit assistance services are offered.

Neighbor to Neighbor – (Including RRH) Eviction Prevention program offers case/ care management and rent payment assistance services.

NAMI – Support group services offered.

New Pathways – Case/ care management services are offered through the Pathfinders program to high school students and their families.

Night of Peace Overnight Shelter - It is an overnight emergency shelter for families with beds for 28 individuals. Residents receive dinner and breakfast as well as laundry and shower facilities. Private cubicles equipped with mattresses and storage closets are provided for each family. Case/ care management are also offered.

Prologue (Homeless Outreach, HOO, Housing, McKinney, PATH, RRH, S+C) - 66 units of permanent supportive housing offered through Department of Health and Mental Hygiene with supportive services offered by Prologue, Inc. AIDS/HIV clinics, benefits assistance, case/ care management, child care provider referrals, education, emergency shelter, employment preparation, health care referrals, legal services, life skills education, mental health and substance abuse services, rental deposit assistance, street outreach programs, substance abuse services, supportive housing placement/referrals, and transportation services offered.

St. Vincent De Paul Hannah More Shelter- Emergency shelter beds for 86 women and children. Residents receive dinner and breakfast as well as laundry and shower facilities. Case management, parenting classes, housing and budget counseling, life skills classes are available. They also have 2 Shelter Diversion programs and a Rapid Re-housing program. St. Vincent De Paul offers bus fare, case/ care management, debt management and debt reduction funds, emergency shelter, eviction prevention legal assistance, furniture/ home furnishings donation programs, hotel/ motel funds, housing search and information, job finding assistance, personal financial counseling, relocation assistance, rent payment assistance, rental deposit assistance, utility arrearage payment plans, utility assistance, and utility service payment assistance services.

Turn Around, Inc. – Turnaround is a domestic violence shelter for 19 women and children. Women and their children may stay up to 2 years and receive many services to help them become stable and move out into independence. Services include therapy, job searches, budgeting, child care, etc. This shelter is

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located in 2 houses on Burke Avenue. One house is divided into 3 apartments (2 efficiencies and one 2 bedroom), the other house is communal living with 4 bedrooms.

United Ministries – Prospect Place has 12 units of permanent supportive housing.

YWCA - 13 units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless single women (SRO facility) including 24-hour case management, benefits assistance, health care referrals, and homeless permanent supportive housing, information and referral, and transportation services.

Appendix MA 30 Homeless Facilities pg 2

ESG funds are critical to Baltimore County's efforts to address the needs of Baltimore County citizens experiencing homelessness and divert others from becoming homeless. The County will concentrate its efforts mostly on rapid rehousing with its ESG funds during the Action Plan period, with Street Outreach as a secondary focus. ESG funds for rapid rehousing are expected to go to the following organizations - St Vincent de Paul, Episcopal Housing, and Prologue; with Street Outreach efforts also provided by Prologue. The County will also use 7.5% of the ESG Funds for administration of the ESG program.

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	Data Source Name Baltimore County Office of Housing - Elite Data
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set. Baltimore County Office of Housing
	Provide a brief summary of the data set. Baltimore County Office of Housing PIC (PIH Information Center), Elite Database. Data represents the housing program demographics from 7/1/2019 to 2/27/2020.
	What was the purpose for developing this data set? Most recent PIC data
	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population? Baltimore County Office of Housing which serves as the Public Housing Authority for Baltimore County Housing Authority.
	What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set? 7/1/2019-2/27/2020
	What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)? Complete